WRITTEN AND EDITED BY AND FOR LEISURE VILLAGE EXCLUSIVELY

Vol. 19 No. 1

Pleasant Valley, Camarillo, California

March 28, 1997

New State University President To Speak At L.V. On April 18

By Lee Truman

Dr. J. Handel Evans, newly appointed president of the coming Channel Islands State University, will speak in the Village on Friday, April 18 at 7:30 in the AR. The event will be co-sponsored by the Current Issues Forum and the RV Club.

Dr. Evans was educated at Cambridge University, but has spent most of his professional life in the California State University system. He is very knowledgeable about Ventura County



Dr. J. Handel Evans

and addresses himself to the factors bringing a major university to life. He will bring to villagers what he sees as the future of this area and its effect it may have on all residents sociologically, financially and educationally.

After his address, there will be time for questions

and answers. Invite a neighbor or Village friend and attend to get first hand information. This is a convenient opportunity to get a peek into the future of local higher education.

Candidates' Filing
Deadline April 4
By Bob Atz

Time is running out for LV homeowners who aspire to serve on the Board of Directors for the years 1997-1998. Candidates' applications must be in the hands of the Nominating Committee by April 4, according to Nick Fiore, newly-appointed chairman of the committee. Interviews of prospective candidates will be held on April of the committee.

Three vacancies on the Board of Directors will occur when the terms of Hunter Cohen, Donna Duke and Nick Fiore expire on June 30. Committee members are Bob Atz, Ed Hawthorne, Bill Himstreet, Luella Kelwin, Ann Levey and Jim Nichols.

Homeowners interested in serving on the LVA Board of Directors should contact any committee member for information. Applications for candidates are available in the Recreation Office.

Keyboard Club

Tickets go on sale Wednesday, April 2 for a concert sponsored by the Keyboard Club. Camarillo High School's award winning "Swing Kids" vocal group and the 18 piece Jazz Band will perform in the AR at 7:30 p.m. on April 25. Ticket donation is \$3.50; available in the lobby M-W-F.



Lida Geddes

Floral Arts Show To Feature Asian Theme By Georgia Schneider

The LV Garden Club's big event of the season will be the Floral Arts Show on Thursday, April 24 in the AR between 2-5 p.m. Lida Geddes, chairman, announces that an Asian theme will set the atmosphere for the afternoon.

Garden Club Members will display dozens of flower arrangements for the show, some using the Asian theme, and others different types of flower arranging. Betsy O'Connor heads the decoration committee, and Claire Sortomme is planning the special refreshments.

Tickets are available from Hazel Sheridan, 987-2869, and her committee as well as from other Garden Club members for \$3. Wine, punch and light refreshments will be served.

The event is open to all villagers and friends, so get tickets now.

TV Option Explained
At Town Hall Meeting
By Bob Atz

On Monday, March 3 over 200 LV residents (plus home viewers on Channel 12) listened to a presentation of the options facing the Village for the television system.

The discussion was led by Jim Gembala, LVA General Manager, assisted by Elmer Eymann, V.16, chairman of the Television and Data Systems (TADS) committee and Dick Travis, V.44, v.p.

The hub of the issue was whether the Village should update the existing cable system with additional channels or install a completely new system as proposed by GTE Americast, a division of General Telephone and Electronics Corporation.

Although the decision as to which course of action to be taken will ultimately be made by the LVA Board of Directors, the purpose of

See TV.....page 7

Ahoy! Players Guild Goes Cruising With "Aspirin & Elephants" By Irv Goodnick

Come aboard for an hilarious trip on board the Royal Norway as three families get a cruise-full of surprises. This laugh-aminute play won the 1989 Drama-Logue award for best comedy. Although there is some adult oriented subject matter, this romantic comedy will keep you laughing from scene to scene.

Presented as a major production by Players Guild this year, show dates are April 9, 10, 11, 12 at 7:30 p.m. and April 13 matinee at 2:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room. Tickets are on sale Monday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon and Wednesdays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Lobby. All seats are reserved and are \$4.50 each.

Pardee Proposes New Housing Near L.V. By Herman Waltzer

The Pardee Company, a division of the Weyer-haeuser Corp., is planning to apply to the Camarillo City Council for change in zoning of two parcels of land from existing commercial to residential classification.

These parcels are approximately 4 acres each in area and are located at the intersection of Santa Rosa Road and Oak Canyon Road, next to the R N Market, and at the northwest corner of Santa Rosa Road and Woodcreek Road,

See PARDEE.....page 6



Inside LEISURE VILLAGE

OPINION

When Life Was Peaceful In Leisure Village

You can be classed as an old-timer if you can remember when being a Leisure Village Board member meant spending about 15 hours a week on Village business. Directors' roles originally were mainly policy making; the task of implementing policies belonged to the General Manager and his staff. This worked well for the Village for about 15 years.

About five years ago this arrangement shifted dramatically. Board members branched out into managing and supervising. Their time spent escalated from 15 hours a week to 30 hours a week and more. Two days a week of involvement rose to four and even to seven days a week.

Board members were not Just available to residents for phone consultations — they spent large blocks of their time actually in the administration office. These Board members believed that they were charged with directing all facets of Village life.

Under this new management practice, staff morale dropped and employee turnover increased significantly. Some employees even took stress-induced leaves. Being watched and controlled every minute caused great dissatisfaction among the employees. The key post of General Manager became vacant and had to be refilled

What about the general attitude of Village residents? Has it changed during this same five-year period? The friendly leisurely pace of retirement has been replaced by splinter groups fighting for control of the Village. Residents distributing anonymous letters filled with innuendoes represents a sad and unprecedented situation. Whatever happened to the tranquillity once here?

Even worse, this turmoil has been widely reported in outside newspapers and probably has had some impact on the negotiations with the landscaping union. Is this what the seniors who bought retirement homes here

What has been lost and why? Can the Village find a way to return to the peaceful atmosphere which existed before?

Please note what shifted first. How has the five-year old surge of micromanagement and control improved Leisure Village? Should Board members seek to control all facets of Village life? Many see this over involvement by Board members as a key element in the deterioation of the quality of Village life.

Many people have spoken out against micromanagement; some of last year's candidates stated they wanted to stop the micromanagement they saw

The recent hiring of a new General Manager can enable the Board members to return to their former

ABOUT NEXT MONTH

Coordinator for the next month will be Betty Murray. Please follow guidelines and be as brief as you can. Deadline for the April 25 issue will be Monday, April 7, 1997 at 5:00 p.m. To arrange for a photographer, call coordinator at least 3 days in advance. Do not call photographer.

policy-making roles.

In June Leisure Village voters should cast their ballots for Board candidates who believe specifically in policy making, and then allow the staff to perform their tasks without constant Board supervision and interference.

Be sure to question the candidates for the new Board closely and vote accordingly. There is a chance for a change and improvement in June.

25¢ Raise Only A Rumor

Some residents talk to LV gardeners who say they would settle for a new contract with a 25¢ an hour raise. This number was much discussed by residents at the open Board meeting on March 3. Residents letters to Inside Leisure Village printed in this issue favor the 25¢

However, the 25¢ raise is only a rumor at this point. The workers must push their Union to officially offer to the Board the proposal for a 25¢ raise. This has not been done. The Union request now on the table remains 75¢ an hour for three years.

Residents talking to the pickets tend to over-simplify the issue. Pay is not the only issue which remains to be settled.

Also, another hitch has developed. Workers health insurance coverage is now through their Union, which has notified the Board that as of April 1, 1997, the premium will jump about \$78 a month per family. Who will pay this increase?

Note: See A Pique at Labor Negoations on page 14.

CURRENT ISSUES FORUM

An announcement was made by Pauline Davis at the meeting on Friday, March 7 that the Current Issues Forum was started by her husband, Rube Davis, 10 years ago. Nothing could be further from the truth. Rube Davis dissolved the Forum when it was going downhill under his leadership and donated all the membership's funds to Channel 12.

The truth is that Harry Becker organized the Current Issues Forum and I was present when we chose the name "Current Issues Forum" in 1978. I was on the Board for many vears and served as Program Chairman and later as President. Karl Cannon and Karl Cannon. was very active in the Forum for many years and

served as Program Chair-

We had a number of Presidents over the years including Max Steinfeld, Lillian Goldman, Sol Robin and myself. We had annual paid membership of over 200 residents. Among the notable speakers were Ramona Ripston, Senator Ed Davis and Tom Hayden. We held meetings each and every month, and prior to every election we held informative meetings. Please give credit where credit is due.

