

Amargosa Valley Newsletter

“All the news that’s fit to print (maybe)”

Published monthly by Town of Amargosa Valley, Nevada

August 2007

A SWIMMING POOL: NOT RIGHT NOW

A year ago, the Town of Amargosa was received a \$21,000 grant (via Nye County) from the US Department of Agriculture Community Development Block Grant Committee to fund a feasibility study for an enclosed community swimming pool. This spring, BEC Environmental was awarded the contract to do the study. They tried to call all of you and were able to contact many of you to survey your interest and potential usage.

The results of the survey indicate that the pool would have a high usage and good support from the community. BEC recommended that we use the area under lease from BLM for our park, south of the helicopter pad and east of the arena. The estimated cost of construction and outfitting of the pool is approximately \$1.5 million. We could probably find that money through fundraisers, grants and/or bonds. We could also create a swimming pool taxing district. This would NOT increase your taxes, because we are at the maximum already. It would, however, require taking money from existing uses to use for the pool.

The sticking point right now is the estimated annual operation and maintenance (O&M) costs of \$216,000. That amount includes staffing, utilities, supplies and repairs. At this time, the O&M costs are prohibitive. So, while most of us would love to be swimming and otherwise exercising in our new pool by this time next year, it looks like we will have to wait a while. The Town Advisory Board will continue to explore funding options and keep you posted if anything changes. Our thanks to all of you for your participation in this process.

KUDOS TO . . .

Jim Rook, Jr. for helping out some seniors when their swamp cooler failed.

If you know of someone who deserves Kudos, call the Town Office 372-5459.

INTERNATIONAL DINNERS AT THE SENIOR CENTER

The Senior Center will be presenting International dinners each Friday in August. Dinner is served from 4:00-5:30. The themes will be:

Aug. 3	Chinese (Sweet & Sour Chicken)
Aug. 10	German (Bratwurst)
Aug. 17	Spanish (Enchiladas)
Aug. 24	American (Meatloaf)
Aug. 31	Italian (Spaghetti)

For a full meal including a salad bar, adults are charged \$5, children under 12 are charged \$3, and seniors and their spouses are asked to donate \$2. Come have a great meal from our Cook, Debbie, and join the fun.

RUMMAGE DONATIONS

Even though the Senior Center is no longer trying to run a Thrift Shop, we are still accepting donations of usable clothing, small furniture and household goods that we will sell at periodic rummage sales. Please bring donations to the Senior Center and place them in or near the “Donations Only” bin. Donations for the Rummage Sale on Saturday, August 11, 2007 must be received no later than Thursday, August 9, 2007. Donations received after that date will be held until the next sale.

GIANT BACK-TO-SCHOOL RUMMAGE SALE

The Senior Center will have a back-to-school sale of new, nearly new, and gently used clothing and other items on Saturday, August 11, 2007. We will have all sorts of things (including underwear still in the bag), school supplies, small furniture, household items, etc. Come shop with us first!

FROM THIS CORNER OF THE WORLD

By: Jan Cameron

In this space last month, I thanked some, but certainly not all, of the wonderful people who volunteer in our community and make a positive difference in all of our lives. This month, I am addressing the flip side. I call them “The ANTI’s”.

You know them; and they know who they are. They aren’t bad people; they are just unhappy. They are the ones who don’t like anything that a Board or Committee or any active individual does. They start from the assumption that people who serve on Boards or Committees are self-serving and proceed from there. They fail to recognize that no one who serves on any public board or committee in Amargosa receives any compensation for doing so, and ethics require that decisions not benefit anyone voting on anything. But, I guess, as The ANTI’s see it, just sitting at the table must be a reward.

And The ANTI’s try to force their own agenda upon the community by accusing the people who serve on boards or committees of being self-serving. And, when they don’t get their way, they make up or twist facts to stir others to support their viewpoint.

