

Spring Knolls News

MURRIETA, CA

(UNIT 1)

SEPTEMBER 2020



HOA president's report

Enthusied board tackles ongoing, new challenges

In the midst of a historic pandemic, and ever changing restrictions due to our county being on the "watch list," I'm proud of all board members and their progress in just the few months we've worked together.



Sandy Vollmer
HOA president

Happily, they have worked with enthusiasm during a period of great and new challenges.

See HOA President, page 2

Candidates lining up for new board

The Spring Knolls election process for candidates seeking two-year HOA board positions is underway.

Candidates will be introduced at the HOA's General Meeting at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, 2020 in

See Election, page 3

When the remodeled Spring Knolls Library reopens (keep your fingers crossed that it soon will be) you'll find a more spacious and more organized area.

Every hardcover, paper back and Large Print book has been restocked to make them easier to find.

More importantly, the new library will be easily accessible to all our readers, including the disabled.

Large bookcases that were in the center of the old setting have been removed for easier navigation. The

Remodeling's main features:

- Wide entrances for wheelchairs, walkers. Now ADA compliant.
- Wider areas to make browsing easier for more than one person.
- Separate hardcover, paperback, Large Print sections.
- All books alphabetized by author.
- Ability to increase numbers of popular Large Print books.

entrances have been widened, and new portable bookcases have been placed to make it easy for those with walkers, wheelchairs or anyone at all to browse for a book

See SK LIBRARY, page 3

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Letters
TO THE Editor P8

spring Knolls 2020 directors

President:

Sandy Vollmer / 951 319-6749

Vice President:

Cyndy May / 951 600-1472

Treasurer:

Maggie Underwood / 951 216-8379

Secretary:

Alan Hanson / 714 493-1709

Age & Rentals: (Open)

Architectural:

Bill Desmond / 951 240-9065

Facilities:

Ron Sieber / 951 541-6276

Compliance Administrator:

Candy Lee / 951 239-0669

Common Grounds, Street Maintenance, Trashcans, (Umbrella Committee*)

Robert Raquel / 310 528-9628

support leaders

Spring Knolls Senior Advocates:

Lorraine Ocanna / 951 698-2334

Debby Adelhelm / 760 717-9876

Spring Knolls Emergency Response Team:

Alan Hanson / 714 493-1709

SKERT Area Coordinator Captain:

'In the Know in Spring Knolls'

Cindy Woody / 319 239-7797

SKCindy2020@yahoo.com

Spring Knolls Caretaker:

April North / 951 722-0759

Spring Knolls trashcan replacements:

Jim Feryan / 951 698-7925

Spring Knolls compliance assistant

Steve Lopez / 626 622-4552

Spring Knolls Clubhouse Reservations:

Holli Hanson / 661 972-0799

Spring Knolls Boosters President:

Dorothy Vaughn / 951 696-0871

Spring Knolls Library Coordinator:

Karen Jacobs / 951 265-6292

Spring Knolls News editor: **Ted Vollmer** 951 319-6749 / tscjnews@gmail.com

*Spring Knolls Umbrella representative

From the HOA President

From page 1

Recently, Alan Hanson joined the board as Secretary. Also, Cyndy May shifted from Treasurer to Vice President, and director Maggie Underwood moved to Treasurer.

Our most critical new job continues to be community and facility safety during the pandemic. We've instituted gym, pool, facility, parade and drive-through lunch rules and continue to monitor them to respond to changing mandates that have led to opening and then closing the gym and office.

The pandemic has also forced us to alter our routines. For example, the Board hired a cleaning service while our caretaker was on vacation so we'd be in compliance with Covid-19 mandates. In the past a resident was hired to clean the facility, which our attorney says is no longer doable.

Also during our caretaker's vacation the board hired a security firm for our busiest pool days, Saturday and Sunday, to ensure rule compliance.

Unfortunately, some residents have repeatedly tried to avoid following the pandemic Pool/Facility rules.

Many residents justifiably fear that people coming to our facility from other Covid-19 "hot spots" might introduce the virus into Spring Knolls.

Safety will take all of our co-operation. If you don't want to follow mask and social distancing rules, we're asking — for the safety of others — that you not come to the pools until the rules are lifted.

