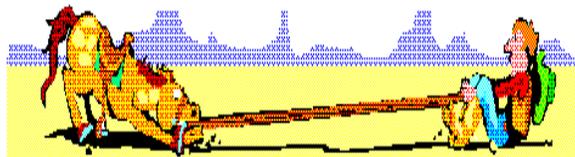


NEWBERRY RIPPLES

Newberry Springs / Harvard Property Owners Association Newsletter Summer 2009



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

President's Letter

Dear Members and Friends:

For those of you who live out of the area, we're having a beautiful Summer...a "little" wind, but that serves an important purpose - not sure what it is, but as soon as I find out, I'll let you know! In between the gusts, though, we had some wonderful desert days.

We all know that sunshine is one of our major attractions, and is also one of our many assets. It seems that the rest of the world is just now finding that out. With the major push for alternative energy sources, various solar generation companies are doing a lot of snooping around to tap into our resources. Some wind energy people have also seemed to notice our little gusts, as I mentioned above, and they would like to tap those also. So far, wind generation has only consisted of individual windmills scattered occasionally on private properties, and are not the 'wind farms' we see in areas like the lower deserts, etc.

As for solar plants / farms, there are several types: some have mirrors that follow the sun to reflect onto tall towers, others have mirrors that heat long tubes, and yet others have photovoltaic panels, which convert light into energy.. They all have their place, and some are less intrusive than others. We're not opposed to sensible use of our assets, but we want to be sure that we don't sacrifice the beauty of our wonderful community.

Did you notice that our newsletter finally has a name? Congratulations go out to Member Jackie McBrien for the winning entry in our "Name The Newsletter" contest. I'm rambling again. You can read more about what's happenin' around here in the rest of this newsletter and, if you get a chance, come out and join us at our meetings (not July or August, though...that's our time off!).

Sincerely,

Your President, Spike Lynch



Evidence of our lovely Summer,
from Ellen Johnson's garden

Silver Valley Community Issues Committee

Our Silver Valley Community Issues Committee, headed up by Ellen Johnson, was formed by the Property Owners Association in April, 2008. The purpose of the Committee, as defined in its Mission Statement, is: *"To provide a forum to gather and share information on community issues, in order to foster greater involvement of the citizens of the Silver Valley."*

The Committee meets at the Newberry Seniors Center on the third Thursday of each month, except for July and August.

Some of the issues on the current Committee agenda include blight in our community, the formation of a Neighborhood Watch organization (due to ongoing theft and vandalism problems), and staying informed on the water issues that affect all of us. A representative of the Silver Valley Unified School District regularly attends these meetings, and keeps us updated on school concerns. We are continuing to look into after school programs...ideas and suggestions are welcome.

If you would like to be notified of these meetings via email - or regular mail - please contact Ellen at jimel1983@directv.net, or at (760) 2573299.

More Newberry CSD...

The filing period for candidates to run for any of the 3 Director seats on the CSD up for election in November will begin July 13th.

Candidates can obtain candidate packets at the CSD office or from the Registrar of Voters. Call Wayne Weierbach, Board Secretary, for complete details...(760) 2573613.

Chamber News

Be sure to mark your calendars and join us on Saturday, November 7th, for our 12th Annual Pistachio Festival, hosted by the Newberry Springs Chamber of Commerce!

It will be a great day for a family outing, and will include food, fun, live music, and... pistachios!

Vendor space is available, and we are welcoming local artists, craftspeople, and area businesses and organizations.

For more detailed information, please go to the Festival's website, at www.PistachioFestival.info or contact the Chamber at P.O. Box 116, Newberry Springs, CA 92365. Voice / Fax is (760) 2571072, and we can be reached via email at NewberrySpringsCoC@gmail.com. See you there!

Communities Receive Disaster Preparedness Trailer

A trailer loaded with supplies for emergencies and disaster training was presented at the Newberry Springs Community Center on May 6 by San Bernardino County Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt.

The trailer is one of four recently purchased for use by Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) in the High Desert. CERT teams are made up of community volunteers who receive training in disaster response. The other trailers will be stationed in Lucerne Valley, Oak Hills, and Needles. The trailer presented Wednesday will be stationed at the Newberry fire station, near the school, to serve the communities of Yermo, Daggett, Newberry Springs and surrounding areas.

In a major disaster, such as an earthquake or storm, desert communities may be isolated for some time, making the CERT trailers important components of disaster preparedness. More information and photos can be found at www.newberrycsd.blogspot.com.



