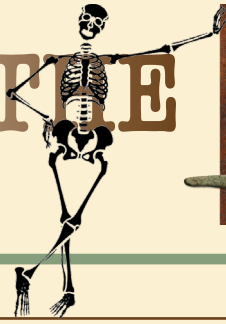


# IN THE



# DESERT MOUNTAIN

# VILLAGE

October, 2022

## **Your Desert Mountain Newsletter**

From time to time, we reach out to our Desert Mountain neighbors with useful information about our Village. Now, in an effort to be more concise, we put several subjects into a single newsletter with items you can read and respond to at your leisure.

In this edition, you'll find several topics that affect us all...Halloween, Yard Upkeep, and a Block Party!

## **Voting Members Ride Along with Justin**

You may already know that HOAMCO has recently hired a new Compliance Officer, whose name is Justin Rodriguez. His job is the same as the COs who have gone before, driving through ALL villages in High Desert, to be sure residents are maintaining the appearance (you might call it "curb appeal" of their properties according to HD requirements.

But Justin is handling the job somewhat differently. Sometimes, instead of sending that official compliance letter, he'll pick up the phone to discuss the problem in person. We like that!

Also, for the first time, during the week of October 24, Desert Mountain VMs rode along, and pointed out issues that are of greatest concern here in our own village.

## **About that Camper or RV**

Maybe you have a camper or RV trip coming up and you need some time to pack up all your essentials, or maybe get ready for winter. OF COURSE!

How long can you leave the vehicle in your driveway? As of July, 2015, the official Parking Rules have said you can load and unload (give yourself 3 days at either end). However, parking your RV, boat or trailer may not exceed 48 hours per event without a temporary parking permit.

It's one of the things Justin will be watching for. So there you have it.

## **Children's Halloween Parade**



**Sunday October 30, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Parade participants will meet at the grassy area by the Little Free Library near the pool at 1:50 p.m. Decorate your wagons and strollers, bikes or wheel barrows! If you feel like dressing up, don a costume ~ kids for sure! We'll walk around the village and finish on the Pine Forest Place Cul-de-Sac...

## **At the Halloween Block Party!**

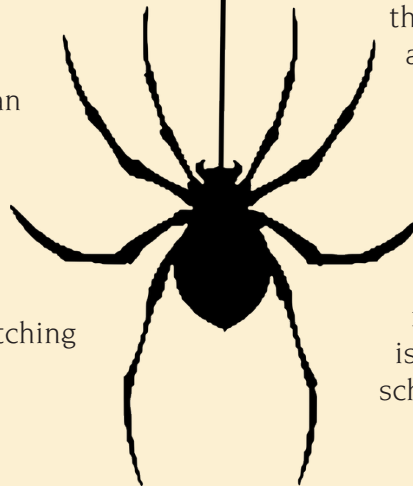
Our past Block Parties have been great, with Desert Mountaineers stopping by from all over our village. It's a great, fun way to catch up with your neighbors and welcome new ones (we have several - let's hope you come!) with a snack, a pop or maybe an adult beverage.

We'll have a shade for sun (finger bones crossed) and a few chairs, but be sure to bring one along, plus some sort of a snack or food and drink items to share. PS ~ We heard the Great Pumpkin plans to be there.

## **Other Residents' Social Activities**

Several of you have expressed an interest in social activities where they can participate with their fellow DM residents. We'll have sign-up sheets at the block party on October 30, or suggest activities by contacting Tracy Capozzella ([capozzella@hotmail.com](mailto:capozzella@hotmail.com)). We need 3-5 people to sign up to make the activities a success, along with a few leaders. Here are a few of your ideas:

~ Adult or Teenage readers for the Little Free Library - those who'd like to read to neighborhood kids when weather is appropriate. Also one or two adults to schedule and manage the reading leaders.



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~ Walking or Hiking club when the weather is good for walks or hikes 1 or 2 times a week, in or around High Desert and in the foothills (look East - to the miles and miles of trails).

~ Progressive Dinners once a month or quarterly. This is a party where 4-5 couples plan and participate in a dinner party, each couple preparing and serving one course at their home. The party then moves from home-to-home to complete the meal. Love to cook? This is for you!

