

# Spring Knolls News

MURRIETA, CA

Happy Father's Day! (June 20)

JUNE 2021

## KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS: Susie Britt

She helps us honor those who served



Photo by Ted Vollmer

IN MEMORY: Susana Britt, of 38660 Via Escarlata, has a colorful garden that becomes more colorful this time of year with her flag-festooned annual tribute to dozens of veterans, including her late husband Mike and her two brothers, Joe and Manuel.

By Alan Hanson

Spring Knolls News

The first thing you notice about Susie Britt's house at Via Princesa and Via Escarlata is the attention to detail in her yard. The corner lot's dozens of plants are well-maintained and solar yard lights give it a beautiful appearance, day or night.

This time of year, when Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day fall in the same month, the next thing you notice are the numerous American



Susie Britt

War and World War I.

and Marine Corps flags. And, if you look real closely you'll also see a hand-painted billboard carefully listing the names of veterans from all military branches dating to the Spanish American

See NEIGHBOR, page 8

## FROM SK'S PRESIDENT:

# Many grant our wishes to beautify

Your response to our Wish List appeal has been fantastic. We're picking up wonderful items from our residents and other units, as well.



Sandy Vollmer  
SKA president

Some of you have already seen how the front entry by the gates is coming along. People are enjoying the glider and park benches while chatting with others, walking their dogs, or catching up on the full-color newsletter

See SKA PRESIDENT, page 2

# Covid: 'All clear' still few weeks off

Riverside County critical care hospitalizations have dipped below 10, but Covid infection rates have been too high to move into a less restrictive tier.

However, health officials have not retreated from a prediction that by June 15 most restrictions will disappear. Any Unit 1 Covid rule changes will be announced as soon as possible.

## Weed abatement aid available

Please, by Thursday June 3, contact Jan Towers, (951) 616 4443; Cindy Woody, (319) 239-7797 or Debbie Adelhelm, (760) 717-9876 if you need help removing weeds.

A local Adult Mission Group is ready to help those physically or financially unable to remove their weeds, starting June 9.

## What's Inside



Ready to roll on July 4th? / P6

## Spring Knolls 2021 directors



- **President:**  
**Sandy Vollmer /**  
**(951) 319-6749**



- **Vice President:**  
**Cyndy May /**  
**(951) 600-1472**



- **Treasurer:**  
**Maggie Underwood /**  
**(951) 216-8379**



- **Age & Rentals:**  
**Candy Lee /**  
**(951) 239-0669**



- **Architectural:**  
**Bill Desmond /**  
**(951) 240-9065**



- **Facilities:**  
**Ron Sieber /**  
**(951) 541-6276**



- **Compliance Administrator:**  
**Jan Towers /**  
**(951) 616-4443**



- **Common Grounds, Streets,  
Trashcans, Umbrella Committee**  
**Holli Hanson / (661) 972-0799**

- **Secretary (open)**

## support leaders

- **Senior Advocates:**  
**Lorraine Ocanna / (951) 698-2334**  
**Debbie Adelhelm / (760) 717-9876**
- **Spring Knolls Emergency Response Team:**  
**Alan Hanson / (714) 493-1709**  
*'In the Know in Spring Knolls' blasts*  
**Cindy Woody / (319) 239-7797**  
[skcindy2020@yahoo.com](mailto:skcindy2020@yahoo.com)
- **Spring Knolls Common grounds:** **Robert Raquel, Miguel Enriquez, Alan Hanson, Charlene Kirkwood**
- **Caretaker:** **April North / (951) 722-0759**
- **Spring Knolls Boosters:** **Dorothy Vaughn, president / (951) 696-0871**
- **Library Coordinator:** **Karen Jacobs / (951) 265-6292**
- **Spring Knolls News:** **Ted Vollmer / (951) 319-6749; [tscjnews@gmail.com](mailto:tscjnews@gmail.com)**
- **Spring Knolls News, flyer delivery team:**  
**Debbie Adelhelm, Dorothy Vaughn**

## SKA President Your donations helping us all

### From page 1

posted in our new enclosed bulletin boards. Also, they're picking up a book from the "neighborhood" library stationed in that same area.

Please keep the donations coming for our various projects. A "Thank You" list of recent donors is on Page 4 with details on how to donate.

### Police activity

As some of you witnessed and others may have heard there were two recent instances of police activity in our community. I've consulted with our legal counsel to formulate a response to your inquiries. Please refer to the **Health & Safety** article on the next page for the details.

