



HIDDEN MEADOWS NEWS

The Hometown Monthly Newspaper of Hidden Meadows and Rimrock, California

Median beautification project is kicking into high gear

By **WENDY SMITH-ROGERS,**
Hidden Meadows Community
Foundation President

Exciting news! After months of planning, the median beautification project on Mountain Meadow Road is moving into the actual planting phase. The old landscape was cleared last year, and new, drought-resistant plants, rock and mulch are in the process of being installed under the careful supervision of Pat Reilly, Chair of our Beautification Committee. By the time you read this paper, you may have already begun to see the progress.

The Hidden Meadows Community Foundation, which is funding the project, is pleased to announce that they will be able to complete more of the landscaping during this phase than initially expected, thanks to the proceeds from the golf tournament in November, interest earned on our Vanguard account, and three very generous donations in December.

We also want to extend our gratitude to three local residents whose in-kind contributions have given a huge boost to the project. Brandon Bullard, who sells cacti and succulents at his Desert Theater Nursery here in Hidden Meadows, has donated many of the selected plants and has sold the rest at cost. Randy Jergensen from Decorative Stone Solutions is providing all of the rock at cost as well. Don't forget that our landscape plans were a donation by resident Bill Schnetz of Schnetz Landscaping.

Now that the beautification project is off and running, let's keep up the momentum! The Foundation's annual fundraising campaign will begin in March. An envelope will be included in the paper seeking donations. If every home in the Meadows donated just \$25, we could actually complete the median project in 2018!



Attendees at a recent Alcohol Ink session: Jennifer Appel, Caradee Reilly, Barbara Pitta, Andrea Goodwin, and Robbin Hoeffliger.



Renee Neuzil, Judy Attar, Sheree Dohanyos, Tammy Centofranchi, Julie Thompson, and Allie Dohanyos take a break from their alcohol ink paintings. The results of their work were priceless!

Hidden Meadows 101

By **BRET SEALEY**

Did you know that Hidden Meadows has several vineyards that first was planted in 1882? That we have five different homeowners' associations? Or that we reside in a Cemetery District?

If you would like to learn more about the history of Hidden Meadows, the community's organizations and regular activities, along with what your local governments provide as services, then come join me for Hidden Meadows 101!

The Hidden Meadows Community Foundation is sponsoring this program on February 24 th at the Boulder Oaks Golf Club Fireside Room from 10-11 AM. Coffee, water, and light snacks will be provided. We hope to see you there!

A fun way to contribute

By the way, if you'd like to have some fun while making a contribution to the beautification fund, consider coming to my house for an Alcohol Ink art session. I recently had two groups over to experiment with this easy-to-learn medium, and everyone left excited by the colorful works of art they created on tiles. If you and up to four friends would like to schedule a time to do the same, please contact me at wsmithrogers@gmail.com. A \$5 fee for materials and \$20 donation to the Foundation per person will be charged. We can meet on a weekend, week day, or evening.



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FEBRUARY HIDDEN MEADOWS EVENTS

Hidden Meadows 101
Saturday, February 28th
10-11am

Golf Course Clubhouse
10333 Meadow Glen Way East

Retirement: A great time to expand one's horizons

By **SUSAN WOLKING**

One of the benefits of being retired is the opportunity to take classes you’ve always wanted to take, but never had the time. Over the last couple of years, I’ve enrolled in a variety of art classes at the Escondido Adult School down on Crest Street. I’ve also taken a ceramics class from local mosaic artist, Marsha Rafter and joined the Hidden Meadows Art Guild. I’ve begun developing skills I never had before and have made several wonderful, new friends.

In the process, I’m also learning how to get out of my comfort zone. Last month, art teacher Susan Avery-Clark threw out a challenge to the students in her drawing and watercolor classes. The Escondido Municipal Art Gallery on Grand Avenue was having an exhibit and in addition to securing a room to show her own work, Susan had managed to arrange for an additional space to display student pieces. When she asked “Who would like to participate?” several students raised their hands. The rest of us shook our heads. It took a little good-natured prodding before additional hands, including my own, went up.

The night of the exhibit opening, I looked around the room at all of our pictures and thought, “This is so much fun! I’m so glad I’ve had this experience.” I was grateful for the chance to try something entirely new, and for the genuine feeling of mutual support amongst our group of students.

I once saw a card that said “Retirement is not the end of the road...it’s the beginning of an open highway.”



Richard and Pat Wagner, Hidden Meadows residents that I met in art class at Escondido Adult School. Picture taken at a display of student art at the Escondido Municipal Art Gallery.

I couldn’t agree more! Whether it’s through traveling, taking classes, joining a club or doing volunteer work, there are so many interesting ways to keep growing!

If you’re interested in expanding your horizons, check out the catalogue for the Escondido Adult School at <https://www2.euhdsd.org/adultschool>. You’ll find a wide array of inexpensive classes covering topics such as drawing, painting, guitar, fitness, technology, and more. The Hidden Meadows News is also a great place to find clubs, social groups and volunteer opportunities right here in the neighborhood.



An example of what one can learn in art class at the Escondido Adult School.

Test your power of observation

Want to have some fun? We’ve hidden the image of a small rose (like the one here) somewhere in this issue of the paper.

As soon as you find it, send an email to: leettarudolph@gmail.com with subject line “Found the rose” and the page number where you found it. The first person to submit the correct answer will win a small gift.



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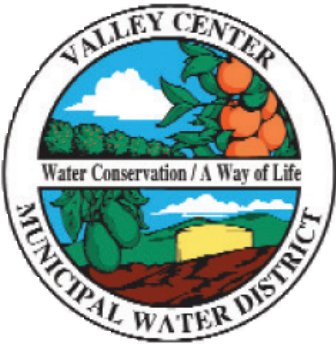
NOTICE OF VACANCY

**VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL
WATER DISTRICT**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, DIVISION 5

On December 31, 2017, a vacancy occurred in Division 5 of the Board of Directors of the Valley Center Municipal Water District. The Board will consider appointing a qualified applicant to fill the vacancy to complete the current unexpired term.

Interested persons who are registered voters and reside in Division 5, which includes the Meadows, Rimrock, Welk’s and Jesmond Dene areas, may submit a letter of interest and resume of experience and qualifications to Christine Johnson, Board Secretary, at 29300 Valley Center Road, Valley Center, CA 92082, or by mail to P.O. Box 67, Valley Center, 92082. To ensure receipt by the Board prior to the Regular Meeting of Tuesday, February 20, 2018, letters of interest and resumes must be received by the Board Secretary by the end of business (4:30 pm) on Tuesday, February 13, 2018. Documents received after that date may not be presented to the Board until the February 20, 2018 meeting. Persons wanting to verify residency within Division 5 or needing additional information about the Board position may contact Ms. Johnson at 760-735-4517.