760 AREA CODE OVERLAY

Beginning May 2, 2009, all customers with a 760 area code should begin dialing the area code for ALL calls. There will be a grace period, so if you forget and dial just seven digits during the grace period, your call will still be completed.

Beginning October 24, 2009, if you do not use an area code, your call will not be completed and a recording will instruct you to hang up and dial again.

Beginning November 21, 2009, new telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers with the new 442 area code.

Click here for complete information on the change:

[http://wirelessupport.verizon.com/faqs/Wireless+Issues/area_code_overlay_760_442+.html760 Area Code Overlay.](http://wirelessupport.verizon.com/faqs/Wireless+Issues/area_code_overlay_760_442+.html760_Area_Code_Overlay)

Results of LAFCO Hearing... Newberry Springs Remains Unaffected by Decision

At its Wednesday, June 17th meeting, the San Bernardino County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) voted to consolidate the spheres of influence for the Daggett and Yermo Community Services Districts (CSD), but left the Newberry Springs sphere alone.

A sphere of influence is an area adjacent to a CSD's boundaries. According to Bob Smith, LAFCO commissioner and Yermo CSD president, "What came out of all of it was appropriate. Newberry will stay their single sphere, and then Daggett and Yermo will be a (another) sphere."

The representatives of the Newberry Springs CSD who attended the LAFCO meeting said they were ecstatic about the commission's decision. "We wanted to remain independent," said JoAnne Cousino, Newberry Springs General Manager. "We have different issues geographically and culturally than the other two (communities). We are happy."

PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING BURN PERMITS

The telephone number to call prior to burning will change. Beginning on July 1, 2009, burn permit calls will be handled by CalFire Dispatch.

The new number(s) to call will be: (909) 8816915 / (909) 8831112.

More Seniors News...
Newberry Seniors to get \$20,000 from CSD

After a lengthy negotiation, The Newberry CSD and the Newberry Seniors raised the amount to be contracted to the Seniors by the CSD from \$10K to \$20K, the amount the Senior Service Association had originally requested.

Under the revised contract, the CSD would pay up to \$20K for repairs, and help pay the electric, heating and liability insurance for the Senior Service Association. In return, the Seniors would hold one community event per calendar month that would be open to the general public and easily accessible to Newberry Springs residents. Seniors may choose the event, and offset the cost with donations or food sales, but general admission would be free.

Senior Service Association Treasurer Doris Layne hopes the monthly community events entice more people to get involved at the Senior Center. Layne has already made arrangements for line dancing lessons at the Center on Fridays, and would like to get youth involved as well. "I would love to see the younger people get involved in the community," she said. "Old folks still have a lot to offer, and they're pretty cool people."

Supervisors Approve Grants for Local Projects

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors earlier approved a preliminary step that ultimately will secure \$433,000 in federal funds for several construction projects and service programs for First District communities - projects that include construction and repairs at parks and senior center facilities, street, drainage and sidewalk improvements and the purchase of playground equipment, in addition to funding services for youth, families, homeless people, legal aid, crisis pregnancy, mental health counseling, domestic violence, literacy education and senior nutrition and transportation.

These funds will become available after July 1, 2009. Our Newberry Springs Senior Center is slated to receive \$45K for irrigation system improvements.

Baja Sub-area Advisory Committee Update

On June 18th, in a court hearing before Judge Trask, the Baja Sub-area Advisory Committee agreed to the Watermasters recommendation of a 2 1/2 % rampdown for the 2009-2010 water year.

Advisory Committee representative Ellen Johnson reports that, "Some of our concerns are the lack of County codes regarding water conservation, which were removed in 2008 at the direction of MWA, stating that they were obsolete. We (the Advisory Committee) have been researching USGS studies and the monitoring wells used. We have no doubt that we are in an overdraft situation, but we feel that upstream growth does, and will continue to have an effect on our water supply, especially with the decline of State water available. We will be working with MWA on these issues this year, and hope to come to an understanding."

Communities to Receive Tourism Funds

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors has approved a plan that distributes funds to designated Chambers of Commerce and/or organizations to promote tourism and recreation within the County. A total of \$260,000 will be distributed to unincorporated communities in exchange for their promotional efforts that support tourism and recreation.

This funding will help our High Desert communities promote the County as a tourist destination, and will include regional parks, national parks, and Route 66.

Letters From A Good Friend

Good friend Louise Cook, who left Newberry Springs a short time ago for a life in Big River, California, writes of her new home: "It must have been a rock mountain at one time, 'cause you can't put a shovel in the ground without hitting rocks, so it's really hard to do any planting...but when we can dig a hole, we put a plant or a tree in it."