Your Board is aware of two incidents, and is pursuing all remedies within our purview. All information about a resident is confidential.

### Face coverings

The Board recently approved the *option* of residents wearing masks in the outside common areas of the clubhouse grounds.

For now, social distancing remains mandatory in all clubhouse areas, interior and exterior. And, face coverings are mandatory for interior areas; like the gym and library.

Please note that even though wearing of face coverings is your choice, the California Department of Public Health continues to "strongly recommend" the practice, particularly for those not vaccinated.

### Mandatory, not optional

Although Covid restrictions are gradually being withdrawn, we caution you that any current Unit 1 pandemic rules cannot be ignored with-

out risking immediate loss of fob privileges and a fine or other penalty as the Board deems appropriate..

Copies of the current rules are posted on the entry gate and taped to tables around the pool. Copies also are readily available.

Some offenders make it difficult for our caretaker whose job is to re-

## SK Board updates P/3

mind residents of all Unit 1 rules.

Please note that the Board will not tolerate belligerent language directed at our caretaker or Board members. We're trying to protect everyone and are as anxious as you to reopen completely — but *safely*.

**A final note.** This chapter of the pandemic reminds me of the last weeks of high school when my mind would drift to summer fun: the beach, friends over, etc. My parents would catch me daydreaming and remind me, "you only have a couple weeks until finals and you need to buckle down and study."

"Finish strong," my dad would say.

Now, in 2021, it seems that many people view this improving pandemic phase like school's already out. So eager for freedom from Covid they're simply ignoring the rules and where we are as a community.

As of this writing we're still in the Orange Tier and may very well see fewer restrictions in a few weeks. But, sorry to say, we're not yet there.

So, to paraphrase my parents, buckle down, follow the rules, finish strong and we'll "ace the final" together safely.

We're all looking forward to a great summer! I can smell the burgers grilling as I write this.

\*\*\*

Finally, to all our Dads, our best wishes for a Happy Father's Day!

### Spring Knolls Association office

38441 Via La Paloma; Murrieta, CA 92563 (951) 677-6862  
[springknolls1@verizon.net](mailto:springknolls1@verizon.net)

**A 55+ age-restricted community**

## Spring Knolls Board meeting updates

May 19: (regular meeting)  
Board member reports:

- **Facilities (Ron Sieber):** Obtaining bids for wrought iron fence painting.
- **Common Grounds (Holli Hanson):** Some common grounds rose bushes need help; interest in a community garden from several residents. Received donations of wood, pallets for possible raised garden boxes.
- **Architectural (Bill Desmond):** Nine permits issued for various projects.
- **Compliance (Jan Towers):** City working to address rodent issue at one lot. Also working with residents whose yards are unkempt.
- **Ages and Rentals (Candice Lee):** Following up on homeowners who have not turned in proof of age.
- **Vice President (Cyndy May):** Year-to-date revenue/income, **\$404,393**; year-to-date operating expenses, **\$101,473**.

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May 13: (emergency meeting)  
Approved:

- Distributing information by e-mail blast to Spring Knolls residents about what information may be shared about police activity in Unit 1. (The information is listed on this page in the Spring Knolls Health & Safety.)
- Allowing Spring Knolls residents the option of wearing facial coverings in the exterior of the clubhouse.

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May 3: (emergency meeting)  
Approved:

- Automatic 30-day loss of fob privileges for any violators of the pool or facility rules. Additional fines will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Reopening of Spring Knolls library extended to five days a week, Tuesday – Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (*Schedule changes June 7 to Wednesday – Sunday*)

*The board's next regular meeting is set for 9:30 a.m. June 16 through ZOOM and on the back patio by Eaker Hall. Social distancing required.*

**Abbreviated link:**

<https://bit.ly/2Me1YPn>

**Meeting ID:** 863 1774 1882 ...

**Passcode:** 069221

# Health'nSafety

## It can be dangerous if you don't feel thirsty

People over 60 generally stop feeling thirsty and consequently stop drinking fluids. When no one is around to remind them to drink fluids, they quickly dehydrate.

Dehydration is severe and affects the entire body. It may cause abrupt mental confusion, a drop in blood pressure, increased heart palpitations, chest pain, coma and even death.

Forgetting to drink fluids begins at age 60, when we have just over 50% of the water we should in our bodies.

As part of the aging process, those over 60 have a lower water reserve. But there are more complications. Although they are dehydrated, they don't feel like drinking water, because their internal balance mechanisms don't work very well.

