

# March 2016



Holiday Homes MHP

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## News & Notes

### Sad, Sad News

Dale DeWittie, sp. 263 passed away February 19<sup>th</sup>. He and his wife, Lorraine moved into the park in 1994. Our sincerest condolences to Lorraine, children, grandchildren, the rest of his family and all who knew him.



### Pet Patrol

I don't like winter because my human caregivers won't let me out on the front porch but now I can go out there a few times a day since the weather has been so mild. I also enjoy watching everybody go by and say hello when I see them. I really hope the weather stays as nice as it has been and that you are enjoying it as well.

Here is a cute cartoon I found -



Till Next Time -



### For Safety's Sake

#### Some Tips for Avoiding Funeral and Cemetery Fraud

Be an informed consumer. Take time to call and shop around before making a purchase. Take a friend with you who may offer some perspective to help make difficult decisions. Funeral homes are required to provide detailed general price lists over the phone or in writing. Educate yourself fully about caskets before you buy one and understand that caskets are not required for direct cremations.

Understand the difference between funeral home basic fees for professional services and any fees for additional services.



You should know that embalming rules are governed by state law and that embalming is not legally required for direct cremations.

Carefully read all contracts and purchasing agreements before signing and make certain that all of your requirements have been put in writing.

Make sure you understand all contract cancellation and refund terms, as well as your portability options for transferring your contract to other funeral homes.

Before you consider prepaying, make sure you are well informed. When you do make a plan for yourself, share your specific wishes with those close to you.

And, as a general rule governing all of your interactions as a consumer, do not allow yourself to be pressured by vendors into making purchases, signing contracts or committing frauds. These decisions are yours and yours alone.



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### From The Assistant Manager

I would like to let the residents of Holiday Homes know that I will be retiring at the end of May.

This has been a difficult decision since I have worked here for quite a while. I will miss the people I work with, residents I've gotten to know and - most of all - the Riegel Family. They have been absolutely fantastic to work for.

That being said I really want to spend more time with my family, especially my grandkids. Being in Arizona for just a week at a time is not quite enough. There is a lot I'll miss but a lot I'm looking forward to.

Thank you,  
Kathy Pirwitz

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### From The Manager

Kathy has worked for this company for 18 years and done a great job! She has taught me a lot. I will miss seeing her face every morning but am happy for her. She has earned this retirement. Congratulations!

If you would like to apply for the Assistant Manager position, please stop by the office and pick up an application starting March 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be starting interviews probably by the end of the month.

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The potluck this month is **Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>** from **5:30-7:30 PM** in the **clubhouse**. We will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day. John Riegel will be here to prepare the roast beef and provide the mashed potatoes and gravy. Kathy will be preparing the corned beef and Sue will be

 preparing the cabbage and carrots. Please remember to bring your favorite side dish, your place settings and your neighbors. If you need special seating or transportation to the clubhouse, please call us at 1-760-252-3511 before noon on that day so we may arrange it for you. We'll see you there!

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We changed the date of the first **Yard Sale** of the year it is now **Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>** in the **clubhouse** from **8AM-12PM**. There is a **sign-up sheet** in the **office** for those of you that would like a table. Space is limited to first come - first served.

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When using the **Pedestrian Gate**, please make sure that you close it behind you!

We are finding the gate open at least once a day. Also, if you are using it late at night, don't let it slam shut. Your neighbors who live by the pedestrian gate don't like being woken up by the slamming.

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This month's **Mini Health Fair** (and I will be calling her the day before to confirm) will be **Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** from **10-11 AM**. You can have your blood pressure taken and blood sugar tested. You never know what will be offered each month, so come down and check it out.

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AARP will be here every **Thursday** from **9-11 AM** through April 14<sup>th</sup> offering **Income Tax Assistance**. This is a **free** service and they do not accept tips. No appointments are needed. Just come down to the clubhouse with your tax information and if you have never had them prepare your taxes before, last year's return.

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**An important message from the office:** Please make sure you make out your rent check to **Riegel Properties** and not Holiday Homes using **blue or black ink only**. Thank you!

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Rose Nieman has a **Tai Chi** class in the **clubhouse** every **Thursday** morning from **8-9 AM**. Everyone is invited to take part. Classes are free.

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We have an **exercise** class on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** from **3:30-4:30 PM** in the **clubhouse**. Deborah Pullen is the instructor. These are low impact exercise. The classes are free so come on down and be a part of it.

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For any resident in the park who refers a new resident that buys a Riegel Property home and signs a 5-year lease, you will receive a one month rent credit valid any month you choose within a one year period.