She goes on, though, and points up some of the advantages of 'rural' living: "There is a small pond in the front yard, with a waterfall. The neighbor's dogs come and lie in it (and the birdbath), and drink from it. One night the wild burros came into the yard looking for food - luckily they didn't damage anything. Doves, quail and blackbirds appear in the back yard to eat the birdseed that Mother throws out in the mornings. And...cottontails."

Louise and her Mom send a big 'hello' to everyone in Newberry Springs! Sadly, several of their long-time family pets were not able to make the trip. Anyone interested in adopting one or more of these lovely dogs and kitties, please call (760) 7802730.



Hope to see you all on Saturday, September 12th, at 10:00 a.m.
at the Community Center for our first meeting of 2009-2010!
For information, contact Ellen Johnson at (760) 2573299 or
Sandra Carrillo at (760) 7802730.

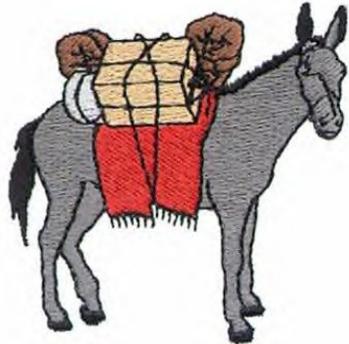
Just Because It's Fun To Know Stuff...

"The Aparejo System" (with special permission from author Bob Larison)

The *aparejo* was a leather pack saddle especially constructed and packed with hay or grass to fit the contour of an individual mule's back. The word *aparejo* also refers to a system of packing that was used not just in the Southwest, but throughout the western United States and Canada. A military pack train often consisted of up to 50 pack mules, 14 riding mules, and a bell mare. The men in the train included the packmaster, his assistant (the *cargador*), 10 packers, one cook, and one blacksmith. With this many animals, a packing system was needed that was foolproof, that could be rapidly secured in place or removed from the mule, and that would hold loads securely. This was the *aparejo* system of packing.

The *aparejo* system consists of various pieces of gear. First, blinders were used to cover the mule's eyes. This kept the animal quiet while loading. The blinders were often decorated with leather work or embroidery. On the back of the animal was first laid the *corona*, or saddle blanket. This was either a sheepskin, a buffalo hide, or a woolen blanket. The *aparejo* proper came on top of this. Over the *aparejo* came the hammer cloth, or *sobre jalma*. This was a covering of a heavy material, with horizontal boards that protected the animal's sides. A cinch rope was tightened to hold this on the animal. Together, these pieces comprised the *aparejo* system. The load was packed on top of the system in two or three evenly weighted packets.

Many visitors to the Southwest commented on the skill of the *arrieros* and the speed with which the loading was accomplished. Some said it could be done in five to ten minutes. The Hispanic *arriero* was a skilled and respected person whose pride was reflected in the traditional phrase used on parting: "*Arrieros somos y algo dia en el camino nos encontramos.*" (Mule drivers are we, and some day on the trail, we will meet again.)



Our Newsletter Now Has a Name...

...courtesy of Member Jackie McBrien, whose "Newberry Ripples" was chosen from the contest entries. Thanks, Jackie!

**NS/HRPOA
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

You **MUST** be a member by October 31st of the current year to vote in the annual election of officers each December.

OUR CONSTITUTION PREAMBLE:

Recognizing the advantage and necessity of cooperative efforts properly and legally directed to protect and defend our rights as "real property owners" in all matters affecting our existence in the Newberry Springs - Harvard areas, we hereby pledge our united efforts and support as members of the Newberry Springs - Harvard Real Property Owners Association, to the accomplishment of said purpose.

In this age of organized effort, it is essential and mandatory that we organize in order to establish and maintain conditions in our communities as regards property rights and investments to provide for ourselves and our families that measure of comfort, happiness and security to which every good citizen is entitled.

Currently our regular meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month (except July and August). You must own land in the Newberry Springs - Harvard area to be a voting member. If you do not own real estate, you may be a subscriber (associate) to receive the newsletter. Membership is \$15.00 per year.

Name _____
Assessor's Parcel No. _____
Address _____
Phone (optional) _____

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please provide your email address. We will use it only for the newsletter, and hot topics. It will not be sold or given to third parties!

Email: _____

Send: \$15.00 for a one-year membership - \$30.00 for 2 years
To: NSHRPOA, PO Box 176, Newberry Springs, CA 92365
Enclosed is _____ for membership for ___ year(s) (Maximum advanced membership is 2 yrs.) Any amount over and above the \$30.00 maximum will be considered a donation.

We can be reached by phone at (760) 7802730.