Applicants should attend the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 2:00 pm, at which time the Board will interview candidates and consider the appointment to fill the Division 5 vacancy.

HIDDEN MEADOWS/RIMROCK

CALENDAR 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*

February 2018

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

March 2018

6	Bookmobile, MLGC Pkg. Lot, 1:00-2:00 pm	643-5125
6	MHA Architectural Rev Com Mtg, 6:30 pm	749-7278*
8	MHA Board Mtg, 6 pm	749-7278*
9	Garden Club Meeting, 10:00 am	749-8723
14	Deer Springs FPD. Bd. Mtg. 2:00 pm	749-8001
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22	Ranch HOA Mtg, 4-6 pm	407-7575*
22	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

Helpful Phone Numbers

911 Immediate Emergency Assistance	Deer Springs CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) (760) 525-5170
211 Disaster Center Hotline	Deer Springs Fire Protection District Hdqtrs/Station 1: (760) 749-8001
511 County Traffic, Transit & Commuter Information or www.traffic.com Caltrans Road Closures: (800) 427-7623	Station 2 Deer Springs/I-15: (760) 741-5512
Animal Services North County: (760) 438-1460 South & Central County: (619) 236-2341	Station 3 Hidden Meadows: (760) 751-0820
Arson 911 or (800) 468-4408	Fire Marshal: Sid Morel Sidmorel@dsfd.sdcoxmail.com
CAL FIRE/ Fire Information Hotline (619) 590-3160	Fire Protection Specialist: (760) 749-8001
California Highway Patrol (858) 637-3800	Andrew Modglin Andrew@dsfd.sdcoxmail.com
Crime Prevention: (760) 510-5254	Burn Permits: (760) 749-8001
	Emergency Information Recording (Deer Springs Fire Safe Council) (949) 472-1407
	Office of Emergency Services (858) 565-3490
	Sheriff, San Marcos Office (760) 510-5200

Major 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

Hidden Meadows
Community Foundation Board

Wendy Smith-Rogers
President

Sarah Sealey
Vice-President

Toni Wozmak
Secretary

Lisa Lonsdale
Treasurer

Rob Enfield
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Kim Riha
Board Member

Jane Glassett
Board Member

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Chair, Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Christina Stendall

Chair, Communication
Susan Wolking

Chair, Beautification
Patrick Reilly

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Noe Silva • Mary Friel

Questions? email us at hmcf92026@gmail.com

HIDDEN MEADOWS
NEWS

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News@HiddenMeadowsNews.com

Deadline for article submission is the third Friday of the month.
Send drafts to wolking.susan@gmail.com

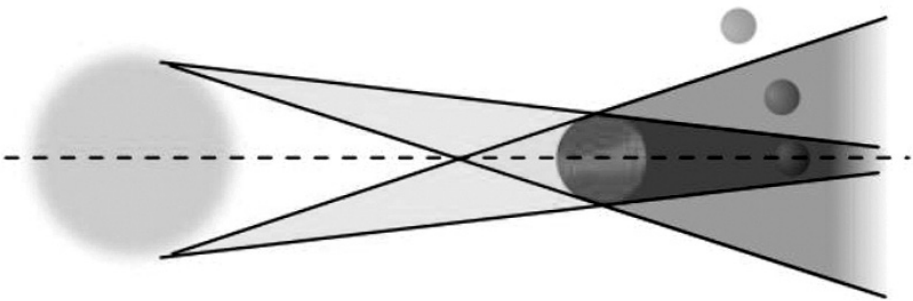
The HMN is a free monthly publication mailed directly to approx 1600 addresses within the Hidden Meadows and surrounding area postal routes, and approximately 100 at local businesses. HMN is published by Roadrunner Publications, Inc., in affiliation with the community of Hidden Meadows and Hidden Meadows Community Foundation. Our liability for errors and omissions on ads is limited to the price of the ad for a single issue run. Letters to the Editor should not exceed 400 words and are subject to editing length. View on all matters will be accepted, but are subject to editing for obscenity or libel. Each letter must be signed and must contain name, address and a daytime telephone number. One letter per household in a month. Anonymous letters or those published in another newspaper will not be accepted. Contact HMN with any questions.

Astronomy Corner

What happened to the moon last night?

By STEVE ROGERS

Assuming you are reading this article on the 1st of February, and you were outside early yesterday morning, you might have witnessed the total lunar eclipse that occurred early in the morning of the 31st of January. Lunar eclipses are not as rare as solar eclipses, but it is nonetheless inspiring to realize that for a short span of time, the sun, the earth and the moon are lined up in a perfectly straight line so that the shadow of the earth completely darkens the face of the full moon.



Theoretically, lunar eclipses could happen every 28 days when there is a full moon, because the three heavenly bodies are lined up in a straight line when viewed from above, but because the moon's orbital plane around the earth varies by 5 degrees above or below the earth's orbit around the sun, they only occur a couple of times a year when the moon's orbit crosses into the earth's shadow. Often only part of the earth's shadow covers the moon and so only a partial eclipse occurs, but the one that just happened yesterday was a total eclipse, and assuming the weather cooperated, it should have been a sight to behold.

Because the earth casts such a wide shadow, the length of a lunar eclipse is much longer than a solar eclipse, with the moment of totality for a lunar eclipse often lasting over an hour instead of mere minutes during a solar eclipse. Rather than a jet black disc covering the face of the sun as we saw last August, the moon will often glow in a reddish hue as light from the sun on the other side of the earth passes through the earth's atmosphere and is refracted onto the surface of the moon. Usually the full moon is so bright that it looks like a flat cardboard cutout, but because of the soft light during the period of totality, the moon will often look three dimensional like a huge basketball hanging up in space. It really is a sight to behold.

In ancient times eclipses of the sun and the moon were events that struck fear into superstitious people, and many ancient civilizations tried to predict when they would occur so the rulers could prepare the public for what was about to happen. Records show that over 4,000 years ago Chinese astronomers had a rudimentary understanding of what was caused lunar and solar eclipses and were able to roughly predict when they would occur, yet on one occasion it is said that they got it so wrong that the emperor had their heads cut off. Fortunately modern astronomers have a much better understanding of the mathematics controlling the orbits of the earth and the moon, and we haven't had to execute any astronomers in a long long time. If you missed this year's lunar eclipse, there will be another one visible from Hidden Meadows on Monday the 21st of January 2019, but don't come looking for me if it doesn't happen as predicted. I'm only reporting what I read on the internet.