Although people over 60 may look healthy, the performance of reactions and chemical functions can damage their entire body.

So here are two alerts:

1) Get into the habit of drinking liquids. Liquids include water, juices, teas, coconut water, milk, soups, and water rich fruits, such as watermelon, melon, peaches and pineapple; Oranges and tangerines also work. The important thing is that every two hours, you must drink some liquid. Remember this!

2) Alert for family members: Constantly offer fluids to people over 60. If you realize that they are rejecting liquids and, from one day to the next, they are irritable, breathless or display a lack of attention, these are almost certainly recurrent symptoms of dehydration. Inspired to drink more water now??

\*\*\*

*Excerpted from an article by Arnaldo Liechtenstein, M.D. First circulated by In the Know in Spring Knolls.*

*(Editor's note: Recent police activity at various Spring Knolls properties prompted questions to the Board of Directors about what transpired. After consultation with the HOA attorney, the board approved the following summary of what actions it can take in such cases. Following is a reprint of that summary as first posted in In the Know in Spring Knolls):*

- "The board of directors' duties are to enforce and set rules, manage finances, run the business of the HOA, and see to the maintenance and upkeep of the area.
- "As we've said before, the Murrieta Police Department has encouraged and continues to encourage residents to call them and report suspicious behavior.
- "If you see something, say something." Also, the police can be contacted by any concerned citizen for the most direct and accurate information available.
- "If a particular resident(s) is violating HOA CC&Rs, Bylaws or Rules & Guidelines the Board will consider sanctions or fines. Such possible actions fall under the HOA CC&Rs, Bylaws and Rules & Guidelines.
- "Any matter of this nature is reviewed by the Board in Executive Session only. Findings in Executive Session are reported in a summary to the community at monthly Board meetings.
- "The board will not circulate rumors, speculation or other information about any resident or residences, and urges residents to avoid accepting or repeating hearsay. A reminder: Resident files are confidential."



**Murrieta Police**

Emergencies: 911 /  
Regular: (951) 696-3615  
Headquarters: 2 Town  
Square, Murrieta

[www.murrietaca.gov/153/Police](http://www.murrietaca.gov/153/Police)



## Please, keep your nasty butts off our streets!

By Jan Towers

*SK Compliance Administrator*

On my walkabouts or cruising in the golf cart, I've noticed cigarette butts and litter accumulating on streets and in gutters.

I did some research about cigarette butts and found out some surprising and some not so surprising facts about those nasty and unsightly little things.

First, it may come as no surprise that cigarettes are the most littered item. Worldwide, about 4.5 trillion cigarettes are littered each year, representing nearly 38% of all collected litter.

What does all that cigarette waste mean for the environment? *Here are some basics:*

### Q. Are cigarette butts toxic?

A. Yes, they leach toxic chemicals such as arsenic and lead into the environment and can contaminate water. The toxic exposure can poison fish as well as animals that eat cigarette butts.

### Q. What's in a typical cigarette filter?

A. They may look like cotton, but 98% of filters are made of tightly packed plastic fibers (cellulose acetate), which account for about 1.69 billion pounds of toxic trash each year.

### Q. Are cigarette butts biodegradable?

A. No, which means they won't organically break down from living organisms.

### Q. How long until they decompose?

A. Cigarettes don't break down naturally, but will gradually decompose depending on such environmental conditions as sun and rain. Estimates vary, but a recent study found that a butt was only about 38% decomposed after two years.

So, please think twice before tossing out that butt onto our streets and into our gutters.

Then, *don't! Thank you!*



Jan Towers



A big thank you to the following Spring Knolls residents for donating **Wish List** items to improve the common grounds and clubhouse.

- Sheila Bassett: Library books
- Peg Callahan: Chairs, wood \*
- Ed & Sharon Carey: Wood, pallets\*
- Gloria Castaneda: Wicker chairs, foot rests, cushions.\*
- Suzie & Don Enderud: Table, umbrella stands\*, pots, bird bath\*, storage bench\*, cushions
- Kathy Gillian: Terracotta pots, plants.\*
- Mario & Patty Gomez: Library books
- Steve & Lorie Herrera: Pillows
- Chuck Ludwa: Library books
- Lupe Menefee: Blue striped chairs\*
- Carol O'Connell: Library books.

