

**DECEMBER 2023** 

#### NEWS





# The Turkey Trot was the Spot with a Lot (of Fun)

#### By Tom Fragala / Resident

The Hidden Meadows Turkey Trot Event met Thanksgiving Day at 8 am at the Market parking lot. The private event was hosted by the Hidden Meadows Community Foundation for Hidden Meadows and Rim Rock Residents.

We had a fantastic turnout. Around 60 people attended! There were free prizes and a raffle for several gift baskets.

Linda Collins, local legend, organized the event and it went off perfectly.

Shari and Alex at The Market had free coffee and

donuts. The Market donated a fantastic gift basket which included two bottles of La Crema wine. Linda Collins donated a Starbucks basket. There was a unique basket which included a chocolate milk maker and cocoa. There were also gifts from the Deli Market and Boulder Oaks. Danie Walther also donated a gift.

A few of the attendees wore costumes or dressed up their fur babies. After everyone had arrived and mingled for a while, we had the raffle and took a group photo.

**TROT /** See Page 5



# **Trunk or Treat Was a Boo-tiful Event**

**By Tom Fragala / Resident** The Hidden Meadows Halloween Trunk or Treat Event was held Saturday October 28 from noon to

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POSTAL CUSTOMER ESCONDIDO, CA 92026 4 pm at the Golf Course parking lot. From 2 to 4 pm a free pumpkin decorating and costume contest was held next door at the Boulder Oaks Restaurant.

The private event was hosted by the Hidden Meadows Community Foundation for Hidden Meadows and Rim Rock Residents. The local kids and families turned out for this super fun HMCF **BOO-TIFUL** / See Page 6

# The Hidden Meadows Sponsor Group: Opening on the I-15 Design Board

#### By Jim Chagala / Resident

The Hidden Meadows Sponsor Group is made of 9 members appointed by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors. The Group was established to be your voice in making recommendations to the County Staff, Planning Commission, and Board of Supervisors on future private and public projects within our area. These projects include Subdivisions, Conditional Permits, Road Improvements, and Parks and Trails. We are also responsible for suggesting public improvements in our area. The area served is not limited to what we usually consider Hidden Meadows, but also includes Rim Rock, Jesmond Dene, the Lawrence Welk Resort, and Champagne Village. In addition, the Sponsor Group also has a representative on the Interstate 15 Design Review board. This Board is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to review and make recommendations on public and private projects within one mile of Interstate 15, from the Escondido Corporate Limits to the Riverside County Line.

SPONSOR / See Page 3

DECEMBER HIDDEN MEADOWS EVENTS

#### **TOYS FOR TOTS**

Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9am - Noon

Fire Station #3 here in the Meadows!

Kids Activity Table •Visit with Santa • Door Prizes



# Wednesday, December 6th @ 6pm



**# 7909W** 

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HOURS: Mon - Fri 7:00am - 7:00pm Sat 7:00am - 7:00pm Sun 8:00am - 5:00pm

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### SPECIAL AND FINAL PRIVATE EVENT FOR Hidden Meadows and Rim Rock

### Residents

Watch for details on upcoming events (2024) in the Hidden Meadows Local Newspaper and our Social Media sites.

These events can't happen without your help. PLEASE contact me at <u>vickeyciarlanti@gmail.com</u> to add your name to our list of volunteers or to make a donation. Donations can be made via Zelle at

HMCFDonate@yahoo.com or www.HiddenMeadows.news/donate



Toys for Tots • Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> • 9am - Noon •Location: Fire Station #3 here in the Meadows!

Kids Activity Table •Visit with Santa • Door Prizes

Bring an unwrapped toy, add it to the donation box and join us for breakfast.

Catering provided by Side Yard Public House

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**SPONSOR** / From Page 1

This review is to determine if the projects comply with the Interstate 15 Design Guidelines.

Our seat on this Board will be vacant by the end of March, and having this vacancy filled is important to provide our input, on behalf of the Sponsor Group, for projects proposed along this corridor.

