

Periodico de Esperanza



December 2011

EE's First Art Walk

The weather was cold, but the Ramada Art Walk was a hot event! Sponsored by the Periodico, the event attracted a large crowd of residents, who strolled through our gallery to view the work of the 17 participating EE artists and artisans.

We organized the Art Walk to showcase our talented neighbors and to give people a chance to mingle at a casual Sunday afternoon event. The show was also a chance to do a little holiday shopping.

Continued on page 3

Photos of the Month

The Periodico received a record number of entries for the December Photo of the Month contest. It was a tough decision for the judges and resulted in a tie. Congratulations to...

*Paul McCreary
(Placita Nueva)
for this unique
rainbow photo,
captured from his
back patio.*



*And Sue Reiser
(Holgado) for her
"pink snow" on
the Santa Ritas.*

President's Message

By Tom Cooke

As we conclude another year in Esperanza Estates, we can say we are holding our own and making progress.

Our annual membership meeting will be held next month, on January 16, and we ask that you please try to attend. Our annual HOA reports will be given, and three directors will be elected to the Board. There will also be a vote on amending the CC&Rs of Esperanza Estates to allow new trim colors to be used on our homes. The Board has no position on this latter item, so vote your wishes on the matter.

Twelve homes sold in EE over the past year. This is a bit lower than normal, but probably not bad considering the over-all state of the real estate market in Green Valley.

The Board has been able to continue managing the business of EE without raising our annual dues. This is the seventh straight year without an increase.

We are pleased that our relatively new group, the EE Gardeners, has become a magnet for new members, and has accomplished one of its goals in beautifying our entrance monuments and the Sunset Ramada arch. They have many more plans for future projects as well, all of which will have as their objective improving the eye appeal of our neighborhood.

Our Enhancement Team is busier than ever with fund raising efforts to enable them to invest even more in amenities that we all enjoy. Our Hospitality Committee has kept us entertained with their many social events, and more are planned for the coming year.

Our monthly publication, the Periodico continues to hit new highs in both quality and content, and the weekly Monday Morning Memo continues to add subscribers. The EE website is better and with more information and useful features than ever before.

Everything mentioned above is the work product of our volunteers — for whom we are ever thankful. We owe them a great deal — and not just for this year.

We have added some HOA owned spray equipment to better enable us to deal with our common area weed issues — a very serious problem earlier this year — and every year. The cost of this equipment was less than the cost of hiring an outside firm to do weed control for a single year, and will result in a serious savings for the HOA, and allow us to accomplish the work on our schedule rather than wait for an outside contractor.

Your HOA is in good condition, and looking ahead to future challenges. With the continuing help from our volunteers, we expect an even better year in 2012. Stay tuned.

Board Meetings

Jan. 16

Annual Meeting

Feb. 20, Mar. 19,

April 16, May 21,

June 18

1:00 p.m.

Sunset Ramada

Board member list & meeting minutes available at
<http://esperanzaestates.net>

Esperanza Estates

Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 181

Green Valley, AZ 85622-0181

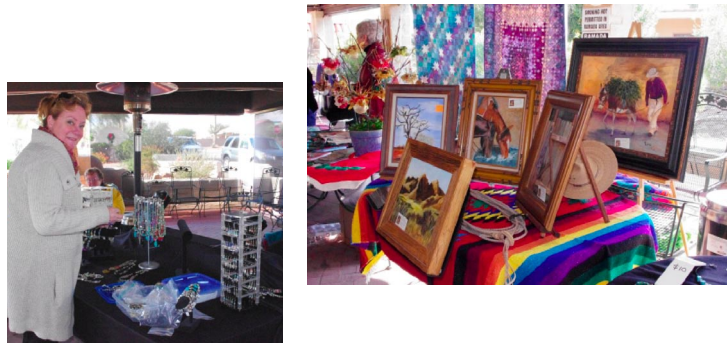
Art Walk

Continued from page 1

We thank the featured artists and artisans for sharing their work. They included: Carol Ballard (colored pencil art); Cheri Day (beaded jewelry); Jane Ellingson (beaded jewelry, photo note cards, and knitted items); Karen Lepper (oil paintings); Irene Lilja (quilts and knitted items); Richard Lilja (woodcarvings); Robin Simonson Lockwood (jewelry); Paul McCreary (acrylic paintings and photo cards); Stacie Meyer (mosaics and painted furniture); Kraylen Miholer (watercolor paintings); Sue Reiser (aviation photographs); Kathy Sawin (sculpture, watercolor paintings, and mosaics); Donna Shay (quilts); Terry Shay (mesquite furniture); Sam Simonson (spoon rings); Jim Sourant (oil paintings); and Joey Sourant (jewelry, journals and Christmas ornaments).