The Tournament of Roses Parade

~ Flashy Americana at its best

By ROSEMARY TULIS

Sometimes it's time to strut your stuff, and that's what the Rose Parade does best! Intended to be an extravagant attraction to showcase all that's best about California, it's a dazzling array of fresh flowers, floats, and fabulous marching bands celebrating every New Year's Day. The event reminds the rest of the country, in the grip of a freezing winter, how warm and wonderful it is to be under the sparkling California sun.

My friend Patti Preston invited me to join her this year on a "Bucket-List" escapade to see the parade. The Day-Trippers Tour Bus left the Escondido Transit Station (at 4:30 AM!) packed with excited, fellow parade enthusiasts. The bus ride to Pasadena was comfortable and quiet, with lights darkened to allow sleepy passengers a chance to cat-nap on the way. As we neared our destination, our multilingual guide, Christina, gently stirred everyone back to wakefulness as dawn illuminated the bus. Christina handed out snacks of juice and granola bars. The bus also offered a facility, which is always an appreciated creature comfort. By 7:30 AM we arrived at the reserved bus parking spot just 2 blocks from our seats in the viewing stands. With the impressive precision of a cruise ship captain, somehow our driver squeezed the mammoth bus into a spot with just a few feet to spare all around.

Fortunately our seats were reserved, for in no time, the street was loaded with shoulder-to-shoulder spectators, awaiting this classic American experience. With a perfect view of the street below, and the sun behind us warming our backs, we sat back and enjoyed the splendor of the show. After opening with the U.S. Air Force B-2 Stealth Bomber fly-over, the flower-festooned floats were off on their 5-mile route, surrounded by proud, uniformed marchers strutting by, colorful flags flying, brass bands blaring, all to the delight of the cheering on-lookers. Costumed equestrians on magnificent horses trotted by, often followed by hilarious shovel and bucket crews with their own comedy routines. More ovations for those good-natured guys working their disagreeable job with

cheerful gusto.

I was impressed with the courteous crowd around us, patiently and respectfully sitting and watching for hours as the parade slowly moved along its route. Understandably, home-town supporters leapt to their feet to salute and encourage their own entrant bands or floats, but all quickly resumed sitting to allow the rest of us to enjoy the parade as well. I was also impressed to see that high school and college bands were not only from across the country, but also from around the world! An amazing synchronized hip-hop band from China danced and played without missing a beat. We were told that fundraisers had been held to support various student groups for this trip.

While watching the parade, I could not help but wonder at the tremendous work required for such a production. Floats were required to use only fresh flowers and natural products. Many of those flowers must have been flown in to be fresh for the occasion, since even California has seasonal flowers. Armies of helpers would be needed to build the floats, then to manage the initial line-up of excited participants before the parade, and finally to handle the exhausted marchers after the parade.

Finally, I must make a confession here. When Patti invited me in early December, my immediate response was, "Wow, that would be awesome! I can't wait to go!" However, the day before we were to leave, on New Year's Eve, I began to have nagging second thoughts. I was flying home from the East coast after almost 2 weeks of a happy, hectic holiday visit with our son's family in Maryland. We left our son's home at 4:00 AM to make our early flight on New Years Eve day. I wondered, "Could I manage to roll out again ready and raring for action, at the Escondido Transit station at 4:15 AM, before dawn, that very next day? With jet-lag added in for good measure?" For sure! No way I would miss this parade!

It was pageantry at its best, celebrating all that is great about the U.S.A. Such a country! Such a friend to invite me to enjoy this unforgettable day with her! It was indeed a bucket-list caliber trip of a lifetime! Thanks, again, Patti!

Law Office of Diane Haisha-DeForest



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Attorney / R.E. Broker / Notary
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Super Crossword

Answers

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E	L	N	I	N	O		M	O	R	O	S	E		B	E	L	A	R	U	S
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My Green Thumb

To Agave or not to Agave...that is the question

By LISA LONSDALE

Agaves can be spectacular additions to a garden, but many gardeners (including me) have a sort of “love/hate” relationship with that genus.

As I worked on cleaning up after our big storm last month, I noticed my beautiful, 7-year-old, agave called “Blue Glow” was growing a large flower spike from its center. My heart sank, because I knew the end was near for this gorgeous blue-green plant. The majority of agave species are “monocarpic,” meaning, they flower only once in their lifetime. I quickly calculated its age (from when I planted it from a 6-inch container) and was surprised it was producing a flower so early in its life. It has been a fast-growing plant due to what seemed to be a happy environment. Because it has received regular watering and had excellent drainage, however, its lifecycle has actually been shortened. Unfortunately, this variety rarely produces any “pups” and will depend on the seeds that grow from the flower spike to produce the next generation.



A few years back, I watched an 18-foot spike grow from my Agave Stricta (sometime called a “porcupine agave”). I was shocked, as this plant had been described as being one of the few non-monocarpic agaves. As the last of the yellow flowers formed large seed pods, the mother plant started growing pups amongst its spiny leaves, then proceeded to die. Though disappointed with the misinformation, I made the best of it by removing some of the pups to start new plants. As can be seen in the picture below, some of them are doing quite well.



One of my favorite agaves is the “Quadricolor” agave. It only grows to a maximum diameter of 18 inches,

but needs to be given plenty of space around it to prevent its runners from invading surrounding plants. One plant will production dozens of runner-pups each year; enough to share with everyone you know. Even though its one of the smallest varieties of agave, it’s the most colorful of the bunch.



The most common agave varieties is “Americana” best known as the Century Plant. This is a misnomer, because the plant typically lives from 15-20 years in a controlled garden. We give it more water and better conditions than it gets in the wild, where it can live up to 50 years. It can grow to a height and width of 8 feet and is the largest of the agaves, which makes it the most striking in a garden landscape. Of course, that evil flower spike will eventually end its life, like all the others. The spike grows quickly and can easily reach 20 feet. When you see the spike, you should start cutting off the leaves, while they are still soft and juicy; while wet, a hard swing of a machete will make short work of cutting it into manageable pieces. Then let them dry, so they lose some weight, before tossing them into the greens bin. If you wait until the plant dies and dries out, the leaves become so fibrous, even a chainsaw will have trouble getting through it.



So, to answer the initial question: Do I choose to plant agaves? The answer is yes, yes, yes; just don’t get too attached to them. If you want to extend their live span by a few more years, put them where they will get the least water and the worst drainage in the yard You’ll be doing the plant and yourself a favor. Enjoy!

Garden Club News

By LISA LONSDALE

On January 19th, eighteen members of the Garden Club met at the home of Lisa and Dave Lonsdale for the yearly Event Planning Meeting. The first item of business was to thank the outgoing President, Francoise Geiser, who has held the position for two years. Francoise and her husband, Tim (a Fire Board member), have plans to sell their home and move to Branson, Missouri where they have already purchased a home on a lake, and a power boat. We wish them well in their new life and will miss them and their contributions to the community.

