

Community Quarterly



Sr./Boomer Info Fair • November 2nd • 9AM-1PM

Fall 2021

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Volume 12, Issue 4

One Business Where Success Turned Out to be a Toss-Up

Photos and Written by Guy Atchley

Look out! Something big is happening at Triple Play Sports in Green Valley. The owner, Joe Rieman, calls it a nationwide phenomenon. What is it? In his words, “We spent a lot of money building a facility here. If only we had known to get some plywood and drill a hole through it and get some bean-bags and start throwing, we probably could have saved a lot of money.” What he’s talking about is a little game called cornhole.

Before cornhole, people came to Triple Play Sports primarily for the miniature golf and batting cages.

fell into a nice little niche and it’s been really hot for us.”

It’s hot for Rieman, and a very good deal for everyone who plays. In fact, it’s become an excellent way for youth sports to support their teams with fund-raisers. Rieman says, “We’re kind of a hub for all of our local youth sports, whether it’s



Relaxing at the end of the day with a game of cornhole.

buy \$10 wristbands for their kids, so they can play whatever they want all day. I’m happy not being greedy. We find the more we give, the more we get back.”

By the way, some of the cornhole players are so good, they turn pro. Such is the case of two brothers, Peter and Moses Zazueta. Moses played in the intermediate level and won the World Championship over 616 other players. At the same tournament, Peter played in the advanced division and, out of a field of 900, he came in 31st. Today it’s not unusual for the Zazueta brothers to be hopping flights to cornhole tournaments all over the country.

Something else you should know: a lot

nization. So if a team brings 50 teams, they’ve made \$1000 before the tournament’s even started. And then we encourage them to bring baskets for raffles, and the raffles make the organizations even more money.”



In the dining room, you can watch big-screen TVs, or keep an eye on the cornhole games through the picture window.

But a few years ago things began to shift, and now cornhole is the primary draw. Rieman says, “We started with two lanes. Now we have eight lanes to play cornhole, and we fill them up quite a few times during the week. We

Pop Warner Football, Little League Baseball, softball, soccer or swim teams, or whatever they do. Most tournaments are \$10 per person to enter with two people on a team. We give 100% of that money back to the orga-



The Zazueta brothers, Peter (left) and Moses (right), now play cornhole professionally in tournaments across the U.S.

This setup might have you wondering how *Rieman* stands to profit. Simple, he says, “I get the foot traffic coming through here. If we have 100 people playing cornhole, chances are they’re going to bring family and friends, so I may have several hundred more people enjoying miniature golf, the batting cages, arcade games, or just sitting down for food and drink. Parents

of people go to Triple Play Sports not for the games but for the food. Their main sellers are burgers and wings, but many customers love their salads. Rieman says during the pandemic they sold a lot of salads. And he credits community support with making it possible for him to make it through the

continued on page 5

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Building Houses for a Stronger Community with Your Help

Written by Laura Sanchez, Director of Marketing & Communications, Habitat for Humanity Tucson

The United States is facing an affordable housing crisis.

According to research from the advocacy group Home1, 11 million Americans spend more than half their paycheck on housing.

Habitat for Humanity believes that safe, decent shelter is a matter of conscience and action.

There is no place like home.

Our ‘homes’ have transformed into our workplaces, schools, libraries, day-care centers, gyms, and parks. Sheltering in place means the front line of the COVID-19 crisis is at our own front doors, those very walls we shelter within.

While the national spotlight shines on the inequity of housing...

You help Habitat for Humanity Tucson keep building.

- Since 1980, Habitat Tucson had offered a hand up, not a hand out to hardworking, local families.
- Habitat Tucson partners with families to build and repair homes in Southern Arizona.
- Habitat homeowners help build their homes and pay an affordable mortgage.

How is Habitat helping to address the current housing crisis?

- In Arizona, 1 in 7 families spend half or more of their income on housing.
- And in the past year, the price of lumber has increased by 377%.



Currently seeking US Military Veterans located in Southern Arizona in need of affordable homeownership.

Referrals Welcome! Habitat for Humanity Tucson is an equal housing opportunity provider.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Every hand makes a difference. Volunteers are needed to change lives.
- Volunteer at the construction site or special home repair projects.



- The unprecedented spikes in lumber prices have added nearly \$36,000 to the average price of a new single-family home, and nearly \$13,000 to the price of a multifamily home since April 2020.
- Even before the coronavirus pandemic, nearly one-third of households in the United States faced housing cost burdens — paying either 30% of their income for housing (cost-burdened) or 50% of their income on housing (severely cost-burdened) – due to increased housing costs and growing income inequality.
- There are people in our community living in substandard conditions. In Southern Arizona, we can help our neighbors achieve *strength, stability and self-reliance* by providing opportunities for affordable homeownership and home repair.

- We believe that strong and stable homes help build strong and stable communities.

The HabiStore

Did you know that the HabiStore keeps tons of unwanted items out of the landfill? More importantly, we accept donations of new and used furniture, art, construction supplies, appliances and household items that are in good working condition--and make them affordable to the community at large. Visit our store at 935 West Grant Road or call our donation hotline at (520) 230-5323 www.habistore.org to schedule a pick up.

Veterans Build

Habitat for Humanity Tucson’s Veterans Build partners with military service members, their families, and the families of the fallen to build affordable housing. We reinforce strength and self-reliance through volunteerism, homeownership, and home repair. Currently seeking US Military Veterans located in Southern Arizona in need of minor and/or critical home repair.

- Become a family partner and mentor a family through the homebuying process (virtual opportunities available).
- You don’t have to lift a hammer to help!

How can people get involved?

- **Build with us.** We have volunteer opportunities in construction, the HabiStore, and our Admin Offices. Find us online at HabitatTucson.org/volunteer.
- **Advocate** for affordable and sustainable housing in your community.
- **Support.** It’s the support of our community that helps us build stronger neighborhoods and brighter futures. Habitat Tucson is a qualified charity for the AZ Charitable Tax Credit for the working poor. habittucson.org/taxcredit.
- Everyone deserves a safe and decent place to live, and everyone can do something today to help make that possible.
- **HabitatTucson.org**



Cornhole continued from page 1

That's okay because Joe Rieman shows it in his actions.



Batting cages remain a popular pastime at Triple Play Sports

And he'll be the first to tell you that his charitable efforts are only a small part of those by a group of people who have banded together to form "The Triple Play Cornhole Club". In the interest of giving back to their community, the club has created a 501c3 nonprofit called Bags, Boards and Blessings. Rieman says, "On Thanksgiving what we've done for the last few years is open at 10 in the morning and stay open till 2 in the afternoon. We just open the doors and everything is free — turkey dinner and every game. I think last year we served 183 people from Green Valley. Some would ask if they could take food to a neighbor, and so we just kept filling them up until people were done. We'll do that again this year for five hours, and then I like to get home because my Buffalo Bills play."

As for Christmas, Rieman says, "We give back several thousand dollars to people in the community who just need a little help. Last year one of our cornhole players who's a mechanic fixed up a donated car, and we found a family whose car had broken down and the father couldn't get to work. So we stuffed the back seat with four laptops for the kids' schooling, clothes, toys, and gave it all to them. Another 15 families got gift cards worth a couple of hundred dollars each delivered to them. We wrote on the

cards: Merry Christmas from Bags, Boards and Blessings. Kind of a cool thing." And Triple Play Sports is a cool place. You'll find it at 1570 West Duval Mine Road in Green Valley. Phone: 520-625-PUTT(7888). They're open 7 days a week: Monday-Thursday 11am-9pm • Friday 11am-11pm • Saturday 11am-9pm • Sunday 11am-8pm. And, yes, the burgers and fries are really, really good. I know from experience.



A hole-in-one on the miniature golf course.

pandemic. The truth is Joe Rieman knows a lot of people. He taught school in Sahuarita for 39 years, and many of his customers — the kids as well as their parents — were once his students. Just the thought of how supportive they've been is enough to make him pause, grow emotional and not be able to get the words out to describe what it means to him.



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Peace, Grace, Hope and Love

Written by Annie Whiteside

Green Valley Baptist Church is so excited to present Season 2 of the DRIVE THRU NATIVITY located at 1111 N La Canada Dr. Green Valley, AZ.

Over 50 biblical characters have been carefully carved out and lovingly painted by members of the congregation. A new and stunning scene has been added to depict Jesus and his parents fleeing to Egypt.

Last year we painted camels, donkeys and sheep to add to the display. This year we've added more baby lambs, a goat and even a chicken!

The idea for the Nativity Drive Thru began during COVID last year. We wanted a way to remind people and celebrate the birth of Christ. And to do so, they would not have to get out of their cars!

We are blessed to be able to do this again in Season 2. You'll see more colorful characters, beautiful lights and painted signs with verses from the Bible to remind us of the amazing story of the birth of The Christ Child.

We will be open from 6-8pm Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 10-12 and December 17-19.

We welcome you to share in the celebration of Jesus Christ our Lord.



Doris Felix and Beth Farr painting Jesus "In His Tender Arms".



Jesus, Mary & Joseph fleeing to Egypt



6 ft. Jesus "In His Tender Arms"

Green Valley Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center

Written by Randy Graf, President & CEO Green Valley Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center

The Green Valley Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center has been serving this community since 1979. Today, the Chamber represents 400 member businesses providing advocacy with elected officials, networking events connecting our members with each other, digital marketing support through our website's Member Directory, and our GVS Leads Program providing business support resources. These four services provide tremendous support to our member businesses whether they are home based solopreneurs, non-profits, brick and mortar retail stores, the service sector, or major corporations.

Chambers of Commerce have always been good at putting on events allowing for members to

network amongst themselves or to present their goods and services to the public. But the old ways of parties, pageants and parades (the three P's) are giving way to being catalyst, conveners, and champions (the three C's).

The Green Valley Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce is a catalyst of business growth and success. Through advocacy, education, and the digital marketing platforms available to our members, we are always looking at ways to enhance the business community. Relationships with elected officials and community organizations aid in good community policies. A robust online presence for our members with our Member Directory marketing landing pages and online catalogs that can facilitate increased

sales. The new "Green Valley Sahuarita Marketplace" is a shop local version of Amazon and everyone doing business in our community should be part of it.

The Chamber can be a convener of leaders and influencers in our community supporting positive change. Business owners, elected officials, civic organizations, are a lot of moving parts in any community. The business community needs a seat at the table. The Green Valley Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce is their advocate.

Champion... it's in our Mission Statement: Champion opportunities for business and our community to prosper. The Green Valley Sahuarita Chamber understands and supports business growth. It's the sign of a

strong and healthy community. We also take pride in being a champion for the entire community!

If you are doing business in Green Valley and/or Sahuarita and would like more information on the Chamber, contact Randy Graf at 520-600-2101.