A sincere thanks to the Art Walk Committee (Carol Ballard, Jane Ellingson, Stacie Meyer, Kraylen Miholer, Jackie Rautio, Denise Roessle, Cynthia Surprise and Linda Winterland) for organizing the show.

We hope this will become an annual event, with additional artists and artisans participating in the future.



Some of the 17 exhibits in the first EE Art Walk



Highlights of the December Board Meeting

The Periodico staff attends the meetings of the HOA Board, and starting with the December meeting will highlight items that we believe may be of interest to residents. Official minutes of all Board meetings are posted on the EE website at esperanzaestates.net.

- The Board is studying potential construction of restroom facilities at the tennis/pickle ball court. This project is tentative at present and not ready for a full discussion by the Board.
- The proposal for altering the CC&Rs to allow trim colors other than Norfolk Brown was discussed. Criticism was expressed about the way the matter has been approached and the issue in general.
- Several members expressed regrets as to the current deteriorated condition of the streets in EE, and asked that something be done.



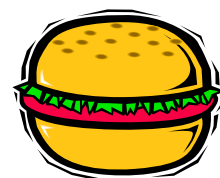
Upcoming Events



First Day Celebration & Potluck Sunday, January 1 • 1:00 p.m. at Sunset Ramada

Join the fun! Bring your favorite beverage, table set-up & a dish to share.

Hamburger Night Tuesday, January 10th



4:30 Cocktails, 5:00 Grilling Begins

Sunset Ramada

\$5.00 per person

Includes a hamburger, cheeseburger or veggie burger.

Sodas, beer and mixes supplied.

Second Annual EE Dessert Buffet Sunday, January 29th • 6 p.m. Sunset Ramada

Tickets: \$5.00

Includes unlimited sampling of desserts, coffee and tea.

An old-fashioned "cake walk" will be held, with delectable baked goods as prizes. Raffle tickets (\$1 each or 6 for \$5) will be available for a chance to win this Italian-themed goodie "bucket."



Tickets are available at EE events during January or by calling Linda Winterland (396-3807) or Sandy Oster (625-0039).

Please also call if you would like to donate a favorite dessert or baked good.



Coffee & Donuts

Join your neighbors the third Wednesday of each month, 8:30 a.m., at the Ramada, for complimentary coffee and donuts.

Clarification of Ballot Question About Trim Colors

By Boyd Morse

In the recent mailing of the Annual Meeting Notice a ballot to amend the CC&R's was included. The purpose of this amendment is to allow for changes to the available colors for the trim on Esperanza Estates homes, with allowable colors to be determined by the Board. As of now the procedure to make any such change is unwieldy, requiring an amendment to the CC&R's which can be done only once a year at the annual meeting and requiring a 51% approval of all of the homeowners.

At the December Board meeting, when this issue was discussed, it was suggested that the information about the amendment mailed to the association members with the annual meeting notice might have been misleading and confusing to some. This is because the list of Board rules mentioned in the information sheet accompanying the mailing did not specify that they were "proposed" rules, that could not be enacted unless the required percentage of EE owners voted to approve the amendment to the CC&Rs.

I would like to try to clarify this issue. As of now there has been a survey conducted at my request to determine if there was interest in amending the CC&R's to allow for multiple colors to be used on the trim. More than 62% of the respondents indicated they would be inclined to vote in favor of amending the CC&R's to eliminate the restriction on allowing any trim color other than Norfolk Brown. Of the other respondents, several indicated they were not necessarily opposed, but would like to know what the process would be for determining the additional colors. Hence the information page included the proposed rules that it was felt would be reasonably necessary to administer a color change.

As far as the choice of colors is concerned, there have been comments that the colors that have been displayed at the Ramada are too "bland." The palette was chosen due primarily to the comments on the survey that we should maintain the flavor and design applied during the development of EE. All of the colors were professionally chosen by Dunn-Edwards and are compatible with the 4 original house colors, and each is compatible with each other.

