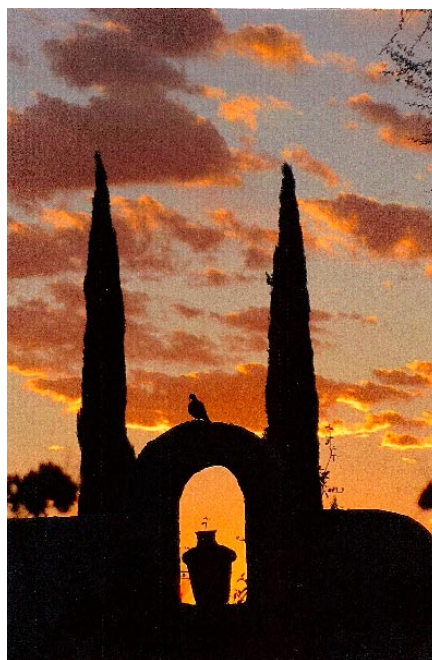


Periodico de Esperanza



September 2012

Photo of the Year



The suspense is over. The winner of the Periodico's first Photo of the Year contest is Jim Lindberg for his wonderful photo of Esperanza Estates at sunset. The winning photo captures the tranquility of the day's end and typifies EE with its arches, Italian cypress and doves.

Jim has enjoyed taking photos for as long as he can remember. A retired architect, he now uses his camera instead of his pencil to express his creativity. Jim carries his Canon PowerShot SX210 IS on his daily walks with his wife Geri through EE, and keeps it on the kitchen counter within easy reach should a photo opportunity present itself out the kitchen window.

Jim will receive a \$25 gift certificate, and his photo will be displayed in the Ramada for the year.

Congratulations also go to Del Bean and Paul McCreary, who tied for second place. Thanks to all our contestants for entering their photos and to the residents who cast their ballots to select the winner.

The Photo of the Month Contest starts up again in October. See page 14 for details.

Thanks to the Weed Patrol

A big thank you to Tom Cooke and Boyd Morse for managing the weeds in EE this summer. According to Tom, they learned a lot this summer in terms of how the project should be run and have now started work in the more remote common areas.

Many of you have seen the trail of turquoise left where spraying has been done. Tom now has a pair of sneakers that were inadvertently dyed to match.



Restrooms completed

Restrooms at the Tennis/Pickleball courts are completed and open for business! This fall, Ben Sheffield plans to build storage cabinets for the restroom supplies. Thanks to Ben, Jim Lindberg and Kevin Welsh for the many volunteer hours they put in to get the job done.



Enhancement Team Report

It's been a quiet summer for the Enhancement Committee. The only project that we've undertaken was to replace a trash can at the Ramada and to provide a new supply of trash can liners. We are, however, gearing up to swing into action this fall. In this vein, it's now time to start saving useful furniture and household items for our annual Ramada Sale. We can accept most items that are in good condition, except clothing. If you have items to donate, please call Kraylen Miholer (393-8133), Geri Lindberg (777-4972), or Barb McCalpin (867-8067) for pick up. As always, we appreciate your support and all proceeds from our fundraisers will be used to improve our community.

We will have our first organizational meeting of the season in late October or early November. If you are interested in working on this fun and productive committee, please call Barb McCalpin or any committee member.

(Right) The Enhancement Team's Ramada Sale is the biggest fundraiser of the year.



Board Meetings

2012

Sept. 17 • Oct. 15

Nov. 19 • Dec. 17

2013

Annual Mtg.: Jan. 21

Feb. 18 • Mar. 18

April 15 • May 20

June 17

No meetings in July & August

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

Esperanza Estates

Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 181

Green Valley, AZ 85622-0181

GVC Doings During The Summer

By Joe McCalpin

It has been a quiet summer for GVC. As our part-timers arrive, they will be happy to drive to Wally World via a re-paved Abrego. The stretch between Esperanza and Duval Mine/Old Nogales Highway is smooth and nice. Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and Pima County will be doing a joint project on Esperanza between Abrego and La Canada to repair the pavement on Esperanza and change the walkway under the I-19 over-pass. ADOT will also change the south-bound off-ramp on I-19 to remove the yield access to westbound Esperanza. There will be two lanes, one for left turns and the other for right turns. Re-paving Abrego to Continental is in next year's budget as is repairing Portillo and Holgado from Esperanza to the Bridges over Arroyo# 9.