UPCOMING ELECTIONS:
Due to new laws governing

Aug. 19 Board Actions P7

Homeowner Associations, this year's election process will look a bit different from last year's. At this time there are five positions to be filled. Holli Hanson's four-person nominating committee has been contacting possible board candidates.

(See Page 1 article for the process, deadlines and details about the Oct. 17 general meeting.)

LANDSCAPING: Thanks to common grounds director Robert Raquel for addressing Fire Marshal concerns. Tree trimming and weed removal is completed; all is compliant.

We all love trees. Any removals have been due to diseased or leaning trees that pose a safety threat as advised by TLC Landscaping. Also, trimming trees on a regular schedule to manageable heights keeps them healthy, balanced and cuts maintenance costs.

Also, Robert has spent many hours working on the dog park. He's met with the landscapers to ensure effective watering and avoid water ponding. He's also done ant control and arranged for trimming of leaning trees around the park.

The drip system for the planters around the pool area is now up and running. Robert had shrubs trimmed so our security camera system can work efficiently in those areas.

In later editions I'll highlight the efforts of other directors who've gone the extra mile.

It's a real pleasure to work with such energetic, gifted and talented volunteers who take their responsibilities so seriously. I'm so proud of them.

SK Library ...

From page 1

rather than trying to move through narrow spaces.

Those who use the card room that shares space with the library have not been forgotten. No tables have been removed. When special events need more space the three outer bookcases can easily be relocated.

Another reason for the remodeling was to expand our collection.

Our 220-book Large Print collection, for example, has become the most popular. For those of us with declining eyesight, they can be read faster and easier. But the number of books is not nearly enough to satisfy our readers.

So, we've added space for many



New layout: The main Spring Knolls Library room no longer has bookcases in the center that often made browsing difficult.

more Large Print books and will be buying new ones as funds become available. We hope to use proceeds from sales of excess books at the Bargain Festival (date not yet set) for just that reason.

A couple of other changes: Our

small collection of puzzles is now in a bookcase near the back sliding glass door of the card room.

And, a collection of cooking, dieting, health, self help and decorating books is now in the gym in a book case by the corner restroom.

Election ...

From page 1

in the clubhouse patio. Covid-19 social distancing and mask requirements will be in force.

This will be a combined event. The Board of Directors is partnering with the Emergency Response Committee. SKERT will hold a ShakeOUT event from 10 a.m. until noon, after which a free small lunch will be served. The General Meeting will follow at 1 p.m.

Nominating Committee Chairperson Holli Hanson has appointed Joan Christian, Jan Towers and Sandra Bright to help line up candidates.

Anyone wishing to run should contact Holli at 661 972-0799 or nominate yourself on Oct. 17.

We are following new HOA (Home Owner Association) election requirements as directed by state and federal law, and our By-laws.

Our Inspector of Elections is Notary Public Yvonne Ruiz. Received ballots will be placed unopened in a locked ballot box. Yvonne will have the only key. She will be checking them regularly.

The Oct. 17 General Meeting agenda:

- **Annual Reports** by directors, committee chairs, Support Leaders.
- **Introduction of board candidates.** Each candidate will be given time to tell attendees about themselves.
- **Nominations.** Candidates nominated from the floor will be given time to speak to those in attendance.
- **2021 Budget Presentation**

The 2021 election events schedule:

1. **Oct. 17, 2020:** General Meeting, with candidate introductions;
2. **Mid-November:** Voting materials are sent out with materials including 2021 Budget and a Voting Packet Instruction letter from the Inspector of Elections, candidate bios, ballot and two envelopes for ballot submission
3. **Jan. 9, 2021:** Annual meeting, 1 p.m. Details will follow in a later newsletter.

Ballots must be received no later than the day of the meeting, Jan. 9, 2021. At the start of the meeting the precise time for the end of voting will be announced. When it is, the Inspector of Elections will then oversee ballot counting. A triple count of the ballots will be conducted, after which the newly elected board members will be announced.

(Note: At the August 2016 Board meeting members voted to reduce the number of Board members from 11 to nine, beginning in 2017.)