To accomplish the goal of presenting options for those interested in additional choices, it will be proposed in the rules that the final color palette shall include the four house colors, Norfolk Brown, the top four choices from the display currently in the Ramada plus two open slots for colors that may be added at a later date.

In retrospect, the language in the information sheet about the rules should have stated:

THIS IS A PROPOSED LIST OF RULES AND MUST BE ADOPTED BY THE BOARD TO BECOME EFFECTIVE. ONLY AFTER THE AMENDMENT IS PASSED WILL THE BOARD MEET TO ADOPT THE RULES MENTIONED IN THE LAST LINE OF ARTICLE 8.5.

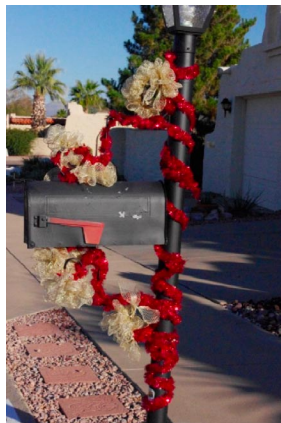
There has been no board action at this time regarding the Trim Color issue. If anyone is confused by this inclusion, please call me (520 419-2489) or email me boydmorse1@gmail.com.

EE Name Badges Available

Name badges for Ramada gatherings are available for \$6.00 each. The badges are plastic with a magnet (not advisable for those with pacemakers) and will have the name of the individual and their street name. They can be kept at the Ramada to be used for every occasion. The profits from sales will go to the Enhancement Team. If you would like to order a badge, contact Melodye Cooke at 399-0455 or email her at melodye1@cox.net.

A Sampler of EE Holiday Lamp Posts

In keeping with Esperanza Estates' holiday tradition, most of our lamp posts were decorated for the winter holidays. Some are traditional, others are whimsical. When I walk around the neighborhood, I see many old favorites, and they make me smile. It's fun to see if the decorations reflect the personalities of the owners. From the simplest to the most elaborate decorations, they all contribute to our community spirit. Here is a sample of the variety.



EE Gardeners Update

There are now over 15 members of the EE Gardeners Club. The group's focus for the immediate future will be on finishing the Arizona flag mural and the ceramic snake for EE's Centennial Project. The snake will be permanently installed in Esperanza Estates Park, and the Gardeners will shortly decide on an appropriate location for the flag mural. In case you missed it, the Centennial Project was featured on the front page of the *Green Valley News* on November 30. If you are interested in joining, contact Bill Berdine (344-7301 or whberdine@roadrunner.com).



In Memoriam

Gloria Johnson
716 Placita Nueva
Nov. 2011

Irv Hari
Former resident, Círculo del Sur

Garden Inspiration

Looking at the way Bill Berdine and Stacie Meyer transformed their EE property, it's evident why this couple heads the EE Gardeners.

Although much appreciated by their portuguese water dog, Theo, the large lawn that originally came with the house didn't fit in with Bill and Stacie's vision of a sonoran desert home. "The amount of water needed to keep the lawn green was outrageous, and the grass was generally brown and unattractive during the months we were here," Bill explained.

After considerable research about xeriscape gardening and several visits to the GV Gardeners' Arid Garden, Bill and Stacie designed a low maintenance garden featuring a large variety of cactus. They then purchased the cactus from Joe Frawley, who owns a cactus farm in Tucson. He helped them select and install the 54 plants representing 21 varieties of cactus, most of which are native to the area.

The garden is a "low water," not a "no water," garden. The watering schedule is: 70 degrees, water every 3 weeks, 80 degrees, water every 2 weeks, and 90 degrees and above, water once a week. No watering is needed in December and January. After the first couple of years, the garden will require only minimal supplemental watering.

The couple is delighted with the new garden. When asked to comment, Theo responded with a non-committal "Woof."

Before (left) and after...



Around Esperanza

Photo of the Month Contest

Submit up to three digital photos taken around EE during the past year. There's no limit on subject matter: flora, fauna, mountains, sunsets, etc. The Periodico Team will choose the winner, who will have their winning photo published in the next Periodico and displayed on the bulletin board at the Ramada.

Deadline for the next contest: January 13th. You may submit your entry/ies to Denise Roessle (droessle@mac.com) as an email attachment, or save them on a CD and deliver it to 801 Napa.