The Hidden Meadows Sponsor Group has a Vacancy

#### By Jim Chagala, Chairman

The Hidden Meadows Sponsor Group is made of 9 members appointed by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors. The Group was established to be your voice in making recommendations to the County Staff, Planning Commission, and San Diego County Board of Supervisors on future private and public projects within our area. These projects include Subdivisions, Conditional Permits, Road Improvements, and Parks and Trails. We are also responsible for suggesting public improvements in our area. The area served is not limited to what we usually consider Hidden Meadows, but also includes Rim Rock, Jesmond Dene, the Lawrence Welk Resort, and Champagne Village. Recently Seat 6 has been vacated, and it is important that we operate with a full Group. The Sponsor Group meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 at the Meadows Homes Association Pavillion. If you are interested in representing the Hidden Meadows Sponsor Group on this Board, please contact the Sponsor Group Chairman, Jim Chagala, at 760 751-2691 or at jchagala@hotmail.com

The Interstate 15 Design Review Board meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:00.

If you are interested in representing the Hidden Meadows Sponsor Group on this Board, please contact the Sponsor Group Chairman, Jim Chagala, at 760 751-2691 or at jchagala@hotmail.com

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SUBMIT CONTENT Deadline for local article submission: 20th of the month for the next issue. Photographs submitted for publication should be hi-resolution (300DPI), unmodified originals, jpeg format. We cannot accept photos taken from social media sites such as Facebook. Email content and photos to Patricia Fox LocalEditor@HiddenMeadows.news

Advertising Joshua Sibelius Advertising@HiddenMeadows.news

# Rain Couldn't Dampen our Spirits at Hidden Meadows Ladies Social Dinner



(above) Hidden Meadows Womens' Social Group at Bobbie Helland's home (top right) Hostess Bobbie Helland, Eveline Bustillos and Pat Buntin

## Book Review by Lynn Clark

This has been a good year for me to do some research and find some new authors to read. I am going to try and introduce them to you in the next several months, and who knows, you might find someone you would like to try. These authors are not new to writing fiction. Their work is just new to me. Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Richard Wagonese was a Canadian author who explored his Ojibwe Indian heritage through works of fiction. His most famous novel was called "Indian Horse" published in 2012, and was awarded the best book of the decade by Literary Hub. This was also made into a movie produced by Clint Eastwood.

"Indian Horse" - by Richard Wagonese (1955-2017) - fiction

In the 1950's the children of Indian families that were still living in the bush in Canada were being taken from their families, and put into residential schools. The object was to assimilate them into modern society. Saul was 8 years old when his parents abandoned him and left him with his grandmother. She still practiced the old ways of the tribe. When winter came the deadly cold and lack of food forced her to take Saul in a canoe to try and reach civilization. She died in the attempt, and when Saul was found in the snow alive he was taken to St. Jerome's Residential School for Indians. He never saw his family again.

Saul managed to survive the brutal confines of the school by learning to play Hockey. He became so good that he was considered a phenom because of his ability to scan the ice and see patterns that allowed him to break through defenses. He was sought after by semi professional teams. His success led him to the very top: the NHL, but as his fame increased so did his problems. At each step up the ladder there was always something or someone that was there to remind him that he was an Indian, and not worthy to play the game at that level.



By Michelle Zipse / Resident In the heart of Hidden Meadows, the rain may have insisted on an indoor setting, but the warmth and camaraderie at Bobbie Helland's recent Ladies Social Dinner turned the weather into a mere backdrop for an unforgettable evening.

Known for her picturesque dinner parties set under the stars, Bobbie gracefully adapted to the weather's whims, transforming her home into an intimate gathering space. The French countryside charm persisted, thanks to the twinkling lights that adorned the long table, now nestled indoors. The atmosphere was one of cozy elegance, with the sound of raindrops providing a gentle serenade.

Bobbie, the gracious hostess, encouraged the 20 attendees to share two stories, weaving together the rich tapestry of Thanksgiving traditions and personal journeys of gratitude. The communal feast unfolded as each guest brought a dish to share and a beverage of choice, creating a potluck of flavors that mirrored the diverse tapestry of the Hidden Meadows community.

The first story-sharing tradition brought forth tales of Thanksgiving traditions, ranging from the heartwarming to the downright quirky. Laughter echoed and even some tears as we went around the table sharing our adventures and some wistful remembrances of family members who are no longer able to join us for our Thanksgiving celebrations.