Directors whose terms are expiring:

- **Sandy Vollmer**, President
- **Maggie Underwood**, Treasurer
- **Alan Hanson**, Secretary*
- **Robert Raquel**, Common Grounds, Street Maintenance, and Trash cans*
- Open position. (May be filled before the election to complete final year of a former director.)

* (Appointed to replace directors whose terms are expiring.)

'In the Know in Spring Knolls'

Hundreds have signed up for alerts; have you?

By Cindy Woody

This new communication tool for our residents is off to a great start with nearly half of the 380 Spring Knolls households signed up and receiving reports.



Cindy Woody
Your Email
'Blaster'

If you wish to receive *In the Know* Blasts, please email me your lot number and email address at:

skcindy2020@yahoo.com

No email address? *No problem!*

Just send Blast email signup information to a family member or friend, who can then sign up and relay information to you. I've done this for people who lack email, and they tell me they love the new information source.

Information in these Blasts is be-

Are you "In the Know"?

Examples of actual "Blasts" emailed to "In the Know in Spring Knolls" members:

- Check stolen from mailbox, and altered ...
- Rotating power outages ...
- Report of rattlesnakes in area ...
- Suspect casing home arrested...
- Bottle Rockets fired into Unit 1 ...

ing circulated for OUR association members. If we feel it could affect Spring Knolls, we'll share it with all members.

ANIMALS. If you want to report sightings of mountain lions, coyotes, snakes, bee swarms, or other critters you email information to me. Include the dates and times of the sightings. Include pictures if you have them.

POLICE. You should first report

incidents such as prowlers, mailbox tampering, break ins, or other suspicious activities to the police and then to me to share in a Blast.

ACCURACY. Alan Hanson, Sandy Vollmer and I want to ensure that we are sending you the most complete and accurate information available. We don't want to circulate hearsay, or the same story numerous times. We'll try to verify information, so please send as many details as possible to help us.

HELPFUL HINT. Please enter my name and phone number (319 239-7797) and perhaps your area coordinator's information into your cell phone contacts or address book. Then, if we ever call you in an emergency you'll know who it is. I know my Iowa area code, which I kept, may confuse you, but I'm just around the corner!

SKERT: (Spring Knolls Emergency Response Team)

Mark your calendars for Oct. 17



Alan Hanson
SKERT
chairman

MARK THE DATE: We're holding a joint SKERT ShakeOut / "Meet the Candidates" Association meeting on Saturday, Oct. 17.

The ShakeOut will be a meeting of Area Coordinators showing which lots they handle. It will be from 10 a.m. to noon in the clubhouse patio area, with social distancing in mind. Assuming we can have our free lunch it will be from noon to 1 p.m. Candidate introductions will begin at 1.

It'll be your chance to meet your coordinator, fill out a survey if you're new to the neighborhood, check into becoming a volunteer coordinator (many areas have no one), thank the Area Coordinators for services like checking on you during Covid, helping with food and arranging the smoke detector installations.

The Earthquake Country Authority (ECA) wants photos of earthquake fastening kits installed. email:

ahanson442@yahoo.com.

Call *Cindy Woody* if interested in being an Area Coordinator: 319 239-7797.

Area Coordinator of the Month: Robert Raquel

I am Area Coordinator for lots 67-83 and 105.

When Cindy first approached me about being an Area Coordinator I

accepted more out of a sense of duty than thinking I really wanted to do it.

Now, I'm happy I accepted the position.

I enjoy the camaraderie of the Emergency Response Team.

If you ever need to reach me, call or text to **310 / 528-9628**.



Robert Raquel

Police want you to help stop crime in Spring Knolls



If you have a residential security camera, the Murrieta Police Department wants to partner with you. Participation in this program will help strengthen investigative abilities and communicate more effectively with potential witnesses. You could have video of a neighborhood crime and not even know it.



Registering your cameras with does not give police the ability to freely access your cameras, claim ownership of or dictate your camera system's function. It is a con-

tact list to tell police who might have captured footage that could be related to a crime in our area.