And they oppose any improvements in infrastructure or community resources, regardless of the source of the funding because they see it as an increase in their taxes. This, despite the fact that their state taxes can go no higher and the money coming from their taxes (state and federal) will be spent somewhere (so why NOT in Amargosa?). And they don’t want people to use the park (they’ll hurt the grass??), and don’t see why we need a park anyway – you guessed it, it’s THEIR taxes.

And they declare to anyone who will listen that all committee appointments are determined by the clique of those making the appointments. But when someone asks for people to volunteer to help with a community event, they sit on their hands.

I am not very fond of The ANTI’s. Negativity has never impressed me as a virtue. I would much rather work with others who are trying to make a positive difference than listen to someone gripe. And I must admit that I occasionally get irritated at them. But, I mostly just feel sorry for them. I realize that some people will never be happy – with anything. There is no point in my wasting my time trying to reason with the ANTI’s, or explain to them. So, like most people, I increasingly just tune them out.

The ANTI’s do sometimes have ideas. But since they continuously bombard the world with their negativity, their occasional good ideas usually get lost in the negative noise. I try to listen, but I must confess that I have probably missed a good idea or two in the last eight years, because I tuned out The ANTI’s.

I can only hope that someday these negative people will find something to be happy about. Their lives will be so much better. And mine? Well, mine can’t get a whole lot better than it is right now; see last month’s column for why.

LIBRARY NOTES

The new library cards with the contest-winning design on them have been ordered, and we hope to have them in sometime in September. We are all very excited to see the new cards when they arrive!

We are very sad to report that Nina Weller is retiring as of August 20th. We will very much miss her, and we wish her all the best. On the bright side, however, we are also very excited to welcome our new Library Aide, Erin Booth. Stop by the library on Mondays to say hello to her.

We are currently collecting pictures documenting the library’s history. If anyone has any photographs of past library events or people, and would be willing to let us scan them, please contact us at the library. Thanks!

NPR PROVIDES READING BROADCASTS

Nevada Public Radio (NPR) offers a free service for those that are visually or physically impaired and would benefit from hearing reading material, rather than trying to read it themselves. The radio reading service broadcasts readings of local and national newspapers, books, and magazines. The schedule includes the Las Vegas Review-Journal and the Wall Street Journal, The Smithsonian and The Economist, best-selling books and critic’s choice books, fiction and non-fiction.

The reading service is broadcast over a sub-frequency of News 88.9 KNPR. NPR loans registrants specially tuned receivers needed to listen. There is NO CHARGE for the service or the receiver. If you are interested or know of someone who could use this service, the applications and programming schedule are available from the Library or the Senior Center.

REMEMBER TO REGISTER

If you want to run for the Town Advisory Board or to vote in the advisory election in November, you must be registered. If you are not registered to vote in general elections, come to the Town Office during regular business hours to register for our Town Advisory Board election only.

IMPORTANT DATES (this year):

Wednesday, August 29, 2007

Last day to register to be nominated on
Thursday, September 27, 2007

Wednesday, September 26, 2007

Last day to register to be nominated on
Thursday, October 25, 2007

Friday, October 12, 2007

Last day to register to vote in Advisory
Election

Thursday, November 15, 2007
Advisory Election

VOTER & BOARD MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS:

Individuals who wish to serve on the Town Advisory Board and individuals who wish to vote in advisory elections must be at least eighteen (18) years of age, must be citizens of the United States, must not have been convicted of a felony and must live within the Township of Amargosa Valley and must be registered at least Thirty (30) days prior to their nomination or the election.. Board members must maintain their qualified status throughout their tenure.

1ST INTERNATIONAL BANK

Now open. Stop by say Hello and open an account. Don't forget a savings account for your children is a great way to teach them money management and give them the opportunity to watch their money grow. For general information or banking hours please call 372-1100.

BEWARE OF LAND SCAMS

I don't know if you are getting them, but since I receive about two a month, it occurred to me that you might. I'm talking about those "wonderful" offers to buy my property in Amargosa Valley. Almost all of the offers come from California. Usually, they just tell me to call if I am interested in selling. The latest took another approach: it offered a stated amount. The problem is, when I divided the amount they were offering by the number of acres, I realized that it was a terrifically bad opportunity. Their price: \$500 per acre. The going rate: \$10,000 to \$12, 5000 per acre. So, if you get an offer, check it out before you leap.