Frances Munk, who lives on High Mountain Road, volunteered to serve as our President, with Idalia Rewar serving as Vice President. Thanks ladies for stepping up to help with the group. I will be continuing in my role as Secretary/Treasurer.

The following individuals were announced as new members: Steve Robertson, Dale Young, Susan Clyne and Toni Wozmak.

The group voted to change our meeting days to the 2nd Friday of each month to allow more time to get articles into the *Hidden Meadows News*. Discussion then shifted to the main topic of the meeting — setting the year’s schedule of events. A summary of the schedule is below.

Information about locations and contacts for each event is being sent directly



Frances Munk, incoming President of HM Garden Club

to club members. Helpers are needed for many of the events. If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact the chairperson listed on the detailed schedule.

If you are interested in joining our club, it’s \$10/year for your household. You may contact Lisa at ldlonsdale4@gmail.com for more information.

Garden Club - 2018 Schedule

Feb 9th
Master Gardener - Speaker - 10:00 a.m.
Mar 9th
Best Practices Discussions with members – 10:00 a.m.
Apr 13th
Local Gardens Tour (Robertson/Munk/Sherman) 9:30 a.m.
May 11th
Ramona Olive Farm and Wine Tour 9:30 a.m.
June 8th
Pearson's Herb Nursery/Buena Creek Gardens - 9:30 a.m.
July 13th
Yard Art - Glass Flowers - Workshop - 10:00 a.m.
Aug 10th
Annual Potluck Dinner - 5:30 p.m.
Sept 14th
Succulent Planting/Propagation/Pruning - 9:30 a.m.
Oct 12th
Decorating Pumpkin/"Treasures" with Succulents - 10:00 a.m.
Nov 9th
Succulent Wreath Workshop - 10:00 a.m.
Dec
No event scheduled

HIDDEN MEADOWS NEWS

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A holiday wonderland for January’s Hidden Meadows women's social

By ROSEMARY TULIS

Lucky attendees at January’s Hidden Meadows Women’s Social started the new year with an exceptional treat — a tour of amazing Christmas decorations by our hostess, Sharon Cook.

Over the years, the Cooks have gathered an extensive collection of unique holiday miniatures. Each object featured some incredibly intricate characteristic and/or animation attribute. Using her sharp eye for detail and flair for decorating, Sharon had assembled the treasures into clusters of charming villages. From nostalgic street scenes of shoppers visiting decorated shops and restaurants in preparation for the holidays, over to Santa’s workshops with hard-working elves preparing for the big night, all were beautifully set off in multi-level crafted landscapes.

Around the house, trees of all sizes were festooned with special themes — from traditional handcrafted ornaments, to Disney character trees, Star Wars trees, animal trees, and more. In clever reference to the “Cook’s” name, one tree was even dedicated to various chef ornaments. There were also multiple creches including one handed down from great grandparents, as well as exquisite handcrafted figures discovered on the Cook’s extensive travels.

The Cook’s custom-built home was showcased in the “Street of Dreams” event back in 1982. Designed with a Southwest Native American Indian theme, its meticulously tiled



Susan Clyne, Rosemary Tulis, Diane Beckel, Sandy Broadley, Sharon Cook, and Karla Fernandez enjoying the holiday decor at Sharon’s home.



One of multiple Christmas Villages gracing the Cook’s home.

red-brick floors follow a meandering floor plan that connects spacious great rooms to cozy retreats. The authentically curved walls and high timbered ceilings are a perfect match for the Cook’s eclectic collection of Indian artifacts and other fine decorations. The spiritual quality of the Native American surroundings provided a truly transcendent setting for the Christmas splendor spread out before our admiring group of women.

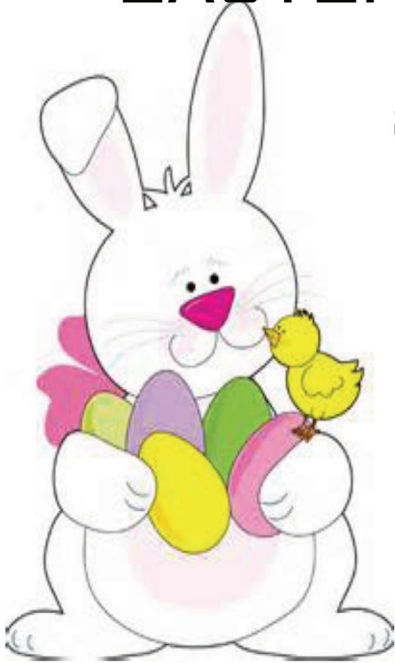
The Hidden Meadows Women’s Social group meets each month usually on the third Thursday evening. All women are invited to this evening of pot-luck dinner and fellowship at homes of various group members. Anyone interested in joining the Women’s Social Group is welcome. Please send your full name, email address and telephone number to Linda Collins at hmwsg92026@gmail.com to be added to the invitation list. We look forward to meeting new members at any time.



Dawn Korinek, JoAnn Anglin and Mary Dragoo at the January Women’s Social.

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Home inspections? Are they important prior to buying?

REAL ESTATE NEWS

By LEETTA RUDOLPH

The short answer would be “Yes! The role of the home inspection is to protect the buyer from inheriting major issues. Some buyers skip this step, but I do not recommend that to my clients. Home inspections cost money and take time, but if issues are found, you as a buyer can request for the repairs.

The home inspection allows you to know exactly what you are buying and what to expect from your property in the future. During the inspection the inspector will examine the house to define its condition and the viability of all the necessary systems.

A home inspector will look at both the exterior and interior of the home. Once the inspection is completed the inspector will give you a written summary with main items to review and then a complete line item list with pictures and reference to where the issues are in the home.

Exterior items that inspectors should look at are the roof, water drainage, water pressure, electrical panels, visible foundation, and structural elements (e.g., framing, windows, gutters to name a few).

Interior items that inspectors will check are: electrical wiring and outlets, heating and air conditioning, vents, chimneys, insulation, and ducting. He/she will verify that the laundry

room has appropriate ventilation and no leaks, as well as the water heater temperature. They will check to see that the bathrooms are they properly ventilated, meet water temperature guidelines and have no leaks. In the kitchen, they will look at all of the appliances to see if they are in good working order and correctly installed.

Of course, fire safety is the number one issue. The inspector will ensure that smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide detectors are appropriately located throughout the home.

Make certain that you have a trustworthy and reliable home inspector on your side, essentially, the whole deal now depends on him. Do not panic if you find a lot of written issues in his report, and do not take it too lightly as well. All you need to do is to read it carefully, then give it a good deal of thought.

