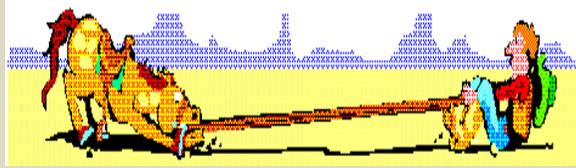


Newberry Ripples

Newberry Springs / Harvard Property Owners Association Newsletter



"Let's Pull Together For The Good Of The Community!"

Fall – 2014

NSHPOA

PO Box 176, Newberry Springs, CA
92365

1-760-257-4539

1-760-257-3299

NewberryPropertyOwners.org

Officers

President Spike Lynch
Vice President Sandi Brittian
Membership/Treasurer
Vickie Paulson
Secretary Margaret Graessle
Executive Director (publicity)
Pastor Charles Patrick
Roads Committee Dennis Hall

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Our Community:	
Family Center	2
CSD	2
SVDC & CERT	2
Chamber News	2
The Barn	2
Activities and Events	3-5
Summer Food Program	6
Baja Sustainability Plan	7
Membership Application	

We meet on the second Saturday of every month except July and August at 10:00AM in the Community Center at the south end of Newberry Road. All are welcome!

President's Letter

Dear Members and Friends:

Summer break is over and it's back to work. Well, most of us really haven't stopped working. Over the summer we had some normal heat spells and some storms but we survived. Also over the summer, we had some successful events like the **Independence Day firework show** (SPECTACULAR). And the **4th of July parade**, and earlier the Legion sponsored an **Easter egg hunt** for the kids.

We have lots of things coming up. This September meeting on the 13th we will open the nominations for next year directors and officers, so think about getting involved or nominating someone.

In addition, many exciting things are coming up this fall, such as the **Pumpkin Patch Trick or Treat** for the kids. Then the Famous **Pistachio Harvest Festival** and the Legion sponsors a **Christmas party** with entertainment and gifts for our kids. Some of our people are developing games to get local people involved such as Community **Softball teams**, and other contests to kick off the **Independence Day** celebrations. The Chamber sponsors a **Holiday House Light** decoration contest and puts on a caravan to see the beautiful lights and decorations. You can read about these activities and more in this newsletter.

I would like to take this time to thank the hard working officers and directors on this board that help make our Community successful.

Thank you and enjoy reading!
Your President, Spike Lynch

OUR COMMUNITY

Our Active Community



Did you know our Family Center is not only a place to meet friends, learn new things, share your experiences—but it's also a restaurant and a Newberry Springs venue for events?

If you haven't visited, give it a try—you just might like what you see!



*Volunteers always
needed and welcome!*
760-257-3284
33383 Newberry Rd.

*Wireless internet
in Cafe!*

CSD News

BOARD MEETINGS

The Newberry Community Services District will have regular Board Meetings on the **4th Tuesday** of every month, **6 pm**, at the Newberry Community Center *THE PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND*

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Second Friday Every Month
Newberry Community Center
30884 Newberry Road
9 am - 11 am While Supplies Last
Open to all Newberry Springs Residents—Income Restrictions

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The food commodities program is in need of volunteers to assist with packing & distributing food and processing applicants. Contact the Newberry CSD Office at 760-257-3613 or NewberryCSD@gmail.com

Silver Valley Disaster Council

For information, or questions, contact:

Butch Farrington at
butchfarrington@aol.com
Kathy Ridler at
brokentrailranch@aol.com

CERT

Butch Farrington at
butchfarrington@aol.com
Larry Menard at
ljmenard@netzero.com

Chamber News

The Chamber is a totally volunteer non-profit organization. Profits from events are used to benefit the community in promoting tourism, provide scholarships to graduating High School seniors, donate to annual fireworks display, pre-fund events, support other local organizations and promotion of our community for economic development that is compatible with our unique rural area and beneficial to its residents. General meetings open to the public—2nd Friday of every month at 6 P.M.

Third & Fifth Saturdays:
BINGO at the Newberry Community Center, 30884 Newberry Road. Doors open at **5 pm**, Early Bird games start at 6pm, regular games at **6:30 pm**. Everyone 18 years of age and older is welcomed to play! Proceeds go to scholarships.

From the Barn

SWAP Meet First Saturday of every month—For more information about **The Barn** events, just give them a call at: 760-257-4110

OUR COMMUNITY (Cont'd)

Community Activity Reports

Margaret Graessle, margraessle@gmail.com

2nd Saturday Summer Softball

The Property Owners Association sponsored a community softball game for the Spring and Summer second Saturdays.