- Sandy Pride: Treadmill \*
- Bobbi Purcell: Library books
- Harold Robinson's daughter Debbie: Patio chairs\*, table, glider\*
- Eda Scherer: Library books
- Kat Taylor: Patio chairs\*, tables, rockers \*
- Sandy Vollmer: Plant cuttings\*

Donations are welcome for Spring Knolls Association common grounds and clubhouse projects. We wish to acknowledge all gifts. Please contact **Holli Hanson** at (661) 972-0799 or **Sandy Vollmer** at (951) 319-6749..

An added thank you to the volunteers who picked up various items and worked on them.

*\*(See photos of some donations on Bonus Pages 11, 12, 13)*

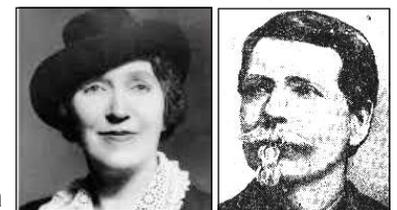
## Ho gePodge

**NEW CLUBHOUSE SUMMER HOURS:** Beginning June 7, the Spring Knolls clubhouse hours will shift to 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Wednesday through Sunday**, and gates will be closed Monday and Tuesday.

**FREE SENIOR MEALS PROGRAM.** The pandemic-related Senior Meals weekly program that for the past year has been based in Golf Knolls for all Knolls residents has moved to the **Murrieta Senior Center, 5 Town Square**. Those signed up for it may continue to pick up meals from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. **Fridays**, but you must first, however, contact **Andrew** at (951) 461-6109 to indicate your participation.

Also, if you need home delivery, you should contact the Riverside County Office of Aging at (951) 867-3800 to get an application.

**FATHER'S DAY THROUGH THE YEARS:** Like Mother's Day, Father's Day stemmed from a daughter's love. Sonora Smart Dodd, after hearing a sermon about Mother's Day, said her Dad, William Jackson Smart, who raised six children by himself, and other fathers ought to be honored, too. That led to the first celebration, on June 19, 1910, at the Spokane, WA YMCA. Subsequent attempts to make Father's Day a national holiday, as President Woodrow Wilson did for mothers in 1914, fell flat until President Lyndon Johnson declared in 1966 that the third Sunday of June would be a national Father's Day.



Sonora Smart Dodd & William Smart

President Richard Nixon signed the holiday into law in 1972.

# SKERT: (Spring Knolls Emergency Response Team)

## July 10 event open to Unit 1 residents

'Meet your Coordinator' date rests on Covid 19 restrictions

By Alan Hanson  
SKERT chairman

Well, we're almost half way through 2021 (time flies!). We are optimistically thinking we will be able to have a real, live event on the clubhouse grounds in mid July (depending on what Covid 19 restrictive tier we're in, if any by then).

With that in mind, we're planning another "Meet the Area Coordinator" function for Saturday, July 10.

If that date holds up, we hope to feature as a guest speaker Margaret Vinci, manager of the office of Earthquake Programs at Caltech, who will make a presentation.

We also hope to host a luncheon, with raffle prizes and even an ice



Alan Hanson

cream social. More surprises and information will follow as to dates, times and places.

This event would be open to all Spring Knolls residents.

\* \* \*

The members of the recently formed Knolls Safety Committee, with representatives from all three units met again and discussed several potential changes. Among those are solar-powered speed limit signs on Via Princesa, a security patrol, among other ideas.

Any or all ideas would require approval by the respective units' boards of directors.

## Area Coordinator of the Month: It could be you! Please join us!

You could be the next person to be featured as AREA COORDINATOR of the month.



Please consider joining many others who have helped residents throughout Spring Knolls as area coordinators. We would love to have you.

Contact Cindy Woody at 319 239-7797 and I'll answer any questions about this important and fulfilling job that is critical during community emergencies.

## We're safer when we know each other

By Cindy Woody  
SKERT Area Coordinator Leader

We hope that very soon we will have an event allowing you to meet or check in with your Area Coordinator.

That event, mentioned above by Alan Hanson, would also be a wonderful time for you to chat with the person or persons assigned to Spring Knolls streets, or me, if you're interested in becoming an Area Coordinator. We look forward to seeing or meeting all of you after this pandemic shutdown.

As things open up we'll start to once again have events to help Area Coordinators and ALL of you learn how to best be safe in times of emergency. Alan and I hope you will take advantage of these opportunities while meeting your neighbors. Getting to know others in our community and talking about things can hopefully make ours a closer knit and safer area to call home.



Cindy Woody

Any Area Coordinator coming to your door will have a name badge. We want you to know each other and be comfortable in case of an emergency or if you need help and don't know where to

turn. If your Area Coordinator isn't sure they will reach out to our group and we'll assist you if at all possible.