A few years ago a group of people decided to resurrect the Forum. I applaud them, but it has never been the same as the Forum started by Harry Becker

Lori Kaye, V.20

INSIDE LEISURE VILLAGE

Editorial Staff

Lois Atz - Betty Murray - Barbara Simons Coordinator for this month: Lois Atz

Photographer Max Klapperman

Manager "Services-N-Stuff" Ads, Connie Kremnitzer Staff: Jack Whalen, Doris Achterkirchen, Gerry Levenfeld, Herman Waltzer, Selma Lich, Ben Perry, Joyce Turner, Carol Goodkin and Paula Lite.

Letters

ILV has obligated itself to publish letters to the editors that are not profane or libelous. Views or statements expressed are the beliefs of the writer and are not necessarily supported by the staff of ILV Letters must include signature, address, and telephone number. Please limit letters to 250 words. We reserve the right to edit and/or condense. Place in ILV box or give to Coordinator of the month, as listed on page 2.

TV Options

I am very concerned with the way in which the matter adding cable channels has been brought to the attention of the residents. It had been presented out of order, and therefore is misleading.

First came the choice sheet. It seemed straightforward enough: stay the course and add many more choices for a nominal additional monthly fee. Then came the Town Meeting with the necessary details for making an informed choice. Not quite so simple. Most people to whom I have spoken did not attend or watch the Town Meeting because it seemed to be such an easy decision: you wanted it, or you didn't want it. It was worth \$4.50 a month additionally, or it wasn't worth it.

These same people were surprised to hear from me that we would be tied to a 10-year contract which provides for periodic raises. The 2% per year raise can be projected and known. The price per channel increases, which will be passed on to us by the cable company, is unknown. Over a 10 year period this could rise dramatically, as does everything else. The premium channels, such as HBO, are not included in this contract, and are only available at additional cost. These channels are already available to us at additional cost, on an individual basis.

See LETTERS.....page 3

A 10 year contract commitment requires full disclosure of every aspect of the contract before we are asked to indicate a choice. The original choice sheet was not informative as to what the contract will do, and equally importantly, what it will not do for us. It is imperative that each homeowner be given a detailed explanatory copy of the terms of the ten year contract. Only then can we make our wishes known to the Board of Directors.

Bernice C. Nossoff, V.39

Resident's Opinion

It was indeed refreshing to read, in the February issue of ILV, that ILV was "for residents to express their personal opinions".

In past years this was always true. However, in the past few months the original concept of ILV has all but vanished. ILV has presented editorials, guest editorials, letters and articles that have had very little basis in fact.

Let us consider an article, written by one of the co-editors, concerning Leisure World. First-to compare Leisure World and Leisure Village brings to mind the proverbial comparison of apples and oranges. Leisure World is totally controlled by a Business Management Corporation. Leisure World offers rental apartments, residential leases and contracts. The population is many times larger than ours. The breakdown of costs is not applicable because they apply only to those residents who choose to use the facilities. Re their immaculate bathrooms-it would appear to this resident that if the ILV writer was so concerned about " the smell of stale urine in our bathrooms" why didn't she report this to our Recreation Facilities Manager? And, if their six club-houses looked better than our "one clubhouse" perhaps it is

because we do not have a "clubhouse". We have a Recreation Center. About the permanent space for the ping pong tables—they have been permanently placed in the Pavilion area for several years. We were told that non-owners and guests had to pay \$5 per diem for the use of The Leisure World Exercise Room. Does this mean that our L.V. renters would have to pay to use the proposed L.V. Exercise Room? This would be in direct violation of our Rules and Regulations that specify renters are allowed all the privileges of The Recreation read the above and say, Facility.

In regard to the \$90,000 buildings. There is only one new building. It was built to provide storage space for committees, clubs, and groups. Also, to provide space for The Players Guild to prepare and store the outstanding scenery used in the wonderful plays they present for all the villagers. Donations from the villagINSIDE LEISURE VILLAGE - The Camarillo Star, March 28, 1997-page 3

ers are stored in this room you feel you must delete or until they are sold at The Trading Post Bazaar. Has the ILV writer ever inspected this so-called "waste-space"?

The writer is sorry that there is no Santa Claus. achieve our goals. Our auestion is simply this-whose goals are we supposed to pay for? The people who continue to say that all villagers must pay (without their consent) for changes that only a few, if any, would ever want or use?

There are those who will 'THEY are always against change." Not true! No one is against positive changes that are in the best interests of all the villagers. However, when changes appear to reflect purely personal interests it becomes necessary for us to learn the truth.

Genevieve M.Leventhal, Ph. D., V.25 P.S. If, for any reason,

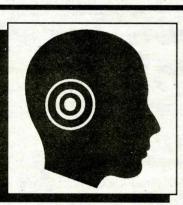
edit any portion of the attached I would prefer that you simply shred the entire article.

WHOSE SECURITY?

Security! Security! Secu-That we will have to pay to rity! Villagers are always concerned about security but don't do much to bolster it. What level of security do we have when our security officers are prohibited from carrying any sort of protective weapon? They are asked to protect us by putting themselves in harm's way, and, at the same time they are asked to do the job with no protection other than their own physical strength and agility.

We've been lucky, so far. If there were an argument between two residents, it might be easy to control, but not necessarily. On one occasion, one Villager actually did attack one of our security officers with a knife. The attacker was

See LETTERS.....Pg 4



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LETTERS.....From Pg 3 subdued only because of the agility of the officer. If the officer had been less agile or less lucky, the outcome could have been tragic.

The subject of equipping our force with pepper spray was brought up at the February General Board meeting. The Board decided that pepper spray was not to be used because somewhere, some person had died as a result of being subdued by pepper spray. That is one out of over 250 million

persons!

With violence increasing, what are the odds of a villager, or an officer being hurt by an outsider with a dangerous weapon, while the security officer has no weapon, dangerous or otherwise? What kind of security do we really have if our officers are not equipped to do their jobs effectively?

What kind of liability do we have if an officer is seriously hurt and lack of protective or control equipment was a contributing factor to the seriousness of the injury? The Board's policy, it seems to me, results in protecting the intruder rather than the officer or the residents.

I've learned that our insurance carrier would cancel our insurance if our security men carry weapons. If that is the case, it is time to find another insurance

carrier who is as interested in our security as they are in their own profitability.

Chief Moses states that all of his officers are trained and licensed to carry weapons. At times, the officers may take other security jobs, on a temporary basis, where they do carry visible weapons, but have never had the need to use them because the high visibility is, in and of itself, a deter-

It is better to have and not need than to need and not have.

Ben Perry, V. 17

How can we possibly thank all our very good friends and neighbors for their outpouring of love during Charly's illness? The concern, the donations, cards, calls, and gifts were overwhelming. Nowhere but in our wonderful community of Leisure Village would anyone be surrounded by all of this through a trying time! Thank you, each and everyone! We're glad to report that Charly came through his open heart surgery with flying colors, thank God. You can't keep a good man down!

Ruth & Charles Fridberg, V.34

I wish to thank the members of the Players Guild, Happy Hoofers, RV Club and all our friends and

neighbors for their cards months. I am now on my Friends like that are a and calls during Bill's illness and eventual passing.

Nowhere do you find such love and support as I have received here in the Village. I am forever grateful. I love you all

Joan Johnson, V.25

To my many friends and neighbors in and out of Leisure Village, may I say thank you for your caring calls and best wishes after my surgery and hospital stay. Once again, Mary Erbsen and I say thank you for caring, but it is the only way in the Village.

Joe Ettenberg, V.41

I wish to extend my sincere thanks to our friends and relatives for their kind expressions of condolence on the death of my beloved husband, Macy Friedman. Also, I wish to thank all my friends for their good wishes to me while I was so ill at the time of my husband's death, having been in the hospital for two

way to recovery. Thank you

Millie Friedman, V.19

Thank you for all the calls, cards and prayers for little grandson our Samuel. We are fortunate to live in Leisure Village, where people care.

Rita and Gil Cooperman,

I am looking for "old country" connections. We recently moved into the Village and met some nice people but I feel like a woman without a country. Any Finns or Scandinavians willing to contact me?

My husband is a California boy, fisherman and boater. My phone is 383-2094.