On March 8 the Newberry Springs Volunteer Fire Dept. came out, with some others from the community. Fourteen people played, 7 on each team, with 5 or 6 people watching. Also, two volunteers had about 6 children at the other backstop, practicing hitting the ball and playing. It was our best turn out.

April 12, nine people showed up to play. It was fun, but of course if there had been more, it would have been merrier.

On May 10, a huge wind storm caused a big sand-blown Brown Out. Still 7 people gathered and found that at the field the weather was perfect. It was fun but we needed more people to play a real game.

The start time for June and July was moved to 6:00 because of the heat. The **June** game went well, but only three people showed in **July**.

Shall we try a winter series of games? There could be five, **October through February** under the lights. Come to the Property Owners meeting **September 13 at 10am** and let your voice be heard and sign-up.

July 3rd Four-Way Tug of War

On July 3rd at the **Independence Day Kickoff Festival and Fireworks**, there was a four-way tug of war out on the field. Possibly more than 50 people were on the ropes. The Newberry Springs Fire Department took one line while men, women and children took the other three lines. Everyone pulled hard, back and forth, until finally the Fire Department pulled with a last hard effort for the win, pulling all three ropes filled with people over the line. Next year we will ask the Fire Department to be on different ropes.



Yes, the fun of a greased pole climbing contest was added to the festivities of 3 July, 2014. \$20.00 was the 1st prize. Many adults and children tried and tried. Finally Mr. Russell Synkowski, with great determination and perseverance showed his son Jack how to succeed and was able to grab that \$20.00.

After succeeding, Mr. Synkowski very generously gave \$10.00 of the \$20.00 prize and put it up on the top of the pole to let someone else try it again. A young man of Newberry Springs and his friends were able to finally retrieve that prize. We look forward to next year continuing this fun and well received activity.

OUR COMMUNITY (Cont'd)

Annual Pistachio Festival

Vickie Paulsen

The world's one and only Annual Pistachio Festival is on **November 1st.**, so put it on your October calendar now so it will be there when you turn the page.

Gates open at 9:00 a.m. Walk right in; no admission is charged. You'll find free games, entertainers, exhibits, music, craft vendors, artisans, excellent food, and, oh yes, PISTACHIOS.

Are you interested in being a vendor yourself? Pick up an application at the Family Center (aka Senior Center). For more information, call **Jill Shadle, 760-257-9971**. Website <http://www.pistachiofestival.info>

You can give service to your community by volunteering to help set up and/or take down the banners and stuff. The few people who have done this in the past are getting older and slower. They could use some new blood – old blood is OK, too, since more hands of any age make light work. It would be *greatly* appreciated!

The Festival is sponsored by the Newberry Springs Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the County of San Bernardino, Southern California Edison, and the Newberry Community Services District.

Christmas Lights

Vickie Paulsen

One of the most delightful times of the year in Newberry Springs is Christmas, when many homes are highly decorated for the holidays. Some of the best ones are hiding out of sight – you need a guide to find them.

The Chamber of Commerce has a solution: The **Caravan of Cars** from the Community Center to all homes participating in the Decorating Contest. Come early for refreshments, then head out caravan style to each place. You will be amazed at these artful, funny, traditional, imaginative decorations. Moreover, you get to vote for the ones you like best! The winners receive a small cash prize. Want to enter your own home? Watch for notices at the Post Office and the Family Center.

Found a wounded bird or tortoise?

Call Animal Care and Control, 1-800-472-5609, and they will pick it up and take it to a rehab place. If you must pick up a tortoise, keep it close to the ground so it won't get disoriented. Don't call about crows and ravens because they aren't rare enough, but do call about hawks, etc.

OUR COMMUNITY (Cont'd)

Road Maintenance

Vickie Paulsen

Director Dennis Hall talked with Bill Little (Public Works Supervisor in Barstow) about possibly swapping maintained but uninhabited roads for unmaintained inhabited roads. Little explained that he can help with any road in Newberry Springs that is already maintained, but there is no way to swap roads. Caution: If you maintain an unmaintained road, you may be liable if any accidents happen on that road.

The County sometimes uses unmaintained roads with their heavy trucks. It is, of course, unfair for the county to tear up roads that they are not maintaining. 556 miles of dirt roads are NOT maintained by the state or county.

If you see that happening, contact Director Hall at ginahall4@aol.com.

Coming Soon!

Kris Watson

PUMPKIN PATCH TRICK OR TREAT

Seeking volunteers to provide treat stations for the annual Pumpkin Patch Trick or Treat to be held on Saturday October 18th, on the Ball Field at the Community Center. This event provides a safe, controlled environment for children ages 11 and under to trick or treat. More treat stations equals more fun for our children.

The Chamber of Commerce offers 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place ribbons to the best decorated "Treat Station" in **3** categories.

