

SPRING 2020 E-MAGAZINE

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Community Newsletter

SPRING 2020

Comments from the Editor

By: Martha Neese

Spring is arriving soon in our Ahwatukee community. President Trump recently declared a National Emergency and Arizona has declared a Public Health Emergency because of the coronavirus. Maricopa County Health Department recommends following the CDC guidelines which suggests following social distancing. With this back drop, our Club West residents welcome our spring season which is usually a very social time of outside activities and community events. Although many community events are being cancelled, I hope each of you can enjoy activities near or at your homes.

I want to thank everyone who attended our annual meeting this year. Unfortunately, the March 2020 HOA board meeting has been cancelled because the board and management company cannot provide the adequate social distancing and sanitizing/sterilizing as recommended by the CDC. You will be updated regarding the next scheduled meeting by the website and through email if Vision has your email address. Contact Vision for information at ClubWest@wearevision.com or 480-759-4945. Please also visit the website at www.clubwestaz.com I hope all of you have a nice spring.





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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings once again to all of our neighbors in the Foothills Club West Community Home Owners Association.

We held our annual meeting March 5th and selected our board positions for 2020. The votes were:

ELECTION
Michael Hinz 330
Thomas Townsend 329
Total Votes - 526 Ballots

<u>Festival of Lights Donation</u> - Approval to set aside \$10.00 per year (approximately \$25,000) of each homeowner's assessment and to donate that sum to the Festival of Lights Association contingent upon the continuation of the light display along Chandler Blvd. and that the display include the lighting of the main Foothills Club West monument and surrounding area at 6th St and Chandler Blvd.

FOR: 344 AGAINST: 80

We are very grateful to those wo took the time to turnout and invite all homeowners to every meeting, the third Thursday of the month.

These results were announced at the conclusion of the meeting last week and our current board members are listed on our community website: www.ClubWestAz.com. We are always pleased when people turn out for a vote. Unfortunately, this year's turn out was significantly less than last year.

We had some positives to report for the year, but those seem to fade when considering the issue of the golf course. The course is addressed under a separate article in the newsletter.

We reported that our landscape contract had come up for renewal. The contract was put to bid and a new vendor was selected. Though we were satisfied with Land Care, they could not deliver the service we demand at the prices we require. We need your feedback as a community of the quality of their performance. ANY feedback is appreciated.

The highway is completed and ADOT is making adjustment to the mess they left on Liberty Lane. We expect some additional improvements.

I am pleased to have served, and continue to serve my fellow homeowners. I am grateful that as neighbors we have common interests and hope that we can continue to meet your expectations. Of course we don't always make the mark and hope you can provide feedback and proactive suggestions wherever possible.

We remain a volunteer board, we are your neighbors, and we appeal to each of you to please attend our meetings, please share your ideas and please bring us issues and challenges that you face or that impact our community. Please volunteer to support our landscaping and various other committees. Without you, we cannot be successful.

Thank you,

Mike Hinz

COVID-19

We hope that all of your friends and family are safe and healthy. Due to the current pandemic, the Board and Management have had to make some changes that may affect you as homeowners.

Unfortunately, we have closed the clubhouse to gatherings and meetings of any kind. It will remain closed to the pubic until further notice. Please exercise extreme caution when touching any other surfaces (drinking fountains, playgrounds, etc.).

The Board Meeting scheduled for March 19th was also canceled. It is possible the April 17th meeting will be canceled as well. Please be sure to check the website for updated meeting information.

A Message from Vision Community Management

The health and safety of our employees and homeowners is of utmost importance to Vision Community Management. For this reason, we are limiting walk-in traffic to essential deliveries and scheduled appointments. We are still able to provide the necessary services but are requiring owners to use alternate methods of communicating with our team in lieu of face to face communications.

If you need help making a payment: First, please visit our website at www.WeAreVision.com. There are several payment options available for your convenience. If you need assistance making a payment contact our office at 480-759-4945 or fcw@wearevision.com.

If you need assistance with a violation notification, architectural application, community question, etc.: Email fcw@wearevision.com. Your management team will be able to provide assistance and will contact you via telephone if necessary. Correspondence may also be sent via regular mail and fax.

We thank everyone for their cooperation during this time. We wish a very safe and happy spring season to all Foothills Club West residents.

Thank you,

Your Foothills Club West Team Vision Community Management



LIVING WITH BOBCATS

Arizona Game and Fish Department

There have been several reports of bobcat sightings. They are occurring all through Ahwatukee, not just Club West. They may have been uprooted by the highway construction. They may be attracted to the open space of the golf course because there is less human activity. It is difficult to determine why the frequency of sightings appears to have increased. Perhaps the overuse of social media simply makes it seem so.