At the end of the day, it is important for you to review the summary from the Home Inspector to determine what items you want the seller to be fix or repair, what items you can fix, or if you will be renovating and changing anyway. If you are in need of home inspector, please give me a call/text 760.470.5617 or email.

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

On the Menu



by Jamie

Korean BBQ Beef Tacos



As I try to make different dishes from throughout the world, I find that mixing different culture’s cuisines to create something new and delicious! Tacos are a popular and great way to feed a crowd. This dish would be a fantastic appetizer for Superbowl Sunday! You could make a taco bar with Mexican, Fish and Asian tacos with all of the fixings. This simple dish is packed full of deep Asian flavors that are sure to be a touchdown with your family and friends!

- Serves 6
- 1 1/2 lbs of top sirloin or flank steak
 - 1 tsp ginger
 - 1/2 cup soy sauce
 - 2 Tbl sesame oil
 - 5 garlic cloves diced
 - 1/2 white onion sliced into strips
 - 1/4 cup brown sugar
 - 1 beef bouillon cube
 - 2 tsp garlic powder
 - 1/4 cup water
 - 1/4 cup cornstarch
 - 1 package of small street style tortillas (flour.)

Combine all of the above ingredients (except tortillas) in a crockpot and cook on low for 6-8 hours or on high for 4 hours. Serve with a crunchy coleslaw or shredded lettuce and carrots on top! Enjoy!





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Squirrels stealing your birdseed? Here’s a “slinky” solution!

By CHRIS HOLMES

Squirrels may be cute little critters, but they sure can be pests! One of things that used to drive me nuts was their habit of stealing seed from the bird feeders in our yard. Over the years, I tried various tricks to stop their thievery, including greasing the feeder pole, and nothing was very effective.

Enter the Slinky!

Remember that Slinky you and your pals used to play with decades ago? Or the catchy jingle that went with it:

*“What walks downstairs. . .
and makes a slinky sound,
A spring, a spring,
a marvelous thing!”*

Or maybe you recall Slinky Dog, Woody’s best friend in Toy Story?

The toy was accidentally invented in 1943 by a mechanical engineer trying to devise a spring to keep sensitive equipment steady at sea. He accidentally knocked a sample off a shelf, and it walked down instead of falling! Offered by Gimbel’s Department Store at Christmas time, the 80-foot long strand of

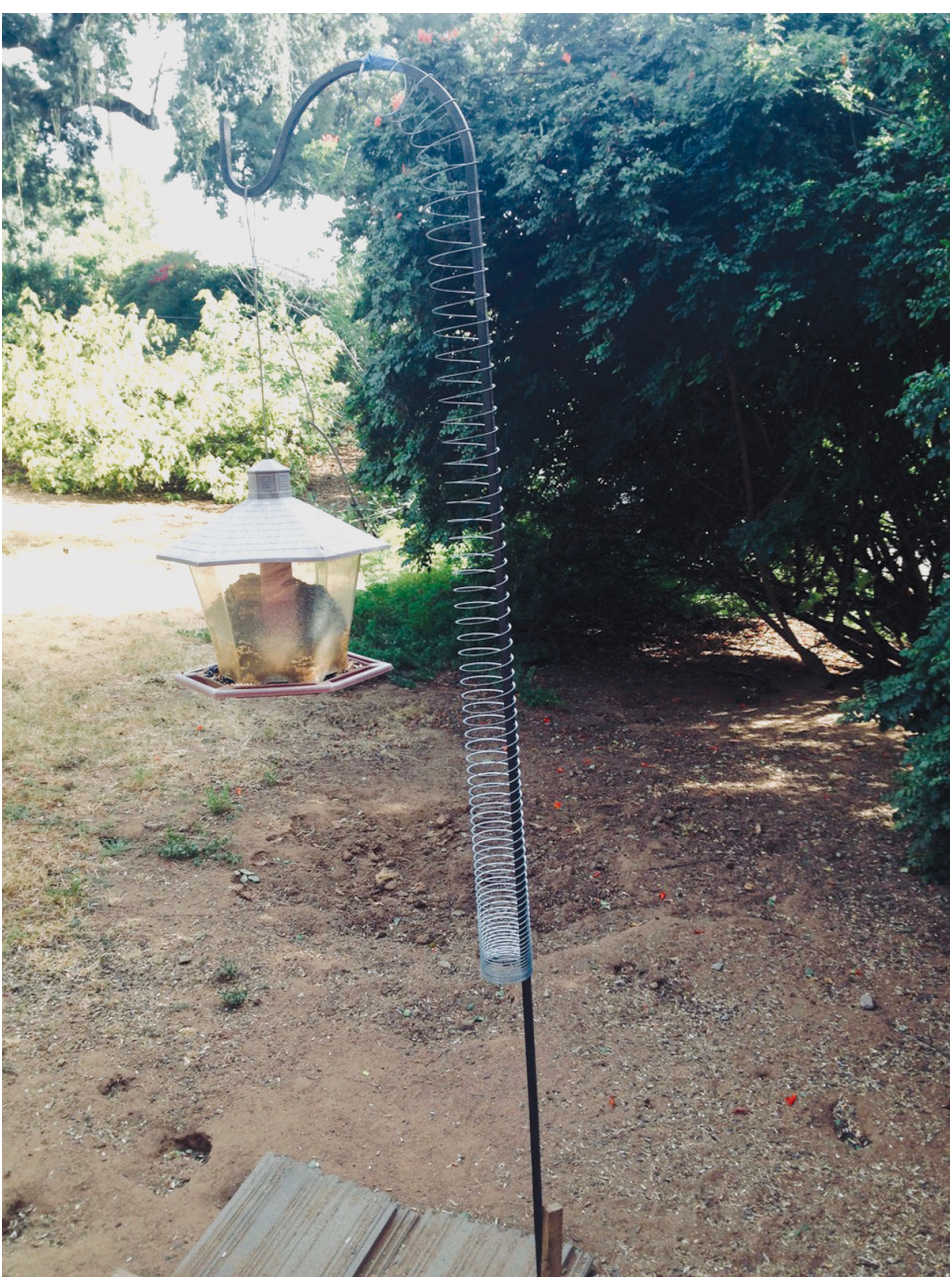
wire coiled into 2-inch spirals has since sold millions. It even made news in 1985 when a space shuttle astronaut tested its physics properties in space. (It doesn’t slink; it just drops.)

Well, a few years ago a new use for the Slinky was discovered by the National Wildlife Federation: keeping bird feeders safe from hungry squirrels.

If you look closely at the photo of a feeder on a pole in my yard, you can see how the solution works. The Slinky is simply wrapped around the pole and taped securely at the top. When the squirrel hops onto the bottom coil he only goes boing, boing, boing! He may have some fun, but he doesn’t get anything to eat.