- * **Covered Booth** = decorated tent, easy-up, motor home or framework
- * **Treat Table** = open decorated table (small or large)
- * **Trunk Treats** = Park on the south side of the ball field (Trunk-n-Treat Lane), back up to the grass and serve treats out of your decorated trunk.

Wear costumes, play spooky music, play a game for treats, or just make it simple. Plan on approx. 250 children, they will come by your station at least 3 times. You must pre-register no later than 10/16/14 to have a "Treat Station."

Contact Chairman—**Kris Watson** at 257-3435 (for information & questions).

Stations must be set up before 5:45PM; check-in begins at 5:15PM with treating beginning at 6:15 PM. Each treat station must have a lit pumpkin.

OUR COMMUNITY (Cont'd)



SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM 2014

Pastor Charles and Gwen Patrick
Foundations For Future Generations

For the 2nd year the SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM has blessed children in Newberry Springs, ages 18 and under. In Partnership with Desert Manna, we provided lunch, crafts; sports activities, and the B.O.S.S. Character Program.

We are most thankful for many of the gifts from anonymous residents of Newberry Springs, particularly, gifts of cash for gasoline – whereby we were able to pick up and drop off children in our 15 passenger van.

Gifts came in also in the form of local talent – including representatives from CERT, to share emergency protection information for families. Much appreciation goes to the American Legion for the information on how to honor our Flag, Crafts experts, and Solar Cooking Experts.

A hearty thanks goes out to several organizations in our community that helped bring success to the program. The Newberry Springs Family Center Board of Directors, under the leadership of President Paulette Marshall, provided the facilities to house our Summer Food Program. Mr. Jim Blessing cleared an area for sports activities. Pastor Vaughn Ulm allowed partnership with the Newberry Springs Community Church Vacation Bible School (VBS) program for children to receive bible teaching. The Newberry Springs Chamber of Commerce and Barstow Partners Revenue Sharing, under the leadership of Spike Lynch, were the primary contributors to the transportation expenses.

We were able to serve well over 1,000 meals to needy children in Newberry Springs. Thank you, “Drifting Sands Café” for your patience, love, and support.

Last but not least, special thanks is also extended to our special group of volunteers and parents who participated: Craig Cope, Ronnie Shaw, Paulette Marshall, Sean Marshall, Victoria Rodriguez, Margaret Graessle, April Lopez (Youth Helper), Pam Sprenger, and Jon-Paul Sprenger, Joleen Szykowski, and Matthew and Lisa Sullivan.

OUR COMMUNITY (Cont'd)

Baja Sustainability Plan Well Underway; Seeking Community Input on September 17, 6PM

Ellen Johnson and Tim Gobler

A Community Meeting will be held on September 17, 2014 to give a progress update on the Baja Sustainability Plan, and to seek community input on prioritization of Project Alternatives for the Plan. The meeting will be held at 6:00pm at the Newberry Springs Service Center (Senior Center), located at 33383 Newberry Road, Newberry Springs, CA 92365.

The need for this Plan arose because groundwater levels have continued to decline in the Baja Subarea (Newberry Springs community), along with sand migration and the loss of native habitat. This has impacted well owners and property owners at an increasing rate. In the past, the Watermaster (which implements a court judgment regarding water rights in the area) has responded to declining groundwater levels by “ramping down” water rights holders’ allowance to pump groundwater.

In response to the community’s desire to solve the water-related issues in Newberry Springs without further rampdowns, the Mojave Water Agency and the Watermaster have partnered with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the community to develop a plan of action to address these concerns. Six Plan Objectives have been developed:

- Stabilize groundwater levels and maintain sustainable use of water resources in the region
- Stabilize soils and reduce blow sand
- Establish long term certainty of water rights
- Maintain rural and agricultural lifestyle
- Preserve riparian habitat in the Mojave River floodplain
- Develop innovative programs for outside funding

**Help Shape the Baja
Sustainability Plan**

September 17, 2014 at 6 p.m.
Newberry Springs "Senior Center"
33383 Newberry Road

Thanks to your input, the goals for the Baja Sustainability Plan have been developed and approved. Now it's time to roll up our sleeves and discuss project alternatives to achieve these goals. Don't miss this opportunity to shape our future!

For more information visit www.bajaplan.com

The project team, with help from community members, identified 17 Project Alternatives that could contribute toward meeting the Plan Objectives. During the September Community Meeting, they hope to finalize prioritization of those projects so that implementation can begin soon for high-

priority projects. A Draft Plan is scheduled to become available for public review in late-2014.

For further information send an email to info@bajaplan.com or go to the web site at www.bajaplan.com.