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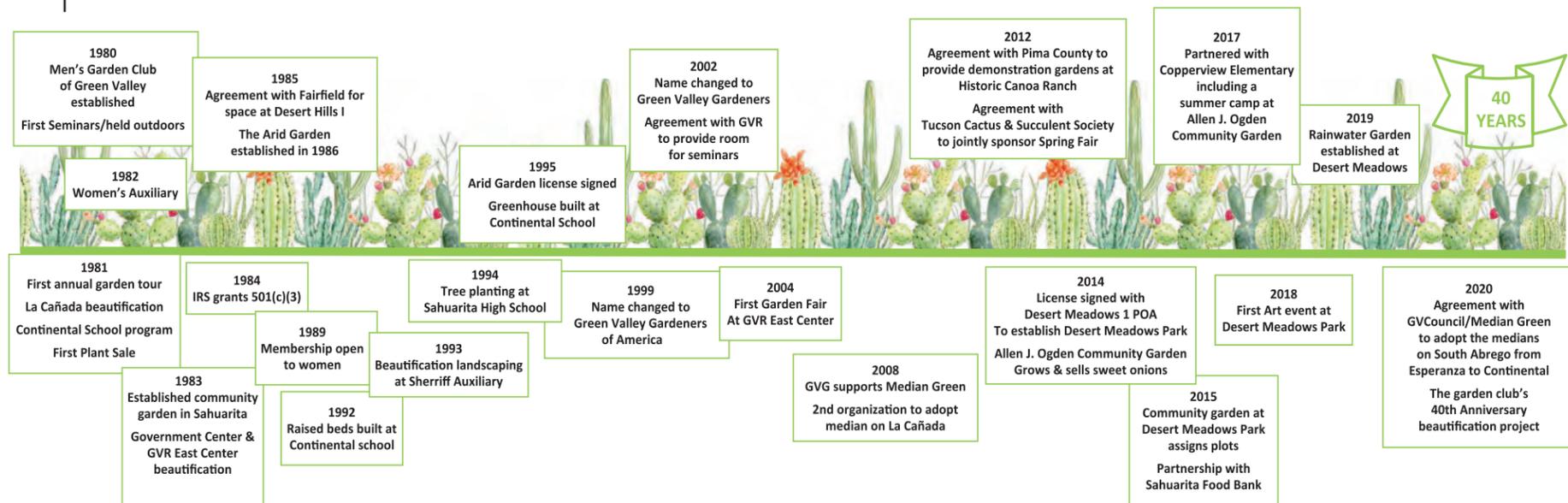
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Beautification Projects ~ Education for all Ages ~ Sonoran Demonstration Gardens

Written by Chuck Parsons, Desert Meadows Park Project Coordinator



Forty years ago, from the outset, the Green Valley Gardeners' chose not to be a "tea and cookies, let's talk about it, garden club." The key word for the founders was "projects," and projects meant "work" and work meant "volunteers." That characterization still applies today. Like so many services and programs the residents of Green Valley enjoy, the garden club is dependent upon wonderful, dedicated volunteers to achieve its mission and objectives which are aimed at community service.

The club was officially founded as the Men's Garden Club of Green Valley in 1980. The name changed to Green Valley Gardeners in 2002. In the first year, with 42 members, the first edition of the newsletter "Sand'n'Seeds" was published; it continues as an electronic, monthly publication for over 500 club members.

In that first year, 1980, an outdoor seminar program was offered. It was held in collaboration with the UofA Cooperative Extension at the Continental Shopping Plaza.

Seminars are now held at the GVR Desert Hills Social Center.

In 1981 the club's activities expanded. A Garden and Patio Tour was offered to the public. Today it continues as the popular Spring Garden Tour. In 1981 the founding members also launched a La Cañada beautification project (at the time La Cañada was a graded, not a paved road), a Youth Gardening program at Continental School, and a plant sale. These founders displayed a passion for community service that exists and continues today ~ 40 years later.

Green Valley Gardeners' educate, demonstrate and practice good land stewardship for gardening in the Sonoran Desert. That means members promote the use of native plant species to preserve the flora/fauna of the desert and

reduce the dependence on potable water for landscape maintenance. The community garden plot holders explore vegetable varieties that thrive in the Sonoran environment for home gardener food production.

Please enjoy one or all of the club's current projects:

- Educational seminars are offered to the public on a vast variety of topics pertinent to gardening and environmental stewardship in the Sonoran Desert. Attendance at these runs between 75 and 400 depending on season and topic. The seminars are held on Thursdays, 9:30 am, at Desert Hills Social Center. They are open to the public. The schedule for dates and of topics can be found on the website www.greenvalleygardeners.com and in GVR publications.



In celebration of 40-years, the garden club adopted all 11 medians along South Abrego. Beautification of these medians began in 2020. Photo credit: Phyllis Barbosa, Project co-Coordinator

- The Allen J. Ogden Community Garden was established in 1983. Plots are available to club members for vegetable gardening. The Garden is also used for school gardening programs and educational events for adults. This garden is located in Sahuarita off Santa Rita Road. The garden is surrounded by a cyclone fence and gates are locked. You can see into the garden and are welcome to enter when plot holders have the gates open.



Some garden plots at Desert Meadows Park are assigned to winter-resident members. While away, volunteers grow vegetables that are donated to the Sahuarita Food Bank. In June of this year nearly 800 pounds of fresh produce was donated. Since the garden opened in 2015 over 10 tons of produce has been donated. L to R Kim Tompkins, Karen Gabriel, Elissa Dearing, Nancy Lucas, Sue Kenney, Betsy Smith-Schatz

- The Arid Garden was established in 1986. This is a 1-acre demonstration garden of primarily native and desert-adapted plants located just off Camino Encanto. This is a small intimate garden that provides plant information for community residents exploring options for their personal landscapes. A great place for new residents to learn about local plants ~ most plants in this garden are labeled. This garden is not gated and open to the public at no charge. Volunteers are available on Friday morning to answer questions.



Arid Garden was established in 1986. Volunteers have created and maintain a delightful garden for your pleasure. Native and desert-adapted plants are attractively used in this landscape. Photo credit: Linda Gregory



The Green Valley Gardeners have been sponsoring a spring garden tour since 1981. Gardens for the Spring Garden Tour April 2022 are currently being selected for your enjoyment. The tours have helped many new residents come up with ideas for landscaping their own yards. Photo credit: Cynthia Surprise, Tour Co-Coordinator

- Demonstration gardens at the Historic Canoa Ranch were begun in 2012. This is a collaborative project with Pima County, established when the county opened this ranch to the public. Garden club volunteers have reproduced gardens, an orchard and landscaping that would have existed when operated as a family-owned ranch. The ranch is a popular tourist attraction in the area ~ bird watching, dog walking, and a bit of Sonoran history. Check the Pima County website for hours.
- The Desert Meadows Park was established in 2014. This is a 4-acre park open to the public. The park is located on the historic Anza Trail providing a rest stop for people using the trail for hiking, biking and jogging. The park is certified as an arboretum and is popular with both residents and tourists. The park includes a 60-plot community garden, 5 picnic areas and a variety of demonstration gardens. Very popular for birding and dog walking. This park is not gated and open to the public at no charge.



Green Valley Gardeners

A Service Club Made Up of Gardeners

- The club sponsors a median on La Canada in support of Median Green. In celebration of its 40th anniversary, the club initiated a new median project in collaboration with Green Valley Council. This work involves creating a landscape design, obtaining Pima County approval, purchasing and planting plants, and then hand watering for two years to get the plants established. The club has landscaped and will maintain all eleven medians on South Abrego from Esperanza to Continental. This project team has 29 active volunteers.

- Club volunteers also volunteer on collaborative projects at local schools and retirement facilities.

Green Valley Gardeners is operated entirely by volunteers. All annual operating expenses of the club and projects



The garden club assumed stewardship for Desert Meadows Park property in January 2014. On the property was a stand alone ramada. Volunteers, using donated materials, transformed it as shown in a recent photo. It is now called Sunset Pavilion and is one of five popular picnic areas for public use in the park.

Super Saturdays

Oct 30 and Nov 6 ~ 9 to 3
Art-in-the-Park ~ Music, Food Trucks
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Raffle drawing Sunday November 7th at 2 pm
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DESERT MEADOWS PARK
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Green Valley Gardeners began sponsoring art events at Desert Meadows Park in 2018. Local artists, musicians and food trucks are featured. The next event, Super Saturdays, will begin October 30th. Check the sidebar or club website for more details.

are funded by membership dues, fundraisers, and individual donations. The club fortunately receives donations from community residents and grants to fund major construction projects.

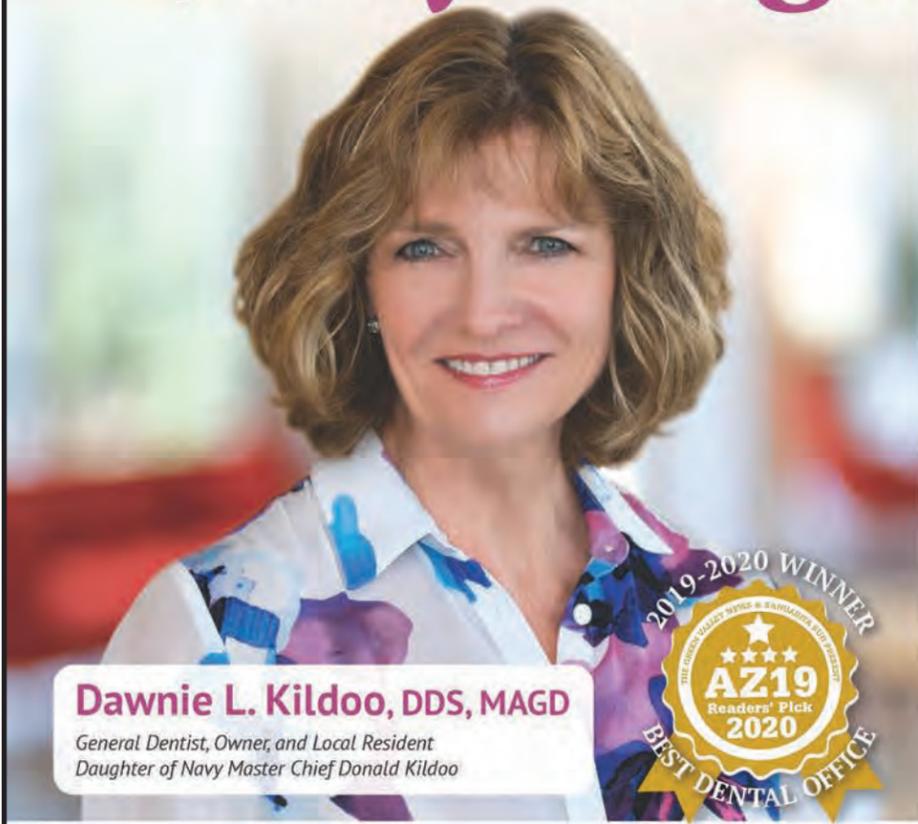
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Garden club volunteers began working at the Historic Canoa Ranch in 2012. Historical records and photos are studied to replicate the plants and grounds as they existed when the ranch was in use by the Manning's. The photo shows the kitchen herb garden at Senior's house. Photo credit: Raydine Tabor, Project Coordinator

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Mortgage Update



Do you feel like the real estate market is, shall we say, “a little crazy?” Well, you’re not alone. With the price of homes going up, up, up and the interest rates at near all-time lows, it’s hard to make that decision as to whether now is a good time to purchase or refinance.

whether you are refinancing or purchasing, the loan program we offer is the best one for you. We are part of the community. We live here, patronize other businesses, and see many of our customers around town. It is important for us to always “Do the right thing.”