~ Children's play group. The group could meet in a park or at someone's home, and rotate locations.

## Neighborhood Watch is Coming to Desert Mountain!



Neighborhood Watch is coming to Desert Mountain!! We currently have 4 resident volunteers interested in starting the first ever Neighborhood Watch in Desert Mountain. We would ideally desire to have a Neighborhood Watch volunteer assigned to 15 houses near them. In order to achieve this goal we will need many more volunteers.

Are you interested in participating in the Neighborhood Watch program in Desert Mountain? It is a great way to meet your neighbors and to help deter crime in our community. We are putting together a list of names of those interested in an informational meeting about neighborhood watch. For those interested a meeting will be organized by the APD Crime Prevention Office and will be held here in Desert Mountain. At this meeting will choose a Block Captain (or several) as well as review the Neighborhood Watch starter materials. After the initial meeting we will order Neighborhoods Organized Against Crime (NOAC) street signs and create a point of contact within our neighborhood for crime and safety related concerns.

If you are interested in joining us, please email Michelle Croteau at [Croteau13@gmail.com](mailto:Croteau13@gmail.com).

## Estate Sales in Desert Mountain

Estate sales have become an issue here in Desert Mountain. Keeping in mind that we all understand

the necessity ~ often heart-wrenching ~ need for a sale, we maintain rules to prevent unwarranted traffic or expansion into garage sales. That said, the High Desert Estate Sale Policy has been amended for our village. Read the policy on the Desert Mountain tab of [highdesertliving.net/Villages/Gated Villages](http://highdesertliving.net/Villages/Gated_Villages).

## DM Voting Members "At Small"

We are very fortunate to have many great people in our neighborhood! Two of the younger ones are Neena and Fiamma, who have been active in many ways. For instance, they helped get a "doggie station" installed, sell cookies & drinks for charity and organized a "kids' Olympics." Recently they attended a Voting Members meeting with the desire to promote vehicle safety here. Kudos to them!

## Non-Toxic Bug & Weed Sprays

Thanks to our wonderful environment, we still get bugs that bug us and weeds that bug us. But keeping that environment safe is paramount.

**For Bugs:** (16 oz bottle)

- 1 cup rubbing alcohol
- 2 tablespoons dish soap
- Fill remaining with tap water

Spray directly on insects, including cockroaches, ants, flies and wasps (provided by Bugman Inc. of New Mexico).

**For Weeds:**

- 1 gallon white vinegar (128 oz) *or* 1/2 gallon (64 oz)
  - 1 cup table salt *or* 1/2 cup table salt
- Mix to dissolve
- 1 tablespoon dish soap gently added/ 1.5 teaspoons

Fill bottle and spray directly on weeds. When using household strength vinegar it may take a few days for weeds to die and may need second application (<https://nativeplantherald.prairienursery.com/2019/01/how-to-make-a-homemade-weed-killer/>)

**Voting Members and Alternates:** Desert Mountain has four Voting Members and four Alternates. We represent our village's residents to the Board and vice-versa, sharing information, policies and recommendations. We also elect Board Members from a slate of homeowners, to ensure that High Desert has the most qualified people for the jobs. Please consider becoming a Voting Member!

### Current Members:

- Lauren Artiglia ([DesertHusky@gmail.com](mailto:DesertHusky@gmail.com)) • Brian Bowen ([BMBowen@gmail.com](mailto:BMBowen@gmail.com)) • Michelle Croteau ([Croteau13@gmail.com](mailto:Croteau13@gmail.com))  
• Bill Freer ([Bill@WilliamFreerStudio.com](mailto:Bill@WilliamFreerStudio.com)) • Laura Horton ([lauraerinhorton@gmail.com](mailto:lauraerinhorton@gmail.com)) • Mary Martin ([Mary@MaryMartinArtist.com](mailto:Mary@MaryMartinArtist.com))  
• Tracy Capozzella ([capozzella@hotmail.com](mailto:capozzella@hotmail.com)) • Joe Vargo ([jvargo87111@gmail.com](mailto:jvargo87111@gmail.com))