GVC did a study to identify the main distributor streets in every subdivision where the streets are County owned. EE's main distributor streets are Calle Excelso, Circulo Napa and Vereda Calma. The recommended repair for those streets is mill and re-pave. The study was presented to the County (Chuck Huckleberry) and will be implemented if the Legislature stops raiding HERF funds from the portion of the gas tax that goes to local governments.

Quail Creek wants to join GVC. If approved, the move will provide GVC more revenue and hopefully clout with the County. Along those lines, the main source of revenue for GVC is the distribution of AT&T phone books. More people are using cell phones rather than land lines reducing the number of users. Maybe it's just me, but it seems like there is a great need for phone access to local businesses and phone books are necessary for this access. There have been a number of steps taken to replace lost revenue that were reported earlier.

The Community Services Committee (CSC) has been reconstituted sponsoring existing projects like Dispose-a-Med, Hazardous Household Waste and the BAJA Softball Park. In addition the Avenue of the Flags and the Bufflegrass projects have been added to those supported by CSC. The Hazardous Waste collection is scheduled for October 20.

2013 Volunteer Appreciation Party

By Kay Miller

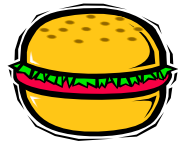
Plans are underway for the Volunteer Appreciation Party, which will be held on Saturday, March 30th. The event will be catered by Sweet Pea's of Arivaca, with a choice of delicious entrees.

Committee chair Kay Miller asks that residents begin thinking about who they would like to nominate for Volunteer of the Year. More information will be available soon. Invitations and ballots will go out in January.



Around Esperanza

Upcoming Events



Hamburger Night Tuesday, October 9th

Sunset Ramada • 4:30 Cocktails, 5:00 Grilling Begins
\$6.00 per person includes a hamburger, cheeseburger or veggie burger and chips. Sodas, beer and mixers supplied.



Halloween Party Wednesday, October 31 Sunset Ramada

4:30 Cocktails • 5:00 Potluck
Soda, beer, wine & cocktails provided
Karaoke with Pat Carmody
Costume & Door Prizes



It's YOUR Ramada

Did you know that EE's Sunset Ramada isn't just a place for HOA-sponsored events? It's available at no charge to any resident, simply by signing up for a date and time (when it isn't already in use) on the calendar posted on the Ramada bulletin board. In addition to board meetings, Hospitality events, and the Enhancement Team's fundraisers, the Ramada has served as a venue for private parties, memorial services, art shows, computer classes, movie nights, military appreciation gatherings, and much more. We hear there is a wedding scheduled in November.

Sunset Ramada is a one-of-a-kind facility in Green Valley and no other HOA offers anything quite like it as an amenity to their residents.

Questions? Contact Tom Cooke (399-0455; tecooke1@cox.net)



Update on Green Valley Real Estate

The Periodico checked in with Lonnie Borgmann this month to get an update on Green Valley's real estate market (last reported on in the October 2011 issue). Owner/broker of the Borgmann Real Estate Group and an Esperanza Estates resident, he has more than 25 years in the business and has been a real estate broker in the Green Valley area since 2000.

According to Lonnie, sales have picked up in the Green Valley area (which includes Quail Creek, Sahuarita, Tubac, and south as far as Rio Rico) during 2012. He believes this is because potential buyers are realizing that prices have finally "hit bottom."

"Winter residents, especially those who have been looking for a while, have returned early to buy," he said. "Now that the lowest-priced houses (for example, short sales and bank-owned properties) have been sold, more people are putting their homes up for sale, which gives potential buyers more choices. In one week (9/5-9/13) there were 22 new listings in the greater Green Valley area."

He added that investor purchases have increased this year, especially among those from Canada and Australia. Because the rental market is strong, this is a great time to invest.

"Another factor is that many part-time residents are staying here longer and want to trade up for a home with more space," Lonnie said. "I expect to see an increase in sales activity in the next couple months."

At this writing, there are 591 houses listed for sale in the Green Valley area, with an average asking price of \$164,000. Between January 1 and September 13, 2012, 753 sales have closed (an increase over the same time period in 2011), days on the market is only a few days longer — 181 compared to 177 last year), and the average selling price (at \$153,900) is about \$9,000 lower than in 2011.

In Esperanza Estates, 19 homes have sold since January 1, for an average price of \$122,000, and 166 days on the market. There are currently eight properties listed in EE, ranging from an asking price of \$129,500 to \$275,000. Sellers can expect the purchase price-per-square-foot to be \$5 to \$10 less than the listed price. The average selling price in EE is currently \$84 per square foot.