Marja Graab, V.31

I want to thank Don and Meriam Laird and Joe Scheck for giving me transportation to Kaiser in Woodland Hills, during my last illness problems.

blessing. Also I want to thank all you people who asked Rosemary how I was getting along and you kind people who came up to me and said it is good to see you out and looking so good.

Friends and people like that could only happen in Leisure Village. I also want to thank Warren Stanfield for taking care of my Farmer's patch when I was unable to care for it myself.

Last, but surely not least, was my wife Rosemary who catered to my every need and encouraged me when my attitude was low. She was like the Rock of Gibralter, solid and firm.

Rosemary and I agree that the best thing we did was to move into Leisure Village among such wonderful caring people.

Ben H. Hanson, V.9 See LETTERS.....Pg 5

Reminder:

New homeowners fees go into effect April 1.

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Current Issues Forum By Jack Whalen

A surprisingly large number of Villagers turned out for a Current Issues Forum March 7 that featured four of Camarillo's top officials. All were well prepared for the event and gave insight into their roles in the year ahead for our city.

During the question - answer session, questions were raised concerning the proposed 78 and 80 low rent two-bedroom apartments that would be very close to the Village. We were assured that zoning laws would have to be changed and that this project is far from being approved. Villagers applauded when Mayor Daily said he was strongly against a commercial airport at Pt. Mugu.

The next Current Issues Forum will be Thursday, May 22 and will feature candidates competing for the one open seat on the Camarillo City Council.

TV Survey Results

Villagers who voted on the GTE TV expansion proposal approved the plan by a 62% majority. The survey attracted 48% of the villagers to vote. The Board will make its decision within a few months.

EDITORS NOTE: The outpouring of Letters for this issue was unprecedented: three times the normal volume. Because of this, several March features had to left over to next month's issue.

The hot issue was the gardeners. These Letters are on pages 15 and 16 of this issue following "A Pique at Labor Negotiations" on page 14.

The ILV Letters dis-

The ILV Letters disclaimer has stated for months that Letters are to be limited to 250 words. Does any one read the rules?



Walter L. Whitaker 1912-1997

By Jack Whalen

Walt Whitaker was affectionately known as "Mr. Leisure Villager" and rightly so. As a Pioneer, his engaging smile and warm welcome convinced many seniors that this was The Place.

Ever alert, always willing to help the less fortunate, he gave freely of himself as Foodshare volunteer and as a helper at the Extended Care Unit of Pleasant Valley Hospital.

INSIDE LEISURE VILLAGE - The Camarillo Star, March 28, 1997-page 5
He was a permanent fix-

He was a permanent fixture during outdoor picnics. Behind the flames and the smoke of the barbecue stood Walt, spatula in hand, serving hamburgers exactly to your liking. Then, as we finished another delicious meal, his voice would ring out, loud and clear, "Who's ready for seconds?"

His image and the goodness of Walt Whitaker will linger over Leisure Village for a long, long time.

Letter

I have been blessed with the expressions of love and support since the sudden death of my husband, Walt. My family and I thank you. The cards, calls, flowers and caring words continue to give me strength during this difficult time.

Nancy Whitaker, V.6

Memoriam

Walter L. Whitaker, V.6

Philip R. Olsin, V.24

Ralph B. Farnum, V.17

Elmer Bouey, V.42

Lucille E. Markley, V.14

Paul W. Moyer, V.6

Redick Wylie, V.30

Agnes Van Peeren, V.38

Herman Schacht, V.4

Norma M. Markowitz, V.18

Pearl Oloff, V.40

June Niles, V.44

Melton Leavitt, V.7

Berge Simonian, V.40

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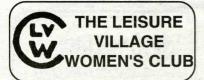
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By Felice Perkins

Thursday, March 6 the Women's Club was entertained with a new program by the Show Stoppers from the Somis Elementary School. Teacher Irene Woolman, who has a turnover of approximately one-third of the group each year, again directed the children as they sang and danced with energy and enthusiasm. Their delightfully high spirits put everyone in an up-beat frame of mind.

On Thursday, April 3 at 1:30 p.m. in the AR, Jacques Foti will entertain after the regular monthly meeting. An actor - singer pianist - composer, he sings in four languages. His voice has been termed the Sound of Velvet. This talented international artist had entertained throughout

Europe and in major supper clubs and hotels throughout the US and Canada, including extensive engagements in Las Vegas. Jacques has a seemingly endless repertoire of up-tempo and slow and tender songs. Along with his humorous anecdotes, it should prove to be an entertaining afternoon. As usual, refreshments will be served by Lillian Pisors' group. Mary Kay Franey will be on hand to sell you See's Candy certificates, and Marion Sanders will



Jacques Foti

be happy to accept your membership dues. All ladies of the Village are welcome.

TRADING POST

By Irene Cunningham

The L V Trading Post's regular crew, together with 18 extra men and women volunteers put on a super sale Saturday, March 8 in the Pavilion. The event was profitable, really well attended, and the weather was perfect.

The participation and support by the villagers makes all the hard work worthwhile, especially knowing the profit will be used to the best advantage in the Village and will go to approved organizations in the community.

On Thursday, April 3, the Trading Post will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. prior to the Women's

PARDEE.....from page 1 across from the fire station.

According to the Pardee Company 65 apartment units are proposed for each parcel. The developments will be owned and operated by Pardee. No sale of the properties is contemplated at this time.

Some of these units, as directed by the City of Camarillo, may be designated as "affordable," i.e. for lower income tenants. The proposed dwellings will be similar to the Camino Ruiz Apartments located near Adolfo and Santa Rosa Roads.

Club regular monthly meeting. Most of the items we received are still good enough for a second go-around. We give them a little TLC and they become someone else's treasure. If you have any wanna-be treasures, call Irene at 987-2627 and they will be picked up. Thanks again.

When required approvals and licenses are obtained, construction should start in 1999.

Tony Boden, Director of Planning, indicated that the Camarillo City Council may approve Pardee's request to submit detailed plans to the Planning Commission. He stressed that this action in no way implies approval or disapproval of the proposed changes.

After the Planning Department staff completes its review of the plans and submits its recommendations to the City Council, open public meetings will be held by the Planning Commission and the City Council.

Also, an environmental impact report will be released. This will address concerns such as traffic, noise and school capacity. Copies of this report will be placed in the public library and a copy will be sent to the Leisure Village Association.

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TV.....from page 1 this presentation was to make all the presently known facts available to the residents and to encourage them to make their preferences known by using the green survey forms sent with the February issue of the Village Voice.

The existing TV cable system was furnished by Leisure Technology, starting in 1974. As the Village grew the system was expanded, being completed in 1984 when village 44 was built. Thus the technology for cable TV systems available in 1974 was replicated in all the additions made to the system subsequent to that date. Over the years the association has spent money maintaining the system and making minor upgrades to add a few additional channels. The, system is presently capable of carrying up to 36 channels.

The GTE proposal offers a completely new system which, for its basic service, would make 64 channels available with enhanced picture quality. Options would be available (for additional fees) for more premium channels. Their prothere would be no cost to LVA for system installation and maintenance. Their contract would run for 10 years.



By Irv Goodnick

Sure, it is not the Marine Corps, but the Players Guild is also looking for a few good men and women to join the corps. The group has been most fortunate to have new move-ins who have joined and actually become involved. But there must be more out there, who are, perhaps a bit bashful. Thought about writing a skit or a play? Like to learn stage lighting or maybe set construction? Like to sing in the shower or do a good imitation? Well, here is the time and place to give it a try. Call Bob Freedman, program chair, at 482-3813.

Speaking of newcomers brings to mind an outstanding example — Ginny Naspo. After playing a leading role in the last major musical production, "Nunsense", Ginny brought to our last meeting a sensational group, "The Goldenaires," and thrilled our Valentines Day audience with many favorites from the big band era.

The upcoming spring play, "Aspirin and Elephants," is putting the finishing touches now in rehearsal for the April 9 opening. This award-winning comedy of a family cruise will have the audience laughing out loud. Some adult-oriented subject matter keeps the pace going, but it is all in good fun.

Tickets are available in lobby Monday, Wednesday and Friday. All seats are reserved and are \$4.50 each. See lobby and atrium displays for details.



Photo by Klapperman

Players Guild members work on stage and backstage to prepare for the adult comedy production of "Aspirin and Elephants" playing in April.



Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on April 6!!