For the second story, attendees recounted events that began on a challenging note but ultimately left them profoundly thankful. From unexpected moves to serendipitous encounters, these narratives unveiled the resilience and optimism that characterize the Hidden Meadows community.

"I initially thought the rain would spoil the evening, but being here, surrounded by such wonderful friends and neighbors, turned it into a uniquely special experience. It's a testament to the spirit of our community," shared one attendee.

Bobbie's thoughtful decision to host the event over two nights allowed for maximum participation, ensuring that every member of the community had the opportunity to join in the festivities. The shared stories and laughter created an intimate bond among the ladies, turning neighbors into friends and Hidden Meadows into a closerknit community.

As the rain continued to tap on the windows, the glow of friendship and the shared warmth of delicious food illuminated Bobbie Helland's home. The Ladies Social Dinner not only celebrated the season of gratitude but also exemplified the resilient and connected spirit of the Hidden Meadows community, proving that even rain couldn't dampen the spirits of these unforgettable evenings.



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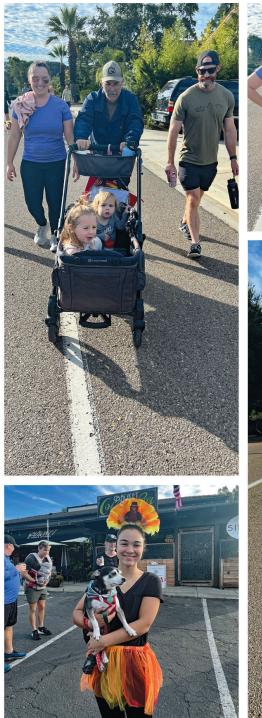


#### **BOO-TIFUL** / From Page 1

Then we all set out for the "trot." Almost everyone walked the course, which is the loop around the golf course. It was around 2.8 miles and took around 45 minutes. CERT had two water stations available along the course. While there were lots of familiar faces, we also saw a lot of new folks which was fun. Thanks to everyone who attended!

These events really help bring people together and make our community special. Hidden Meadows really does things right! All photos are found on my Linktree page: linktr.ee/thetomsocial.

Please donate to the Hidden Meadows Community Foundation at www.HiddenMeadows.news.















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**BOO-TIFUL** / From Page 1

event. Residents parked a couple dozen cars in the lot, decorated their trunks and vehicles and had candy for the kids.

It was a hot sunny day, and everyone enjoyed themselves. Music was provided by Ben and Andi Ruiz. There was a parade of all the kids and parents with costumes. Then the kids were let loose to go from trunk to trunk.

Vickey Ciarlanti ran the event and wore an adorable scarecrow costume. Other volunteers were Linda Collins, Vanessa Cruz, Dina Davis, Kiska, Jeff Ciarlanti, Alexa and Aileen.

Our local fire station #3 brought their ladder truck over from across the street.

A huge thank you to Christina Stendall of Sweet Cheeks Homestead for providing cookie decorating kits. Proceeds from the selling of the kits go to the 2024 HMCF scholarship program.

Boulder Oaks provided a kid friendly menu during the pumpkin & amp; cookie decorating event and costume contest. Mr. Kim donated a percentage of the food sales to the HMCF 2024 scholarship program.

There were plenty of pumpkins for all the kids provided by HMCF. We had many stickers available to make faces and more with the pumpkins.

The costume contest was a blast. Here are the winners:

- -- The best couple was Joshua and Debra Starbuck dressed as Starbucks baristas!
- -- Most original: Ace Lee as Fernando Tatis.
- -- Scariest: Tess McDaniel as Wednesday.
- -- Best Costume: Elezabeth Kariithi as Pocahontas.
- -- Cutest: Celona Villa as Moana.
- -- Funniest: Lyris Ritchie as a banana packing heat (!).
- -- Best makeup: Justine Szabo as an Egyptian.
- -- Most creative: Brayden Amos as Abe Lincoln.
- -- Best overall (and the loudest!): Lilly Cruz as Binks from Hocus Pocus.
- -- Best group was "The Inflatables:"

Oliver Dwyer, Wyatt Amos and Emmett Dwyer who wore inflated costumes.