Many of us remember the real estate crash of 2008 and the pain that crash caused. After 2008, the federal government passed many new laws and regulations to assist with preventing that from happening again. Many of us in the real estate industry feel that the prices are settling now and there will not likely be another crash. But of course, there is no way to guarantee that.

So, let’s talk about purchasing and refinancing:

If you are wanting to refinance your home, now is absolutely the best time to move. Whether you are wanting to lower your interest rate or take equity out of your home, there could not be a better time. When you take equity out of your home, you can use that money however you chose. Maybe you want to buy an investment property, make repairs on your current home, pay down debt or just take a dream vacation – it’s your call.

For most, a home is the largest purchase that you will ever make. Surround yourself with people that are experts in real estate and mortgage lending. It is important to trust the professionals that are working for you and to know that they have your best interest at heart.

As for purchasing a home, that may take a little more thought. It all depends on your situation and what your

At Sunstreet Mortgage, we take the time to listen and ensure that

future plans are. You want to make sure the move is right for you and that it makes sense. Maybe you are wanting to move because your family has grown or maybe your down-sizing. Sunstreet mortgage loan officers can help you make sure that it is the right financial move for you.

Is buying an investment home right for you? Have you researched the pros and cons of that purchase? We can assist you with any questions you may have when it comes to purchasing an investment property, whether it is your first investment property or maybe you’re an old pro.

Sunstreet has many home loan

options: Conventional, FHA, USDA and VA loans, construction loans, reverse mortgage loans, manufactured home loans and even loans for homes with hauled water.

Kim DeMarco has been in real estate and mortgage lending for over 25 years. She has surrounded herself with amazing people that “Get the job done on time.” Sunstreet Mortgage and The DeMarco Lending team were voted best mortgage company in 2020 and are working hard for your vote for best mortgage company again in 2021.

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Kim DeMarco

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Hayley Winn

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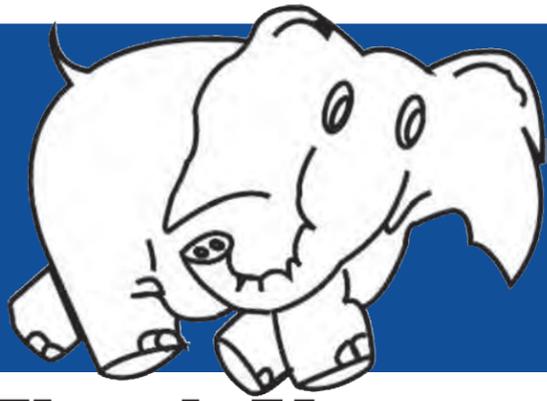
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COUNTRY FAIR WHITE ELEPHANT *Special Pullout Section*

Thank You to the Community

Written by Karen Lavo, CFWE General Manager

This year, as General Manager of the Country Fair White Elephant organization, it is an honor for me to sit down and write a message of thanks to the community from the White Elephant as a whole, and from me personally, for the many years of support that folks throughout the area have so kindly bestowed on this great organization. 2021 marks the 57th Anniversary of the Country Fair White Elephant and we are once again facing what some are calling a new normal while continuing to operate under guidelines implemented due to the pandemic. As we go forward, this major event continues to deliver many changes, in life and in business, some for the short term and others for the long term.

Each step of the way since the beginning of 2020, we took it to heart that our first and foremost priority in determining how we would be able to operate would be the health and safety of our volunteers, donors, customers and staff. We continue to follow the safety measures that were implemented in 2020 in order to slow the spread of the virus, to mitigate the risk of infection, and to keep those who come into our store or to our donation drop-off and customer pick-up areas as safe as possible in a public environment. Our goal is that these prudent measures will help safeguard our volunteers, donors, customers, and staff to ensure a safe place to work and visit. Taking steps to slow the spread and minimize the risk of infection of COVID-19 is a shared

responsibility and we must all do our part. We ask that anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19, has been in contact with the virus, or is awaiting test results please stay home. We would love for you to visit us when you are virus-free and feeling good.

I've said for many years that we are a true example of the perfect equation: A community of generous donors who give us their no-longer needed treasures, plus an army of about 500 dedicated volunteers who clean, sort, process, and sell the donations we are given, plus our consistent, regular, and new customers who come without fail to purchase the great buys in our store, equal a huge amount of money that is granted back to community organizations who depend on White Elephant funding to be able to provide the services & programs they love to do. The equation continues to work its magic here at the Elephant, however, the pandemic has certainly impacted our bottom line revenue and the amount we are able to give back to the community. We are working diligently to assure that each year we can once again grant back significant monetary contributions to the many organizations that operate and serve residents in Green Valley, Sahuarita, and the Santa Cruz Valley.

With regard to those who volunteer with us, although we have grown by leaps and bounds over the years, we are fortunate that our volunteers are all still looking to give their time at an organization that makes a difference and gives back to the community in so many ways, just as those who founded the organization 57 years ago did. From all walks of life, from all kinds of backgrounds, our White Elephant volunteers are here for a number of reasons but with one goal: to volunteer at an organization that gives back to the community. Here at the White Elephant, that's exactly what we do.



Karen Lavo, General Manager
Country Fair White Elephant

Our senior and family residents in Green Valley and Sahuarita who need a bit of help from organizations like the Community Food Banks, Casa Community Services, Valley Assistance Services, The Salvation Army, Sheriff's Auxiliary Volunteers (SAV), just to name a few, all benefit in some way from the White Elephant funds that these organizations receive. Our neighbors to the south in the communities of Amado, Arivaca, Tubac, Rio Rico and Nogales, AZ, can also get assistance from, or participate in programs at organizations in each of their communities that receive funding from the White Elephant. And all of the schools from Sahuarita to Nogales are a better place for students to learn because of funding they receive from the White Elephant. More than ever, White Elephant funds are needed by the many organizations that we support.

This is what the White Elephant is proud to do. It is what I am personally most honored to be a part of. Over the past 57 years, the White Elephant has granted out over 31 Million dollars. Our Country Fair White Elephant Educational Scholarship Foundation has supplied approximately 2.5 Million dollars in scholarships to local students. What a phenomenal achievement for an organization that was started 57 years ago by a small group of local, concerned, forward thinking residents of the Green Valley community.

It is with great sincerity that I say "Thank You" to every single person who gives back to the community by giving to the Country Fair White Elephant! We are a huge part of this very special community and your support is so very appreciated!



Country Fair White Elephant 2020 Board Of Directors

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1st Vice President:Maureen McCarthy
2nd Vice President: Mary Fisher
Secretary: June St. John
Treasurer:Judy Barkley
Assistant Treasurer:..... Alan Cram

2020 Board Members

Larry Pisacka • Joan Fischer • Eunice Hinds
 Judy Oestreich • Sandy Rios • Bill Taylor
 DeAnna Walker • Delores Weaver • Regina Ford

White Elephant Thrift Store

General Manager: Karen Lavo
Facility Manager Outgoing:Richard Cramer
Facility Manager Incoming: Christopher Cota
Office Coordinator:.....Susie Sierra
Custodian:..... Stacy Kafka



A Message from the President

Written by Ivars Vecbastiks, CFWE Board President

What a year it has been !!!

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Country Fair White Elephant, Inc. I want to thank the Green Valley community for their patience, understanding and support during this difficult time.

Because of the COVID-19 restrictions, we had to cancel the White Elephant parade and the "midnight madness event" two years in a row, much to our disappointment, as well as the disappointment of many in the community.

The White Elephant Store needed to close on more than one occasion because of the pandemic. Understandably, many of our volunteers were concerned for their health and did not feel comfortable in coming to work.

The success of the White Elephant depends upon our donors, our customers, our volunteers and our staff. Without them, there is no White Elephant. Throughout the pandemic, our dedicated staff continued to work, preparing the Store for reopening while taking into account the requirements of the state, county and the CDC.



Ivars Vecbastiks, CFWE Board President

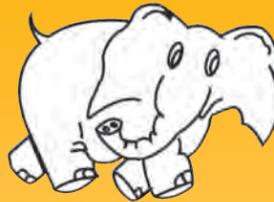
The Store is open 9AM until Noon. We follow all the rules, precautions and recommendations of the CDC, the state and the county. Donors are most welcome and we have set aside certain days when we will accept donations.

I am very optimistic for the future. I believe that with the help of the community, White Elephant will have a great year and will provide much needed resources to the greater Green Valley community.

Again, I want to express my gratitude to our donors, customers, volunteers and staff for their understanding and support.

Thank you.

Ivars Vecbastiks



White Elephant 2020 Contributions:

Public Schools:	\$158,000
Continental School District	\$12,000
Nogales School District	\$7,000
Nogales High School	\$9,000
Pierson Voc High School	\$5,000
Desert Shadows Middle School	\$5,000
Wade Carpenter Middle School	\$5,500
Coronado Elementary School	\$5,000
Challenger Elementary School	\$5,000
Lincoln Elementary School	\$6,000
AJ Mitchell Elementary School	\$5,000
Rio Rico High School	\$7,000
Calabasas Middle School	\$7,000
Coatimundi Middle School	\$5,000
Mountain View Elementary School	\$5,500
San Cayetano Elementary School	\$5,000
Wrightson Ridge Elementary School	\$7,000
Sahuarita Education Foundation	\$4,000
Sahuarita High School	\$6,000
Walden Grove High School	\$6,000
Sahuarita Intermediate School	\$5,500
Sahuarita Middle School	\$5,500
Anza Trail School	\$6,500
Sahuarita Primary School	\$6,000
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How a Pandemic Changes Things and Good Bye to a Community Tradition...

A message from the Country Fair White Elephant Board of Directors

On March 16, 2020, the White Elephant Thrift Store experienced a first... we weren't able to open our doors for shopping that day. The COVID-19 virus had hit our area and folks were taking precautions and staying home. Our volunteers worked the remainder of the day in the back workroom, accepting and processing donations. At the end of the day, our doors were closed and did not reopen until October 1st of 2020.

Since then, the world has been in a state of change...and the White Elephant has been no different. Our store, the way we conduct business, the way we operate according to safety guidelines, and the responsibility to do all of these things as we anticipated the next steps we would take, had a huge impact on the Country Fair White Elephant as an organization.

With the 6 month closure of the store in 2020 and the 3 month closure of the store in 2021, the White Elephant has had to bear the brunt of lost income for those times. In

2020, we were still able to give back \$590,000 to the community through our grants program, but it was a far cry from the \$1.7 Million we gave back in 2019. Again this year, our giving will fall short of pre-pandemic totals, but we will give back. The total number is not yet known, but will be publicized in December when we have our annual Distribution Day Ceremony where community organizations will be presented with White Elephant grant checks to assist them in their missions. This is the true mission of the White Elephant.

