

Periodico de Esperanza

Thank You, Volunteers!

Last month, the EE HOA held a reception to honor all of its volunteers, both past and present. Once again, we thank you for your contributions to our community. *(More photos on page 6)*



(Left) Phantom volunteers peeking in from the bushes...



Upcoming Events

Cinco de Mayo Potluck

Tuesday, May 5th • Sunset Ramada

4:30 p.m. • Dinner 5:30 p.m.

Margaritas, beer, wine & soft drinks provided



Independence Day Celebration

Saturday, July 4th

Details to come...



Halloween Party

Saturday, October 31st

Start thinking about your costume! Details to come...



Coffee & Donuts

Wednesday following the board meeting

8:00 a.m. at the Ramada

Join your neighbors for complimentary coffee and donuts.

Hosted by the Cookes & the Millers

Board Meetings

May 18 • June 15

1:00 at the Ramada

Board member list & meeting minutes available at <http://esperanzaestates.net>

Esperanza Estates Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 181, Green Valley, AZ 85622-0181

Commemorative Bricks

Is there a friend or loved one you would like to honor or commemorate with an inscribed brick at the EE Ramada? Bricks are available for \$50 (including installation) by calling Tom Cooke, 399-0455.

Pet plaques (on the post at the southwest corner of the ramada) are also available from Geri Lindberg for \$25.

The Return of the Flag to Flag Park

Most long-time Esperanzans will recall that U.S. and Arizona flags used to fly at Esperanza Estates Park (commonly called Flag Park). But strong winds at the highest spot in EE made maintaining the flags impractical, and once the pole was damaged, the flags were removed.

The Arizona state flag returned in the form of a ceramic mural created by Kathy Sawin for the 2012 Arizona centennial.

Now, thanks to a donation by Sam Simonson and his family in memory of June Simonson, the U.S. flag is flying once again. The new pole is telescopic, so it can be lowered when the flag isn't flying. Scottie Blum has volunteered to raise and lower the flag on appropriate holidays.

To celebrate the occasion as well as the anonymous donation of a new barbecue grill for the park, Sam Simonson organized a flag raising ceremony and Jim and Barbara Copeland sponsored a barbecue.

Thanks to Jim's sanding and sealing of the picnic tables, the park is a perfect spot for having lunch or resting in the shade.



Around Esperanza



The snake at Esperanza Park in her Easter finery.



Big Bertha bloom in Del and Kris Bean's yard.

New Owners

*Elizabeth Blasdel
612 Placita Nueva*

*Alfred Guilmain
212 Circulo Napa*

*William & Kathryn Montony
1096 Circulo del Norte*

*Sharon Welsh-Falor
1180 Circulo del Sur*

*John & Bernadine Straatman
787 Calle del Regalo*

*Robert & Sandra Nicholson
1113 Calle Excelso*

*James & Josephine Hauge
727 Calle del Regalo*



Mary Ann Strauss displayed several of her quilts in the recent Valley Quilters Guild quilt show. She's won many awards for her marvelous quilts.



In Memoriam

*Lillie Sheehan
1154 Calle Excelso
March 26, 2015*

*Jerry Miholer
270 Circulo Napa
April 11, 2015*

Arts Club Heads in New Direction

Starting in the fall, the EE Arts Club will have a new name, a new purpose and a new leader. In 2012, the group's initial mission was to create public art to display in EE's common areas. Now the group has decided to focus on helping residents create personal works of art for themselves. The group will organize workshops where Esperanzans can try their hands at a variety of creative projects. Some classes will be conducted by members, but others will be taught by professional artisans. There may also be field trips to visit art studios and exhibits.

To reflect the very serious talent of many of the group's members, the group has decided to change its name to the Esperanza Estates Artisans. In addition, the new group will merge with the current Fiber Arts Group.

Barbara Copeland who is an accomplished artisan, will become the Artisan's Coordinator, succeeding Kevin Welsh who has headed up the group for the last several years.

During Kevin's tenure, the group produced many works of public art which can be seen throughout the neighborhood. These include six large decorative pots, (three of which are pictured below), a desert tortoise and a family of quail. The group also held a very successful art auction to fund the wood burning oven in the new Parque Felicidad. Kevin recently created beautiful Mexican tile murals to adorn the niches on the wall outside the pool.

Kevin's enthusiasm and hard work have greatly contributed to the continuation and productivity of the Arts Club and they appreciate all he has done.