Lonnie cautions against giving the price-per-square-foot too much weight when comparing homes of the same size. "You need to look at it like an appraiser would," he said. "One house might lack upgrades, while another with identical square footage might have features like granite countertops, tiled floors and modern appliances."

At this time, the interest rate on a 30-year FHA loan is 3.5%. Although if the stock market continues to rise, mortgage rates should fall, and in a declining stock market, the rates will increase," Lonnie said. "So I would encourage serious potential buyers and sellers not to wait. This is an optimum time to evaluate your real estate needs."

"Pricing is still the most important factor in selling a home. Sellers have to be realistic and consider the recent comparable sales in their neighborhood. Listen to your realtor's advice."

Welcome New Owners

*Neil E. & Jeraldine F. Lininger
820 W. Circulo Napa*

*Carol Hinterthuer
612 W Placita Nueva*

*Richard H. Chamberlin & Judith E. Torres
811 W. Circulo Napa*

Here's What You Missed...

Summer Days in Esperanza Estates

For those of you who leave for the summer and have yet to experience monsoon season in Southern Arizona, we thought you'd enjoy these pictures captured in and around Esperanza Estates. Indeed, we live in the land of beautiful skies, although the storms themselves can sometimes be a little scary.

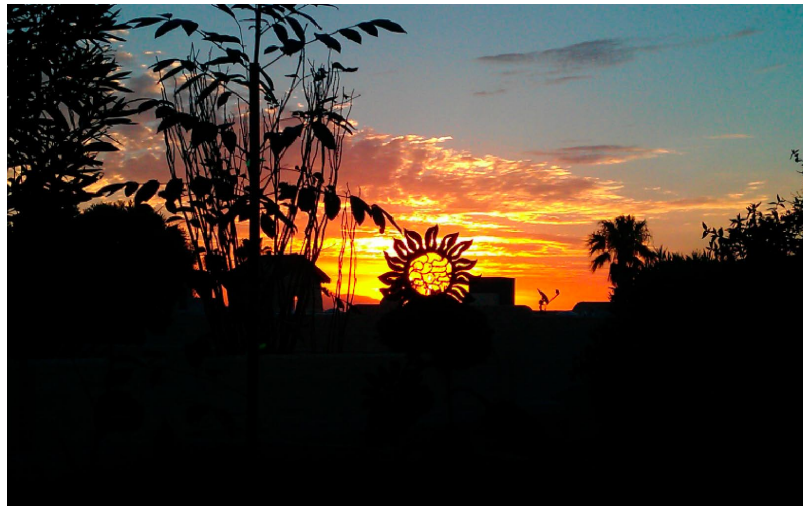
A lightning strike at 770 Regalo went straight through the slump block. (Photo by Kaye Kimla)



Running water in Arroyo #9 after an all-night storm on September 4. (Photo by Joe McCalpin)

Lesser long nose bats feasting at a hummingbird feeder. Can you spot all five? (Photo by John Isgrigg)





Monsoon skies captured in July by Kevin Welsh.



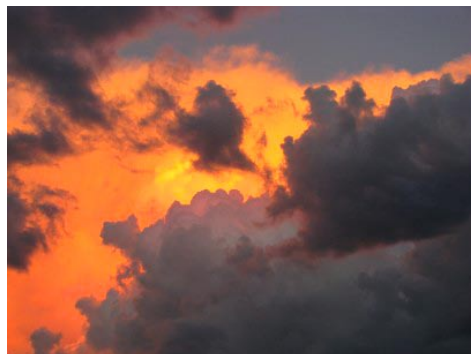
(Photo by Barb McCalpin)



More monsoon skies and a teenaged Cardinal by Denise Roessle



Javelinas are often seen during the summer, as witnessed by Lonnie Borgmann on Napa.



The Ubiquitous Golf Cart

By Cynthia Surprise

Convenient, efficient, economical, practical (and they're just so darn cute and fun), the golf cart is the perfect mode of transport for life in the slow lane. Oh, and you can also use them on the golf course.

Early golf carts had three wheels (*see photo at right*), tiller steering, and were powered by electrically charged batteries. The first E-Z-Go's 36-volt battery was originally designed to power wing flaps on B-17 bombers. Gas powered golf carts began being mass produced in the early 1950s and gained market share by the 1970s and into the 1980s.

Musing about buying a used golf cart, I consulted EE's golf cart guru Terry Shay. Terry has made a hobby out of cleaning up and making minor repairs to golf carts and has helped a number of EE residents obtain a good used golf cart. He knew little about them when he bought his first – a 1982 lavender one at a yard sale – but has become quite knowledgeable since then.