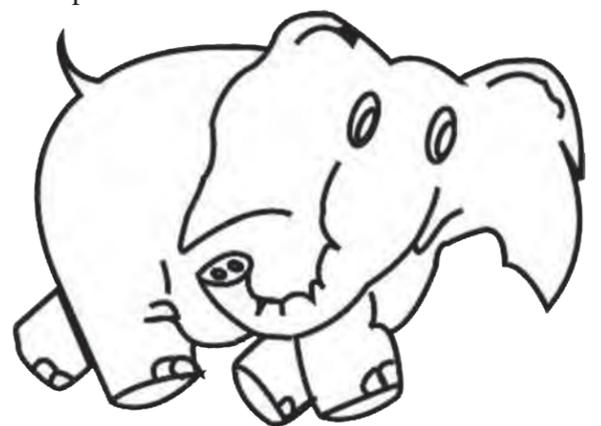
With that said, another change that came our way in 2020 was a new direction that was taken by Pima County officials with regard to outside events taking place during COVID. These events, including the Annual Country Fair White Elephant Parade would now fall under new safety precautions and protocols governed by the Pima County Health Department. These new protocols made it impossible to cost effectively receive approval from the Health Department to hold our parade. The result of this was the

cancellation of the parade in 2020 and 2021.

Since then, the Board of Directors of the Country Fair White Elephant has taken the matter under consideration and has decided to end the tradition and cancel the parade indefinitely. This decision was not made lightly or without discussion. The rising costs of holding the parade and the new protocols implemented by the Health Department directly impacted the decision to cancel the parade. Our Board feels that the money spent on this event will be better served by including it in the amount given to organizations through the White Elephant granting program. It's important that the community understand that this was just one of many hard decisions that our Board of Directors has had to make over the past 18 months.

In addition, we will be looking at additional ways to in-

crease revenue and limit expenses. We will look at new ways to show appreciation for our great volunteers that will be all inclusive. The store will explore new and different special sales throughout the year to increase revenue and patronage. The Board has every intention to go forward responsibly in ways that will allow the Country Fair White Elephant to continue to give back to this great community through our mission of serving Green Valley, Sahuarita, and the Santa Cruz Valley. The support of the communities we serve is greatly appreciated by everyone here at the Country Fair White Elephant.



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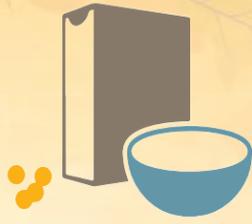
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Community Performance and Art Center

OCTOBER 20 OBABAND



OCTOBER 29-
NOVEMBER 7 THE GOOD
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Shoestring Players



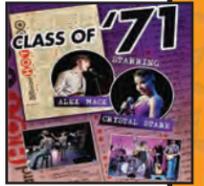
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PRESENTS
BACKROADS



NOVEMBER 10 RUN BOY RUN



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NOVEMBER 13 ALL TOGETHER NOW:
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NOVEMBER 16 JACK LASSETER:
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Selling Treasures for an Elephant on eBay

Written by Susan Stein Kregar

If you have lived in Green Valley or Sahuarita for more than a couple of months, you are likely familiar with the White Elephant Thrift Store. You know, that place where every Monday through Saturday morning at nine o'clock hundreds of people gather at the entrance eagerly anticipating finding newly stocked treasures.

In addition to finding treasures in the store, The White Elephant Thrift store also sells items through eBay.

White Elephant volunteer, Barney Foster, heads the eBay auction. He has been a volunteer with the White Elephant for three or four years. He can't recall. He's that's busy. Barney works two to three mornings a week receiving donations. It's some of those donations that make it to eBay.

For the past 14 years, a team of eagle-eyed treasure hunters scours the freshly donated items. Once an item has been selected, it is secured in the eBay cage until it is ready for evaluation by the Collectibles team. The item is researched for its condition, origin, value, and comparable pricing. Most of Barney's research is done at home, where he works for another three and half hours daily. Once an item is deemed eBay-worthy, it begins its seven-day online sale that starts Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Arizona time. If the item is not sold, it goes to the thrift store sales floor.

The most popular items sold on eBay are electronics, antique toys, wooden puzzles, jewelry, and Native American art. Toys, according

to Barney, fetch more money when still in the original, unopened packaging. Recently a toy was donat-



A collection of Pyrex bowls waiting to make complete sets. Photo by Susan Stein Kregar

ed in a vintage box that was not for the toy. The empty box sold for \$30 more than the toy because the buyer wanted the box.

Hmm, I've Never Seen That Before

The most unusual piece to cross Barney's path was a 1954 Seeburg Jukebox. "It came complete with 45 rpm records. Mint condition!" It sold for \$4,551 to a buyer in Provo, UT.

A buyer in Missouri who loved Western art bought an 11-foot stainless steel, two-arm saguaro for \$1,300. Fortunately, she saved a bundle on the shipping. Her neighbor was in the area and was able to drive it to her.

As of press time, a platinum filigree diamond ring was listed with a starting bid of \$3,800.

"Can you imagine anyone spending \$3,000 in a thrift store?" exclaims Barney.

When unusual or valuable items are received at the donation drop-off, team members set them aside for Barney to consider for an eBay sale. A large copper cauldron with a base was destined for recycling, but was brought to Barney instead. He thinks it is a "Rare PA Antique Copper Apple Butter Kettle Caul-

dron" and is listed for \$1,200.

The most unusual item Barney has come across is a big pile of diaper liners . . . and it sold.

A unique element of the items for sale is that many items donated come from all over the state, even internationally. A large portion of Green Valley's residents are not from Arizona. Therefore, many of the items they bring have a flair from their region.

China vs. china

Customers from all over the globe spend money at The White Elephant through e-Bay. That's money that goes into the local economy. China, Barney says, is a "pretty good customer."

The thrift store is taking in a lot of china. Most young people no longer want their parents' or grandparents' china as previous generations did. Therefore, there is plenty to select from on the shelves inside the thrift store. They sold 159 pieces of Depression-Era china.

Though not as delicate, Pyrex is a popular item. A full set of the vin-

racks of newly received items to find potential eBay sales. "During those six months, I was the only volunteer allowed inside because I do eBay. I went through the building and found items I thought would sell."

And he certainly did. During those six and half months, his digging brought in \$23,000.

"It was an interesting time," he reflects. "(COVID) made things difficult, but we moved through it."

Shop From Anywhere, Anytime

To shop the White Elephant's eBay store, visit www.ebay.com. Click on "Advanced Search" on the top right and select "Items By Seller." Type cfwe12345 into the seller number box, click the search button, and start shopping!

Important Note: The thrift store's long-standing eBay account, cfwe1234, was compromised. Everything has been moved to a new account with the seller ID cfwe12345.

Customer pick-up hours are Monday thru Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and shopping hours are Monday thru Saturday, 9:00a.m. to Noon. Donation drop-off is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,



Thrift store volunteer, Barney Foster, researches the value and descriptions of potential eBay store items. Photo by Susan Stein Kregar

tage colored mixing bowls could go for \$150. Barney holds back individual bowls that are in good condition until he can make a full set.

Online Sales Soar

The lockdown was challenging for the White Elephant thrift store, says Barney. Few people were allowed inside the building. Under normal circumstances, volunteers scour the

and Saturday, 8a.m. to Noon.

Revenue generated by eBay sales is just like the store's sales. They go into the general fund to be donated to more than 130 local schools, fire departments and non profit organizations throughout Green Valley, Sahuarita, and the Santa Cruz Valley.



Items deemed worthy await their turn on eBay in the eBay cage. Photo by Susan Stein Kregar

Some History of the Country Fair White Elephant

Written by Judy "O" Oestreich, Historian

Founded in 1964 by a group of local community leaders to promote good fellowship, provide an easy way for Green Valley residents to get better acquainted and also provide a way to "give back" to the community, the White Elephant has grown to be a tourist attraction and huge industry for the Valley.

In 1980, the first parcel of land was leased from Pima County for \$1.00, and a 3,000 sq. foot building was constructed by the then, Green Valley Country Fair Board. Through the years and as the need arose, construction continued. In October of 2009, the final expansion was completed and the total square feet of remodeled and added building equals 34,000 square feet!

Until the Covid-19 pandemic hit in January of 2020, we were on track to continue the growth of the organization as had been done each year prior. Unfortunately, the decision to close the store had to be made and from March 16, 2020 to October 1st, 2020, it was closed. The safety and health of all our community mem-

bers, volunteers, shoppers and staff had to come first.

When the store was able to re-open, the lines at the front door were just as long as before! We had to follow guidelines and thus, only 120 shoppers were allowed into the store, following square footage regulations. The shoppers were very accommodating and just happy to be back, as were the volunteers and staff.

On December 15, 2020, checks in the amount of \$500,000.00 were mailed to the organizations that depend on us, and \$90,000.00 was awarded to the WE Scholarship Foundation. It was impossible to hold the normal awards day.

The year 2002 was a special time as the White Elephant was able to give a record \$1,000,000.00 in contributions, and as we reflected back, our only hope was this pandemic would end and we could resume normal activity...

Start 2021...and the pandemic continued, to everyone's dismay.

The Board of Directors again had to make the hard decision to close the store due to the spike of Covid cases on January 12, 2021. The Board resumed their positions and committee assignments from 2020, and Board meetings were held via zoom in February and March. In April, the Board met and decided to cancel the parade for 2021 as the research proved Pima County would have 7 pages of requirements that the White Elephant could not meet. Because of social distancing guidelines, Midnight Madness will not be held this October either.

The Scholarship Foundation committee was not able to meet with students so again, the program was cancelled for 2021.

The store was able to re-open on April 12th and we have been going forward with full steam ahead!



Judy "O" Oestreich, CFWE Historian

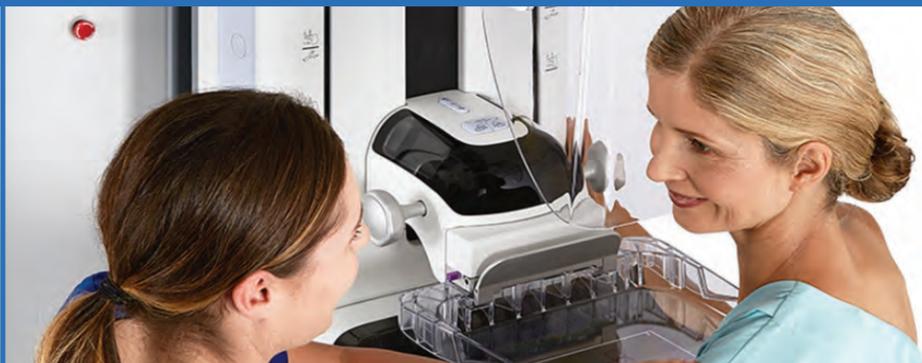
Many of our safety protocols are still in place, and we hope to end our year better than last year giving to all the organizations we support.

As we celebrate our 57th year, we reflect on our history of giving back, and we thank our donors, shoppers, volunteers and staff who make it possible to continue our mission of service, charity and giving; where used goods become good deeds.