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answer period concerns were expressed about the economic impact of the proposed system, our inability to control programming and the probability that emerging technology posal also provides that could make the system obsolete in a few years. Upgrading the existing system would mean that for less cost as many as 16 more channels could be added, During the question and with provision for extra digi-

tal channels in the future. The maintenance costs would continue and picture quality would be improved as part of the upgrade.

This matter is under careful consideration by the LVA Board of Directors. A decision must be made during the next few months because the GTE proposal is based on their starting work on the system in autumn of 1997.



Mondel Cookies
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 Bagels

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Profile: Lee And Ruth Truman

By Jack Whalen

As you drive north from Hollywood on the Ventura Freeway, the moment your car crosses the San Diego Freeway, you are driving through what was, some 65 years ago, young Lee Truman's bedroom. Let's meet Lee and Ruth Truman, Village 42, residents for only a year but whose lives are filled with experiences that run the full spectrum of life.

Lee was born in Sherman Oaks and his parents owned a ranch where Highways 101 and 405 intersect. His grammar school education was in a one room school house in Encino and he graduated from Canoga Park H.S. in 1946.

This was followed by 11 vears of study for the ministry. He was ordained in 1956 in the So. she was by his side as his



Lee and Ruth Truman

ence of the United Methodist Church.

Lee met Ruth during his seminary study at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana. She spent her young life in Detroit, Michigan, and graduated from Redford H.S. as Commencement speaker. They married and California-Arizona Confer- schooling continued both in

Georgia and New Jersey.

Their first church was in the rural California town of Descanso in the Cuyamaca mountains. As they arrived with son Mark in this town of one general store, they asked a fruit stand operator for directions to the church. He replied, "Down that way you'll come to a basement building that looks like a big septic tank over the next few years or an overgrown potato cellar. That's the church."

That's what it was, a basement potato cellar church. If that had not been enough of a shocker, they lived with church members for months and finally rented a house. The problem was the house had been custom built for a 5-foot dentist and Lee was 6'21/2 inches tall.

Lee said, "For two years I was unable to stand tall in that house."

It took hard work and great perseverance but See PROFILE.....Pg 9

they built a sizeable congregation. Lee also formed a group of teen-agers interested in cars, started the first ambulance service in the area and devoted time to helping rehabilitate prisoners in the Chino facility. His next post was in Glendale where he served on many community projects and received a number of awards for dedicated service

In 1960 he took a team of selected young men to

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PROFILE.....From Pg 8

the newly emerging country of Congo. A revolution broke out and despite a number of close calls the team constructed a 53-foot steel bridge and taught natives how to fire bricks in building an agricultural technical aids school.

Later Lee and Ruth took a Protestant 18 member youth team to Israel where they lived and worked on the kibbutz Ramoth Hashofet. The Israeli government gave them preferred status in recognition of their work.

In 1972 they were off to Australia with a work team. on to New Zealand and then helped build a community center in Pago Pago, Samoa. A final trip took them to Italy, to work in an orphanage in Naples.

Following a distinguished tenure in Monrovia, the Trumans moved on to nearby Westlake Village where he served for 9 years as pas-

tor of the Covenant House. made up of United Methodist. American Lutheran and Temple Adat Elohim. For 5 years he had a radio show on KNJO. Thousand Oaks. with Rabbi Richard Address.

It's also worth mention-Lee had a syndicated column for Copley News Service. The column titled, "Let's Talk" was carried at three languages overseas.

His hobbies include painting, skiing, racing sports cars, restoring an sculpture, soaring and lec-starting to get involved. turing on the Civil War.

We have hardly spoken of Ruth, who has had a remarkable career in education, the author of many books, perhaps the one best known, "Spaghetti From The Chandelier ...And Other Humorous Adventures Of A Minister's Family" and has been on

many TV and radio shows. Both she and Lee are PhD's. She has many honors and listings, including being named several times, including the 1997 issue of "World Who's Who of Women.'

All their children are doing that for over 28 years ing well. Son Mark is in Lee had a syndicated col-charge of installing the new 911 telephone line, daughter Rebecca is a professional artist doing bronze in its high mark in 1,124 U.S. San Francisco, son Tim newspapers and also in does music for TV and movies, has been an Emmy nominee, and son Nathan works for TV and has run twice for Congress. antique Studebaker, metal Here in the Village they are

Ruth is in the Chorale and Faster Lawn Disn

Lee is 1st V.P. of the R.V. Club. Many of us will get to know the Trumans in the months ahead and you may be assured you'll find them delightful and dynamic.

Easter Lawn Display Bill and Jean Bilbo,

15211 V.15, have a colorful lawn display featuring Easter decorations. Drive by and see it. They also had a display in December for the holidays.

55 ALIVE CLASS By Naomi Balfour

The next class of 55 Alive will be taught in the MPR on April 17 and 18 at 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$8.00, payable by check made out to the AARP.

The class is brought to the Village for the benefit of licensed drivers who want a refresher course on safe driving for Seniors and want to qualify for a discount on their automobile insurance premium. The discount is good for 3 years; the class may be repeated if it was taken some time ago.

For information and registration call Naomi Balfour at 987-9851 or Zo Simmons at 484-5205.

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George & Heidi McLean, Formerly of Village 17

Page 10-INSIDE LEISURE VILLAGE - The Camarillo Star, March 28, 1997



By George Nolte

The Village Swingers Square Dance Club at its first meeting in February alternated line dances with squares and round dances.

The executive board met at the home of Faye and Arnold Rich. Sig Jaffe was appointed chairman of the nominating committee.

A Valentine Dance highlighted the second meeting of the month. Decorations, dress and refreshments added to the occasion. A general membership meeting followed refreshments. The revision of the by-laws, as recommended by the executive board, was presented, discussed and ac-



LV ROUND DANCE

By Georgia Schneider

The Round Dance Club continues to expand their repertoire. The rhythms for waltz, fox trot, cha cha, tango, rhumba and swing routines keep our toes twinkling and our steps coordinated with those of our partners.

We invite you to join us any Sunday from 10:00 to noon in the AR. Bill Burner will be at hand on April 20 to call and teach.



By Joyce Turner

The newly elected officers of the Keyboard Club trust that villagers who love classical, jazz and contemporary music will get together for an hour of enjoyment the third Friday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the AR.

So that you will not forget, circle the date on your calendar for the third Friday of the month.

Refreshments will be served.

cepted.

The event of the month was the "President's Dance." Active and inactive past presidents were invited to participate in the evening of recognition.

Past presidents in attendance were Cy Boynton, Lou and Midge Dektor, David and Isabel Dominguez, Bob and Joan Guhl, Hal and Minna Hudson, Sig and Elaine Jaffe and current Presidents George and Geri Nolte.

Due to the illness of caller Bill Kramer on the last meeting of the month the Swingers danced to tapes provided by Norm Fuller.

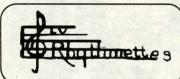
The Swingers dance every Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. in the AR. Refreshments are served.

DANCE WORKSHOP

By Ann Kushner

LV Dance Workshop meets every Tuesday in the AR at 3:00 p.m. for country line dancing. New dances are taught and old ones reviewed. Come and join for fun and exercise.

Instructors are Rhoda Smithkin and Tom Endo.



By Jeanette Ventura

The Rhythmettes had a good turn out on February 28. Everyone enjoyed a catered dinner and wonderful entertainment. Piff DeSimone emceed the program and Club members joined in with music, songs, poems and dancing.

The Rhythmettes social chairpersons, Bess Davis and Claire Endelman, and club members are now moving ahead with plans for a "Spring Fling Luncheon" on April 22. The suggested theme will be Spring bonnets.

In the meantime, the Rhythmettes will be rehearsing in the AR every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.



DANCE FEVER NIGHT

By Joyce Turner

In March the Dance Fever committee had a meeting to plan better selections for your dancing pleasure. Our goal is to try to please everyone. Village dancers remember how much fun and they had in the thirties and forties when the Big Band era was so popular.

So many did enjoy the young dancers who performed last month and the Live Band who entertained March 29.

Do not forget that our Spring dances for you faithful dancers begin at 7:30 p.m. and end at 10:30 p.m.

Refreshments always served. BYOB.



By Selma Lich

The Liedeleers sing melodies of many lands of diverse cultures, and have discovered that, though Leisure Village itself is a blend of many differences, making music together is a great leveler.