Information about your security system will be for Murrieta Police Department use only. Participation in the program does not alter your rights to privacy and is completely voluntary. Registrant information is kept confidential and the registrant can withdraw at any time. You may register here:

<https://www.murrietaca.gov/FormCenter/Police-Department-17/Security-Camera-Registration-81>

Surveillance system recommendations

When buying a home surveillance system, Murrieta police recommend you keep the following in mind:

- The higher the camera resolution, the more helpful the footage will be.
- A minimum of 20-day information storage recommended.
- Cameras should face the entrance and exit points.
- Cameras should be placed on private property only.

C-Converter thefts rising

Murrieta Police say thieves are targeting cars and other vehicles for catalytic converters to harvest materials for sale.

Small cars and RVs are the most vulnerable. Police suggest taking the following precautions:

- Park your car in your garage

or in a well lit area.

— Install security cameras where you park.

— Adjust your car alarm to activate from vibrations.

— Install a catalytic converter specific security device.

— Report to police, at 951 696-3615, suspicious activity such as someone under a vehicle tampering with a car.

Health'nSafety

Spring Knolls Covid – 19 update*: (as of Aug. 26).

Basic rules: Masks and social distancing required at all times on clubhouse grounds. Only residents permitted; no exceptions. Violators face fines and/or suspension of privileges or fob use.

- **Open:** Both pools, restrooms, Wednesday — Sunday. Residents ONLY; no children.
- **Closed:** Effective July 15 until further notice: Office, gym, library, billiard room, showers, Jacuzzi.
- **Board meetings:** Held outside with no limits on numbers. Masks, social distancing required.
- **Gates:** Center gate is accessible by fob. All gates closed Mondays and Tuesdays.
- **Canceled:** All events: Bingo, Aqua-cise, card room, prayer group.

**All open/closed/canceled restrictions subject to change after on-going monitoring of state/county mandates.*



Cool Centers

Nearest Cool Center is the Mary Phillips Senior Center. (Available through October.)

Address: 47845 6th St., Temecula.

Hours: Monday -Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Phone: 951 694-6464

All visitors and cooling center staff will be asked to wear face coverings and practice social distancing.

Visitors are screened before entering. Those with symptoms may be provided an alternative location to cool off.

Those who have been confirmed positive for COVID-19 will not be allowed into cool centers, but can use the utility assistance program (951 955-4900) to help pay to operate their air conditioner for longer.

COVID-19: FREE Testing Site

Grace Mellman Library

41000 County Center Dr.

Temecula, off Ynez Road

Tuesdays thru Saturdays / 7am to 7pm

(Appointment Required)

Call 888 634-1123 or lhi.care/covidtesting

Spring Knolls Boosters

We hope to treat everyone to a Halloween wearing a new mask

Hi everyone, Been anywhere exciting lately???? Me too!!

Just thought I would throw that out there. Seriously, I hope this finds you and your loved ones well. My Board and I got together on Aug. 20 (that would be Debbie, Holli & Betty) socially distanced, of course.

Anyway, we couldn't come up with anything for Labor Day for all of you, but we have something planned for October, (seeing that our Halloween Soup & Salad is not happening.) We'll



Dorothy Vaughn
Boosters president

keep you informed; and think you'll like it!!!

We're still planning on having our Bargain Box, but it looks like it won't happen until spring. Golf Knolls had to postpone their yearly Craft Faire.

Also, we would like to thank the Golf Knolls community and their workers for the outstanding job they have been doing with the Senior meals. They are very efficient and the food is really good.

I know I mentioned this before, but if you know of anyone that needs a day brightener, get well wishes, sympathy, etc. please let us know. We'd like them to know we are. We miss you all, stay well, wash your hands and wear your masks, yada,yada,yada .

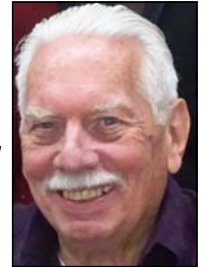
Ask your . . .

Architectural Director

What's going on?

Mr. R asked:

"Why do I need to have my adjacent affected neighbors sign off on my permit before I replace my roof?"



Bill's answer:

In order to notify your neighbors of equipment use, noise and possible debris. It's the right thing to do.

Bill Desmond
Architectural director

Have questions about painting your home, remodeling, or other structural changes to your home or yard? Call Bill at 951 240-9065.