All photos are found on my Linktree page: linktr.ee/thetomsocial. Please donate to the Hidden Meadows Community Foundation at www.hiddenmeadows.news























FIRST EVER COMEDY NIGHT! AND - OUR TOP ARTISTS ARE HERE TO PERFORM FOR THE HOLIDAYS! MAKE RESERVATIONS OR JUST COME JOIN US!







#### FRI 12/01/23 - SPOTLIGHT (STAND UP COMEDY)

SAT 12/02/23 - TOYS FOR TOTS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

- LIVE MUSIC SATURDAYS (ADAM BERGOCH)

FRI 12/08/23 - FRIDAY NIGHT SPOTLIGHT (SAM CARY)

SAT 12/09/23 - LIVE MUSIC SATURDAYS (ANDREW PENA) FRI 12/15/23 - FRIDAY NIGHT SPOTLIGHT (PERRY O'NEIL) SAT 12/16/23 - UGLY SWEATER CHRISTMAS PARTY

- LIVE MUSIC SATURDAYS (ALEX ELIZABETH)

FRI 12/22/23 - FRIDAY NIGHT SPOTLIGHT (CHARLIE RAE & VIOLINIST)

SAT 12/23/23 - LIVE MUSIC SATURDAYS (THE HEART)

SUN 12/24/23 - CHRISTMAS EVE (10:00 AM - 5:00 PM)

MON 12/25/23 - CHRISTMAS DAY (CLOSED)

# ASSET PROTECTION & GROWTH

Asset protection consists of shielding our property and savings from the threat of lawsuits, business reversals, government regulation (including taxation), and unforeseen medical expenses.

#### A CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST PROVIDES AN UNPARALLELED SHIELD. Giving to Charity pays you more than it costs you. Establishing a Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT) may provide you with the following benefits:

1. A charitable income tax deduction that you can use this year and the next 5 years.

- 2. The monies you place in the Trust compound and grow within the trust tax-free.
- 3. Monies placed in the Trust are free from Creditor claims.
- 4. IRAs, and other retirement accounts, that are placed in a CRT can now be paid out to your children for their entire lifetimes, instead of the limited time imposed on IRAs and 401Ks.
- 5. Taxation of CRT distributions is based on how the income was generated in the CRT, and not on your personal income tax rates. In many cases, the distributions are taxed at less than 10 percent
- 6. Placing just \$300,000 in a CRT today can pay out over \$550,000 in just 20 years, and your income tax on that distribution is less that 1%!! (If you are willing to live for more than 20 years, you can receive an even better return.)

MY NAME IS MICHAEL BUSTILLOS. I am an attorney with over thirty years of experience in Estate Planning and Asset Protection. I live down the street from you, here in Hidden Meadows.



Luis Michael Bustillos Attorney and Counselor-at-Law Call me at 760-705-6062,

or email me at Michael@LMBustillos.com for a complimentary consultation.

27854 Dogwood Glen • Hidden Meadows, CA



# Hidden Meadows Lunch Ladies at the Mirin Café Teriyaki and Noodle House

(front) Laurie Hill, Pat Tanabe (back) Danniele Milliken, Linda Collins, Danie Walther, Bonnie Metzger, Susan Crandall

#### By Pat Tanabe / Resident

The Lunch Ladies of Hidden Meadows had a Halloween lunch at Mirin Café, -Teriyaki and Noodle House at 1555 E. Valley Parkway in Escondido. There were no tricks but plenty of treats! Many of us came dressed in Halloween attire (pumpkin colored & black cat shirts, pumpkin jewelry, and a witch's hat).

The restaurant is not very large but was quite busy during lunchtime. There is also a drive-thru and take-out available. One person in our group has a severe seafood allergy. The manager was quite accommodating and ensured that her panko-crusted tofu was fried separately from any seafood. He also made her a special salad consisting of burrata, arugula, Asian pear, and candied nuts with a lychee dressing. - delicious! Several in our party had chicken katsu (Japanese style panko encrusted fried chicken). The entrées came with miso soup, rice, and a green salad. I had a chicken katsu curry bowl – a classic Japanese comfort food! Other dishes ordered included chicken teriyaki, vegetable tempura, and chicken yakiudon (stir-fried udon noodles with chicken and vegetables).