ALL WELCOME

Amargosa Youth Center Presents
Back to School Movie and Dance
Saturday, August 18, 2007
Doors open at 5:30 pm for dinner.
Movie starts at 6:00 pm
Dance 8:00 to 11:00 pm
\$2.00 at the door
Pizza, Hot Dogs, Popcorn, Sodas and Espressos will be available
Proceeds to benefit Youth Center
Call @ 372-5154 for more info.

SUPERVISED OPEN GYM

Starting Monday, July 9th

For kids 10 and up.

Espresso, latte, iced coffee, food, etc.

Mondays, Tuesday, and Thursdays

2:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M.

Please do not arrive before 2:00 P.M.

Seeking Volunteers

Call 702-544-2623

JOSH BRITTON

Boot Camp graduation, August 31, 2007, from Fort Sill Oklahoma.

Congratulations we are very proud of you!

Love, Mom & Dad

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

08-05-07 EMTS AMBULANCE HALL 9 A.M.
08-07-07 AMERICAN LEGION VFW 7 P.M.
08-08-07 READING PROGRAM CC 1 P.M.
08-08-07 AREA PLAN MTG CC 6 P.M.
08-11-07 BACK TO SCHOOL SALE 10 A.M.
08-14-07 A.V.F.D. FIRE HALL #1 7 P.M.
08-14-07 LIBRARY BOARD AVL 6:30 P.M.
08-15-07 AREA PLAN MTG CC 6 P.M.
08-16-07 PLANNING COMMITTEE CC 7 P.M.
08-18-07 BACK TO SCHOOL PARTY CC 5 P.M.
08-21-07 SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS
08-21-07 LADIES AUXILLARY VFW 6 P.M.
08-21-07 V.F.W. @ V.F.W. POST 7 P.M.
08-26-07 POTLUCK/AUCTION SUTTONS CC
08-27-07 SR PROJECT COUNCIL SC 5:30 P.M.
08-30-07 TOWN BOARD C.C. 7: P.M.

POTLUCK/AUCTION BENEFIT FOR TOM & ANN SUTTON

**Please join us on Sunday, September 26,
2007 at 2:00 P.M. for a benefit to help the
Sutton family.**

**Tom has recently been diagnosed with
cancer and his treatment center is in
Texas.**

**Please bring a potluck dish and an item
for the auction. For more information
please call Shelly at 372-5459 or Linda at
372-5659.**

NEW BUSINESS IN TOWN

ANYTIME BACKHOE SERVICE

Dennis L. Domina
775-372-5196
Or 775-910-1506



WOMEN'S SELF DEFENSE CLASSES

Beatty class will be held on August 18th & 19th
with a registration deadline of August 8th.

Pahrump class will be held on August 11th & 12th
at the Pahrump Courthouse.

There is a 6 woman minimum attendance for each
class.

Please notify myself and Captain Becht of the place
you arrange for the classes to take place.

I look forward to meeting you and helping to bring
these classes back to your area.

Denise L. Pilkington
President/CEO
Homeland Heroes "serving those who served"
P.O. Box 9449
Pahrump, NV 89060

4TH OF JULY THANK YOU

Once again I would like to thank all of you for
another outstanding 4th of July in the Park. I am
totally amazed at how much this event grows each
year and the awesome support I get in coordinating
this event. Thank you to all of the volunteers who
help and to all the residents for joining us in the
Park for a fun filled afternoon and evening.

Remember our Christmas in the Park is just
around the corner, Saturday, December 1, 2007 at
5:00 P.M. This is our annual toy drive and another
fun filled evening so mark your calendars and we
will see you there.

LET ME KNOW

Call the Town Office with any news or
announcements that you would like printed. We can
make announcements such as new services to our
Town, Birthdays, Anniversaries, New Baby or
meetings you want listed.

(775) 372-5459

or

town@amargosavalley.com