Susan Amick
Patricia Blanchard
Christine Bronson
Mercedes Crowder
Max Dahmen
Sally Duarte
Doris Edwards
Ruth Enriquez
James Gonzales
Candace Guterrez
Eva Higgitt
Debra Jenks
Lynn Kaplan

Charlene Ketcher
Donna Kleinsmith
Robert Klump
Fritzie Lewin
Pat Majors
David Maurice
Teresa McCollum
Charla Orr
Diane Osorio
George Osorio
Myra Richards
Ivonne Rodriguez

Blanche Schugg
Barbara Shuck
Ken Shuck
Deborah Simonetti
Dee Sloan
Jerika Steel
Chuck Steinert
Ruth Stump
Mary Sykes
Jacques Waserman
Tillie Wassan
Tracey White
Donald Whitfield



*Did we miss you?
A friend?
A neighbor?
Let us know.*

The *Spring Knolls News* needs help to ensure we celebrate all birthdays and anniversaries. If you know of an upcoming birthday or anniversary, let us know at least a month in advance to ensure a listing. Here's how: 1. Email birthday and/or anni-

versary information to Ted Vollmer at tscjnews@gmail.com; or 2. Drop a "Birthday" note off at the HOA office with printed date(s) and name(s) of birthday or anniversary celebrants. Please include a phone number in case of questions.

Know your representatives:



Mayor: **Gene Wunderlich**
1 Town Square
Murrieta, CA 92562
951 461-6017



City Manager: **Kim Summers**
1 Town Square
Murrieta, CA 92562
951 461-6010



Supervisor: **Chuck Washington**
37600 Sky Canyon Drive #505
Murrieta, CA 92563
951 955-1030



Governor: **Gavin Newsom**
1303 10th St., Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814
916 445-2841



State Senate: **Melissa Melendez**
25186 Hancock Ave, Suite 320
Murrieta, CA 92562
951 894-3530

State Assembly: **Vacant**



U.S. Senate: **Diane Feinstein**
880 Front Street, Suite 4236
San Diego, CA 92101
619 231-9712

331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202 224-3841



U.S. Senate: **Kamala Harris**
600 B Street, Suite 2240
San Diego, CA 92101
619 239-3884

112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202 224-3553



U.S. House: **Ken Calvert**
400 S. Vicentia Ave. Suite 125
Corona, CA 92882
951 277-0042

2205 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202 225-1986

2020 Census deadline

Make sure you count, so we get funds we deserve

Probably no Census count in our memories has been more important than the current one. So, if you haven't yet responded with your household information, time is running out.

The deadline is **Sept. 30**.

The Census, taken every 10 years, is an important determinant of where more than \$675 billion of tax dollars are allocated each year and how political district lines are drawn. How many House of Representatives members will come from California or serve Riverside County communities also will likely shift due to population growth in the Inland Empire.

Examples of federal funding tied to Census counts:

Emergency services

- **Medicare Part B**
- **Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program.**
- **Libraries and community centers.**

Local resources for **seniors** depend on an accurate Census count.

Get counted online, by mail or by phone
Murrieta Counts!
www.Census.gov

Census 2020

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**
- **Senior Community Service Employment Program.**

If you haven't already responded to the Census, here are ways you can:

- On line: www.my2020census.gov
- By phone: **844 330-2020 between 4 a.m. and 11 p.m. (PDT) every day;**
- By mail. Write to:
**U.S. Census Bureau
National Processing Center
100 Logistics Ave.
Jeffersonville, IN 47144**

Aug. 19 Spring Knolls Board actions:

Officers. **Cyndy May** has moved from the Treasurer's position to Vice President. Ages and Rentals director **Maggie Underwood** is now Treasurer. **Alan Hanson** is now board Secretary, filling the post previously held by President **Sandy Vollmer**.

Pool Options extended. Both pools will remain open for residents only for at least another month.

Security cameras. **Alan Hanson** will investigate the installation of security cameras at the East and West Gates (on Via Princesa) due to recent reports about suspicious activity in the Murrieta area.

Outdoor public address system: Facilities director Ron Sieber will secure an outdoor public address system for gatherings that cannot be held inside due to Covid-19.

October General Meeting & Shake Out Event is set for Oct. 17, subject to Covid-19 restrictions. (See Page 1)

(The next monthly meeting of the Board is Wed., Sept. 15, at 9:30 am in the back patio. Masks and social distancing requirements will be in place.