Documentary to Include EE Residents

Want to tell about your adventures, or a part of your life? Be in a documentary including some Esperanza residents to be shown in the spring at the Ramada. Everyone has a story.

If you are interested in being a part of this project, contact:

*EE residents Paul and Becky McCreary
at 970-596-1505*

or stay@mainstreethouse.com



The Authors of Esperanza Estates

By Cynthia Surprise

Whether your taste runs to adventure stories, mysteries, travel guides, commentary or just a good story, you need look no further than our Esperanza Estates authors to find a book to your liking. Reading a book by someone you know, adds interest and gives you a bit of insight into the author. I've sampled the works of each of these authors and look forward to reading more.

Donna Dailey and Mike Gerrard

Donna Dailey and Mike Gerrard are award-winning, full-time travel writers. Between them, they have written over 50 guidebooks for publishers including National Geographic, Fodor's, Michelin, Insight, Moon Handbooks and many more. They also write for newspapers, magazines and websites worldwide.

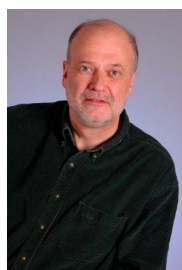


Donna has won several prestigious travel writing awards and was recently runner-up as Travel Writer of the Year. She has traveled into Nicaragua's rain forest, across the Australian Outback, to ancient sites in Jordan and Tunisia, and to the game reserves of Kenya, and has hiked across the Rockies and the canyons of the American Southwest.

Mike received a Benjamin Franklin Best Guidebook Award for a guidebook on Paris, and was named one of the 50 Most Influential Travel Journalists in the UK, and Online Travel Writer of the Year from the Association of Independent Tour Operators in the UK. Some of Mike's exotic adventures include camel-trekking in the Sinai Desert, walking in the Great Rift Valley, learning to jive in Barcelona, looking for orangutans in Sumatra, staying with a farming family in China and sampling a naturist holiday on Crete.

Mike has also written radio plays for the BBC, one of which was voted 'Radio Play of the Year' by the Mail on Sunday. A selection of his travel writings, "Snakes Alive and Other Travel Writing," was published in 2010 and his first crime novel, "Strip Till Dead," was published in 2011.

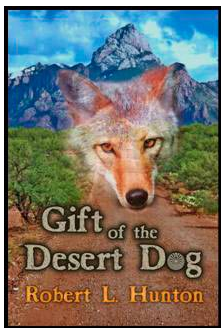
Donna and Mike also write their own travel content websites: Pacific Coast Highway Travel, Greece Travel Secrets and Beyond London Travel. When they aren't traveling or in residence in EE, Donna and Mike make their home in the United Kingdom.



Robert Hunton

Bob Hunton is the author of the Borderlands Trilogy of mystery and adventure stories, intended primarily for young readers, but captivating to older readers as well.

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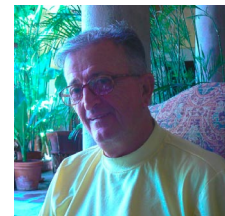
The first book, "Gift of the Desert Dog," introduces Danny Rivas, a Native American boy who grows up in the borderlands between the U.S. and Mexico. Two subsequent novels, "Secrets of the Medicine Pouch: Adventure in the Borderlands" (to be released this month) and "Coyote-meeter's Abyss: Adventure in the Borderlands" (coming in 2012) continue Danny's story.

Bob obtained permission to use Tohono O'odham symbols in his books from the tribal council in Sells, who appreciated his respectful consideration of their traditions and customs.

Bob's 32-year career as a middle-school teacher in Vermont gives him great insight into the behavior and emotions of young people.

Ed Lord

Ed Lord, well-known book reviewer for the *Green Valley News & Sun*, has authored three mystery novels and a novella.

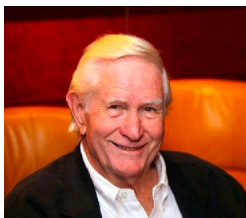


In "All the Guys are Bad Guys," Ed introduces Andy Bowers, a semiconductor salesman turned adventurer. Ed's experience as a sailor and scuba diver is evident in this mystery about a search for stolen diamonds on a ship sunk during World War II.