\*\*\*

### In the Know in Spring Knolls

As you get out and about and talking more with others please urge them to sign up for this free service if they haven't already.

Also, a reminder. If you see something suspicious, report it to the police and then advise me. Also, let me know if what you saw is important but doesn't require police action. We will look into it and decide if it should be blasted. I enjoy your input.

Please don't wait to help protect your community. Sign up now for the Knolls Flock camera Program.



### Here's how:

- Go to <https://bit.ly/3t8WwOP>
- (2nd last figure is a zero, not capital O)
- Enter your name
- Enter your email and street address.
- Enter your license plate number(s) with a comma after each number if more than one vehicle. Include license numbers of any regular visitors (caregiver, family members).
- Create a password
- Click on Register

If you have trouble signing up, contact Alan Hanson @ (714) 493-1709

# IS A PARADE IN YOUR FUTURE?

By Holli Hanson

The 4th of July is right around the corner. Last year we were just barely into this pandemic but were able to pull off a pretty sizeable parade. I think this year we can do better.

Last year we had about 25 decorated golf carts, old cars, new cars, motorcycles and even some roller skaters. It's fun just to be a part of the festivities.

We'll line up at the clubhouse at about 9:30 a.m., leave at about 10 a.m. and end up back at the clubhouse.

If you want to be part of this year's parade please call me at (661) 972-0799.

I also was thinking about a car



show after the parade.

If you know of anyone with a car they would like to have in such a show please call me.

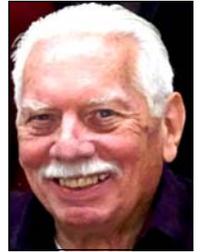
We don't know yet, but in the July edition we'll include details on whether we can have a lunch at the clubhouse after the parade.

Ask your . . .

## Architectural Director Gazebo questions can become pricey

**Mr. & Mrs. I. asked:**

We'd like to install a gazebo in our back yard and need your guidance. Can you assist us with some questions we have?



Bill Desmond  
Architectural director

**Bill's answer:**

I'll certainly try. First, be advised that if your gazebo is larger than 120 square feet you will need a city of Murrieta permit. Their permits are quite pricey. Ours are FREE. Give me a call.

Call Bill at **951 240-9065** with any questions about home improvement or yard projects.



- |                   |                 |                   |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Julie Barringer   | Burgunde Fisher | Chris Mullen      |
| Glenda Benson     | Frank Fisher    | Debra Neal        |
| Sally Bourne      | Mary Furgerson  | Van Ratcliff      |
| Cathy Burgess     | Sharon Garcia   | Ann Ritchie       |
| Debbie Cavallucci | Luis Gutierrez  | Karen Russell     |
| Ed Cavallucci     | Lyn Hedges      | Rachel Sanchez    |
| Janice Compton    | Dorothy Heiner  | Felix Segovia     |
| Joe Compton       | Karen Jacobs    | Margo Thomas      |
| Bill Crowder      | Larry Kirkwood  | Dorothy Vaughn    |
| James Davis       | Bob Kaplan      | Tim Vaughn        |
| Jose DeLeon       | Jody Kellerman  | Antonia Villareal |
| Betty Dutton      | Judy Kyle       | Lisa Waterman     |
| Russell Ellingson | Irene Manzke    | Henry Weiner      |



## IN MEMORIAM

**Leland Michael Britt**  
(Dec. 9, 1944 - Aug. 1, 2018)  
Via Escarlata

**John Grosvenor Dawe**  
(Feb. 6, 1926 - Aug. 30, 2011)  
Via Escarlata

**Margaret G. Metzger**  
(Sept. 1925- Dec. 2014)  
Via Escarlata

## Let's not forget anyone

Whether the life event is a birthday, anniversary or a passing, the Spring Knolls News wants to make sure those life events and lives are acknowledged. We ask residents to alert us if you know of someone who should be listed in any of those categories, at [tscjnews@gmail.com](mailto:tscjnews@gmail.com).

We recently added an In Memoriam listing, and it may include anyone who has ever lived in Spring Knolls.



## On Spring Knolls' Cloud 9

No, at left is neither the world's largest kite nor a deflated hot air balloon or some wayward sail boat that **Kenny North** (far right) is wrestling with atop Spring Knolls' Eaker Hall.

Rather, it's a tangled web of six portable canopies and their supports that strong gusts sent airborne on May 21. They were on the patio for outdoor meetings.