For more about the Country Fair White Elephant:
 Website: gwwhiteelephant.org
 Facebook: facebook.com/GVWhiteElephant



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THANK YOU FROM




The Community Performance and Art Center (CPAC) would like to express our deep gratitude to the White Elephant for their steadfast support. White Elephant grants have funded a variety of CPAC programs over the years including the annual youth summer camp. The most recent grant is a major factor in our organization's ability to navigate through the challenges of the ongoing pandemic.



Programming of the arts both locally and abroad has been deeply affected this year and we are grateful to have such a strong community partner. CPAC will continue working diligently to provide crucial arts related experiences to those living in this region.

The Community Performance and Art Center manages all aspects of a public facility including a 203-seat theater, art gallery and multi-purpose space. On an annual basis, CPAC hosts more than 150 performances and dozens of visual arts exhibits, classes and workshops in addition to various community gatherings such as rehearsals, seminars and social functions. Never have the arts been more important for our community than they are now!

THANK YOU FROM



COMMUNITY FOOD BANK
OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA

With generous support last year from the Country Fair White Elephant, the Amado Food Bank/Resource Center has continued to provide emergency food assistance, including milk, eggs, and other donated or purchased items, to low-income families and individuals in the area.

Since January 2021, Amado has distributed more than 90,000 pounds of fresh produce, most of which is packed in family-friendly sizes and assortments.



In partnership with United Community Health Center (UCHC), Sopori Elementary School, Premier Medical Group with AZ Department of Health Services, and Pima County Health Department the Amado Food Bank/Resource Center hosted and participated in two COVID 19 vaccination clinics. Nearly 100 individuals took advantage of the clinics to get vaccinated.

The Amado Food Bank/Resource Center distributes emergency food and produce every Thursday from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. For more information, including bilingual assistance with SNAP applications, contact Lilia Dawson at 520-882-3325. Se habla español. Thank you, Country Fair White Elephant, for your continued support!

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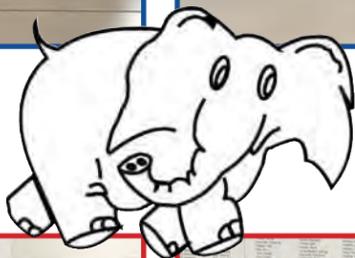
Thank You to Our Volunteers



Monday Morning



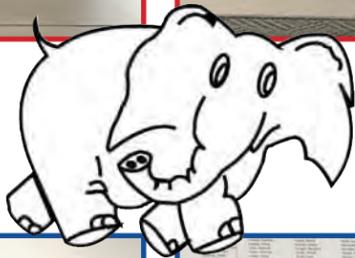
Monday Afternoon



Tuesday Morning



Tuesday Afternoon



Wednesday Morning



Wednesday Afternoon

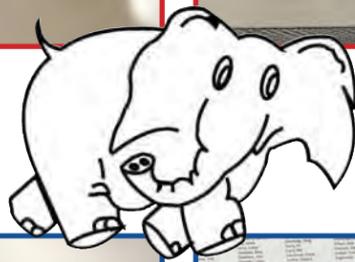
Thank You to Our Volunteers



Thursday Morning



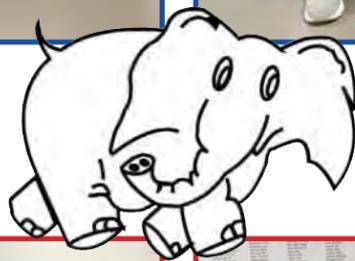
Thursday Afternoon



Friday Morning



Friday Afternoon



Saturday Morning



Saturday Afternoon

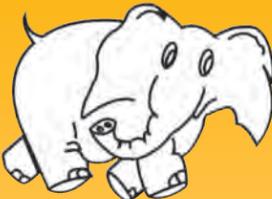


THANK YOU FROM

alzheimer's association®

The Alzheimer's Association would like to thank The County Fair White Elephant Contributions committee for their generous support of families and individuals impacted by Alzheimer's and other dementias in Green Valley, Sahuarita, and Nogales. Your funds enabled us to expand our reach to families in rural and underserved communities during a time when we were struggling to connect with families in many other parts of Arizona. This year, we were able to provide services to over 240 families across Green Valley, Sahuarita, and Nogales.

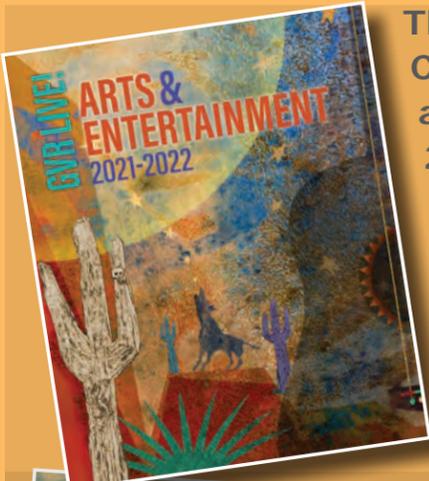
We provided one-on-one care consultation support to 84 families through 141 calls to our helpline. We served 20 families through 92 support groups meetings and provided English and Spanish education presentations for 90 individuals. We were able to host a virtual Spanish education event with four new community partners, serving over 50 people. You made it possible for us to train our local volunteers to provide a new education presentation on COVID and Caregiving. This presentation offered in English and Spanish provided critical information to caregivers dealing with unprecedented issues. Thanks to your support, our service and dedication to families facing dementia have not wavered.

White Elephant 2020 Contributions:

Private Schools:	\$15,500
Great Expectations Academy	\$2,500
Montessori de Santa Cruz	\$2,000
Los Niños de Valle Pre School	\$3,000
St. Andrews Pre School	\$1,500
Lourdes Catholic School	\$2,000
Wings on Words	\$2,500
Sacred Heart Catholic School	\$2,000
Youth Organizations:	\$39,000
Ballet Continental	\$10,000
Boys & Girls Club - Santa Cruz	\$9,500
Copper Hills Little League	\$3,500
Funhouse Movement Theatre	\$1,000
Sahuarita Music Boosters	\$2,500
Wright Flight	\$10,000
Girl Scout of So. Arizona	\$1,500
Rich River Athletic Club	\$1,000
National Disease:	\$9,500
American Cancer Association	\$500
Alzheimers Support Group	\$4,000
APDA Parkinsons Support Group	\$5,000
Fire Districts:	\$15,000
AFD Auxiliary	\$2,000
Helmet Peak Volunteer Fire Department	\$13,000

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The 2021 Fall Course Catalog and the 2021/2022 Arts and Entertainment Brochure have arrive in centers and online!

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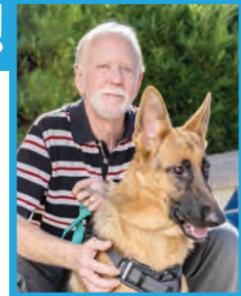


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The Contributions Committee

Written by Judy Barkley & Joann Fischer, Contributions Committee Co-Chairs

The Contributions Committee has again met the challenge of maneuvering in the midst of a pandemic.

During 2020 we were up against a revenue shortage from the store only being open for half of a year. But 2021 is going to be better and the committee is up for the task.

The Contributions Committee is made up of 7 members. The members are:

- Joann Fischer Co-Chair**
- Judy Barkley Co-Chair**
- Dee Weaver**
- Larry Pisacka**
- Ivars Vecbastiks**
- June St. John**
- DiAnn Bresina**

The grant process starts with an organization writing a letter of intent to the White Elephant. The requirements for this letter will be provided by the committee. If the organization meets our guidelines, they are informed they will receive a grant application. By June 15 of the current year grant applications were mailed out. The grant appli-

cations were due back to the White Elephant no later than noon September 15th.

After September 15th the review process began. Each member of the committee reviews each application and determines from the information what amount they think should be granted. After the individual review process the entire committee meets for the final review. Each application is again reviewed and with consensus of the committee final determination is made. The total amount of grants are then presented in November to the White Elephant Board of Directors. Upon approval of the total grant amount the checks are written and presented back to the contributions committee. The checks will then be presented at Distribution Day on December 9, 2021.

The Distribution Day Ceremony is open to the public and is from 8:30 AM to 11 AM at the Green Valley Recreation West Center. It is a very moving ceremony as grants are given to over 100 worthy recipients and we encourage you to attend.



The White Elephant Thrift Store received a nice donation of Christmas decorations including "Snow Babies". The volunteers put together a nice display and had a Christmas in July sale.



Pioneer Health Group SANTA RITA NURSING and REHABILITATION CAMPUS

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Nursing and
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Center

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We care deeply about the greater Green Valley residents as we live and serve in this community. Notify your hospital physician that upon discharge you choose to recover with Santa Rita, Green Valley's only post-hospitalization care campus.

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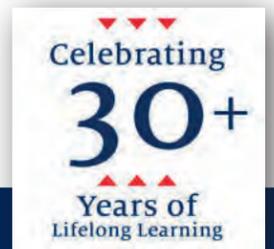
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White Elephant Volunteer Truckers 2021

Written by Karen Lavo, CFWE General Manager

Again this year, like everything else at the White Elephant, changes have been made and our truck crew is adjusting to the “new normal” with regard to going out into the community to pick up donations from our generous donors. Although our truckers will continue to start their day before the sun rises, some new procedures are now in place for once they head out on the road each day.

With the health and safety of our

volunteers and donors in mind, the White Elephant continues to abide by the new procedures for scheduling pickups, as well as new procedures for when our truck crews arrive at your residence to pick up. When you call to request a donation pickup, you will be asked if anyone in your household is or has been sick, and if they have, we will ask you to reschedule for a later date. We will also let you know that our truckers will no longer enter your home to pick up donations. All furniture and appliances must also be moved outside or into your garage for pickup. Our pickup and delivery areas will continue to be from Green Valley to Sahuarita to Tubac and Amado. We are not able to pick up from assisted living

facilities. Our trucker’s job consists mostly of doing heavy lifting and loading of furniture while picking up donated items that community residents so generously give, and delivering purchases that local residents have no other way of getting home. Delivery fees vary according to area and are available on limited days of the week.

White Elephant trucks go out six days a week and are kept in good working condition by Volunteer Truck Manager, Tony Viola and his assistant, Larry Pisacka. Tony keeps the trucks well maintained and is in charge of scheduling regular service and repairs to the trucks. Tony and Larry also keep the trucks clean and stocked with the equipment that helps truckers with the daily job of picking up a variety of donations and delivering furniture and large appliances to local customers.

The White Elephant is honored to say that we receive numerous calls, letters and emails from local donors paying compliments to the great job that our truckers do. If you think you might like to become part of the White Elephant Truck Crew, please contact our Office Coordinator and Truck Scheduler, Susie Sierra at 520-625-4119. Susie can assist you in becoming a White Elephant trucker.

If trucking isn’t your thing, here are some of the guidelines for becoming



Monday Truckers - left to right Jack Fish and Guy Jackson.



Saturday Truckers left to right, Alan Miner and Randy Aronson.

The Optimist Club Green Valley/Sahuarita gives back to the White Elephant volunteers on April 24th with their famous sausages cooked fresh on the grills.



Ken and Sue Woodward help out on the grills.