As always, we enjoyed one another's company, made some new friends, and played catch-up since our last event. The Hidden Meadows Women's Social Group (HMWSG) is a great way to meet new people in the neighborhood. The HMWSG Monthly Lunch is a great way to discover new restaurants in Escondido! Contact: HMWSG92026@gmail.com



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Turner Heights Ln	3/2.5/2,653	\$1,899,000
Cielo Vista	5/4/3,912	\$1,699,000
SOLD		
28205 Meadow Oak Lane	3/2.5/2,443	\$905,000
9505 Meadow Mesa Drive	4/6/4,728	\$1,530,000
9504 Welk View Court		£2.425.000





Mike Quadrozzi and Harry DeMik pointing out the new trail

#### By Linda Collins / Resident

What? Blaze a trail instead of pulling weeds?! It didn't take any encouragement on my part. Members of the Working Wednesday Weed Team jumped at the opportunity to clear a new trail at the Mountain Meadow Preserve.

The Escondido Creek Conservancy is organizing a fundraising event scheduled for Spring 2024. This all day event will include long hikes and short hikes around the Mountain Meadow Preserve and our team is looking for the most interesting paths to take. The views in some of these areas are ... wow! The fundraiser will be a paid entry event with all activities included in the registration fee. Lunch, children's hands on activities, hikes, speakers, a Drawing Nature class, and more! For more information, email information@escondidocreek.org or watch the Hidden Meadows Families Facebook page. (Or, of course, you can reach out to me at linda\_J\_collins@sbcglobal.net)

Registration will be taken via Eventbrite. Watch this page for more registration details (coming soon!). https://bit.ly/2024event

TRAILS / See Page 10



# Ladies Luncheon -Tea Anyone?

#### By Michelle Zipse / Resident

In celebration of elegance and camaraderie, the Grand Tea Room in Escondido, California, recently played host to a delightful Ladies Tea event that left attendees enchanted and steeped in the joys of community. Nestled in the heart of Escondido on Grand Avenue, the Grand Tea Room, renowned for its charming ambiance and exquisite teas, welcomed 7 of our local Hidden Meadow ladies for an afternoon of refined indulgence. This location was a special pick by Dannielle Milliken in celebration of her November birthday. The event, adorned with floral arrangements, delicate china, and lovely hats, transported attendees into a world of sophistication and leisure. Guests were treated to an extensive selection of fine teas, Green pomegranate and Paris black, were among a few of the tasty teas that were expertly brewed and served alongside an array of delectable pastries and finger sandwiches. The delicate clinking of tea cups and the soft murmur of conversations created an atmosphere of warmth and camaraderie. One of the highlights of the pastries was the pumpkin scones which were accompanied by a yummy clotted cream, lemon curd and fresh made preserves assortment.



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This was a unique twist on our normal monthly outing and proved to be more than just a culinary experience; it was a celebration of the bonds that form when individuals come together to savor life's simple pleasures.

For those who missed this enchanting event, the Grand Tea Room continues to be a haven for tea enthusiasts and those seeking a respite from the hustle and bustle of daily life. Whether you're a seasoned tea connoisseur or a newcomer to the world of fine teas, the Grand Tea Room in Escondido invites you to experience the charm and sophistication that defines its unique brand of hospitality. You're welcome to join us at our next outing. Just send an email to

eveline.bustillos@gmail.com to be added to the monthly list of ladies events.

\*Ask about Hidden Meadows and Rimrock Community Special Pricing.

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#### **TRAILS** / From Page 9

The 693-acre Mountain Meadows Preserve, here in Hidden Meadows, is home to The Escondido Creek Conservancy headquarters. The office is the home base for all Conservancy staff, including those who are in the field a lot of the time taking care of nature and providing outdoor education programs for Escondido students.

This preserve was acquired in partnership with San Diego County Parks and Recreation and the Navy/ Camp Pendleton. It is part of a larger effort by the conservation partners to preserve natural open spaces in the Escondido Creek watershed and North County. Escondido Creek begins in Bear Valley (east of Lake Wohlford), then travels 26 miles west emptying into the San Elijo Lagoon.

The Conservancy is staffed lightly for a very big job, protecting 3,000 acres throughout the Escondido Creek watershed and annually providing outdoor education programs to thousands of children and adults. Visit the Interpretive Center at the Elfin Forest Recreational Preserve for an example of the education programs.