Here is what I learned from talking with Terry.

The three major manufacturers are Club Car, EZ Go and Yamaha (*pictured left to right below*), and it's fairly easy to have these carts serviced here in the Green Valley area and to get parts.

Which is better, gas powered or electric? Terry prefers gas powered because they are low maintenance, low cost maintenance and easy to get fueled. The negatives are the occasional smell of fumes and some golf courses don't allow them.

An electric golf cart is quiet, but has limited range, needs constant charging and batteries are expensive (\$700 – 1,000). Terry advises against them for part-time residents who park them for six months. He suggests if you buy one used, assume the battery will need to be replaced (4-year average life).

If you are considering a used golf cart, Terry recommends checking the fiberglass body for cracks, looking under seat covers to be sure the foam isn't coming out, being sure the clutch engages properly since the replacement cost is \$300 – 500 and checking the condition of the tires which can run you

Continued on next page



Golf Carts

Continued

\$125 – 150 a set. You can expect to pay between \$1,500 – 2,000 for a 1988 – 1994 used golf cart.

Also, be sure there is a clear title in the owner's name since the process for obtaining one is expensive and time consuming. Terry suggests purchasing insurance which is fairly inexpensive.

The legal speed limit for golf carts in Arizona is 25 mph. With a high speed gear set (\$700 to convert), a golf cart can do 20 – 30 mph instead of the average 12 mph.

To be street legal in Arizona (operate off a golf course) a golf cart needs a horn, windshield, headlights and brake lights. You'll need to register the vehicle (\$4) and get a license plate (\$24).

Terry will be happy to answer questions you may have about a potential purchase, but he cautions he isn't a repairman.

So far, Terry's favorite golf cart was the 1996 Club Car he bought from famed Indy race car driver Billy Boats. The vehicle had been used to drive VIPs over to the pits, and it included an autographed pit pass. The current owners of this snazzy vehicle are Jane and Eric Ellingson.

Jaquarundi Sightings

By Denise Roessle

In the June Periodico, we reported that a few EE residents had spotted a jaguarundi (*felis jaguarundi*), mostly around upper Napa. During the summer I received information of more sightings in and around our community. Most were seen during the day and the color of the cat varied from black to reddish brown.

- Twice in the afternoon, just northwest of the tennis court outbuildings and the fence boundary of the Trust Lands. The animal walked and moved very much like an otter.
- After dark, on the back wall of a home on Circulo del Sur.
- In the daylight at Mesquite Park; it ran into the arroyo and through the culvert under Holgado.
- On Portillo near Esperanza during the day. It was reddish-brown like a fox.
- Two jaguarundis (one black, one dark brown) in Madera Vista; they jumped over a wall into the yard of a vacant home.
- At dusk, leaping from a wall to the roof of a home on Circulo Napa near Portillo.

The jaguarundi is a relatively small cat whose weight averages about sixteen to twenty pounds. They have short legs, long bodies, and an especially long tail. Their small head, short ears, and long body have given the jaguarundi the nickname the "otter cat." Unlike the jaguar and ocelot, the jaguarundi has a solid coat color ranging from dark brown to a reddish chestnut color.

According to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, no one has successfully photographed the jaguarundi in Southern Arizona. Perhaps with the help of a motion-detector camera, an EE resident will be the first!

*A jaguarundi photographed
in Mexico.*



Unique Museums

By Cynthia Surprise

Is your road trip experience becoming ho-hum? A visit to one of these unusual (some might be called “quirky”) museums may give you just the break you need from the monotony of the highway.

Spam Museum, Austin, Minnesota (spam.com)

Who knew canned meat could have such an interesting history? This amusing museum located in “Spam-Town USA” tells the story of how Spam became a global icon. At the very least, you’ll leave the museum with a smile on your face and maybe a Spam t-shirt.

Matchstick Marvels Museum, Gladbrook, Iowa (matchstickmarvels.com)

What can you do with 3.5 million wooden matchsticks? Iowa artist Patrick Acton has glued ordinary wooden matchsticks into more than 60 incredibly detailed scale models of life-like sculptures, complex machines, and world renown architecture. Many of his fascinating works are displayed in the museum.