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White Elephant Facility Update 2021

Written by Richard Cramer, CFWE Facility Manager

Our much needed monsoons and the micro-burst that created havoc in the Green Valley area did not negatively impact our facilities. Aside from a few minor leaks and downed trees in our parking lot, our building suffered no real damage. Surprisingly, our alarm system didn't drive us crazy.

The building continues to run in excellent order without requiring any major repairs or modifications. Building expenses are limited to routine preventive maintenance and minor repairs.

The transition from fluorescent lighting to LED is still on-going as the fluorescent fixtures continue being replaced by attrition. Once the transition is complete, the wattage output will be reduced by approximately 15,000 watts while providing twice the lumens. The cost of replacing an existing fluorescent fixture is twice that of an LED fixture so, the combined savings are expected to be significant. Accurate expense comparisons would not be available until the transition is complete.



Richard Cramer, CFWE Facility Manager

The solar power project, consisting of 420 photo voltaic DC generating panels with an estimated yearly production of 209,064 – 225,500 kWh continues to pay off for the White Elephant. Tucson Electric Power (TEP) billing for the first quarter of 2021 was \$2,173.79 and the Performance Based Incentive (PBI), credit from TEP for excess power, for the same period was \$6,367.97 giving

us a positive balance of \$4,194.18. The PBI for the previous quarter was \$5,529.85. The solar project will be paid off in a year with an expected residual of \$105,000.

Our HVAC system is fully operational and is on a preventive maintenance schedule. We recently replaced a cracked condensation pan from one of our AC units in the

Patio sales area. I'm sure some of you had to navigate around plastic containers catching the dripping condensation.

On a separate note, it is with mixed emotions that I have decided to retire effective November 1, 2021. My time at the White Elephant has been enlightening and I have enjoyed meeting and interacting with many of our customers. My best wishes to all of you and hope for your continued patronage at the White Elephant.

Donation Drop-Off Days & Times

Tues, Wed, Thurs & Sat
8am-Noon

Customer Pick-Up Days & Times

Monday-Saturday
8am-2pm

Shopping Days & Times

Monday-Saturday
9am-Noon



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Green Valley Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center
520-625-7575

275 W. Continental Rd, Suite 123
Green Valley, AZ 85622

For information on our member businesses, go to:

GreenValleySahuarita.com

Download our Chamber App – have the business community at your fingertips!



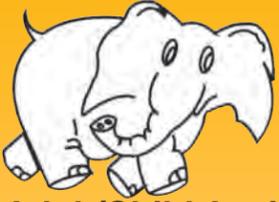
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White Elephant 2020 Contributions:

Adult/Child Assistance:	\$238,400
Amado Community Food Bank	\$16,000
United Way of Santa Cruz	\$1,000
Quail Creek Woodworkers	\$900
Big Brothers and Sisters of Tucson	\$500
Arivaca Human Resources	\$9,000
Borderlands Food Bank	\$17,500
Casa Community Service - Adult	\$8,000
Casa Community Service - Behavior	\$6,000
Casa Community Center	\$6,000
Crossroads Nogales Mission	\$10,000
Valley Assistive Services	\$12,000
GV Community Food Bank	\$21,000
GVR Community Foundation	\$1,500
Angel Heart Pajama Project	\$1,500
Arizona Rangers Madera Company	\$1,500
Arivaca Community Center - Facilities	\$3,000
Rebuilding Together	\$6,500
St. Andrews Clinic	\$10,000
Santa Cruz Sheriff Dare	\$3,000
Santa Cruz Search and Rescue	\$800
Santa Cruz Training Program	\$2,000
SAV	\$8,000
So AZ VA Health Care System	\$1,800
Sun Sounds of Arizona	\$3,000
Teen Challenge	\$1,500
The Salvation Army	\$22,700
Tu Nidita Childrens & Family Clinic	\$1,000
Tucson Childrens Museum	\$2,000
United Community Health Care	\$8,000
Youth on Their Own	\$2,500

Bag It	\$2,500
Nogales Community Food Bank	\$20,000
Pima Council on Aging	\$1,000
Arivaca Action Center	\$1,000
Sahuarita Police Department	\$1,500
Sahuarita Food Bank	\$18,500
Military Order of WWS	\$1,000
Arivaca Helping Hands	\$1,000
Rio Rico Historical Society	\$700
Nogales Police Dare Program	\$500
Primeria Alta Historical Society	\$1,000
GVC Foundation (GDDT)	\$1,500

Community Arts Support:	\$15,600
Green Valley Stage Band	\$600
Hilltop Art Gallery	\$3,000
Tubac Center for the Arts	\$3,000
Community Center Performing Arts	\$8,000
GEA Jazz Band	\$1,000

Area and Nature Study:	\$9,000
Friends of the Presidio	\$500
Santa Cruz Humane Society	\$6,000
Friends of Madera Canyon	\$1,200
Equine Voices	\$1,000
U of A County Master Gardeners	\$300

Total Outside Grants:	\$500,000
CFWE Scholarship Foundation Inc.:	\$90,000
Total Grants:	\$590,000



We've returned to "winter hours"
(October 1st through May 31st)
MON - SAT (7AM-3PM)



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THANK YOU FROM



POSADA LIFE SERVICES

The Staff and Volunteers at Posada Life Community Services want to thank the Country Fair White Elephant for their support! We want to be sure that the White Elephant volunteers know how much we appreciate their support and the impact their gifts have made to the older adults and children in the community.

Adult Day Services, is the only state-licensed adult day care in Green Valley. We continue to enroll people in the program who need daily support so their caregivers can get well-needed respite. Call: 520-625-2273 for info.

Los Niños del Valle prepares children (1-5) for lifelong learning through our quality early education curriculum provided by experienced preschool teachers. After a recent, robust summer program for older children (K – 3rd grade), new families are enrolling their preschoolers for the 2021-2022 school year. Call 520-393-6823.

The **Community Center** opened for group meetings and the calendar is

filling up. We continue distributing frozen meals as part of our Senior Lunch program. Meals are offered for curbside pick-up and delivery to those who are staying home.

On an exciting note, we redesigned our **Centenarian Celebration**, formerly hosted indoors. This year we took the honorarium program for 100-year-olds on the road and visited them instead. Call: 520-625-2273.

Behavioral Health Services offers counseling in a comfortable setting with experienced, licensed counselors. Call: 520-625-2273.

Volunteer opportunities help deliver quality services and make friends too. 520-648-7999.

Take a tour of Posada Life Community Services. Call: 520-625-2273. We are currently following Covid safety guidelines.

The entire team of Staff and Volunteers at Posada Life Community Services thanks the Country Fair White Elephant.



THANK YOU FROM



The Santa Cruz Humane Society owes so much gratitude to the Country Fair White Elephant Grant committee and to the tireless efforts of the many volunteers.

Over the many years that we have been the recipients of their generosity we have been able to replace kennels, add new kitten rooms, repair the roof, computer software and paint to create a pleasant surrounding for the animals. Most importantly the grants have kept the Santa Cruz Humane Society open to save, rehabilitate and find thousands of “forever homes” for the animals left in our care.

The Country Fair White Elephant has helped so many organizations from, educational, law enforcement, medical to hundreds of local nonprofit and community organizations. They are the “Lifeline” for so many of us.

On behalf of the Santa Cruz Humane Society staff, animals and board, we say, “Thank you” and “God Bless all of you” for your dedication to help so many in the community.

This is a picture of Nima, a dog that we had for more than 10 years. Everytime she was adopted she would escape and come back to the facility. She has finally found her forever home!! She will now spend her last days, weeks, or years in a loving and caring home!



A Good Bye and Good Luck...

2021 has proven to be a year of change in many ways...

White Elephant Facility Manager Richard Cramer will soon be leaving his position in order to retire and pursue some well-deserved rest and relaxation.

Richard has worked for the White Elephant in two positions over the years...first as our Office Coordinator from January of 2013 through June of 2016, and then again in his current position of Facility Manager since October of 2017 to present. Richard’s last day will be October 30th. Prior to working as an employee, Richard was a volunteer for several years and has been a true asset to the organization in all of the positions he has held.

With high praise from Board members, volunteers, fellow employees, and General Manager Karen Lavo, Richard will be greatly missed. Everyone wishes Richard all the best and safe travels wherever he may go.

And a Welcome to a New Face...

In 2020, our new Facility and Warehouse Assistant, Christopher Cota, came on board at the White Elephant just in time for getting the store ready to reopen after a 6 month long closure due to the pandemic. Chris was born and raised in the area and was enthusiastically ready to join the White Elephant as one of our five employees and give back to the community he grew up in.

Since then, Chris has been actively working with Facility Manager Richard Cramer to learn all aspects of the Facility Warehouse Assistant position. Volunteers, donors and customers alike have come to know Chris as someone who is always willing to help with whatever is needed.

When Richard Cramer submitted his resignation, Chris was immediately considered for promotion into the Facility Manager position and was hired and assumed this new role on September 1st,



Chris Cota – New Facility Manager & Richard Cramer - outgoing Facility Manager

2021. Congratulations to Chris and best of luck in his new position. We look forward to his great help and give back to the community. We look forward to his great help for many years to come!

The White Elephant is fortunate to have Chris join our work force

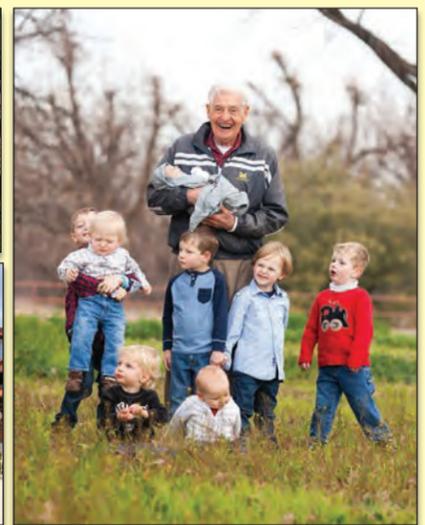
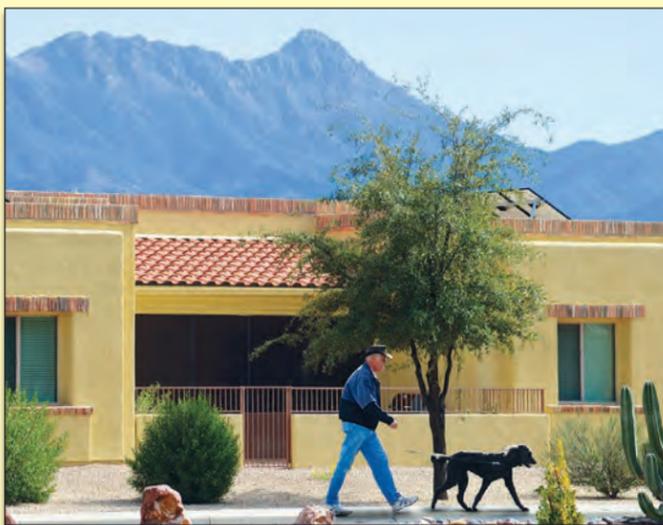


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Sunday 9:30 am: Blended Services
Sunday 11 am: Contemporary Services
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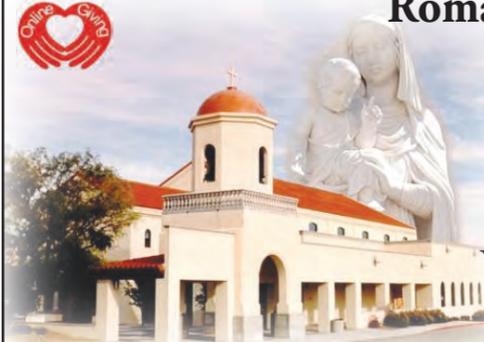


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Equine Voices Helps Wild Mustangs

Written by Diane Russell, Equine Voices Volunteer Publicity Coordinator

For 17 years, Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary, in Amado, AZ, has provided a home for horses and burros in need of food, shelter, veterinary care, and love. Equine Voices has rescued over a thousand equines who were abandoned, abused, used in drug smuggling, in the production of the drug Premarin and, most recently, Mustangs who have lost their homes in the wild. They have been given a second chance for a new home through adoption and, in many cases, a forever home at the Sanctuary.