I’ve been using the Slinky trick for a couple of years, and it really does work. The birds get the seeds while the squirrels squat at the base of the pole, looking up, waiting for a seed to drop. It doesn’t happen.

Welcome to our new playground, Mr. and Mrs. Squirrel!



Slinky wrapped around pole thwarts squirrels efforts to steal seed from bird feeder.



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*Life's most persistent and urgent question is
"What are you doing for others?"*
~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

By KIM RIHA

Part of the reason Hidden Meadows is such a wonderful place to live is the wide variety of community events held throughout the year.

And volunteers are what make it happen.

The Hidden Meadows Community Foundation (HMCf) maintains a volunteer list of those who have expressed interest in volunteering at an event. Please consider being on the list! It is a great opportunity to meet others in the community and have fun too!

Signing up does not obligate you whatsoever. A chairperson will call or email you to inquire whether you are interested in volunteering your time (or food) for a particular event. You



can decide whether or not it fits your schedule. The next major event won't be until

March (the Easter Egg Hunt), so this is the perfect time to sign up.

You can email me (kimriha819@gmail.com) your name, email address, and phone number and I will add you to the list. If there is a particular event(s) that you are especially interested in providing your time and energy, you can note that also. The list of events for this year are listed on page 3 of the paper.

We thank you in advance for your time and willingness to serve our community! And for those you have volunteered in the past, a huge **THANK YOU!** Hidden Meadows appreciates you!!



Exchange-A-Ride program

The Hidden Meadows exchange-a-ride program is still in operation. The program for residents provides a ride to or from the airport or cruise terminal and in exchange you are asked to provide a ride for someone at a future date. The program was started 20 years ago and administered for many years by Doug Alter. There have been over 1,000 rides exchanged in that time. To participate call Ron Pirtitz at 760-749-7604 with the details of your trip. The sooner you call the better chance of finding someone able to give you a ride.

Know thy neighbors

By KATHY MOORE

Since moving to Hidden Meadows last year, it has been a pleasant surprise to see that neighbors here are more than just "those people that live next door." Coming from Arizona, the land of stucco houses and 8 foot block fence dividers, I was thrilled to see all the activity going on right outside my front door. In Arizona, families pulled their air conditioned vehicles into their garages and ran into their air conditioned homes, and then reversed the process when leaving. Seldom did you see walkers, runners or kids out playing, and rarely, if ever, did neighbors drive by with a window down to say hello as they passed by.

Hidden Meadows is just so different and special in that way. I can not recall many days (except when it rained) that I have driven through the community and did not see dozens of people out walking pets, pushing children in strollers, parents following kids on bikes and overall enjoying the beautiful Southern California weather!

Within the first 3 months at our Hidden Meadows home, we knew the names of all our neighbors on our small cul-de-sac. I was pretty proud of

this fact considering I lived in my Arizona home for 10 years and knew only ONE neighbor's name. As time goes by, I am learning more and more about my great neighbors here. I am learning where they work, how many children they have, the kid's names and what schools they go to, how many pets they have, and whether or not they like wine, beer, cocktails or just water. I've learned some are more open than others, but everyone seems to at least want to have an idea of who it is they are living amongst.

For me, it has been so refreshing and comforting to know a little bit about those who share the space around me. Here's a fun challenge for all of us — learn just one new thing about your neighbor or neighbors this month!

There are also so many opportunities for meeting new people in this great community. Maybe start out by coming down to the Boulder Oaks Golf Club on Wednesday nights at 6:30PM for Trivia Night and invite a friend or neighbor. I will be there as well, so come say "hello."

Kathy Moore - HomeSmart Realty West - 480.296.8518

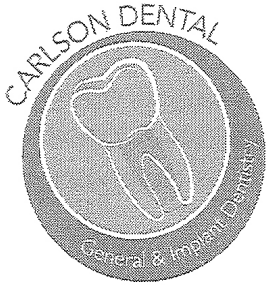
Super Crossword

ALLOT THE PRESS!

- ACROSS**
1 "—, peel me a grape" (Mae West line)
7 "— Adventures in Wonderland"
13 Mobile locale
20 Pacific weather phenomenon
21 Sullen
22 Neighbor of Ukraine
23 Eccentric, corrupt rascals?
26 Part of A/C
27 "World Cafe" broadcaster
28 "Mama" of pop music
29 Spiritualists' event
30 Seize illegally
33 Coarse
36 African mongooses
38 One dealing in red meat for a living?
40 Selling points
42 June hrs.
43 Bit of intimate apparel
45 Suffix with prop-
- DOWN**
1 Smear
2 Plaza Hotel heroine
3 Erroneous
4 Set aflame
5 "Is there — hope?"
6 It's honked
7 Acela runner
8 Building site
9 Choler
10 Spiral shell
11 English class assignments
12 Min. parts
13 — Dhabi
14 Zooms, e.g.
15 Tree of the birch family
16 Israel's Ehud
17 Boxing venue
18 Punish by fine
19 Burros
24 Intl. oil group
25 Singers Donny and Marie
31 "Mayberry —" (old sitcom)
32 Nighty-night garb
34 Union foes
35 Neophytes
37 Saber's kin
39 "High Noon" actor Kruger
41 — "Messiah" (oratorio)
- ACROSS**
46 Number of Stooges
51 Audio system part
54 Lovable male
59 Jews living outside Israel
62 Conveys
63 Alternative to Red Roof
64 En — (as a whole)
65 Bit of formal apparel
67 Zee lead-in
68 AT&T rival, once
69 Hi-speed connection
70 Actor Depp being mushy?
75 Hit in a ring
77 "Really? — who?!"
78 King, in Toulon
79 Barfly, say
80 Charles for whom a chair is named
83 One of golf's majors
85 Request in blackjack
87 More tempestuous
- DOWN**
82 Yearbook div.
84 Kin of ante-
85 Spiral
86 Moses or Meese
88 Of ears
90 — Strauss
91 Immunizing fluids
97 May VIP
98 Sch. group
99 Sitcom actress Rolle
100 Alternative to judo
102 River critters
103 Current events
104 Like the Kazakh language
105 Most weird
106 Tetley rival
107 Hitler's turn to hit
108 French river
109 Fair shelters
110 Calf-length skirts
111 Gas bill info
113 Small iPods
117 No-clutter
119 Tablet extras
122 "Leaving — Jet Plane"
123 Surg. centers
124 Born, to Fifi
125 "... cup — cone?"
126 Eighty-six

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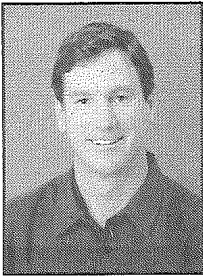
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Save calories and money with this easy health tip!