One of the benefits of living in our community is the exposure to wildlife, be it bobcats or coyotes or javelina. Each provides character and flavor to our corner of the world, but there cautions and facts to remember. Immediately below is the website for Arizona Game and Fish. Please feel free to explore.

https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/livingwith/bobcats/

The website provides general information about bobcats and we have reprinted it for your benefit here.

Lynx Rufus or Felis Rufus

Bobcats are common throughout Arizona at all elevations, especially in rimrock and chaparral areas, and in the outskirts of urban areas where food is readily available. Bobcats are generally seen alone, but groups may consist of mating pairs, siblings, or mothers with kittens. Bobcats are most active around sunset and sunrise, and it is not uncommon to find one napping under a shrub in a brushy backyard. Individual bobcats will defend a territory of one to 12 square miles.

Description and Habits

- •Tan with dark spots on coat
- •Short tail with black tip on top side
- •15-35 pounds (males are larger than females)
- •18-24 inches tall
- •24-48 inches long
- •Mate February to March
- Average litter of two to three kittens, usually born from April to early June
- •Kittens stay with the mother seven to 12 months
- •Live 10-15 years
- Able to jump as high as 12 feet
- •They are carnivorous, generally feed on small mammals and birds (includes domestic birds and rabbits); will also eat lizards, snakes, and small pets, including house cats

Possible Conflicts with Humans and Pets:

If you see a bobcat near your home, there is no need to panic. Bobcats rarely attack people. However, if a bobcat does attack a human, it generally will have symptoms of rabies. Bobcats may be attracted to a yard that has abundant wildlife, domestic birds, small pets, water, and shade or other shelter. Small pets need to be protected from bobcats and other predators. Keep small pets indoors, in an enclosed area with a roof, or on a leash when outside. Domestic birds should be kept in an enclosed area with a sturdy roof (a 6-foot tall fence is not necessarily good protection), and do not spread seed that attracts other wildlife. Do not feed bobcats, as this can encourage them to become too comfortable around humans.

What Attracts Them?

- •Bobcats may visit an area to find food, water, shelter, or the space they need to live.
- •Food may include birds, rodents, rabbits, small unattended pets, poultry or other domestic birds, and other small livestock.
- •Water in pools, birdbaths, fountains, and pets' water dishes can attract bobcats. They will sometimes defecate in shallow water (such as pools and fountains).
- •Shelter for bobcats can include rooftops, attics, and the space underneath decks. Other small spaces can make attractive dens also, and bobcats will sometimes rest during the day or bask in the sun. This makes them attracted to thick brush, shade, and unoccupied yards.

Club West Golf Course Saga Continues

On September 4, 2018, Richard Brueninger and the Inter-Tribal Golf Association, ("ITGA"), lost the ownership of the Club West Golf Course to Wilson Gee, the original owner, and Foothills Golf Group.

Brueninger filed for bankruptcy protection, and then lost that protection in October of 2018. Gee obtained control of the course again in late October, late enough that the fall season was lost.

The HOA made specific demands on the owner, and he provided a basic plan to bring the course into operation in the Spring for the following fall. Which would have been October of 2019.

Over the course of the spring 1999 to mid fall 1999, the golf course has been in escrow 4 times.

It is important to remember that these are private transactions between a buyer and seller. We become aware of a transaction only if informed by a buyer or a title company. There is no obligation on the part of the buyer or seller to discuss with the HOA.

The course is currently in escrow. As of this writing there is no new information on the transaction. If new information becomes available, it will be reported as appropriate.

FRED SAYS

Think like A Wigard



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CYCLE CYCLE CYCLE

0 M.D. Ph.D.

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GROUND
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FEET FEET FEET

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ECNALG

DEATH LIFE

12 THINK

🌃 ababaaabbbbaaaabbba...

ANSWER KEY

13.Long time no see (c)

12.Think big

11.Life after death

10.Backwards glance

9. He's by himself

8. 6 feet underground

7. Neon light (knee-on light)

6. Two degrees below zero

5. Tricycle

4. Crossroads

3. Reading between the lines

2. I understand

1. Man overboard

Volunteer Board and Committees

My personal appeal to you

It is important that we remind our homeowners and neighbors that ours is a volunteer board. Some of us have been on the board for a number of years. We also rely on volunteers for various duties and committees in the community.

This year was important to the community. Issues remain on the Golf Course. Some of you are directly effected. Issues remain with traffic safety and the highway, all of us effected. This will be especially true if or when the 380 acres between here and Foothills Reserve is brought to development.