We'll be hearing more about the Artisans' activities soon. New members are always welcome.



Volunteer Appreciation Party



The Periodico staff insisted on posing for a group photo: (l to r) Denise Roessle, Dean Hess, Mary Hess, Craig Surprise, Cynthia Surprise and Mike Gerrard. (Missing: Cindy Krantz and Paul LaVanway.)

Book Corner: The Oatman Massacre

By Cindy Krantz

THE OATMAN MASSACRE: A Tale of Desert Captivity and Survival
By Brian McGinty; c. 2004. 979.0049725

Early in the 19th century there was a large settlement of Mormons in Nauvoo, IL. As sometimes happens in tight-knit communities, differences began to arise among the residents and many decided to leave Nauvoo for other locations. The exodus from Nauvoo was one of the greatest migrations in U.S. history--over 10,000 people left Hancock County between 1846-1850 to head west due to differences in religious practices. As families traveled supplies dwindled and illnesses weakened their numbers. Many decided to stay where they were; others turned back; only a few continued the western journey.

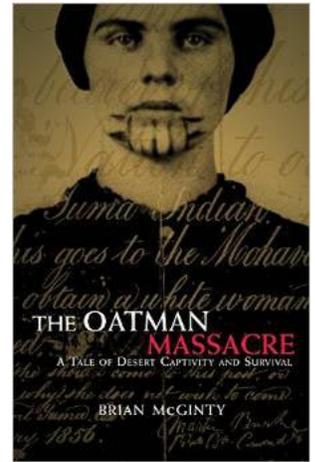
One family that continued was that of Roy (42) and Mary Ann (38) Oatman who had with them 7 children with an 8th child on the way. They followed the Gila River where, on February 18, 1851, the family was attacked by Indians near Gila Bend, AZ. Roy, Mary Ann and 4 of their children were slaughtered; their badly beaten 14-year-old son managed to reach Maricopa Wells to tell about the ambush; Olive and Mary Ann (13 and 8) were taken captive by the Tolkepayas.

The story of the massacre in Gila Bend was published in the newspapers of the 1850's. In 1857 a Methodist Minister, Royal B. Stratton, published a book in San Francisco titled *Captivity of the Oatman Girls*. America was fascinated with information of Indian captivities--most of the narratives were part fact and part fiction. The "Wild West" was full of adventure--authors blended their personal anti-Indian biases and contempt for the Native Americans with facts and assumptions about what actually happened. It was difficult to discern between the truth and fiction of these accounts.

Brian McGinty decided to research the incident in order to find the truth. He spoke to many Indians and researched the known history of the SW Indian tribes in the mid-19th century. There were many tribes in this area of the country which co-existed in a semblance of peace. However, when white men began to invade this area, they were seen as intruders and a threat to their native cultures.

While *The Oatman Massacre* tells the story of only one family's tragedy in their quest to the West, it is a story that is a part of AZ's history. While the Americans were heading West in search of land and religious freedom, these prizes were won at the expense of the Native Americans. This book is a readable non-fiction account of one family's journey. Its 17-page bibliography attests to the extensive research done by McGinty. It is a book you'll find sheds light on life in southern AZ in the mid 19th century and a book worth one's time to read.

Cindy Krantz is an avid reader. She leads the EE Book Discussion Group and maintains the Book Exchange.



Wildlife Watch: Gila Monsters

By Mike Gerrard

A few weeks ago our neighbor Cynthia Surprise called us and said to come over if we wanted to see a Gila monster. It was sitting in the shade on the stones beside their house, occasionally turning to look at us and flicking its tongue out. We don't see them that often in EE. Was it the same one that two members of the gardening committee found resting under an agave when they were surveying the plants in Esperanza Park last year?



It's always a treat to see one of these creatures, with its black and pink coloring looking a little like Native American petroglyphs. Indeed, the Apache believed that the mere breath from a Gila monster could kill a man, which is a bit unfair. I know a few people I think could do the same.

It's always best to be a little wary of the Gila monster. Although it's slow-moving and poses little threat to us, it is still venomous and if it bites its jaws lock so that nothing will get it off. Your best bet if you're unlucky enough to be bitten is to submerge the creature in water so that it may eventually let go in order to escape and breathe.