Traer Salt and Pepper Shaker Gallery, Traer, Iowa

“Please pass the salt” takes on new meaning in this Iowa town. The gallery displays over 16,000 salt and pepper shakers donated by a local resident who began collecting them in 1946. Although it was once considered the world’s largest collection of shakers, it has now slipped to second place. If you want to visit the largest, you’ll have to go to Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Kansas Barbed Wire Museum, Lacrosse, Kansas (rushcounty.org/BarbedWireMuseum/)

If you like barbed wire, or want to know more about it (and who wouldn’t?), this museum is for you. Devoted exclusively to the history and legend of the “Devils Rope,” the museum displays over 2000 barbed wire varieties and hundreds of antique and modern fencing tools.

Harley-Davidson Museum and Factory Tours (www.harley-davidson.com)

Were you “Born to be Wild”? Is the unmistakable sound of a Harley music to your ears? Then stop at the H-D Museum in Milwaukee, Wisconsin where you’ll learn about this iconic American motorcycle brand. Or tour one of the Harley factories located in Kansas City, MO, York, PA, Tomahawk, WI and Menomonee Falls, WI.

Pony Express Museum, St. Joseph, Missouri (ponyexpress.org)

If you are captivated by the stories of the brave, lone riders on horseback who raced against the rugged terrain and nature’s elements to deliver the mail, then consider a stop at the museum dedicated to their legacy and legend.

Dinsmoor’s Garden of Eden, Lucas, Kansas (garden-of-eden-lucas-kansas.com)

S.P Dinsmoor, a Civil War veteran, began building the Garden of Eden and Cabin Home in 1907, and for 22 years he fashioned 113 tons of cement and many tons of limestone into his unique “log” cabin with its surrounding sculptures.



In The Hot Seat

By Denise Roessle



“Who Wants to be a Millionaire” was all the rage in 2000. Everyone was talking about it, especially those at the monthly trivia competitions where my husband, Henry, and I played. “Calling Regis” on the open contestant lines became a nightly ritual, nothing more than a fun challenge for us.

The odds of being selected to move on to the second round were slim since only 40 people were randomly selected from the hundreds (maybe thousands) who answered all the questions correctly. After months of playing almost nightly, I got the unexpected call to participate in a second-round playoff. The final selection of the 10 players to be invited to New York would be chosen randomly from those who scored perfectly.

The adrenaline rush was crazy-making. It was never about becoming a millionaire. It was simply a lark. But at that point, my expectations went into overdrive. *What if?* I thought.

Round Two went well and that afternoon I got the call that I was selected. The next thing I knew, I was on a plane to New York City with my friend, Carol. Henry had no interest in going, but would be a lifeline who I could call during the show to help answer a question.

Carol and I giggled our way east, on the flight, in the chauffeured car, at the contestant meeting, in the lobby the next morning with nine other hopefuls. I was still grinning through the practice rounds. But the closer we got to tape time, the more my stomach reminded me I was going to be on TV — however briefly. By the time the make-up artists had finished, I was so nervous I could barely stand. The face in the mirror was unfamiliar, clown-like by comparison to my minimalist norm.

As the producer led us through the halls and stairwells to the studio, we looked more like ten over-dressed prisoners going to the gallows than potential millionaires. I wanted to run. But once I was ensconced behind my fast-finger monitor, I breathed a sigh of relief. I’d made it this far without tripping or throwing up. I willed myself smile and wave during the introductions and not look too stupid.

Just as I started to get comfortable again, it was fast-finger time.

The topic was musical innovations, right up my alley. I thought: *At least I’ll get it right, and the world won’t think I’m an idiot.* Then my name started to blink on the screen. I’m going to play! (I later learned I’d beat the next fastest contestant by a mere 1 / 100th of a second.)

It was a heady moment. As I sat in the hot seat across from Regis, I began to think that I might actually win some money — perhaps enough to quit my job and write my book. The fantasy I’d not dared to entertain came alive.

The next 45 minutes turned into one big blur as I got to the \$32,000 question. I went down on a Civil War question and left with \$1,000. Regis hugged me, which was a fairly rare occurrence.

It was an amazing experience, both exhilarating and disappointing. I dreaded the airing of the show a few weeks later. It was excruciating to relive, but I got through it. And I know I never, ever want to be on TV again.

Fifteen Minutes of Fame

TECH TIP



Name That Park!

EE has a long-standing tradition of asking residents to select names for the common area parks in our subdivision. And now we have two new parks on del Norte to name. So, start your creative juices flowing and come up with some great names for these two areas. Details of the naming contest will be announced soon.