This year we had an election for 3 board seats and two owners submitted their interest for the board - both incumbents. We received zero candidate interest forms from new volunteers. Let me say that again, zero members of the community were willing to serve on the Board. In every past year we have received enough nominees to fill the open seats. Many of us run for re-election because we enjoy the sense of belonging it brings, but this year was different.

Without the incumbents the board would lack the membership needed to fulfil its duties.

Perhaps many could not commit to the time and effort that the position requires - we understand. But we also have a less demanding level of engagement, like a committee. Unfortunately we only had one homeowner volunteer (and he is doing so again) for a Committee.

It is in a spirit of openness and honesty that I communicate how disappointing it is, that faced with some of the issues at hand, there was no new nominees for the board and no new volunteers interested in joining a committee.

Further we asked attendees at our annual meeting to provide written feedback, positive or negative. We also asked for suggestions and opportunities in the coming year. We even provided paper and pencil for that ask. We have only received one communication in email.

We need your participation. Not just when our personal interest is involved, but, at all times.



Sustainable Landscape Management

The Foothills Club West Community has an abundance of landscaping. The beautiful park areas, manicured granite streetscapes and natural desert areas combine to a total of over 5.6 million square feet of HOA maintained common area landscape. That also includes the 3 acres of grass, over 2,500 trees and 100,000+ plants/shrubs throughout the community. Properly maintaining the vast quantities of grass, shrubs, plants and trees takes great skill, careful planning, and forward thinking. The main factors used during this planning process are: appearance, water costs, and long-term sustainability of the landscaping.

To achieve the best results, given the desert environment in which we live, Sustainable Landscape Management practices have been implemented into the Community Landscape Management plan.

The goals of Sustainable Landscape Management, or SLM, are to:

- Work within the natural plant life cycles
- Promote health, flowering and overall attractiveness
- Manage for long life
- Conserve water

The Sustainable Landscape Management approach works with the plants' natural life cycle, with less frequent trimming and incorporating an annual rejuvenation trimming that cuts back branches to a much shorter length. The plant is then allowed to regrow its branches for a longer period before being trimmed again. This cycle of limb loss and regrowth more closely reflects the natural life cycle of desert plant varieties. The plants become stronger, they regrow and bloom in a much more attractive manner, they require less nutrients and water, and the appearance of the plants becomes more natural, rather than manicured and shaped.

The Sustainable Landscape Management approach to maintaining the community's landscaping helps achieve better looking plants, promotes healthy growth with seasonal blooming, extends the life of the plants and reduces water needs of the desert adapted plants.



Yearly Landscape Calendar - Foothills Club West

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When a plant continuously gets shear pruned year after year they become very woody within the plant and outgrow their intended space.



Rejuvenation cutback is a renewal pruning practice that involves the reduction in the plant's size to 12-18".



The dramatic cutback will encourage the remaining limbs to promote new, vigorous growth, and improve the aesthetic value of a landscape with a more natural flowering plant cycle throughout the year.

Assessment Payment Options

ONLINE PAYMENT

e-Check and Credit Card transactions can be made online. Information contained in your billing statement is required to complete an online transaction. Visit www.ClubWestAZ.com and click on Login or Register to make a one-time online payment.

BILL PAY OR MAILING A PAYMENT

Bill Pay is an online banking service that is offered by most banks. Your choice of your checking or savings account will be debited. You may pay your assessments on a one-time occurrence or set up a recurring arrangement. Go to your bank's website and follow instructions, or call your bank for assistance. Remember to include your association name, your account number, and the lockbox address below.

Checks and money orders can be mailed with your statement stub and should be made payable to Foothills Club West with your account number listed in the memo area of the check to:

> Foothills Club West P.O. Box 60516 Phoenix, AZ 85082-0516

AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL

Payments can be deducted from your checking or savings account automatically via ACH. There is no fee to sign up. Visit www.ClubWestAZ.com to download an ACH form.

Management Information

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the community or your account, your experienced team of professionals is ready to assist.



16625 South Desert Foothills Pkwy. Phoenix, AZ 85048

Community Website

Did you know that our community has a website? Owners can visit www.ClubWestaAZ.com to review account balances, make online assessment payments, submit architectural applications, or view/download Association documents and forms.

Board Meetings

All meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Foothills Club West Clubhouse (16414 S. 14th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85045) with the Open Session beginning at approximately 6:00pm.

Homeowners are welcome to attend. An executive (closed) session will be held at 4:30pm. The executive session shall be a closed meeting pursuant to ARS §33-1804(A) (2) & (5).

Updated meeting information and approved minutes are also posted on the community website.