A crack emergency team of **Kenny, Alan Hanson** and **Ted Vollmer** (who had no idea how to attack the mess) gradually freed them in about an hour.

All but one canopy escaped serious injury. The emergency crew also made it through thanks in part to its ground crew cheering section: **Holli Hanson, April North** and **Sandy Vollmer**.

# Spring Knolls News Free Classifieds

**DARK BROWN VELVET STORAGE CHEST:** This storage chest is ideal at the foot of the bed. It is 47" L x 18" W x 18" H. Lots of storage space. **Asking \$50.** Call **Gloria @ 951 677-3820**



**GOLF CART:** E-Z Go Golf cart, TXT 48. Runs good, good tires; well maintained. **Asking \$3,025.** Call **Betty Witt @ 951 696-8327.** (corrected price from one in B&W edition)



**OAK ROLL TOP DESK:** H - 48". W - 58" D - 30" In great condition. This desk has many drawers to organize your office, including a hanging file drawer. Bonus: If you live within any of the 3 Knolls communities, we can help you move it to your home! **Asking \$25.** Call **Dan @ 760 419-7738.**



**HANDYMAN:** Painting, electric, yard work, pet care, plumbing, appliance repair, etc. **Steve Lopez @ (626) 622-4552.**

**DRIVING SERVICE:** To doctors, store, etc. **\$16/hour.** **Steve Lopez @ (626) 622-4552**

**STATIONARY BIKE:** For sale, FLEXBIKE ULTRA stationary bike. Like new, paid \$200-plus. **Asking \$100.** Call or text **Judy Francis @ 951 541-3498.**



**DOG WALKER:** Need someone to walk your dog or do pet sitting (when you need it) right here in our community? Call **Nina @ (951) 414-9554.**

**GE ELECTRIC WASHER/DRYER;**

- **Size:** 47.5x26.75W X 75.875 H  
 - **Dryer:** Rotary-electromechanical controls (dryer) - easy cycle selection  
 - **Washer:** 12 wash cycles to handle various fabrics and soils; 6 wash/rinse temperatures; 1 wash/spin speed combination; speeds matched to fabric type; Auto-water load sensing; rotary-electronic controls; bleach and fabric softener dispensers; cycle status lights. **Asking \$500.**

Call **George @ (858) 837-0027.**



## Spring Knolls News Classifieds

If you have items to sell or want to buy or are offering or seeking a service, email your ad to the **Spring Knolls News** at [tscjnews@gmail.com](mailto:tscjnews@gmail.com) by the 15th of the month or send a copy to the Unit 1 office.

Classified Ads are for **Spring Knolls residents ONLY.** They should include brief descriptions of items and a phone number. Photos may be included, but their use is not guaranteed.

The **Spring Knolls News** is not responsible for the content of any ad, but reserves the right to decline any for any reason.

## Neighbor ...

### From page 1

Susie's devotion to the military is only a part of her varied life. The mother of four and former "mother bear" waitress at several San Diego restaurants, she also has spent decades helping the homeless and those struggling during their final days.

And, nearly 30 years ago, she discovered she could paint. Her colorful artwork adorns her interior walls and porch.

Susie's artistic flair extends to her yard as many Spring Knolls residents have learned. Every May her grounds spring to life with red-white-and-blue decorations ranging from flags to small painted figurines. Spread across her yard and her porch, the decorations fill her trees and rest among colorful plants ranging from flowers to succulents and vines.

Several years before her husband Mike passed away in August 2018, Susie's military tribute board was first displayed at her church. It includes the names of her Vietnam veteran husband, her brothers Joe (Navy – World War II and Korea) and Manuel (Army – Korea) and other names of those serving in every war since 1898.

Since May 2019, the sign has found a new home, moving from her church to Susie's front yard. It immediately attracted admiration and attention from passersby. Many admirers, noting there was still some room left on it, asked Susie if she could add names of their veteran relatives. Like the friendly waitress she once was (more on that later) Susie quickly acted to scrawl in names of people she never knew -- fathers, grandfathers, sons, uncles and cousins who served in uniform.