#### SUBMIT CONTENT FOR HMN

Deadline for local article submission: 17th of the month for the next issue. Photographs submitted for publication should be hi-resolution, unmodified originals, hi-res/300dpi. We cannot accept photos taken from social media sites such as Facebook. Send drafts and photos to Patricia Fox to

LocalEditor@HiddenMeadows.news

#### HIDDEN MEADOWS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

#### HMCF2023@gmail.com

Michelle Zipse, President Vickey Ciarlanti, Vice-President Shannon Antekeier, Secretary Paul Schoos, Treasurer

Heather Davila, *Director* Rob Enfield, *Director* Bonnie Metzger, *Director* Kathy Moore, *Director* Melissa Tomaszek, *Director* Pete Tomaszek, *Director* Lynn Wheeler, *Director*  Scholarship Program Chair/Director Bonnie Metzger

Events Director Vickey Ciaralanti

Editor - Patricia Fox

Median Maintenance Paul Schoos, Chair

Donate via Zelle: HMCFDonate@yahoo.com

Donate online: www.HiddenMeadows.news/donate

#### **HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS**

- 911: Immediate Emergency Assistance
- 211: Emergency and non-emergency county information hotline

Animal Services: 619-299-7012

### Hidden Meadows Community Resources and Organizations

#### **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)**

Contact Marc Weissman at 760-525-5170 or marcweissman11@gmail.com.

#### **Community Sponsor Group**

Contact Chairman Jim Chagala, at 760 751-2691 for more information.

#### **Hidden Meadows Neighborhood Watch**

Please join our facebook group: Hidden Meadows Neighborhood Watch. We'll share neighborhood information, safety tips, and news of future events.

Contact Info: Erik Tyler 442-235-9060 erikdtyler@gmail.com

#### **Deer Springs Fire Safe Council**

Contact Steve Kerrin at 760-807-1141.

#### **Emergency Communication System**

To register, visit www.deerspringsfiresafecouncil.com. An information hotline is updated during emergencies or noteworthy events and may be called 24/7 at 949-472-1407. Red flags are placed on the "Fire Danger Signs" during red flag warnings.

Homeowners Associations

The Meadows Homes Association (MHA)760-749-7278Rimrock Homeowners Association760-749-4008Hidden Meadows Ranch Homeowners Association760-407-7575Silverado Management Services760-407-7575Oak Meadows Glen Homeowners Association760-749-4796

Organizations

#### **Garden Club**

Contact Kim Marin (kimgroggmarin@gmail.com) or Melisa Mitchell (melisamitchell6@hotmail.com)

#### **Hidden Meadows Bridge Group**

We play bridge at the MHA Pavilion every Wednesday from 10:00AM to 2:00PM. Please call Curt Bruce at 442-222-0821 if you'd like to join us.

#### Hidden Meadows Community Foundation (HMCF)

Contact Michele Zipse at HMCF2023@gmail.com.

Ladies Bible Study

Contact Debbie Hamer at 760-297-1278 or Sue Shepard at 760-213-0325

Tennis Club

Contact Katy Freeze at 760-749-9722 or clarkfreese@gmail.com.

#### **Women's Golf Club** Contact Ellen at 760-749-1190

**Women's Social Group** email to hmwsg92026@gmail.com.

#### Yoga

Contact Joanne Boessow at 760-751-0261 or mljab33@cox.net for more information.

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CAL FIRE/Fire Information hotline: 619-590-3160

California Highway Patrol: 858-637-3800

#### Deer Springs Fire Protection District

Station 1 Headquarters: 760-749-8001 Station 2 Deer Springs: 760-741-5512 Station 3 Hidden Meadows: 760-751-0820 Burn Permits: 760-749-8001

Road Conditions/ Closures: Cal Trans 800-427-7623 or www.traffic.com

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# Garden Club Annual Planning Meeting

#### **By Idalia Rewar**

It's that time again for meeting to plan for the Hidden Meadows Garden Club (HMGC) activities for 2024. The event took place at Kim Marin's lovely home. There were 17 members present waiting to see what the future holds. The day started a bit chilly so we gathered at Kim's large living room.