The Andy Bowers series continues with "Opportunity for Revenge" and "Blood on Bare Rock." Using the pseudonym Edmund Bleek, Ed wrote "The Man Who Was Cremated Twice," a story about a man who finds a crematory urn in the trash and then attempts to return the ashes to the bereaved relatives. The idea for the novella came to Ed in a dream in which someone said, "He is the man who was cremated twice."

Ed served in the U.S. Navy and pursued a career in writing and marketing for high tech companies. He is an accomplished scuba diver and sky diver and served as pit crew on a racing Alfa Romeo. He has sailed and lived on sailboats for over 20 years.

John Martin Meek



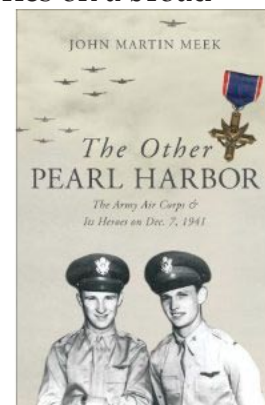
John Martin Meek was a journalist and then had a distinguished career in national politics before returning to the private sector with one of the largest international public relations firms.

John's novel "The Christmas Hour," published in 2003 under his pen name John Martin Hill, is a love story about a teacher and a student at the Washington National Cathedral's two elite prep schools, and depicts upper middle class life in D.C.

"I Might Just Be Right" is a collection of John's newspaper columns and feature stories on a broad range of topics which draw on the insights gained during his years as a Washington insider. Most of the columns were written for Tucson's *Arizona Daily Star*.

Released in September, 2011, John's third book, "The Other Pearl Harbor: The Army Air Corps and Its Heroes on Dec. 7, 1941," is a work of creative nonfiction about the Army Air Corps during the Pearl Harbor attack on Dec. 7, 1941. The book focuses on two young pilots who shot down the first enemy aircraft of World War II. The Foreword is written by Dr. Donald M. Goldstein, the preeminent living Pearl Harbor historian and author of three bestselling books on the subject.

In 1967, John published a book of photos of the Lyndon B. Johnson presidency.



Continued on next page

John, a Korean War veteran, appeared in and contributed almost all the archival film for Arizona Public Media's two documentaries, "Unforgettable: The Korean War," which PBS made available to all its affiliate TV stations nationally, and "Tucson Remembers: The Korean War," a longer version used only by KUAT in Tucson.

Alexander Reed



Sandy Reed has authored five books, three of which are based on his over forty-year career as an international banker in over thirty different countries.

"Money and the Global Economy," published in Great Britain and the United States, is geared primarily toward the financial specialist. "The Village Banker," a novel about our now recognized global village, is part mystery and part insider expose of international banking. "A Tote of Travel Tales: Through North and South America," is a collection of short stories about how different people pursue their careers, money, love and other goals.

"Fables for 55+" is a collection of stories in which Sandy demonstrates that there is no such thing as retirement. In "The Love Stories of Esperanza Estates," edited by Sandy but written mostly by residents, we learn about the people, places and things that EE residents love.

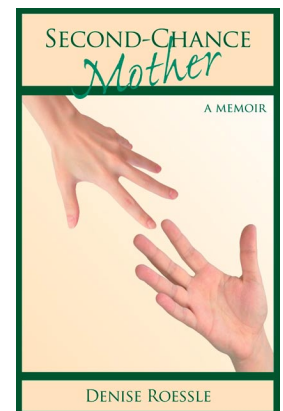
Sandy graduated from Amherst College and Harvard Law School, served as an officer on four different minesweepers in the U.S. Navy during World War II, and practiced law for several years in Pittsburgh before embarking on an international banking career.

Denise Roessle



Periodico publisher Denise Roessle is the author of "Second-Chance Mother," which was published as an e-book this fall and will be available as a trade paperback in January 2012. Her memoir tells a powerful story about the surrender of her only son to adoption and her struggle to establish a relationship with him twenty-six years later.

Denise is a professional copywriter, graphic designer and former owner of a marketing communications firm. Since her "accidental retirement" after moving to Green Valley from California, Denise has been freelancing, primarily for local nonprofit organizations. She has won several awards for her essays and short stories, and currently serves as president of the Santa Cruz Valley Chapter of the Society of Southwestern Authors. She will be among the readers at their Fifth Annual Authors' Showcase on January 14, 2012 at the Lavendar Restaurant. *(For more information about this event, email Denise at droessle@mac.com)*



Fascinating Neighbors

Esperanza Estates is populated by many folks with interesting backgrounds and brushes with fame. If you know someone who would make an interesting profile — or maybe it's YOU — please contact Cynthia Surprise, 207-2742, or Mary Hess, 398-4829.