Recently, Susie began adding new names, such as longtime HOA board members Jim Witt (U.S. Marines, Korean War) and Max Heilbron (U.S. Army, World War II). She expects to start a new billboard for any new honorees. Two Marine Corps flags complete the display. They are from her



## Susie Britt at a glance ...

**Hometown:** San Diego  
**Occupations:** Now retired. Waitress at San Diego restaurants; working to help the homeless and ill.  
**Special interests:** Painting, gardening, honoring U.S. veterans  
**Family:** Married to the late Leland (Mike) Britt; four children, Patty, Maria Angela (Kita), Richard and Larry; nine grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and a great-great granddaughter on the way.  
**Spring Knolls:** Resident since 2012.



Photos by Alan Hanson

**WITH HER BEST FRIENDS:** (Top) Susie Britt poses with Sissy-Sue and Jack in her Via Escarlata home. (Below) One of the many military tribute decorations in Susie's yard, this handmade one bears a small, but simple message: "Thank you."

friend, Wayman Nelson, a member of the Marine Honor Guard with the Riverside National Cemetery.

Her front yard military salute board is only one of the passions of the former Susie Barrientos, who was born in San Diego, one of six children, and graduated from San Diego High.

After high school Susie married and would have four children who she helped support as a waitress. She worked at the beloved Oscar's car hop drive-in chain, the Hob Nob, the Rancho Bernardo Inn and Bakers Square.

Her outgoing personality and eagerness to help others led her to become the unofficial "mama bear" at places she worked. She recalled that the only

time she ever dropped a tray of food on an Oscar's customer, she received her largest ever tip.

Later, while working at Baker's Square, Susie began a new passion. She would bring leftovers home and even dive for discarded food from local grocery store Dumpsters. She would then shop and cook meals for homeless residents in San Diego's Wells and Balboa Parks. She also worked with people suffering from AIDS in San Diego.

At 62, Susie retired from waitressing, but continued helping others, working with the sick and dying and comforting many in their final days. She carried on these hospice-like efforts after moving to Murrieta in 2012, sometimes taking food to those living in the hills of Perris.

At 55, Susie discovered a talent for painting after displaying a completed piece at a restaurant where she worked. After she promptly sold it for \$20, she was hooked, and now has paintings throughout her house ranging from still life to portraits of dogs, cats, birds and even elephants.

Not surprisingly, Susie is an animal lover and has two dogs, Sissy-Sue and Jack.

(See more of Susie's art, and other photos about her on *Bonus Page 9*, below)

# 'Mama Bear' server now honors vets who served

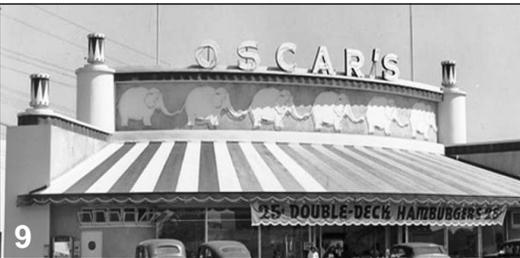


1



2

**LIFE OF CARING:** (Clockwise) (1.) Susie Britt with her husband Mike. (2-5) Susie Britt began painting at 55 and loves to feature her passions, flowers and animals, in her artwork spread throughout her home. (6-8) Every May since 2019, Susie Britt has featured on her front yard a growing list of men who served in various branches of the military. (9) Susie waitressed for years at the old Oscar's, the forerunner of the Jack-in-the-Box chain.



9



6



8



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4

Photos by Alan Hanson

(See 'Know your Neighbors' story about Susie Britt, beginning on Page 1)

# AROUND THE SPRING KNOLLS CLUBHOUSE



(Top) Flags honoring the military's five branches were placed for Memorial Day by **Bill Desmond, Alan Hanson and Ron Sieber.** (Below right and bottom) a new bench and foot rest built by Warm Spring Knolls resident **Bud Rose** is enjoyed by **Augie Lara** and his 3-year-old grandson **Mason** and their dog just outside the Unit 1 entry gate. The ongoing project also has blooming petunias, a Neighborhood library, a glider and newly sheltered enclosed bulletin boards. (Center, left) An owl decoy stands watch to discourage ducks from invading the Spring Knolls pools. Asked by a reporter if he actually enjoyed frightening ducks from the clubhouse, the owl merely stared straight ahead. In other words, as the saying goes, he really didn't give a hoot.