Recently a member requested a revival of an old favorite "Give Me Your Tired and Your Poor", the words by American poet Emma Lazarus from her poem "The New Colossus", and the music by the American composer Irving Berlin. The words were meaningful enough to be inscribed on the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty.

Come join the group for mornings of nostalgia, inspiration, and friendly warmth. Instrumental obligatos have been added for musical enhancement. No auditions and no operatic background required. Meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Lanai Room. Please call Selma at 484-8129 for information.



By Anne Janoff

Those who attended the Saturday Night Ballroom Dance on February 22 were treated to intermission performances by the Cotillion Ballroom Dancers. It was a delight to watch again this group of talented teenagers present their program of precision and formation dance numbers. As a national award winning group, their routines

NIGHT
BALLROOM
DANCE

are outstanding.
On March 8
Herman Taylor w
The next regular
Night Ballroom

On March 8 Hildi and Herman Taylor were hosts. The next regular Saturday Night Ballroom dance will be April 26 with Wanda Saari and George Dennis hosting. Dancing from 8-11:00 p.m. in the A.R. Admission, fifty cents per person. Coffee, tea, punch and ice, available. BYOB. New villagers and guests are always welcome, and can count on an evening of pleasant sociability and good music for dancing. Watch Channel 12 for Saturday Night Ballroom



By Shirley S. Heller

The Happy Hoofers are looking forward to the Players Guild production in April of "Aspirin and Elephants".

Hoofers and friends Ida Zeller, Doris Siegal, Bob Freedman, Al Law and Blanche Follen will appear in the comedy.

It involves a lot of hard work and it is hoped that everyone will support the play. Anyone interested in being a Hoofer or friend please call Helen Gold at 987-2494.



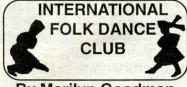
By Jack Whalen

HELP WANTED is the theme for this month's Channel 12 report. We need skilled and/or non-skilled volunteers to join our team.

While we can always use a lady or two who have minimum typing skills, we are mostly interested in some men who either have some photo skills or would like to learn a little.

Out of some 3,500 people in the Village, there have to be a dozen or so who could give 1 to 2 hours a week to the communications team.

Let's hope a few will call 388-1243, and will leave their names.



Dance information.

By Marilyn Goodman

The International Folk Dance Club includes dances from countries around the world.

The beginners class takes place on Monday from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. The other classes are on Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. All dancing is in the AR. Mae Sheff and Virginia Calihan are the instructors.

The club's general meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 2 at 10:30 a.m. in the AR. Pay us a visit anytime.



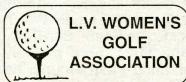
By Eileen Cohen

It has been a very busy month in the Library with an astonishing number of donations. There isn't space for the names of all donors. Many anonymous contributors just leave their gifts. The Library wishes to thank all who have been so generous in sharing such a wealth of reading material.

Due to the limited shelf space in the Library, surplus books and magazines are regularly donated to such groups as Headstart, the Ventura County Mission, and local schools.

Woman's Golf Club Honors Hole-In-One Trophy Winners





By Jane Warneke

The Women's Golf Association meeting in February was well attended due a display of Hole-In-One Trophies won by many golfers. It is hoped that attendance at meetings will continue to improve.

Scotch-Twosome Feb. 18 and 19 resulted in the following scores: King -Dance 51, Honick-Bellante 52, a tie of 52-1/2 for Helmstead-Basile, and Nolte Orth, 53 for Hanson-Kennick, 53-1/2 for Mead-Elrick, Walton-Fox

had a 54, Snyder-Kremer 54-1/2. 55 for Baum-Jayson, and J. Hess-Cronyn scored 55-1/ 2. Many thanks to Barbara and Ernie Ohmstedt and helpers for a delicious catered lunch quickly served and enjoyed.

Regulation Golf at Westlake produced the following winners: A Flight: Donna Duke and Carol Vaught tied for 1st low net at 59, 2nd was June Rose at 60. In B Flight 1st low net was Shiege Kuroki with 57, 2nd Corky Milman 58, 3rd Taruko Nishizaka 60, 4th Char Christensen with 61. C Flight: 1st low net Evelyn Lacy 50, followed by Denka Nelson 53, Helen McGinnis

57, Rose Abbate 59, and Joan Johnson 60.

On February 23 the Mixed Couple Tournament resulted in Martha Nunn's 70 in A Flight for low gross. followed by low net scores of 56 for Maria Meyers, and 58 for Char Christensen. In B Flight low gross was 80 for Denka Nelson, 1st low net was a tie of 58 for Rosemary Hanson and Rose Abbate, and 2nd was Betty Morgan with 59.

The low net scores for weekly tournaments were as follows: for the Niners, Barbara Humphrey had 39-17=22B, and for 18ers Lillian Whiteford had

67-19=48.



By Ida Kubica

The Racquet Club tennis and paddle tournaments are in full swing, practicing for the Casa del Sol challenge May 16-17. The May 17 dinner dance, organized by Len Koenig, will feature the Rhythm Kings. Tickets, \$20.00 per person, will go on sale in April.

The new paddle players compliment the excellent teachers George Nolte, David Ovadia, Bob Kumler, and Jerry Doctrow, who give their time and talent for instruction. The first paddle tournament on February 20 was won by Kay Bell, Wanda Saari, Al Simon, and Stan Feldman.

February 27 had seven winners: Alma Slabotsky,

Si Ross, Bob Kumler, Jerry Doctrow, Gerri Nolte, Betty Stallman and Stan Feldman. This year there will be only four paddle and tennis tournaments.

The Shuffleboard annex is now available for table tennis and is being fitted for playing space. Al De Fusco, club carpenter/ builder, is making screen deflectors to control ball retrieval. Two new tables are in the plans all of which means playing at your convenience is now a possibility, thanks to Phil Belsky and Bob Hasen.

April 9 is the next meeting of the Racquet Club in the MPR at 7:30 p.m. Bring \$5.00 yearly dues if not already paid. The membership roster will be published

The Dessert Party on The tennis tournament of March 2 was a delicious success.



By Ernie Ohmstedt

We had another well attended meeting for which the Billiard Club Board is extremely grateful. Our thanks to all the attendees.

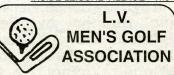
The club is planning to publish a Billiard Club Handbook and Roster in April; if you want your name included you must pay your dues by March 31.

The LVA Board of Directors is exploring the possibility of adding darts as an added Billiard Room activity at our request. It was also announced that Sunday afternoon June 8 will be the date for the Billiard Club Picnic. Put it on your calendar.

Don't forget, our meetings are always the fourth Tuesday of every month.

INSIDE LEISURE VILLAGE - The Camarillo Star, March 28, 1997-page 11

March 6. In A Flight, resi-



By Dick Hof

The windswept monthend Men's Golf tournament on February 23 had Charlie Bellante in at low gross 57 in spite of the weather, while A Flight's Charlie Basile netted in with 57. B Flight, Bill Kidder low gross 68, Jay Praeger low net 60. C Flight, low gross Sam Axelrod 64, Ryan Kelly low

Regulation golf was held at Elkins Ranch on

dent pro Syl Horwald shot low gross 89, with Bill McCrae and Mannie Abbate 71 and 72, respectively, for first and second low net. B Flight's John Lacy fired an even 100 to take low gross. George Kroll captured first low net at 70, and Bo Humphrey second low net 71. In C Flight, Jay Praeger and Fritz Betts tied for low gross at 103, and matching cards brought the win to Jay. This put Fritz first low net at 66, with George Dennis second low net 67.

LV **EXERCISE** GROUP

By Lillian Mankoff

Spring has sprung and the LV Exercise Group is enjoying the lovely weather while doing their daily bending, stretching and marching. All this takes place at the Pool Pavilion each morning.

On April 17, a full day (10:45 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) of fun and excitement has been planned at the beautiful Santa Anita Racetrack. \$17.00 per person covers the bus and admission to the track plus seats in the Club House.



By Virginia Shine

The Shuffleboard Club has two upcoming events in the planning stage. The first is a lasagna dinner on May 6, and the second is its annual picnic on August

The next meeting will be held on the regular meeting night, the first Tuesday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. in the MPR.

All who are interested in learning shuffleboard are invited to join. It's fun!

> **Next ILV** Deadline Is Monday, April 7

Nomination and election of new officers for the coming year will be held in May and June. A special complimentary breakfast for all paid-up members is scheduled for June 13 at 9:00 a.m. outside the Pavilion area.