The Gila monster is the only venomous lizard in the United States - so naturally it makes its home mainly in Arizona, among our other deadly friends, and also in the neighboring Mexican state of Sonora. It produces venom in its lower jaw, unlike a snake which produces it in its upper jaw. While the snake can inject and even spit its venom, the Gila monster can do neither. To inject the venom, which comes out through grooves in its teeth, it therefore needs to chew its victim - another reason not to go poking one with a stick. Although there have been no fatalities reported since 1939, a bite from a Gila monster can still make you mighty sick and needing hospital treatment.

One reason they're rarely encountered is that they live mostly underground, and over the course of a year might only spend a few weeks in total on the surface. A lot of that time will be at night, as in the summer months they're nocturnal, so to see one during the day is indeed a rare treat. Although they're not endangered they are regarded as Near Threatened, and they are also a protected species, so don't even think of trying to harm one.

Another peculiarity of this Jurassic Park creature is that it only eats 4-5 times a year. It will dine off carrion, small mammals, birds, eggs, and even other lizards. It stores its fat in its tail but, unlike humans, won't then eat again for several weeks. They reproduce in the spring and early summer, laying from 2-12 eggs underground, and the young ones will emerge the following spring. They grow up to about 14" or so, not including the tail, apart from the one in the B-movie classic, *The Giant Gila Monster*, which was about 70-feet. Perhaps we should show it at the Ramada sometime?

But if you see what appears to be a small specimen around this time of year, it may well be a youngster. If you think it looks kinda cute and would make a good pet, think again. The fine for taking one from the wild is up to \$250,000. Better stick to a dog or a cat.

Stayin' Alive, Stayin' Alive

To most people, the Bee Gees' popular disco song "Stayin' Alive" calls to mind John Travolta strutting down a Brooklyn street in the movie "Saturday Night Fever." But for the group of Esperanzans who knelt on the Ramada floor several weeks ago to forcefully press on the chests of plastic torsos, the song now has a new significance. Its tempo almost perfectly matches the recommended rate for performing hands-only CPR — 100 chest compressions per minute.

Thanks to the efforts of Barb McCalpin and Vern Wise, the Green Valley Fire District sent Austin Roush to conduct two CPR/AED classes in EE, and 16 residents spent two and half hours learning how to save a life.

The class demonstrated how to perform CPR and use the new AED devices the Enhancement Team has installed at the pool and the tennis/pickleball courts.



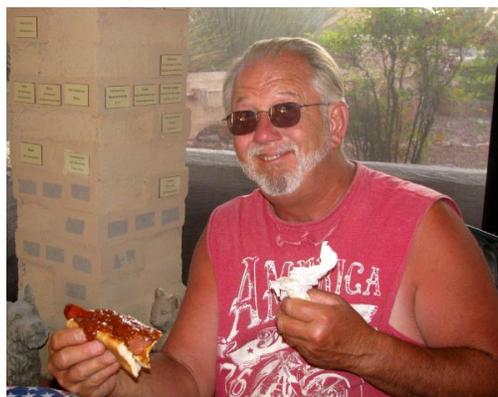
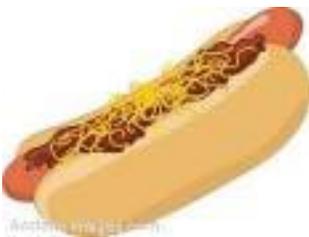
So What's Coney Island Anyway?

Coney Island is a peninsula located in the borough of Brooklyn, New York. Between about 1880 and World War II, Coney Island was the largest amusement area in the United States, attracting several million visitors per year.

Three of Coney Island's most famous rides are: the Wonder Wheel, a steel ferris wheel built in 1918; the Cyclone roller coaster, one of the oldest wooden coasters still in operation; and the Parachute Jump, in which patrons were hoisted 190 ft in the air before being allowed to drop using guy wired parachutes.

If you ate a hot dog at Coney Island, it would most likely have been a Nathan's Famous hot dog. Nathan's was founded by Nathan Handwerker, a polish immigrant who started his business in 1916 with a small hot dog stand in Coney Island. Seinfeld fans may remember that one entire episode was based on visiting the original restaurant on Coney Island.

But the Coney Island hot dogs served by the Hospitality Committee originated in Michigan. A Coney Island Hot Dog or Coney is an all-beef hot dog, topped with a ground beef sauce, a strip of mustard and chopped onions.





Whatz It Worth?

By Pat Sharpe

When I heard that the Assistance League of Tucson was having their annual (“Whatz It Worth”) charity appraisals at the Doubletree Inn, I wanted to go.