# AROUND THE SPRING KNOLLS CLUBHOUSE



**WISH LIST DONATIONS, part I:**  
(Clockwise from top)  
Plants and pots, **Kathy Gillian**;  
Two patio rockers, **Kat Taylor**;  
Flower pots, **Kathy Gillian**;  
Glider, **Debbie Huppert**, (Harold Robinson's daughter);  
Treadmill, **Sandy Pride**;  
Wicker chairs, cushions, foot rests, **Gloria Castenada**;  
Bird bath, **Suzie and Don Enderud**.  
*(More donations, next page).*

# AROUND THE SPRING KNOLLS CLUBHOUSE



**WISH LIST DONATIONS, part 2:**  
 (Clockwise from top)  
 Umbrella stand(s), **Suzie & Don Enderud**;  
 Patio set, **Debbie Huppert**, (Harold Robinson's daughter);  
 Wood, pallets, **Ed & Sharon Carey**; **Peg Callahan**;  
 Starter plants, **Sandy Vollmer**;  
 Striped chairs, **Lupe Menefee**;  
 ;  
 Storage unit, **Suzie and Don Enderud**.  
*(More donations, previous page).*



**A BOULDER LOOK:** (Top left) Some of the plants and cuttings **Sandy Vollmer** is nurturing to transplant along the dog park pathway. They will be placed within a setting of boulders (center) she and **Ted Vollmer** picked up for free from a Lake Elsinore construction site. The Spring Knolls wish list includes these plants and some other drought-resistant plants featured on this page.

Photos by Ted Vollmer



## Hillside ‘wish list’ project taking root

(An update)

**O**ur effort to beautify the pathway along the dog park of Spring Knolls’ prettiest areas is moving along!

We’ve gathered nearly 200 large boulders, at no cost, and are nurturing some cuttings for the hillside.

We’ll need your help to ensure the success of this project.

Remember, we told you last month that the hillside runs parallel to the pathway and due to some natural conditions such as drought, and man-made neglect as well as aging infrastructure it’s suffered some damage.

We’d like to fortify the area with drought-resistant, anti-erosion flowers such as those on this page. The spreading flowers would work with decorative boulders to enhance the pathway’s look as well as to stem further erosion.

If you have any of these plants in your yard please consider donating some cuttings. Call Sandy and she’ll pick them up or cut them for you.



**Creeping Phlox**



**Golden Creeping Sedum**



**Freeway Daisies**



**Creeping Thyme**



**Creeping Sage**

If you’d like to help, please call **Holli Hanson** at (661) 972-0799 or **Sandy Vollmer** at (951) 319-6749.



# Readers responding to library ‘wish list’

(An update)

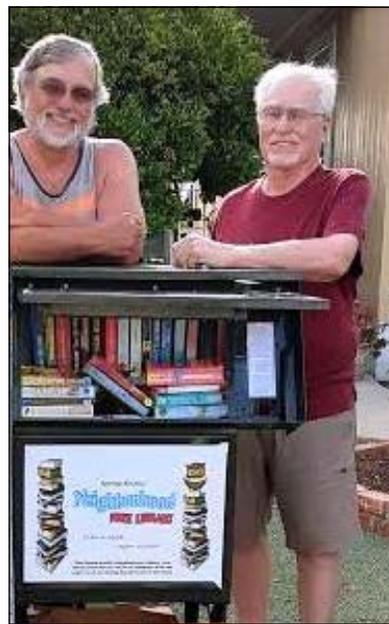
Last month, we let you know that the recently reopened Spring Knolls library is also reopened for book donations. Many of you have responded with more than 100 books donated at the library or at the Neighborhood libraries.

We thank many of our recent book donors on page 4. If you donated any books and don't see your name, please email [tscjnews@gmail.com](mailto:tscjnews@gmail.com) and we'll make sure you're acknowledged.

So, once again, here's our wish list:

1. Large Print novels, any vintage. We have nearly 300, and hope to greatly increase that number.
2. Regular hard-cover novels printed *after 2000*. Older books will be found in the Neighborhood Libraries shown on this page or sold to raise funds for new ones.
3. Paper back novels published *after 2010*.

Remember: *All books* are accepted. Those that won't go into the clubhouse library collection due to their age or duplication will either be offered for free outside the library, donated to some charitable organization or sold to raise funds to buy Large Print books.



**BOOKS APLENTY, SEEKING MORE:** (Upper left, moving clockwise:) One of four free Neighborhood Libraries outside Library coordinator Karen Jacobs' home at 38582 Via Amarilla ... Scores of free books are yours for the taking outside the Spring Knolls library. Residents Ted Vollmer and Ron Sieber pose with the Library resting between their properties (38491 and 38501 Via Escarlata) ... Resident Mike Lehane checks out the Neighborhood Library at the Unit 1 clubhouse ...

Photos by Sandy and Ted Vollmer