Founded in 2004, the primary mission of Equine Voices was to save mares and their foals used in the production of Premarin, a post-menopausal hormone drug for women. Premarin stands for Pregnant Mare Urine which is used in the manufacture of the drug. The foals are the by-product of the industry and are generally sent to auction. If lucky, they will be adopted; if not, they are sent to slaughter, like the mares who can no longer produce foals.



Mustangs Arriving at Equine Voices

Equine Voices started with four 11-month old Premarin foals known as the “Foundation Herd”. One of them became the Sanctuary Mascot. His name is Gulliver and he was chosen for the honor of mascot because the auctioneer said he was “too big and too ugly” to be adopted.

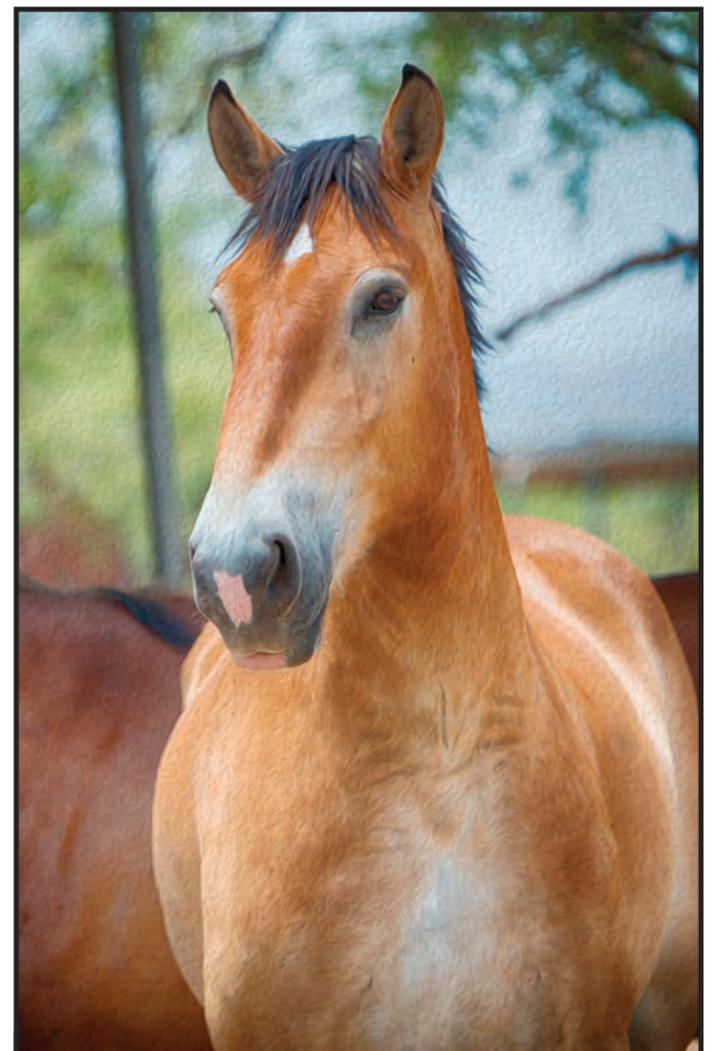
Of all the horses and burros that have come through the gate at Equine Voices, some have been adopted, some are sanctuary equines who will spend their remaining lives there, and others have crossed over the “Rainbow Bridge” leaving their hoofprints on the hearts of the volunteers and staff. Although these horses have passed on, their spirit remains alive as does their legacy of continuing our work.

This year’s annual Fall Fundraiser is dedicated to them. The theme is “Dia de los Muertos” or Day of the Dead, a day to remember and celebrate those we have loved and lost, both humans and animals. Proceeds

lost their freedom.

The event will be held on Saturday, October 30, 2021 from 4:00pm to 8:00pm at the Longhorn Grill and Saloon, 28851 S. Nogales Hwy, Amado, AZ 85645. There will be a three-course dinner, silent and live auctions, and live music for dancing. Attendees are welcome to bring a photo of a loved one, human or animal, to be placed on the altar during the event. Reservation information can be found on the Equine Voices website, <https://equinevoices.org/2021-events/> or by calling 520-398-2814.

from this event will be used to build a new 8-stall barn and larger corral for the Mustangs that arrived here in December 2019. They were part of a herd of over 300 Mustangs rounded up by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The BLM uses helicopters to stampede the wild horses and put them in holding pens. This process often results in death and injuries to the horses. Thousands of these horses have already



Gulliver, Mascot of Equine Voices

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UNDERSTANDING BREAST PAIN

Breast Cancer Awareness month is a good time to remind all women to be aware of their breast health. Women know their own bodies the best. When a woman has pain, feels a lump, has a discharge from the nipple(s) or the appearance of her breast(s) changes, we encourage her to schedule an appointment with a breast specialist for an examination.

Breast pain is one of the most common reasons for a woman to seek a consultation with her physician. Many are concerned that their pain may be a sign of a more serious condition. They are relieved to learn that only four percent of women with breast cancer will experience breast pain as a symptom.

With any kind of breast problem, a comprehensive evaluation should be done; one that includes a breast exam and consultation with a breast specialist.



For some women, caffeine use is also known to increase their level of breast pain. Patients often ask “how much is too much” when it comes to the amount of stress in their life or caffeine in their diet. Unfortunately, there isn’t one answer that is right for everyone.

Things You Can Do:

Is caffeine the culprit?

There are several products you may wish to avoid if you believe caffeine is causing your pain. These products contain methylxanthines, which is the chemical derivative of caffeine that stimulates the breast lobules and ducts and can eventually cause pain. The products you may want to omit from your diet include coffee, tea, soda, chocolate, cheese, bananas, nuts, red wine, “energy” drinks, over-the-counter diet pills and migraine medications.

Write it down

Women who have been diagnosed as having fibrocystic breast pain are encouraged to record their pain in a diary, chart, or pain log that can be shared with their physician.

It’s important to document the type, location, frequency, and duration of the pain, as well as things that can make the pain better or worse.

Controlling the pain with medications or supplements

There are some prescription medications that may help with breast pain, but with any medication, it’s important that a woman weighs the benefits, risks and other possible side effects.

Some over-the-counter supplements have helped many women who experience cyclic breast pain. Prior to taking any medications or supplements women should first check with their doctor.

Relieving breast pain

Most breast pain can be relieved by wearing a well-fitted, supportive bra, such as a sports bra. Many

women need to be measured at a department store to find the most suitable size and style. Some women only find support with an underwire bra, while others find that the underwire bras cause too much pressure against their rib cage. And some women can even find relief from wearing a bra to sleep!

Regardless of bra size, it’s important to wear the best support bra possible when active or exercising. Preventing “bounce” will help reduce inflammation in the cartilage of the ribcage.

Using medication to control breast pain

Anti-inflammatory medications can help with more severe pain, but most patients will need to take the medication around the clock for about 2 weeks. Many of these medications can upset your stomach or even cause ulcers and bleeding so it’s best to take them with food. It’s important that you take anti-inflammatory medication for only a short period of time and always under the direction of your physician.

Finding what works for you

Patients should consider the amount of disruption in their lives from the

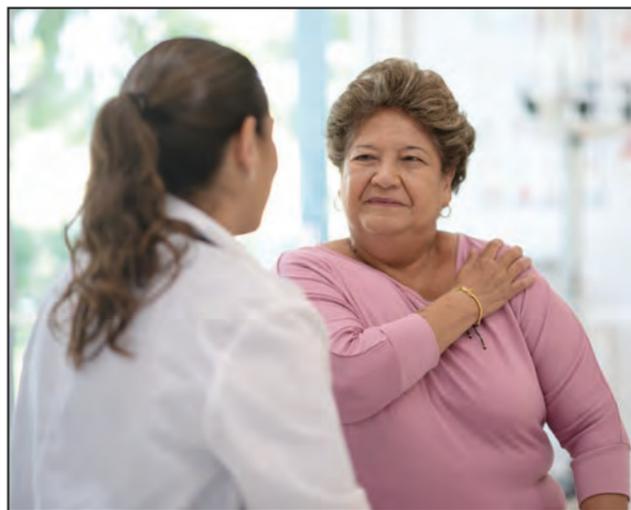
pain and what they want to do to relieve it. There is no quick fix for this discomfort, and it may last several months or years.

Early detection of breast cancer

In the United States, breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women.

Women are encouraged to schedule regular clinical breast exams and mammograms. They should also discuss their personal and family history with their doctor to best determine when breast screening should begin and to determine the type of screening.

For women of average risk, the National Comprehensive Cancer Network recommends a mammogram annually beginning at the age of 40, but if a woman has had a family history of cancer, her screening may start at an earlier age. Mammograms remain one of the best screening tests for breast cancer because it can often detect changes in the breast before they can be felt.



Fibrocystic Breast Pain

The majority of true breast pain can be described as tenderness, soreness, achiness or even sensations of breast swelling and fullness. It is often associated with hormones, stress or caffeine.

Hormonal changes that occur during puberty, menopause, or a woman’s monthly menstrual cycle can occur at a wide range of ages and are rarely preventable. Some women may also experience breast pain due to oral contraceptives or hormone replacement therapy that they take. Every woman differs in the tolerance of these hormone fluctuations and the amount of pain they have, and their tolerance levels can change throughout their life.

Emotional stress can create hormonal imbalances which can cause women to experience breast pain.

Educating the Community



Tiffany Chichester, MD is a breast surgeon with Arizona Blood and Cancer Specialists. This article is intended to be informational only and is not a substitute for speaking with and obtaining care from a physician.

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gardening *tips*

By Charlene Westgate, Permaculture Landscape Designer

CREATE YOUR OWN HUMMINGBIRD HAVEN

Who doesn't like hummingbirds?

These remarkable creatures are known for their aerial acrobatics, territorial behavior and voracious appetites. Their migrations take them long distances—especially considering their body size—which demand large quantities of nectar and insects to fuel their journeys. Hummingbirds can catch insects in the air, making them important to pest management in your garden. Plus, they need to feed on 1,000 to 2,000 nectar-rich flowers every day. In the process, they carry pollen from flower to flower making them key pollinators.

You can attract these beautiful birds to your yard by following these simple steps.