As you enter into the kitchen area – wonderful goodies were there for the taking - chocolate chips cookies (my favorite), star sugar cookies topped with strawberry glaze, blueberry muffins, coffee and tea. Great way to start the day. Faraj Tavangari bought a box of jalapenos peppers (yellow, red and green) to share with the members - great to put into chile, Gracias.

The meeting opened with Kim asking one and all to make suggestions of what they would like to do in

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the coming year. Some of the things we did last year were interesting and lots of fun: A lecture was given by the Executive Director of the Escondido Creek Conservancy with Linda Collins moderating – very informative. There were pumpkin decorations for a centerpiece for Thanksgiving dinner, plant exchange (most of my garden is made up of cuttings I acquired at the Garden Club), visiting a Master Gardener's garden where we learned about micro-greens, a member's social BBQ held at a "barn" at Wilma and Victor Rogers' home and many other educational and fun events.

So here we go - everyone enthusiastically joined in offering suggestions. Some of them were: Frances Munk suggested having a fund raising event at the Seller's Faire, home garden tours (considering that so many of our members have fabulous gardens to view), master gardener lectures, Sage Hills Ranch in Escondido, a winery tour, the lavender farm in Valley Center, Waterwise Botanical Nursery, and many more suggestions.

Kim wrote all suggestions on her pad and will work up an agenda for the coming year. Research will be conducted on availability, time, weather, feasibility to hold a group, and other logistics to be worked out. So there you have it. We are all looking forward to a busy, fun and educational 2024 year as members of the Hidden Meadows Garden Club. Oh what fun!!

Many thanks to Kim & Rich Marin for hosting, to Melisa Mitchell for co-hosting, and to all members who attended and participated in suggesting events for the coming year. If you are interested in joining the Hidden Meadows Garden Club get in touch with Kim Marin at <u>kimgroggmarin@gmail.com</u>.

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# Sellers' Faire was Clause-itively Festive

#### By Tom Fragala / Resident

The November Hidden Meadows Sellers' Faire was held Sunday November 12 from 10 am - 2 pm at the golf course's lower parking lot.

The private event was hosted by the Hidden Meadows Community Foundation for Hidden Meadows and Rim Rock Residents.

Pat Tanabe, Diane Heath, and Sima Kashani were among the HMCF volunteers helping out.

The first table I stopped by was Wandering Wild Jewelers. The owner Benita Sedillo was fascinating to talk to. Her daughter Nicole was also there. She makes handmade jewelry such as earrings. She sources her own gemstones. She is a member of several gem and mineral clubs and digs gems at two mines nearby: Chief Pala and Ocean View. It costs \$75 to dig your own gems, however, you need to bring the correct tools. She also finds geodes at the Hauser Beds.

Jasmine from Ruby Rose Ranch had some fantastic tie dye shirts and skirts along with jewelry. My friend bought a tie dye shirt from her and loves it.

A local vendor I spoke to was Hidden Meadows Lavender. Trish and Scott Peterson have seven varieties of English lavender. This year is their first harvest. Eventually they want to offer essential oils and other lavender products. Bernadette Carvahlo of Cards and Crafts was there with her incredible unique greeting and gift cards. All her cards are hand-made with no electronic machines. They are hand cut with a manual die cut and she uses manual embossing. This style is called the old school fussy cut. She will be at several nearby events selling her cards in the coming weeks.

I enjoyed talking to Sue and Helen of Purposed Candles. They are a mother daughter team. They get people to give them used glass jars. They use the repurposed jars to make natural 100% soy wax candles with no paraffins.

Rachel Kelly from Gem Keepers does Jewelry appraisal and repairs. She was there with her daughter Lexi. She also offers custom jewelry designs. She will come to you for appraisals.

I spoke to Alex Mayoral a sculptor. He makes custom sculptures. He made a small buffalo for a Hidden Meadows resident. He uses metal, rocks and cement. He also displays his work at the Vista Farmers Market.

I also spoke to Stephanie Sands the "pit bull lady". Her animal rescue is called Pitties and Kitties.

All photos are found on my Linktree page: linktr.ee/thetomso-cial.

Please donate to the Hidden Meadows Community Foundation at hiddenmeadows.news.

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