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Please watch out for your neighbors. If you don't see them over a day or so and you know they haven't left on a vacation, give the office a call so we can follow up.

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The **Barstow Police Department** wanted us to know that they can put your name, phone number, space number, medical condition and up to 3 contacts of friends or relatives into their computer aided dispatch system so that, in case of emergency, they have someone to call for our Resident's with Special Needs. The information would be the resident's responsibility to update of change if you move. Call the office to get the form to fill out or drop off a note at the police department with a notation stating what your note is for.

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Anyone with **TV's, computers and/or monitors, microwaves, coolers, large furniture, etc.** that you want to have disposed, please **call the office** and we will arrange to have them picked up and disposed of for you. **Do not put these types of items in any of the dumpsters.**

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**ATTENTION:** Seniors with Diabetes and/or Arthritis, you may be eligible for **FREE SSHOES and/or ARTHRITIS PRODUCTS** through a Medicare Program "At No Cost to You". For more information, please call Dianne Millard at 1-951-990-0017. **SORRY NO HMO INSURANCES.**

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Office hours for Holiday Homes MHP are as follows:



Monday through Friday 8:30-11:30  
Billing Period (1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>) 8:30-11:30  
1:00-4:30

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holiday except by appointment.

After 4:30 PM and on weekends and holidays the answering service will pick up the phones. Please give the answering service sufficient time to get in touch with a duty manager and for the duty manager to get to you before calling back. Also, unless it is a dire emergency, please do not knock on the manager's door or call them at home. Use the answering service.

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# 15

The speed limit in the park is 15 miles per hour. Please stop at all stop signs and corners that don't have stop signs. You don't want to run into one of your neighbors or their pets with your car!

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### **Attention Seniors (age 60+)**

Did you know? You could have a nutritious meal for a donation of only \$3.00? All meals include a main dish, vegetable, drink and dessert.

Where?

At the Barstow Senior Citizen's Center located at 555 Melissa Ave. Our lunch service time is from 11:30AM until 12:30PM. Our phone number is 1-760-256-5023.

This meal is provided through a grant from the Department of Aging and Adult Services of San Bernardino County. All donations are to help offset the cost of staff, utilities and the care of the equipment. Without your donation, the program would stop. You can bring a friend but if they are under 60 years of age: their donation will cost \$5.00. (This is still a great meal deal!) We also provide meals to homebound seniors!

For more information, call 1-760-256-9111.

Thank you,  
Jeff Eason

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We are doing our best to keep the park safe but we need your help, if you see someone acting suspiciously or anything suspicious, PLEASE call the Barstow Police Dept. at 1-760-256-2211. You can request that the responding officer not show up at your door. If the officer needs to talk to you, they can call you on the phone. With all of us working together, we can help minimize these types of problems.

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**The cameras in the park are monitored daily.** We do see vehicles that go through stop signs without stopping and vehicles speeding on the streets not only by the cameras but also by direct observation. Be aware of the speed limit - 15 mph. It might not be such a bad idea to stop at all corners (even the ones that don't have stop signs) so there won't be any type of accident.

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## From Park Rules and Regulations, revised 6/1/06

XIII. LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE: The homeowner is responsible for the control and maintenance of all vegetation on his lot (space) and any vegetation planted by previous owners or occupants which the current homeowner has not removed. Management shall order unsightly spaces cleaned or trimmed at the mobile homeowner's expense except trimming, pruning or tree removal when it poses a specific hazard or a health and safety code or regulation.

- A. Keeping it Clean: Vegetation and planted spaces must be kept properly trimmed, watered and weeded. Sites must be kept free of dead foliage, weeds and litter. Clippings, litter and garden waste must be cut to fit inside the trash containers and placed in trash containers daily. Rocks, bark and other materials used as substitutes for living ground cover must be confined to planned spaces and kept free of weeds and litter.
- B. Trees Trimmed: Trees, shrubs and bushes must be trimmed to a maximum height of 15 feet above the roof line of the mobile home and must not encroach upon adjoining spaces or obscure the street view of persons driving in the Park. Trees, shrubs and bushes near streetlights or sidewalk lights must be trimmed so as to permit adequate lighting of sidewalks, streets and common areas. These are the responsibilities of the resident for the trimming and maintenance in a manner that prevents trees from becoming a specific hazard or health and safety hazard violation.
- C. Dead Foliage: Trees which shed leaves, seeds or pollen over neighboring yards must be trimmed to that their effects are confined to the space owner's yard. Dead palm fronds, branches and plants must be removed each year to prevent fire hazards.

