

# GAZETTE

AN AGE 55 COMMUNITY

WWW.SPRINGLAKESPARK.ORG

May 31, 2024

OUR 51<sup>st</sup> YEAR

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

### FRI. MAY 31

EXERCISE CLASS 10:00 AM  
CARDS 1:00 PM

### SAT. JUNE 1

BREAKFAST IN THE PARK 9:00 AM

### SUN. JUNE 2

JAZZ FEST 4:00 PM

### MON. JUNE 3

EXERCISE CLASS 10:00 AM  
CARDS 1:00 PM  
BILLIARDS 1:00 PM

### TUES. JUNE 4

AERO. CLASS 10:00 AM  
MGMT. TEAM MTG. Party House 10:00 AM

### WED. JUNE 5

### THURS. JUNE 6

EXERCISE CLASS 10:00 AM

### FRI. JUNE 7

EXERCISE CLASS 10:00 AM

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

KITTY LA FAVOR 2<sup>ND</sup>  
JIM BONAR 3<sup>RD</sup>  
TERRYCLEARY 3<sup>RD</sup>  
LINDA BECKER 6<sup>TH</sup>  
PATTY CASTAGNOLA 6<sup>TH</sup>  
LINDA SPAHR 6<sup>TH</sup>  
JERE POTTER 7<sup>TH</sup>

## HOMES FOR SALE



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SATURDAY IS BREAKFAST IN THE PARK  
STARTING AT 9 AM.



## JAZZ FEST

SUNDAY, JUNE 2 4-7 PM  
COMPLIMENTARY PIZZA AND SALAD  
WORLD CLASS MUSICIANS AND SINGERS

JON DRYDEN, PIANO; STEVE UCCELLO, BASS; ZACK OLSEN, DRUMS; BRAD HECHT, SAX; DON BECK, TRUMPET, RYU CIRILLO, TROMBONE, AND VOCALS BY SCOTTY WRIGHT AND JUDY WEBB.

FAMOUS SONGS INCLUDE YOU ARE THE SUNSHINE OF MY LIFE, MY FUNNY VALENTINE, EVERY DAY I GET THE BLUES, JUST THE TWO OF US, TAKE THE A TRAIN, GEORGIA, THE LOOK OF LOVE, SO WHAT, FOUR, AND MANY MORE.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. IT WILL BE FUN!!

A SPECIAL SESSION NOT TO MISS.

JOIN THE PARTY AT THE CLUBHOUSE.

BAR OPEN FOR BEVERAGE PURCHASES.

SPONSORED BY THE WILLIAM H. NADEAU MEMORIAL FUND  
PROMOTING AND AWARDED EXCELLENCE IN JAZZ PERFORMANCE.

## TRUST & WILL SEMINAR

Kathy Morgan-Martinez from the law offices of Dawson, Passafuime, Bowden & Martinez will be giving an informational talk on Trusts and Wills.

**Date: Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 11am**

**Where: SLP Clubhouse**

## **SIGN UP FOR OUR CARPORT SALE**

Too much stuff? Conquer the clutter by selling your unneeded items at our Park Carport Sale, scheduled for Saturday, June 22 from 8am to noon. So far, 12 households have signed up but many more are expected. Fee: \$10. Please pay by check at the office. Contact June Langhoff to sign up. Email: [junelanghoff@gmail.com](mailto:junelanghoff@gmail.com) or text/call 295-4537. Remember, your junk may be someone else's treasure.

## **What's Happening! Spring Lakes Activities**

### **BREAKFAST IN THE PARK**

Saturday, June 1st

### **JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>**

Celebrate with friends and family with our annual Parade & flag Raising Ceremony.  
A Hotdog Lunch will be served.

### **CARPORT SALE**

Saturday, June 22

### **SUMMER DAYZ**

Saturday, August 17

All activities will be posted in the Gazette with details.

**Come join the Activities planning sessions!**  
Our next meeting will be Thursday, June 13 in the  
Party House at 10:30am.  
Hope to see you there!