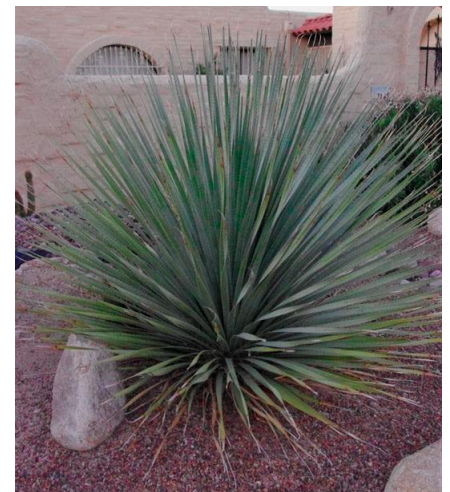
Plant of the Month

Desert Spoon (*Dasyliirion wheeleri*) also known as Sotol, is a frequently used plant in our area. Its characteristic globe shape is made up of hundreds of blue-gray leaves on a short, sometimes invisible stem. The leaves have teeth and are frayed at the tips.

The plant is extremely drought and heat tolerant. Desert Spoon doesn't need pruning although some gardeners like to remove the bottom stems so the plant resembles a pineapple. You can remove the dead leaves if they come off in your hand.

This plant is popular in a desert landscapes because it's color is compatible with other plant colors and its round shape works well with horizontal and vertical shapes.

Wonder where the name "spoon" comes from? The base of each stem looks like a spoon. The leaves are used to make woven ornaments in Mexico known as flor de sotol.



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. The profits from sales will go to the Enhancement Team. If you would like to order a badge, contact Melodye Cooke: 399-0455 or melodye1@cox.net.

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Photo of the Month Contest

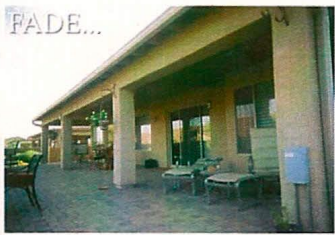
The Periodico's 2012-13 Photo of the Month Contest will resume in October. Resident photographers are invited to submit up to three digital photos taken around EE during the past year. There's no limit on subject matter: flora, fauna, mountains, sunsets, etc. The judges will choose the winners, who will have their winning photo published in the next Periodico and displayed on the bulletin board at the Ramada. They will also receive a small prize, such as a gift certificate for Starbucks or to the movies.

Deadline for this month's contest: October 10. Please only three photos per person. You may submit your entry /ies to Denise Roessle (droessle@mac.com) as an email attachment, or save them on a CD or provide actual prints and deliver to 801 W. Circulo Napa.

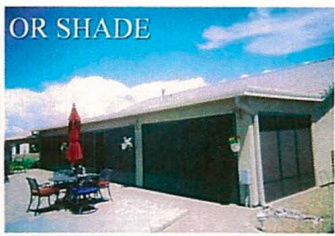
Seeking Photo Judges

Do you appreciate good photography and have an artistic eye? The Periodico team would like to involve more residents in judging the monthly photo entries. This can be done via email attachments or in one brief meeting per month. If you're interested, please contact Denise Roessle (droessle@mac.com, 399-3312).

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In Memoriam

*Herbert Merrick
891 Circulo Napa
June 22, 2012*

*William Cunnynggham
678 Placita Nueva
June 25, 2012*

*Helen Inman
681 Placita Nueva
July 9, 2012*

*Dorothy Sharpe
Calle Excelso
August 19, 2012*

*Ruth Epple
Placita Nueva
August 21, 2012*

*Charles Elliott
881 Circulo Napa
September 6, 2012*

A Memorial Service will be held,
Saturday, October 6th, 11:00 a.m.
at the Green Valley Community Church.

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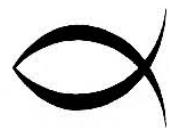


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	3 months	6 months	10 months
Full Page	\$140	\$270	\$440
1/2 Page	\$80	\$150	\$235
1/4 Page	\$50	\$90	\$140
Bus. Card	\$40	\$70	\$90

The EE HOA Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, Periodico staff, and other personnel are not responsible for the business credentials of those that advertise in the Periodico. It is the responsibility of each homeowner interested in a service to verify credentials and see referrals.

For additional information, contact:

Denise Roessle, 399-3312, droessle@mac.com

Help us reach everyone in EE...

Do you have a neighbor who isn't receiving the Periodico because they don't have a computer? Please let us know — Denise Roessle, 399-3312, droessle@mac.com — and we will add them to our delivery list. Or offer to pick up a copy for them at the Ramada.

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