EE History: Esperanza Estates Park

Looking at Esperanza Estates Park today, it is difficult to imagine that this park was once the proud site of Green Valley's annual Pearl Harbor Day commemoration event and EE's Lunar Parties under the stars.

The creation of the park was casual. In the mid-1980, EE's landscape crew cleared away the brush at the west end of Esperanza Boulevard where it meets Camino Holgado. An EE resident donated some brick pavers, a platform was created at the top of the hill, and EE Park was born. It was originally called the Freddie Montiel Park in honor of the landscaper.

Resident Helen Balas then donated a flag to be flown on a flagpole on the hill and members of the American Legion held a dedication ceremony.

Meanwhile, a new subdivision, Portillo Place, had sprung up across from the park on Camino Holgado. To make it clear the park belonged to EE, the Board erected a sign proclaiming the area Esperanza Estates Park. Picnic tables, a barbecue grill, and a drinking fountain were later installed.

On December 7, 1991, the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor was observed in Green Valley in ceremonies at EE Park. In honor of the USS Arizona, EE residents installed a second flagpole with the Arizona state flag, in honor of the USS Arizona. Members of the local VFW post, Knights of Columbus, American Legion, and the Navy's Fleet Reserve all participated in the annual ceremonies, and one year Davis-Monthan provided a fly-over. This annual event took place in the park until 1997.

EE Park is an ideal spot to view the moon as it rises over the Santa Ritas, and for a number of years, residents gathered there for a barbeque and star gazing on the night of the February full moon.

Sadly, the inexorable passage of time has taken its toll on EE Park. The Pearl Harbor Day celebrations are now held at the American Legion and the Lunar Parties are held in the warmer, more convenient Ramada. The drinking fountain was dismantled, the barbecue sent to the trash heap, and last spring the wind claimed the last remaining flagpole. No colorful monument stands proudly at this entrance to EE; only a tiny, wooden sign lets passers-by know they have re-entered our subdivision after passing Portillo Place.

But in the next month or two, you will witness the rebirth of EE Park. The EE Gardeners intend to install the ceramic snake on the little knoll and are considering other ambitious projects to make the park an attractive venue for community gatherings.



*First Pearl Harbor Day
Ceremony at Esperanza Park.
Photos provided by Lois Blacker.*

December Green Valley Council Report

By Joe McCalpin

The safety organizations presented an encapsulation of their activities for the year and it was quite impressive.

Green Valley Fire District by Chief Davis said that calls to that department increased from 660 to over 800 this past year. Fire calls have been dropping and medical calls increasing. The district is sponsoring a program called SHIN to improve safety in the home. The Fire department will come to your home to check for hazards and also check your smoke detectors. Our houses are thirty years old as are our smoke detectors. These detectors are hardwired to the house power and might test positive when the detector is actually inoperable. The department is starting a lock box program to place a house key into a box. The box is similar to those used by realtors. The objective is to allow firemen responding to a call can gain access to the house without using a battering ram. The box costs \$50 with a \$25 installation fee.

PAIC San-Martin spoke for the Border Patrol. Last year there were 123,000 arrests between Yuma and Douglass down from 212,000 the previous year. Deaths from illegal immigration were 193, down from 212 the year, but even one is too many. Drug seizures increased from about 1 million pounds of marijuana to over 1.3 million pounds.

Lt. Deanna Coultis spoke for the Sheriff's Department. The department is adding another patrolman to the Green Valley detachment. Excellent cooperation with the SAV was cited.

Sheriff's Auxiliary volunteer Commander Ludwig said that there was a training class starting on the 19th of January. The class will include EE's Patty Adler.

The Environmental Committee talked about the Bufflegrass eradication effort. The most interesting item is that the County has most of the accursed *Cenchrus Solaris*. The Committee's primary thrust will be to get the County on-board.

I spoke to Susan Jones today about the pothole at the intersection of Portlillo and Esperanza. The hole is becoming a trench and will soon be a chasm. Susan has been very responsive in the past and will be in the future, she started a work request while I was there. I don't think much will be done over the holidays, but after the first of the year we can expect some action.