Some room with your views!

Residents welcome to share ideas

Beginning next month, the *Spring Knolls News* will offer residents a chance to share their views in a **Letters to the Editor** section.

There will be certain guidelines for all letters. For example, this venue won't be running political rants, endorsements, or personal attacks. More on that later.

Almost anything else goes, so long as we keep it friendly. We expect writers to engage in civil discourse about our Spring Knolls community and beyond. Let us know your concerns in a constructive way with not only your comments, but also your suggestions.

Maybe you're wondering about a certain HOA rule . . . Or you've discovered a cool place to hang out during the pandemic . . . Or you're involved in an activity that may be rewarding to others . . .

Or maybe from experiences elsewhere, you have an idea for an HOA improvement or activity that would work in Spring Knolls. We have residents from all over the country and we could really benefit from your background. Let's hear from you!

The last time the *Spring Knolls News* carried letters was in December 2016. I wrote a short one about Large Print books in our library. That letter led to a



Letters TO THE Editor

friendship with Library coordinator Karen Jacobs, and many years of helping her build the best library on the hill.

Below are the board-approved Letters to the Editor guidelines as they will appear in every edition, even if we don't receive any letters.

—**Ted Vollmer, editor**
Spring Knolls News

The *Spring Knolls News* welcomes letters to the editor of 250 words or less from Unit 1 residents.

All letters must be legible, and will be subject to editing for space and clarity.

Letters deemed libelous, hateful, racist, or including personal attacks will not be published. Nor will political endorsements or anonymous letters.

Letters must include the writer's name and will run on a space-available basis. Submitted letters should include the author's phone number (which will not be published) in case of questions.

Timely letters will be given priority, and a representative sampling of letters will be published if numerous ones are received on the same subject.

Email to tscjnews@gmail.com by the 15th of each month. Or, send them to:

Letters to the Editor
c/o Ted Vollmer
38441 Via La Paloma
Murrieta, CA 92563

Spring Knolls Association

38441 Via La Paloma / Murrieta, CA 92563

951 677-6862 / email: springknolls1@verizon.net

Spring Knolls is a 55+ age-restricted community.

Office: Temporarily closed since July 15 due to the Covid-19 crisis.

Assistance available through above phone number and/or email address, or by calling board members. (see numbers on Page 2).

HodgePodge

A collection of Spring Knolls reminders

DOG PARK: The dog park is open to residents of all three units. Users are expected to pick up all their trash and place their dog's poop in the park receptacle.

DOG DAYS: Remember the 5-Second rule during a heat wave: If you can't hold the back of your hand on the pavement for 5 seconds, it's too hot for your dog's bare paws.



KEEP ON THE GRASS: Thanks to those who have kept their dogs on the grassy areas at the clubhouse. Keeping off the mulch protects the new plants' drip system.

WEEDS 'N THINGS: It's hard during the heat wave to pull weeds and keep your curbs swept. Please do what you can.

HAVE A COMPLAINT? Complaint forms are outside the main office. Please fill one out and place in the office door's slot.

NOISE: We know dogs bark and often for good reason. It's up to their owners, however, to make sure that barking is kept to a minimum. Complaints can lead to a fine.

MAILBOXES: If you're parked within 15 feet of a mailbox it interrupts delivery efficiency. You're also violating a Riverside County ordinance and may be cited.

PARKING: Residents must park vehicles in their driveways. No trailer or motor vehicle is to be parked in landscaped areas.

OVERNIGHT PARKING:

Overnight street parking is not allowed from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. Limited guest parking is allowed for a 72-hour period with a "Spring Knolls Guest Parking" place card on the guest's dashboard. The cards are available from the Association office. Text Compliance Admin Assistant Steve Lopez at 626 622-4552.



RIVERSIDE OFFICE ON AGING:

This program helps with legal assistance, home-delivered meals, transportation, health care and more. Office:

951-867-3800; Senior Help

Link: 800 510-2020. After hours: Dial 211.



GOLF CARTS: Please, do not allow those without licenses, such as underage children, to drive your carts in Spring Knolls. It's dangerous and against Association Rules.