Antiques Roadshow has been to Tucson twice, and I was lucky enough to get tickets to the first one. That time I took a tobacco jar that had belonged to my paternal grandfather. It was appraised by David Rago, who appraises pottery on the TV show. He seemed very unimpressed with the family heirloom (said he had seen quite a few of them that day) and appraised my tobacco jar at \$250.

I have been the fortunate beneficiary of quite a few family treasures, so I thought I’d give it another try. I have always wondered what my maternal grandmother’s bisque dolls were worth. “Bisque” refers to unglazed porcelain, and these dolls are so pretty, sitting on their lavender hassocks. So, I bought my ticket (\$35) and went into Tucson on Sunday afternoon, February 15.

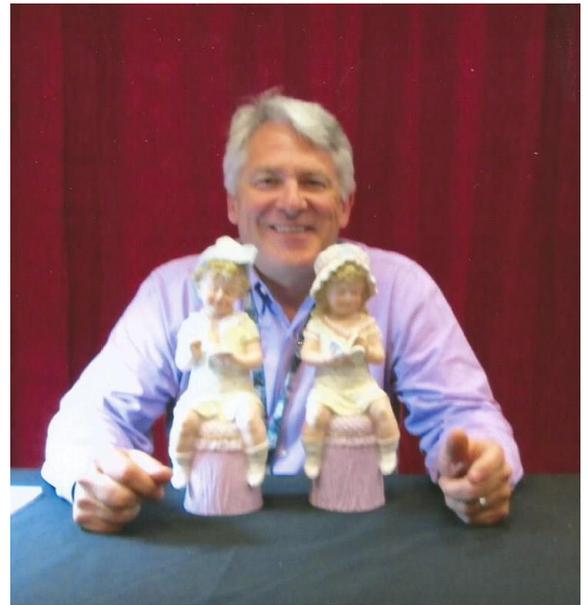
The Assistance League had an abundance of volunteers to direct us to the right line. We sat on comfortable chairs and moved up chair-by-chair to the proper appraiser. My appraisal was done by Stuart Whitehurst (pictured above), who is a regular on Antiques Roadshow.

I had wrapped my dolls in turkish towels and put them in a banker’s box. As soon as I unwrapped the first doll, Stuart told me he knew exactly who had made them – Heubach. Heubach is known for “piano babies,” which were popular at the turn of the 20th century. He said my dolls were made about 1895, and the pair was worth approximately \$350. I was pleased with the amount and know my grandmother would have been too.

I later learned that during the event Stuart also appraised a book with a cover inlaid with Swarovski crystal at \$75,000. He was so excited to see it, he almost started to cry.

I love watching Antiques Roadshow on Monday nights, especially because the people who bring their items are so genuine and so happy with even the most modest appraisals. I was treated very well by everyone at Whatz It Worth. It was a great experience.

The Assistance League has a thrift store at 1307 N. Alvernon Way. One of their primary good works is “Operation School Bell,” which outfits disadvantaged schoolchildren with appropriate clothing to encourage regular school attendance and self-esteem. They are duly proud of the fact that since 1994 they have outfitted more than 50,000 children.



Putting the New Oven to the Test...

The Copelands, Shays and Welshes have been experimenting with how to bake in the oven. So far, they have successfully made pizza and bread. It's a bit tricky, but they are willing to share what they have learned with anyone interested in trying the oven out.





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Periodico Staff & Advertising

Designer/Publisher/Advertising Contact:

Denise Roessle
399-3312, droessle@mac.com

Editor: Cynthia Surprise

857-209-1978, cjsurprise@verizon.net

Contributing Writers: Mike Gerrard, Mary Hess,

Cindy Krantz, Cynthia Surprise

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If you do not have a computer and would like to receive a printed copy of the Periodico, contact Denise at 399-3312.

Are you a business owner? The Periodico is an excellent way to promote yourself to your neighbors! As a homeowner, have you done business with a company that provided reliable, high quality service? Ask them to consider placing an ad in the Periodico.

RATES:

	3 months	6 months	10 months
Full Page	\$140	\$270	\$440
1/2 Page	\$80	\$150	\$235
1/4 Page	\$50	\$90	\$140
Bus. Card	\$40	\$70	\$90

The EE HOA Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, Periodico staff, and other personnel are not responsible for the business credentials of those that advertise in the Periodico. It is the responsibility of each homeowner interested in a service to verify credentials and seek references.

For additional information, contact:

Denise Roessle, 399-3312, droessle@mac.com

Help us reach everyone in EE...

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