## Recipes and Other Stuff

If you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share, please bring it to the office for copying and it will be printed in the newsletter.

### Potato & Bacon Quiche

1 frozen puff pastry sheet (1/2 of 17.3 oz. pkg.) thawed	1 cup shredded Swiss cheese
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. new potatoes, cooked, sliced	5 eggs
4 slices bacon, cooked, crumbled	1/3 cup mayo
	1/3 cup milk
	1 Tbsp. finely chopped fresh rosemary

Heat oven to 400°F.

Press pastry onto bottom and up side of 9-inch pie plate sprayed with cooking spray; trim edge.

Layer potatoes, bacon and cheese in crust.

Whisk remaining ingredients until blended; pour over ingredients in crust.

Bake 30 min. or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Let stand ten minutes before cutting to serve.

Serves 8

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Exercise 3:30-4:30	3 Tai Chi 8-9 Income Tax Assistance 9-11 TOPS 5:30-7:30	4 Exercise 3:30-4:30	5
6	7 Exercise 3:30-4:30	8	9 Exercise 3:30-4:30	10 Tai Chi 8-9 Income Tax Assistance 9-11 Mini Health Fair 10-11 TOPS 5:30-7:30	11 Exercise 3:30-4:30	12 Private Party #128 9-7
13 <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>	14 <i>Emergency Team 1-2 Potluck 5:30-7:30</i>	15	16 Exercise 3:30-4:30	17 St. Patrick's Day Tai Chi 8-9 Income Tax Assistance 9-11 TOPS 5:30-7:30	18 Exercise 3:30-4:30	19 <i>Clubhouse Floor Maintenance</i>
20 <i>Spring Begins Palm Sunday</i>	21 Exercise 3:30-4:30	22	23 Exercise 3:30-4:30	24 Tai Chi 8-9 Income Tax Assistance 9-11 TOPS 5:30-7:30	25 <i>Good Friday</i> Exercise 3:30-4:30	26 Private Party #2051 12-7
27 <i>Easter</i>	28 Exercise 3:30-4:30	29	30 Exercise 3:30-4:30	31 Tai Chi 8-9 Income Tax Assistance 9-11 TOPS 5:30-7:30		

## LAWN CARE

- #81 Hire a qualified pro to install your irrigation system and keep it working properly and efficiently.
- #82 Hire a Smartscape Certified professional landscaper who has received landscape training specific to the Sonoran Desert.
- #83 Adjust your lawn mower to the height of 1.5 to 2 inches. Taller grass shades roots and holds soil moisture better than short grass.
- #84 Leave lawn clippings on your grass. This cools the ground and holds in moisture.
- #85 If installing a lawn, select a lawn mix or blend that matches your climate and site conditions.
- #86 Aerate your lawn periodically. Holes every six inches will allow water to reach the roots, rather than run off the surface.
- #87 If walking across the lawn leaves footprints (blades don't spring back up), then it is time to water.
- #88 Let your lawn go dormant (brown) during the winter. Dormant grass only needs to be watered every three to four weeks, less if it rains.
- #89 Avoid overseeding your lawn with winter grass. Ryegrass needs water every few days, whereas dormant Bermuda grass needs water monthly.
- #90 Remember to weed your lawn and garden regularly. Weeds compete with other plants for nutrients, light and water.
- #91 While fertilizers promote plant growth, they also increase water consumption. Apply the minimum amount of fertilizer needed.
- #92 Water your summer lawns once every three days and your winter lawn once every five days.
- #93 Catch water in an empty tuna can to measure sprinkler output. 3/4 to 1 inch of water is enough to apply each time you irrigate.

## LANDSCAPE

- #94 Read the Landscape Watering by the Numbers guidebook to help you determine how long and how much to water.
- #95 Use a trowel, shovel, or soil probe to examine soil moisture depth. If the top two to three inches of soil are dry, it's time to water.
- #96 Set a kitchen timer when using the hose as a reminder to turn it off. A running hose can discharge up to 10 gallons per minute.
- #97 Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk or street.
- #98 Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning hours when temperatures are cooler and winds are lighter.
- #99 Timing is everything when it comes to irrigation. Learn how to set your controller properly.
- #100 Look for WaterSense® labeled irrigation controllers.
- #101 Learn how to shut off your automatic watering system in case of malfunctions or rain.
- #102 Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it.
- #103 If water runs off your lawn easily, split your watering time into shorter periods to allow for better absorption.