Plant Native

Following a five-year study of hummingbird feeding behavior, the Audubon Society noted that “hummingbirds are at home when we plant native plants.” Native plants offer the richest nectar sources and the greatest ability to attract the insects that hummingbirds need. The best part for homeowners is that native plants, which are well adapted to our soil and climate, require the least amount of care. Taking care of established plants is also easier than filling and cleaning hummingbird feeders, making this a perfect place to start your hummingbird paradise. A beautiful garden that attracts these vibrant creatures is a win-win for people and for birds.

Whether you want flowering trees, shrubs, perennials or vines, there are native plants for the occasion. Plants with bright red and orange tubular flowers will bring the birds to your yard and additional plants rich in nectar help keep them there. Plant similar plants together for easier access for the hummers, and stagger blooms times for a nearly year-round food supply. You'll discover the added bonus that



Broad-billed hummingbird on Pink Fairy Duster (*Calliandra eriophylla*).

many of these plants attract butterflies, quail, lizards, verdin, orioles and native bees as well. Some of the best plants for hummingbirds include:

- *Agastache rupestris* (Licorice Mint)
- *Anisacanthus* species (Desert Honeysuckle and Flame Acanthus)
- *Calliandra* species (Pink Fairy Duster and Baja Fairy Duster)
- *Chilopsis linearis* (Desert Willow)
- *Epilobium canum* (Hummingbird Trumpet)
- *Fourquieria splendens* (Ocotillo)
- *Hesperaloe parviflora* (Red Hesperaloe/Red Yucca)
- *Justicia* species (Chuparosa, Justicia Candicans and Mexican Honeysuckle)
- *Lonicera sempervirens* (Coral Honeysuckle)
- *Monarda fistulosa* (Wild Bergamot/Bee Balm)
- *Maurandya antirrhiniflora* (Snapdragon Vine)
- *Penstemon* species (Firecracker-



Broad-billed hummingbird snags some spider web for its nest. Photo by Paula Redinger.

er, Parry's and Rock are just a few). Planting these three varieties staggers bloom times from February through September.

- *Salvia* species (Autumn Sage, Cleveland Sage, Mexican Bush Sage to name a few)
- *Tecoma stans* (Yellow Bells)

Plant for Shelter and Nesting

Hummingbirds like to nest near their nectar supply. Planting shrubs and small trees with small, horizontal branches offer safe shelter and nesting. They build their nests out of lichens and other soft materials held together by spider webs. You may not want cobwebs on your patio furniture, but leaving some spider webs around your yard will help hummingbirds construct their nests. Some plants with horizontal-growing branches include Anacacho Orchid (*Bauhinia lunarioides*) and Arizona Rosewood (*Vauquelinia californica*), as well as the small branches on other native trees. Some of the native plants that produce soft, fluffy fibers for their nests are the Ironwood tree (*Olneya tesota*) and Little Leaf Mulberry (*Morus microphylla*).

Water

Hummingbirds love to bathe, so providing water will keep them delighted and will keep you entertained watching them. Consider a constant source of water from either a drip fountain, a bub-

bling rock fountain, a birdbath-style fountain, or a mister. Solar misting devices are inexpensive and can be added to a simple birdbath or saucer to make them especially attractive to hummingbirds.

Hummingbird Feeders

Hummingbird feeders can be especially important to hummingbirds during spring and fall migrations. Combine 4-parts boiling water and 1-part white sugar, allowing the solution to cool before filling your feeders. Do not add red dye. Because of their territorial nature, hanging several feeders keeps one hummer from dominating the others. Hang the feeders in a shady spot to keep the nectar solution from fermenting and turning cloudy. Clean feeders weekly with a solution of 1-part vinegar or chlorine bleach and 4-parts water.



Allen's Hummingbird splashes in a bubbling boulder fountain. Photo: Tracie Hall, Flickrcommons.com.

Conclusion

Hummingbirds are a beautiful, fun source of enjoyment for your backyard. Simply plant native, hummingbird-attracting plants, and provide perches and water to draw these creatures to your yard. Once they've discovered the habitat you've created for them, they'll return again every year! Then, consider registering your yard with the Tucson Audubon Society as a “Habitat at Home”. And while you're at it, get your neighbors to add some hummingbird plants to their yard too and create an entire hummingbird corridor.

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pettalk



When is it an emergency?!?!?

Knowing how urgently you need to call the vet can be a difficult thing to know. The easy answer is if you're concerned then I'm concerned. There are even some situations in which you may think you do not need to be concerned when in fact a more timely visit to the veterinarian will not only ease your pet's pain and discomfort, but will also minimize risk of worsening disease and save you money in the long run. It is NEVER wrong to call for an appointment, even if you fear you are over reacting. We are a team. If you've recognized something abnormal it is always safer to have your pet evaluated. There are many aspects to a physical exam that we, your veterinarians, may recognize as additional clues as to what may be ailing your pet. We will be able to explain the risks of treatment vs risks of no treatment. Remember, we are interested in helping your pet feel and be as healthy as possible.

What are some examples of emergencies?

First and foremost, especially this time of year, any altercation with wildlife is definitely an emergency. Whether it be an encounter with a snake, a javalina, a coyote, Colorado river toad or a bat, it is incredibly important that you seek medical attention for your pet as soon as possible. We have a large population of bats in southern Arizona. Healthy bats generally stay away from pets but sick bats, especially those bats with rabies virus tend to end up indoors or on porches during unusual times. If your pet is EVER in contact with a bat, DO NOT touch the bat, move your pets into a safe area and call us immediately.

With respect to javalina and snakes encounters you may not even see bleeding initially. Often times puncture wounds from snakes and javalina are very small and only once we have shaved the hair from the region of interest can we see the wound. Although the outer evidence of the wound is small the deeper or more internal injuries can be great. With respect to snake bites, the venom of the rattle snake will do a lot of damage both to the skin surrounding the bite but also more internally to the red blood cells, the muscle cells and the kidneys. Early and aggressive treatment will greatly improve not only your pet's chance of survival but will also help your pet to hurt less. There is no safe first aid if you pet has been bit by a snake. You should NOT place a tourniquet and you should NOT cut the skin. Both of these will do more harm than good and will hurt your pet. With respect to javalina attacks, most will produce puncture wounds that actually lift the skin away from the body when the javalina. This produces not only injury to deeper tissues that are still covered by skin, but will also create potential pockets in which bacteria, dirt and hair can hide and fester. Left untreated this will create a severe infection which will likely require extensive surgery and may even require hospitalization.

What about if my pet ingests a toxin?

There are MANY human medications that are toxic to dogs and cats. There are also poisons that are commercially available that are also toxic to pets. If you are not certain if what your pet ingested is a toxin, the best course of action is to call us immediately. We will recommend that you come in immediately so that we can assess your pet and start treatment immediately. This is one area of emergency medicine where the difference of 2-3 hours really does make a difference. If we are able to evaluate your pet and get the poison out of your pet, then your pet is MUCH less likely to need hospitalization and supportive care. If you wait until the poison is absorbed or until your pet starts showing symptoms it will require much more intensive care to help your pet survive.

One prime example of a poison that will have delayed effects is rat bait. Most rat baits, but not all, are anti-coagulant poisons. This means that the way the poison kills the rats

or mice is that once the mouse eats the bait they will bleed to death. The same thing will happen to your pet if they eat the rat bait and are not treated. This however is a delayed response, with symptoms not coming on for several days. If you know your pet has gotten a hold of rat bait, it is best to seek veterinary care immediately to decontaminate your pet before they ever get sick.

Why should I vaccinate my indoor only cat for rabies?

Rabies is transmitted through saliva, usually through bites from rabid animals. In Arizona, rabies can be found in several species of wildlife, including skunks, bats, and foxes. Rabies is a nearly universally fatal disease once contracted. Although you may never have any intentions for your cat to be situations where it can be exposed to rabies, many cases of exposure result from bats finding their way into homes (through open windows or doors, torn window screens, or cracks, all of which have happened in real life!). Also, there is no 100% foolproof way to prevent indoor cats from accidentally ending up outside and encountering rabid wildlife. If an unvaccinated pet is exposed to a rabid animal, a strict quarantine is usually required. In some cases, depending on the county in which you live, human exposure due to a bite from an unvaccinated pet may result in euthanasia. The consequences of rabies exposure and infection are just not worth the risk.

Does rattlesnake aversion training really work?

There are 13 species of rattlesnakes in Arizona. Two of the most common species in southern Arizona are the Western Diamondback and the Mohave, which is generally considered the most toxic rattlesnake in the United States. Rattlesnake bites are not only extremely painful, but can be life threatening as well. Rattlesnake venom can cause severe bleeding and clotting disorders, as well as tissue necrosis (gangrene). Unfortunately, many dogs do not associate rattlesnakes with danger. They may approach snakes out of curiosity, or sometimes in an attempt to attack it as prey. The goal of aversion training is for your dog to learn to avoid approaching rattlesnakes altogether. Like other forms of training, some dogs will do better than others depending on breed and personality, and refresher courses may be necessary. It goes without saying that it is much better not to be bitten in the first place rather than rushing for emergency treatment after the fact!

My pet doesn't get fleas or ticks. Why should I use flea and tick prevention?

While it is true that flea infestations in Arizona generally are not as common as in other parts of the country due to the low humidity most of the year, outbreaks do occur. Fleas enjoy our temperate winter temperatures just as we do, and they can especially be a problem during monsoon season when it is humid and summer temperatures are cooler. Fleas are vectors, which mean they carry infectious diseases that can be passed to your pet through flea bites. These include diseases like tapeworms and a bacterial infection called Bartonella (also known as cat scratch fever, which people can contract). Arizona has endemic tick populations, which also are vectors of tick-borne diseases such as Ehrlichia (commonly referred to as tick fever) and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. These diseases can cause serious illness and long-term health problems in your pet. Humans can also become ill from these diseases from flea and tick bites as well. By the time you find fleas or ticks on your pet, they have probably already bitten your pet, and possibly also you or your family. Furthermore, getting rid of fleas and ticks from your home and your pet is labor-intensive and time-consuming, taking up to 12 weeks of treatment and environmental pest control to fully eradicate them. Year-round flea and tick prevention is the best bet to minimize the chances of this occurring.

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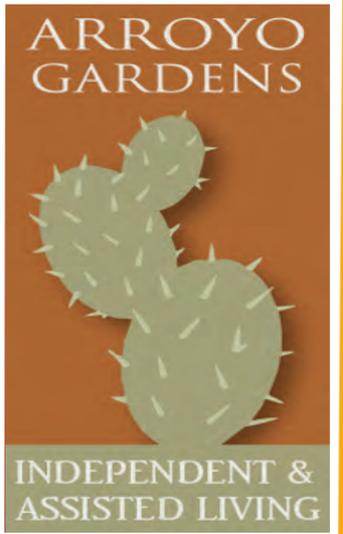
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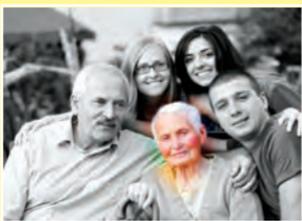


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