The annual picnic will be held on June 27 in the picnic area from 3:30 p.m. until ??

Join the group each morning, Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. for good times and good health. All Village residents are welcome to the many activities.



SOLO CLUB

By June Few

The Solo Club will have a potluck on Friday, April 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the AR. A-G brings a dessert, H-O a salad and P-Z brings a main dish. Remember donations for foodshare and 50¢ toward coffee, etc.

The officers for this year President Čleo Cooney; Vice President Rea Williams; Secretary Veronica Alves; and Treasurer Carolyn Quam. The membership chairman is May Conklin.

The next bag lunch/business meeting will be on Friday, April 18 at 12:30 p.m. in the GR.

Come and enjoy lunch together and after the meeting, stay to play



By Marion Sevren

The Camera Club visited the Chumash Indian Center in Thousand Oaks in February. An interesting and informative talk was given by one of the Chumash followed by a walk around the grounds. Duane Waln, our program chairman, always provides an interesting monthly program for the club. In February, Bob and Elaine Vanderhaven showed one of their movies "A Thousand Miles of Coastline." Bob and Elaine take professional level movies and their nature films are always welcomed and well attended.

Dora Croyn scouts our judges for our competitions. In February, Bill Lockridge was the judge of our competition on Statues and Open. Bill, who has been in photography for 55 years, is a professional who has taught photography at Long Beach College. He brought in some of his work for review.

The winners of the Statue competition were in order from first place to honorable mention: Owl Woman of Mexican Myth by Sam Weinstein; Modern

Adriana Acrich, D.D.S.

Floyd J. Cawthon, D.D.S.

Paula Marchioni, D.M.D.

Art by Jerry Cohen; Reclin-Buddha by Ben Smithkin; Head and Shoulders by Milt Mankoff; and Winged Victory by Al Simons.

In the Open Category, first place was won by Jerry Cohen for Colorful, followed by Nebraska Capi-Bill Hoffman; tol by Petalettes by Sam Weinstein; Grand Organ by Ben Smithkin and The Eyes Have It by Al Simons.

Dan Murphy, a professional photographer, owner of All About Faces Studio in Camarillo and teacher at Malibu High School, was judge for March. Winners for the category People were: People on the Square by Jerry Cohen; Shooting the Breeze by Sam Weinstein; Sentry at Ease by Paula Lite; Do Dah Parade by Duane Wale and The Skipper by Sam

In the Open category for March, winners were; Australian Beauty by Duane Waln; Bronc Buster by Jerry Cohen; Point Reves Lighthouse by Jerry Cohen; Wagon Wheels by Sam Brown and Madonna and Child by Barbara Simons.

The March 19 program was slides by the talented Thousand Oaks photographer, Judy Bemis. She has been with us before and we always enjoy viewing her lovely nature slides.



By Mildred Cherin

Meet Your Neighbor Group met in the Garden Room on February 28 with 14 new arrivals and 41 in attendance. Chairperson Hildi Taylor apologized for the scheduled speaker, General Manager Jim Gembala, not being present as he had knee surgery.

Hildi introduced Elaine Jaffe, who is on the Architectural Committee. She spoke about the workings of the different committees

in the Village. Hildi introduced Bobbie Comer of the Architectural Committee who told us how the committee reviews the permits for any modifications to your house and is responsible for all colors

on your structures.

Jules Nayfack announced that the Chorale meets every Monday 12:30-2:30 p.m. The Keyboard Club meets the third Friday of the month and Sing-a-long the second and last Mondays of the month.

There will be no meeting on March 28 as it is Good Friday. Next meeting is April 25.

COMPUTER CLUB

By Hilda Serr

The Computer Club welcomed new members Wayne Wisehart, Cele and Irwin Porges, Teo Kamola, Jerry Cohen, Sylvia and Phil Belsky, Jackie Horwald, Al Lindsay, George Hess, Elizabeth and Gerald Levenfeld.

At the February 7 meet-Binh Ly from Cybermedia introduced the First Aid 3.1 program. First Aid uses the world's most advanced knowledge base of solutions to fix problems with windows and much more. Another program was Oil Change which identifies all software and hardware and then hunts down and installs the exact updates needed.

At the Novice meeting on

February 21, Bob Kumler prepared a glossary of common terms, and questions were lively.

At the March 7 meeting. the following officers were elected: Dick Travis, pres.; Neil Iven, v.p.; Hilda Serr, sec.; and Duane Waln, treas. Bob Duran spoke about the Computer IDIOT Training Center. Free classes are available on how to purchase a personal computer. Did you know Santa Anita races can be found on the internet? Bob brought several T-shirts with the IDIOT logo. Watch for Eddie Saeta, Ben Perry and Gil Chuck proudly wearing them around the Village!

Watch Channel 12 for

meeting dates.

Free Blood Pressure Clinic Monday, April 21 from 7 to 8:00 p.m. in the A.R.

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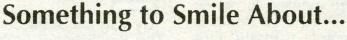


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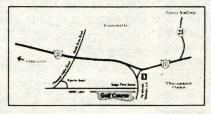


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By Kay Murray

The February R.V. Club meeting featured speakers Ed and Linda Waldheim, administrators of the SOI Club, an international motor home travel club. They combine their love of conducting R.V. outings with distributing useful products for R.V. use.

In May, Pat and Warren Stanfield have arranged for a campout at Steckel Park, located nearby in the hills behind Santa Paula. They have planned a very full program.

Campouts are open to all Leisure Villagers with R.V.'s.

Jean and Art Thompson have arranged a four night R.V. Club campout at the Cypress Tree Inn, Monterey, from April 16 through the 19th. Special events occurring during that period include the Annual Wildflower Show at Pacific Grove, the Old Monterey Seafood and Music Festival, and a National (Motorcycle) Road Race. Several other attractions are close by.

Contact the Thompsons (482-3374) if interested. There might be cancella-

tions

The RV. Club will cosponsor the talk by Dr. J. Handel Evans in the AR at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 18. His appearance was arranged by Lee Truman.



By Gabriel Barkley

The Hearing Impaired Support Group have an important meeting for the benefit of all villagers on Wednesday April 23 at 1:00 p.m. in the MPR.

Villagers have been reading in the newspapers and periodicals during the past year about the dangerous financial position facing Medicare and Social Security. The seriousness of the situation is forcing

Congress to act upon the matter in its present ses-

LV is fortunate to have among its residents Leon Kaplan, who is well informed on the subject. He will be the guest speaker for the April meeting. Leon will up-date the group on the true facts of the financial condition of Medicare and Social Security and Congress may how strengthen these funds so that they may safely support the program into and through the 21st Century.

All villagers are welcome to attend.

admired his work.

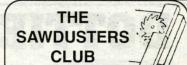
Also speaking was Charles Donnel who told about his hobby of building grand-father clocks. He is also an excellent cabinet maker and he displayed pictures of some of his

Sawdusters meet on the third Thursday of the month at 2:30 p.m in the Lanai Room. For information call Paul Schalleim at 388-1484.

Knebel, who will give a program on flower arranging with different techniques for the most inexperienced arrangers. The subject will be

"Let The Flowers Speak".

Tickets for the Floral Arts Show to be held on Thursday, April 24, in the AR from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. for \$3.00 can be purchased from Hazel Sheridan, 987-2869.



By Martin Alfred

Sawdusters had another good turnout at the February meeting. 24 attended, including several women guests. The big attraction was a very interesting talk by Dave Dominguez on his long time hobby of rebuilding fine old clocks. He is a master craftsman and all



By Georgia Schneider

The Leisure Village Garden Club will meet on Thursday. April 10 in the MPR at 9:30 a.m. The featured speaker will be Bernice INSIDE LEISURE VILLAGE - The Camarillo Star, March 28, 1997-page 13

Parkinson's **Support Group**

By Harry Kaplan

Those LV residents with Parkinson's disease, and their caregivers are invited to attend a support group which meets every second Wednesday of the month in the Village Room at 9:30 a.m.

Members learn a lot from other members, as well as sharing in the latest reports and arranged lectures. The first half hour of the support group consists of exercises guided by videotape.



The Village **Painters**

By Renny Golditch

The Village Painters will hold their monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 2 in the MPR at 1:00 p.m. The program will feature an art critique by Marion Jayne of members' works. Guests are welcome.

Judy Zeff presented a video of artist Georgia O'Keefe, commenting on her life and work with humor and honesty at the February meeting. There was also a buffet lunch.