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Bienvenidos!

Please join the Bienvenidos Committee in welcoming some new residents to Esperanza Estates.

Judy and Allen Prato are from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Friends introduced them to Green Valley and they fell in love with the area, especially because winters here allow them to be more active. They both enjoy golfing and are avid hikers. They hike Mt. Lemmon at least once a year and have climbed to the top of Madera Canyon. Recently, they took up pickleball, and are showing steady improvement.

Sue Reiser moved to EE from Portland, Oregon. Working at the Mayo Clinic as a specialized x-ray technician, she met several celebrities including Johnny Carson, Danny Kaye and Lyndon Johnson. She also worked at the Evergreen Aviation Museum, the home of the Spruce Goose. While helping with an aviation show, Sue met the crew of Apollo 12. Her hobby is aviation photography with a special interest in WWII aircraft, and she displayed some of her work at the EE Art Walk.

Jim and Joey Sourant are from Anacortes, Washington where they return for part of the year. Prior to moving to Washington, they lived in Anchorage Alaska for 25 years, where Jim clerked for a federal judge and practiced law and Joey was a nurse. When they first came to Green Valley, the Sourants rented a home in Villas West. One day while walking through EE, they saw a man putting up a for sale by owner sign. They stopped, asked if they could see the house, and bought it two hours after it was put on the market. Both Jim and Joey participated in the EE Art Walk. Joey displayed her wire wrapped clay polymer jewelry and intricate beaded jewelry and Jim showed some of his oil painting. Jim is also apprenticing to be a cook at EE Burger Nights.



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another home.***

2007-2010 Director of Green Valley Board of Realtors®
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Esperanza Estates homeowner
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MLS

Live Your Dream Now!

Tips for Preventing Frozen Water Pipes

By Craig Surprise

If you lived in EE last winter, you'll remember the unprecedented freeze we experienced in February. If you weren't here, no doubt you heard all about it. In case there's a repeat this winter, here's a reminder about how to prevent or deal with a freeze-up of your home water pipes.

First and foremost, make sure the pipes outside the house are insulated. If you wait until a hard freeze is forecast to buy pipe insulation, the hardware store may be out. In that case, use an old blanket or a couple of towels.

Wrap the insulation around every bit of the pipe that is exposed.

If you have a water softener installed outside, put some insulation around the tank and the control valve on the top of the unit.

If an overnight freeze is forecast, keep a bathroom faucet open a tiny bit, so the water is running at the slowest rate possible. This will keep the water running in the pipe so it won't freeze.

If you do experience a freeze-up, try the following:

If you have no water at all, try using a hairdryer (not a blowtorch!) to heat the water pipe where it enters the front of your house. Keep an inside faucet turned on slightly while you are doing this so that water can start flowing as soon as the blockage turns to slush and so you'll know when the pipe is thawed out (and you won't have to stay out in the cold any longer than necessary).

If you have cold water in the kitchen sink, but none in the bathrooms and no hot water at all, you might try heating the pipe at the back of the house -- where there is usually a U-shaped piece coming out of the house and going back into the house -- along with a spigot for use with a hose. The procedure is the same as before: leave an inside faucet turned on slightly so that water can start running.

While you're standing out in the cold, think about how hot it was this summer!



Mountain Roads Photography

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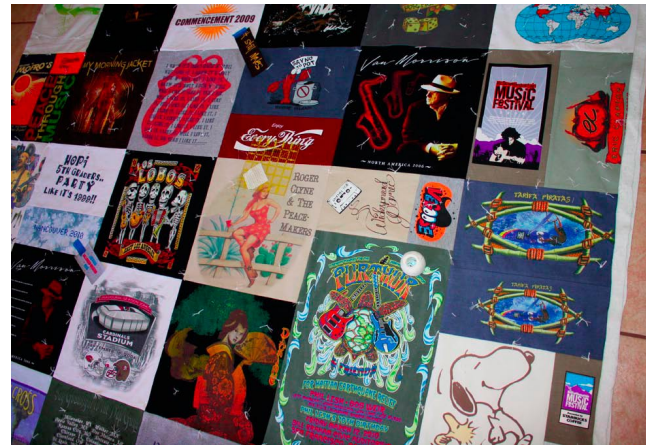
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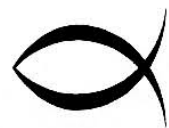
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