By **AMY VANLIEW**

What might help me save calories AND money, you ask? Meal Planning! We all know how expensive eating out can be but did you know you consume almost 200 more calories per day when you take this easier eating route. That can add up to 20 pounds a year! Meal Planning is the best way to set ourselves up for healthy eating success. It makes it easier to avoid stopping for pizza at the deli when you know the ingredients for turkey tacos are waiting for you at home.

Here are the simple steps it takes for easy meal planning!

STEP 1 TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR SCHEDULE

What does your week look like, how many and what type of meals do you need? A lot of people skip this step and it can set you up for failure. If you have back-to-back meetings or you know you won't have any time to cook you have to plan for that. In our house we use our Sunday morning coffee time to review our calendars and determine what nights we can cook, what nights we will need something quick or when we must (or want to) eat out. We try to plan for at least 2-3 nights of cooking and are mostly successful!

STEP 2 BRAINSTORM A LIST OF RECIPES

This is the hardest part for us. "Ok what do you want for dinner on Tuesday?" "Oh I don't care" This drives my husband crazy. You can also get so tired of the same old thing, week after week and it's difficult to find easy healthy recipes that look good to you during your planning time. My recommendation is to start out simple. Start with recipes that you know and love and each week try a new one. **EAT HEALTHY TIP:** Do a Google search for Healthy recipes and make sure they don't use SUGAR OR WHITE FLOUR.

STEP 3 WRITE IT DOWN or PUT IT ON THE CALENDAR

I don't know how many times we talked about our plans but didn't write them down and then Wednesday comes around and it's, "What did we plan for

dinner tonight?" Whether you use a white board, chalkboard, notecard, or go digital, it's a good idea to keep a paper copy of your calendar in plain view. Hanging a copy on the fridge is a popular choice.

STEP 4 CREATE YOUR SHOPPING LIST AND SHOP

Why not create your shopping list so that it is store friendly. We typically shop at the "West" Vons so our list is broken down into these categories; Deli/Bakery, Pet /Home supplies, Drinks/Frozen/Cereal, Meats, Dry Good, Dairy and Produce. This makes shopping so much easier.

STEP 5 START PREPPING AND COOKING

Find a few free hours to prepare some things in advance. Clean and chop vegetables, make sauces or a soup. On the nights you cook, give yourself plenty of time so it is fun and not a chore. Turn on some music, have a glass of wine, enjoy the time you have made to be healthier!

If you are new to this, start small, do it your way, and give yourself a break. You don't have to be a great cook to be a meal planner. I used to hate cooking. Popcorn was my go to dinner when my husband was out of town...now look at me! The best step you can take is to stop putting it off and get started!

BONUS for all my Hidden Meadows neighbors. I've created a FREE meal planning eBook with all of these tips, plus a few more and bunch of my favorite "Amy Approved" weekday dinner recipes. Just email me at amy@amyvanliew.com and I will send it to you!

Happy Planning!

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An introduction to the Hidden Meadows Community Sponsor Group

By **WAYNE DAUBER**

As Chair of the Hidden Meadows Community Sponsor Group, I occasionally write articles about land planning and development issues facing our community. In this issue I would like to discuss how such groups like ours are organized and where we fit into the County Government structure.

The County's organizational chart shows "County Citizens" at the top, followed by the County Board of Supervisors, and the Chief Administrative Officer, who is appointed by the County Supervisors, in a direct chain. Below the Chief Administration Officer, the County's departments are organized into five groups, one of which is the Land Use and Environmental Group. The Department of Planning and Development Services (PDS) is in this group.

Community Sponsor Groups (CSG) and Community Planning Groups (CPG) support the PDS and are meant to act as a link between PDS and citizens in the communities. There are 18 Planning Groups and 8 Sponsor Groups in San Diego County. The primary differences between Planning Groups and Sponsor Groups are that Planning Group members are elected and must live within the community, while Sponsor Group members are appointed by their District Supervisor and must live or own property within the community. Planning Groups tend to be associated with larger communities such as Fallbrook, Valley Center, and Julian, while Sponsor Groups tend to be formed in smaller communities such as Hidden Meadows, Twin Oaks Valley and Bonsall.

The Hidden Meadows Community Sponsor Group (HM CSG) actually represents a grouping of multiple small communities including: Hidden Meadows, Rim Rock, Champagne Village, Lawrence Welk Resort, areas to the north as far as Castle Creek Road, and areas south to the Escondido city limits, including Jesmond Dene and North Broadway north of North Ave.

The members of the HM CSG along with the areas they represent are : Wayne Dauber, Chair, (HM), Bret Sealey, Vice Chair (HM), Darol Castor, Secretary (HM), James Chagala (HM), Karen Birch (Jesmond Dene), Craig Cook (Rim Rock), Len Coultas (HM), Jamie Gutierrez (HM), and Alan Rings

(Champagne Village).

Community Sponsor and Community Planning Groups are both considered legislative organizations and members are consequently governed and responsible for complying with the same guidance and requirements as other State and County legislative agencies, except that we do not have term limits.

Although most of our activity is in response to requests by the County to consider specific projects that require discretionary permits, we also provide input on projects that require rezoning or on public works projects such as proposed traffic lights. For example, we recently recommended against a traffic light on Jesmond Dene Road.

Probably the best-known project we have been asked to comment on recently was the Newland Sierra development proposed for the area northwest of the I-15/Deer Springs Rd intersection. That project would require a major revision of the SD County General Plan. We felt the proposal was defective on many levels, as did the Sponsor or Planning Groups from Deer Springs, Bonsall, and Fallbrook. The developer of Newland Sierra appears to be working on another revision to their proposal, which almost certainly would require another review by the affected Sponsor and Planning Groups. You can be assured that anything your Sponsor Group learns about future plans on this project will be passed on to the community.

Our meetings are all open to the public and results of all meetings are available on request. Meeting Agendas, Minutes when they become available, and other items, are published at <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/hidmdws.html>

An agenda is required to be submitted to the County at least 72 hours before meeting time. We try to get it sent in at least by noon on the Monday before the meeting so it should be available to you by that evening or Tuesday morning. I have also been posting the meeting time and the Agenda, when I can, on the Nextdoor Hidden Meadows site. The next meeting of your HM CSG is scheduled for February 22, 2018.

Please contact Wayne Dauber at hm-daub@cox.net or 760-749-6085 if you have questions or comments.