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A Pique At Labor Negotiations

By Barbara Simons

By the time this is published, Leisure Village may be past the point of no return in dealing with the Landscape Gardeners' Union. Everybody will have contributed to its happen-

The Board conducted itself properly according to the rigid rules of Labor/ Contract Negotiation, with the Gardeners' Union but failed to keep the membership informed as to the rules of the game. The rules are quite simple: during labor negotiations, one side may not speak to the other side, except through their respective negotiators. All else is gossip, idle speculation with no weight or merit, and is just plain meddling.

From a public relations point of view the Board marched off in one direction without informing their own side what was up. They were probably following legal counsel's advice, but in a small corporate family such as ours, legal advice is not enough. Rumors flew, the activists arose to fill the vacuum, and were ignorant of the facts and rules of pro-

None of the participants are blameless. The gardeners and their shop steward became a "run-away" renegade group, ignoring their own Union's leadership and trusting in the assurances of their shop steward that

sympathetic to their needs would overrule the Board and their demands would be met

How do I know? The shop steward, Leo Chavez, told me so. The Union is "too far away, too big and too busy." He has his own "consultants" and he very frankly said he was relying on the activist villagers to win his goals.

Last summer, when the Board put their "opening offer" on the table, the workers representatives refused to meet with them. This went on for many weeks. It was a signal that what was to follow would be more than the usual skirmishes of labor and management negotiation tactics.

Around November, I wondered what kind of a leader the men were following, when, 15 minutes before the start of the "safetyaward" luncheon, the shop steward notified the Board that the gardeners, the intended recipients of the gifts and awards, would not attend.

Traditionally, LVA hosted a catered luncheon and gave gifts to the men as a reward for having a good safety record for the year.

Obviously by cancelling the luncheon with only 15 minutes notice, the shop steward was depriving his men of the value of the food and gifts that had been purchased for them. What was he trying to say to the somehow the villagers Board? Regardless of his

men that he hurt.

Things went from bad to worse when the gardeners' reps finally responded to the Board's first offer. Except for a few items, their first counter-offer was so totally non- responsive to the issues raised by the Board's first offer that the Board had nothing to reply to. The Board had thrown out the first ball and nothing came back.

Finally, the threat of being taken to the N.L.R.B. (National Labor Relations Board) for failing to bargain in good faith was enough of a prod to the Gardeners to put some issues on the table and some movement resulted. However, several issues still represented a broad gap between them.

It was not helpful that the federal mediator walked out due to personal insults hurled at him by one or more of the gardeners' team. However, it was their intransigence that caused him to declare that the sides were officially at an impasse.

Shortly thereafter the gardeners took all previous agreements off the table, going back to square one (or to status ante)

Moreover, Union negotiator, David Stillwell, told the men, bluntly and straight forwardly, that the Board's statement was true that the only jobs available in Ventura County for workers with their skills paid substantially less and had fewer benefits. A gardener

intentions, it was his own taking a comparable job outside of Leisure Village would have to give up \$2.00-\$2.50 per hour as well as important benefits.

A letter, dated February 28, addressed to the Board and association members and signed by all the gardeners, was read by sympathetic Villagers participating in their cause at the March 3 open Board meeting. The letter asked to go back to the "old contract" and asked for a \$.25 increase. Chavez says that what they meant was a \$.25 per hour increase for each of the next three

It will cost LVA \$19,240 for the first year, \$38,480 in the second year, and \$57,720 in the third year, plus any increase in payroll

Mr. Chavez believes he has made a counter offer to the Board. The rules state that an offer from the workers is not valid until their own Union has approved it and then presented it to the negotiators for the Board. Then, and only then, can the Board say they have received a genuine offer that they can respond to. These See NEGOTIATIONS.....pg 15

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NEGOTIATIONS.....from pg 14 are federal labor law rules, enforced by the N.L.R.B. and the courts. And they state that only offers passed through negotiators on each side can be considered at all.

The gardeners and the villagers have been equally ignorant. The Villagers meddled in a situation where they should not have been. They encouraged the men's foolhardiness, doing them a grave disservice for which the gardeners, not the Villagers, will pay.

The Board would have liked nothing more than if the gardeners had listened to their own Union negotia-

Letters Policy For Inside Leisure Village

The Letters disclaimer on page 2 of each issue of ILV has stated for months that residents should limit the length of their letters to 250 words. Many letters in this issue run over that limit.

Inside Leisure Village restates the 250 word request. Hereafter, each letter writer is asked to edit his/her own letter down to that limit before submitting it.

Letters Pertaining To Gardners

nale for the Board's position in their dealings with the Landscape employees, it appears that they have concluded that workers outside the Village are earning less....ergo, ours are earning too much.

So they have cut wages by \$48 a month to pay for health insurance, docking a day's pay if it rains, while ignoring the fact our employees have received no increases since 1992.

Are they comparing equals in appearance and size? More barren areas can function with clean up people, while we require a more knowledgeable and dedicated staff.

If areas compared are indeed the equal of our exceptional environment, then it is not that our people are getting too much. Theirs are not getting enough.

The gardeners' request to retain the contract which has been in place for the last 3 years plus a small increase of 25¢ an hour, is reasonable, amounting to 73¢ a month to the Homeowner.

Can we afford it? Can we afford 73¢ a month added to our fee to maintain what we have long enjoyed? Of course we can.

Isn't it interesting how few residents have come

In trying to find the ratio- forward to speak in favor of the Board's position. Though there may be some, perhaps they refrain because of shame. I hope

The Board should take notice of the strong feeling in the community to accept the reasonable request of our Landscape people.

Though the Board suggests that the Union is holding out for 75¢ an hour increase, there is no verification of this.

Offer them the same contract they have had with the 25¢ increase and see if it is not accepted.

The Contract we have lived with the last 3 years should be restored with a long deserved increase of 25¢ an hour.

Let's retain our loyal, trusted employees we know so well and assure the safety and tranquillity of our Village.

Bess Lopatin, V.17

Because of the 5 minute constraint imposed on the speakers at the March 3 Board Meeting I was unable to fully buttress my argument as to why the Board should agree to signing the existing contract that was negotiated in 1993 plus a 25 cent an hour wage increase our gardeners are willing to sign.

It is probably not gener-

INSIDE LEISURE VILLAGE - The Camarillo Star, March 28, 1997-page 15

ally known that the original garden crew consisted of 40 men. There are now 35. That means for 1997 there are five fewer salaries to be paid than there were in 1993. Using \$9.43 per hour as a reasonable figure as the average wage for the group that terminated their employment (some earned more, but I wish to use conservative estimates) consider the following:

8 hours per day at \$9.43 per hour equals \$75.44. 5 days per working week comes to \$377.20

Working 52 weeks per year the yearly salary is \$19.614.40.

For five men the amount is \$98,072.

Because we can only estimate the costs to the Village for such items as Social Security Taxes, Workman's Compensation, and Unemployment Insurance we are using the generally accepted business practice of using a 15% figure. Added to that is the cost of Medical Insurance. We arrive at a very modest cost of between \$20-\$25,000 per year for the five workers.

Since the gardeners will sign a contract that was negotiated in 1993 plus a 25 cent an hour wage increase the Village will be saving thousands of dollars

See Gardners.....pg 16



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Contact the Ventura County Jewish Family Service at 805-659-5144 for information & assistance. Page 16-INSIDE LEISURE VILLAGE - The Camarillo Star, March 28, 1997

Gardners from pg 15 could respond appropriately.

Gardners.....from pg 15 per year in gardening costs. Finally, the \$98,072 figure for five men plus the approximate \$20-\$25,000 for Social Security, etc. using the lower figure of \$20,000 equals \$118,000. This is what we base our figure of over \$100,000 in savings to the Village for gardening costs for the year 1997 as compared with 1993.

We can easily afford the raise requested by our gardeners and we should grant it.

Joseph Morrison, V.42

Budgets which I have received from the Association during the past three years seem never to have expressed concerns that the 3% reductions in our assessments could lead to severe deficits in our annual budgets. The enormous loss of income to our Village coffers has led to shock and dismay. Nowhere in the Annual Budgets could I find warnings of accruing loss of income at a time of increasing costs

This raises questions of competency of leadership and management. Further questions are raised as to why residents were not kept completely informed, clearly and concisely, so that we

As residents, we could only act on available information.

also neglected to keep us fully informed on the negotiations with the Gardeners.

Their wages have been frozen for three years while inflation kept rising. Their working force of 40 was decreased to 35 employees doing the work of the original 40. (Our Golf Course has never looked better!) The Board's response to the Gardeners request for a paltry 25¢ an hour increase was met with a Board ultimatum of several decreases. This information was not relayed to the residents...always the claim was: "The Brown Act!"

This smacks of a subtle censorship of information. As Shareholders in this non-profit corporation surely we are entitled to become fully and fairly informed so that we can respond appropriately.

Clara Gorenfeld, V.22

At the open Board of Directors meeting held on March 3, a number of residents, including myself, spoke regarding the contract with the gardeners,

Several of the speakers openly supported the gardeners and raised certain questions. These were not answered.

One gentleman claimed Our Governing Body has to have, in writing, a statement from the Union that differed a great deal from what the Board told us regarding the "demands."

I stated that in as much as we are having a referendum concerning the TV situation, we can have a referendum regarding our gardeners. I also suggested that we can have a speaker from the union to address the residents.

This person can present their views and answer questions. We can then learn who is telling the truth,

The board did not answer these and other questions.

Why?

Sam Brown V.7

The following people also expressed similar views in support of the landscape workers. Shortness of space requires grouping the letters this month. Editors.

Muriel Summer, V.28 Dorothy Lemchen, V.25 Noby and Ed Reidell,

Barbara and Hank Richardson, V.26 Sara Kass, V.39

Thank you for taking the time to write your opinions.

Science Course To Begin In April

By Sig Jaffe

Have you ever wondered what the great scientists did that changed the world forever after their eras? Sig Jaffe will present the fourth in a series of science courses that will review the life and times of renowned physicists, starting with Sir Isaac Newton and continuing up to Albert Einstein.

The course, entitled "The Principal Principles Of Some Principal Scientists," will summarize the theories of these researchers and

explain how they influenced our lives with contributions that have been applied to all of our modern technol-

The course will begin on Wednesday April 2 from 10:00 a.m. until noon in the Village Room. It will continue for a total of six weeks. No previous experience will be necessary for one to enjoy the series.

If interested, please sign up in the Recreation Office. There will be no charge or examinations. For further information, call 484-2955.

Lapidary Class To Begin In April

By Fred Ervast

A lapidary class on how to make cabochon jewelry from various types of rock will begin on Monday, April 7, in the Lapidary Room. The two-hour class, taught by Bernice and Harold Wells, will convene each Monday for 6 weeks at 1:00

A one-time donation of \$3.00 will be requested for

materials and supplies. No experience is necessary. Safety glasses are recommended. Free time to use the equipment in the lapidary room under supervision will be available on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. starting April 9. For enrollment or further information, please call Fred Ervast, 389-0787.



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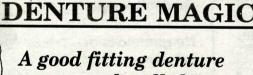
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90th Birthday Party For Bob Rosien

It was Tuesday evening and LV resident Robert "Bob" Rosien thought he was going dancing. His wife Glady knew better. So did Bob's family and close to 60 of his friends.

As Bob opened the doors of the Victor Room at the Oxnard Hilton he was greeted by his son Ron and daughter-in-law Donna from Los Angeles, his son Richard and daughter -in-law Patty and Bob's grandchildren Tabitha and Aimee from Connecticut, and his brother-in-law John from Florida. Most of those in attendance were from LV, many of whom are dancing friends of Bob and Glady. All joined with Johnny Olin and his band to sing "Happy Birthday.'

Every table was beautifully decorated with a collection of balloons and cookies baked in the shapes of musical notes. These were done by Bob's step-daughter Earlene Seymour and Donna Rosien who, along with Glady Rosien, planned evening.

It was a night of superb music, wonderful dancing, sensational food, much laughter, and shared memories. But mostly it was a celebration of Bob Rosien and his life.

Village 22 Holds **Annual Celebration**

Residents of Village 22 gathered for their traditional annual banquet on March 3 in the MPR

Beautifully decorated tables, luscious food, laughter, anecdotes, good spirits, warm neighborliness all created a memorable evening for the residents. The excellent dinner was fully catered.

Georgia and Dick Griswold, Eilleen King, Cliff Kemp, Bea Zisser, Gladys and Bob Rosien and Lee Paxton formed the committee that created this truly joyous and successful event.

Caregivers To Form Support Group In LV By Sonia Brink

Caregiving for spouses and relatives is a time consuming and an emotionally demanding responsibility. Meeting with other caregivers to share concerns and ideas, and to offer and receive advice can be very helpful.

Villagers interested in and designed the entire starting a caregivers support group please call Mae Sheff at 482-5621 or Anne Gaynes at 482-7085. A minimum of 15 members is required in order to have an assigned room in the Rec Center for monthly meet-

Nick Fiore Batting Star On T.O. Bobcats

By Jack Whalen

The Thousand Oaks Bobcats slow-pitch softball teams (60+ and 65+) both completed their fall-winter season unbeaten. One of the batting stars on both teams was Board Member Nick Fiore.

In the 60-year-old group Nick batted .556 while in the 65-year-old team he batted an amazing .692. When one considers that getting one hit out of three for a .333 is considered quite satisfactory, one can truly appreciate the batting prowess of mighty Nick.

Spring-summer games will be starting soon and the Bobcats will play their home games at nearby Borchard Park in Newbury Park. Admission is free and the games start at 10:00 a.m.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUP

By Dorothy Holcomb
The Spiritual Growth Group will meet at the home of Marion Sanders. 15139 Village 15, each Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in April.

For additional informacall Dorothy tion Holcomb, 482-5293.

INSIDE LEISURE VILLAGE - The Camarillo Star, March 28, 1997-page 17

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See SERVICES.....Pg 19





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HOME HEALTH AIDE Certified: Live out. Flex. hrs. Dependable with good refs. Exp. Alzheimer's. Call Natalie 339-8878.

CAREGIVER/Companion/ Aide: 17 yrs. exp. Good English, good L.V. refs. Last minute emergencies OK. FT/ PT. Live in/out. Own car. Will drive. Georgina 498-7956, pager 379-7052. Also do housecleaning.

EXPERIENCED CAREGIVER, loving, dependable. Let me help you with your personal needs. You won't be disappointed! Flexible hours. Own car. Call in confidence. Judy Falk 579-0281.

FULL-TIME COMPANION. Extremely patient & caring. Dispense medication. Assist with personal hygiene. Experienced stroke. Some cooking, housekeeping. Refs. Julieta 488-1365 pager 676-3772.

HOME CARE AIDE: Friendly, dependable, with good refs. C P R & First Aid trained. Exp. Alzheimer's. Light housekeep. 2 hrs. min. Rosa 486-0501. Lv. message.

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RELIABLE CAREGIVER/ Companion. FT/PT. Transp. to appts., errands. Cook, shop, etc. Also shampoo/set. Flex. hrs. Jessica 983-7738.

DOES YOUR HOUSE need cleaning? All you need is to call Elidia or Gabi at 981-9924. Good L.V. references. Just

HOUSECLEANING by European lady. 10 yrs. in L.V. Best refs. Call Jagoda 484-5354.

HOUSECLEANING done reasonably! Call Maria Ceja 386-3775.

HOUSEKEEPER, Part-time caregiver. Daytime only. Honest, reliable. Reasonable rates. Call Jill 484-7596.

THOROUGH HOUSE-CLEANING by reliable, trustworthy, caring lady. If you need it cleaned, I'll do it! I enjoy helping you. L.V. refs. Judy Ann 579-0281.

EXPERT WINDOW WASHING & screen repair & mini-blind cleaning. Serving L.V. for 17 yrs. Free estimates - reasonable rates. Call Jack 482-0978. Also do handyman work!

HOUSEWORK or gardening. 18 yrs. old senior high school student. Reliable. L.V. refs. \$6 hr. 388-1973.

> **Volunteers Enjoy Annual Breakfast**

About 200 residents attended the Volunteer Recognition Breakfast on February 20 in the AR. General Manager Jim Gembala was a genial MC. Accountant Peggy Heath also welcomed the volunteers.

Special entertainment was provided by Susan Rockwell, Rec Center manager., and Don Nelson, maintenance supervisor.

Susan was joined by other members of her Rec staff in a song and dance number with Debra McAdams, Shelly Runge, Froi Valesquez and Marcel Fernandez in costume.

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