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Straight Off The Tee

Boulder Oaks Ladies Golf

When is it good to lay off golf?

by **JOEY LATIMER**

Most of my golfing buddies agree that having a regular schedule for playing golf will keep your game sharp and maintain your golfing fitness. “If you don’t use it you lose it” is a common adage among golfers. My dad played in an every-Thursday group for over twenty years until he was in his mid-80’s. I played with them a few times and was amazed to find out that my dad was the youngest member of the group. To keep the group going required that the members must have played through a lot of pain and other “excuses” to stay home. My dad once told me that the only way he would miss his weekly golf date is if he was hit by lightning or woke up on the other side of the ground. True to his word, he played right up until his death from congenital heart failure.

This brings me to a problem I have with this type of thinking (sorry, dad) and begs the asking of important questions: Is there ever a good time to lay off golf for a while? If I miss my regular golfing game am I a golfing wimp? If I take a rain check on a sunny day am I letting the rest of the group down?

I really started to think about this because a couple of months ago I was in a great golf groove and scoring the best I have in my life when the lightning struck. I was on #17 at Boulder Oaks and hit my longest drive ever on that hole (it hit the big rock) and at the end of my follow through I got a sharp pain the middle, right side of my back. For the next few weeks every time I tried to play golf the sharp pain

would pop back up after a couple of holes. This caused me to become gun shy and begin changing my swing to try and avoid the pain. You probably know the result of this...it ruined my golf swing and made it NOT FUN to play. So, knowing that my dad will surely roll over in his grave, I decided to LAY OFF GOLF until I could get rid of this pain in my back and return to form.

Weeks led to a few months before my back pain started to settle down, but I realized early on that just because I was unable to PLAY golf, I could still PARTICIPATE in golf. For starters I could still go to the course and hang out at the clubhouse. While there I realized I needed clubs re-gripped and I took care of that. I bought a very cool new putter on Ebay and found that I could do stretching exercises and practice short putts without putting too much stress on my back. I bought and studied an illustrated booklet showing how to setup and execute different types of shots. In short, I used the time I took off from playing golf to work on my mental game, improve my clubs, exercise, and practice putting.

Back to the questions...is there ever a good time to layoff golf? I think when I am injured there are times it makes sense. Am I a golf wimp? I don’t consider Tiger Woods a wimp and he just took a year off with a back problem. Do I let my friends down when I can’t play? I think all of them know someone who will fill in for me until I am ready to return to golf for the right reason: TO HAVE FUN!

SWEEPS RESULTS

Dec 21: Bingo, Bango, Bongo: Ellen Koury came in first with a 16. Second Place was a tie between Sue Winje and Donna Williams with 12 each.

Dec 28: Blind Draw: Mary Jo Moore and Donna Williams finished first. Susie Hill and Renee Neuzil finished second and Ellen Koury and Elissa Hamilton came in third.

Jan 04: Ace of the Month: Donna Huhn was Ace of the Month for January with a net 64. Queen (2nd) was Mary Jo Moore with a net 73. Donna Williams came in third with a net 74.

Jan 11: Cha Cha Cha: Team game won by the team of Donna Huhn, Susie Hill, Janet Dopp, and Mary Jo Moore. Second Place team was Ellen Koury, Pauly Schoolcraft, Renee Neuzil and blind draw Janet Dopp.

Jan 18: Cryer’s: Mary Jo Moore was first place with a net 47. There was a 3-way tie for 2nd place between Ellen Koury, Pauly Schoolcraft, and our newest member, Joan Cortez.



Joan Cortez

two sisters take care of her 100-year-old mother, who lives in the Bay Area. Her mother will be 101 next month. We are happy to have Joan as a member of the Boulder Oaks Women’s Golf Club.

THAT AND THAT

Next month we are holding our first general meeting of the new year. The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 1 after golf.

Our wonderful Tournament Chairman, Donna Williams, has been out of commission for the past three weeks with a retina tear in her eye. We wish her the best and hope for a quick recovery. Get well soon, Donna.

On January 18th, we welcomed a new member, Joan Cortez. Joan lives in Woodland Park Village and golfs at various golf courses in the area. She plays at Reidy Creek with the Ladies Club there and stays busy helping her

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.

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Don't let the evil weevil get your agaves

By DEBRA LEE BALDWIN

A black beetle no larger than a fingernail is capable of destroying your garden's most majestic succulents. The agave snout-nose weevil has long been a problem for desert communities to the east of us, and is a costly problem for Mexico's tequila industry. I first noticed signs of infestation here in Hidden Meadows about a year ago. This rapidly spreading pest prefers variegated (striped) *Agave americana* (century plants) but will go after nearly any species. Sometimes carried in with nursery plants, the beetle spreads from agave to agave, leaving behind collapsed plants with gooey, grub-infested cores.

I'm by no means an advocate of pesticides, but the reality is that agave owners who do nothing may inadvertently help the beetle's proliferation and stand to incur the expense and inconvenience of removing large, spiky plants. What to do? In early spring, drench the soil around the base of your agaves with a systemic insecticide containing imidacloprid. Once roots transmit it to the agave's tissues, it'll kill the beetle at first bite. Although some studies claim that imidacloprid is safe for bees, err on the side of caution and cut off the agave's bloom spike before the flowers open.

For more info, visit the Snout Weevil page on my website ([https://](https://debraleebaldwin.com)



The upright center and collapsed outer leaves of the middle plant (a variegated century plant, *Agave americana* 'Marginata') indicate snout weevil infestation. Photo taken in Hidden Meadows.

debraleebaldwin.com) and watch my YouTube videos on agave snout weevil prevention and treatment.

Garden photojournalist Debra Lee Baldwin is a 26-year Hidden Meadows resident and author of three bestselling books on gardening and designing with succulents. In 2017 she was named "Horticulturist of the Year" by the San Diego Horticultural Society.



An agave snout weevil on the palm of my hand. It's flightless but travelled at the rate of four inches per second and climbed smooth surfaces. It survived ten days without sustenance.



Snout weevil grubs consume the vital core of an agave, severing it from its roots.

To remove an invested agave:

1. Place a tarp around the plant.
2. Position a wheelbarrow nearby. Make sure the tarp covers the ground between it and the agave.
3. Dig up the agave and put in the wheelbarrow.
4. Dig out more dirt to a depth of 12 inches (deeper if you find grubs) and about 12 inches from where the base of the plant was.
5. As you transfer the soil to the wheelbarrow, inspect it for grubs and weevils.
6. The beetles are hard to crush. A hammer may be your best bet.
7. Take the wheelbarrow to a paved area, like your driveway, so if beetles escape they're easy to spot.
8. Transfer into heavy-duty trash bags, sprinkle contents with insecticide, and triple-tie. Seal any rips with duct tape.
9. Toss the bags in your trash bin, NOT your green refuse bin.
10. Drench the soil where the agave was with insecticide.

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