## **Partners Corner**

**WANTED:** If you have any Cornhole Toss Games that we can borrow for the Summer Dayz activity, please contact Kathy Dottai at 831-247-2428

## Our Water Ways May 31, 2024

Q: What is the history of the Spring Lakes Park, SLP, lakes basin? Part II

Understanding our human and natural history provides a framework for decisions about the soil, water, plants, and animals of our lakes basin. The following quotations from informal sources include citations to encourage further exploration.

Our ancient peat soil lays the foundation for history of the most recent century. Acidic peat soil constitutes the top layer of the beds of Upper Pond, Upper Stream, Upper Lake, and Lower Pond (Lake Committee sample profiles 2022, Lower Lake not tested).

The flat land that is currently Graham Hill Plaza, Spring Lakes and Vista del Lago was formerly a peat bog, a remnant of the evaporated lake that filled Scotts Valley thousands of years ago when a landslide blocked Carbonera Creek. A bog is a type of acidic wetland filled with layers and layers of dead plant material—usually peat moss. Bogs are very sensitive habitats, the moss forming at a rate of 1 to 2 millimeters a year, and of high importance for biodiversity. (The Blueberries of Scotts Valley, by Peggy Edwards, President, California Native Plant Society, Santa Cruz Chapter, hereafter referred to as Edwards.)

Beginning in the 1930s, peat soil was removed from Scotts Valley and taken to San Francisco to grow indoor plants such as gardenias ... (Scotts Valley Historical Society)



Initially purchased by the Graham family ... blueberries were planted between Whispering Pines Drive and Lockwood Lane. Blueberries ... thrive in acidic and infertile places, like peat bogs! (Edwards)

"Pickers on the Houghton farm near Camp Evers rush their work to beat the market ... And locally speaking, the capital of the California crop is in Scotts Valley and Santa Cruz. ... Houghton claims they can count on a 50 per cent crop loss each year because of the birds. ... Eberhart tells of a plant that has produced steadily for some 70 years. ..." (Edwards quotes the Santa Cruz Sentinel, August 14, 1955)

In July of 1966, after 25 years of production, the last commercial blueberry crop was harvested at the site of Spring Lakes Mobile Home Park. (Edwards)

Partner Jill Cramer remembers picking blueberries at two farms here, one in the Whispering Pines area and one at the SLP site. As a junior high student in the 1960s, she had to wait in the mornings for the fog and dew to clear before she could begin picking, in order to protect the berries from growing mold in the harvest baskets. Pickers were paid by the full set of baskets and had to strip a plant of all the ripe fruit before moving to the next plant.

Partner Clark Walliser remembers picking blueberries in the summer of 1964. He worked for about a couple of weeks or so, for \$1.25 per flat. To pick a flat took him up to 2-1/2 hours. One day he reached his hand to a 'giant' yellow & black garden spider. He writes, "It must have been 2 feet across! Or maybe 3 inches.

"That shocked me so much I collected the berries I had, turned them in, and went home, never to return. Well, until almost 60 years later."

There were natural springs and peat bogs; pastures for cattle and horses, blueberries, oak trees, and wildflowers were in abundance. ... the springs spread out over the flatland, and cattails, thistles and marshy weeds thrived in the peat bogs ... it was here that the groundbreaking ceremony for Spring Lakes Park was held, ... 1965, by landscape architect John Takemoto and owner, Bill Graham, each sinking a simultaneous shovel into the soil beside the [Lower?] lake ... (SLP historical documents)

In 1970, additional land added 63 spaces. Bulldozers followed the surveyors to dig out a new lake [Upper Lake?] and make streets and lots where Azaleas once bloomed. ... The small animals and deer were cleared out of their homes as the expansion progressed. (Spring Lakes Park historical documents.)

If the productive old blueberry bushes in the park have fed us and the birds for 70+ years, would we want to plant more? The variety developed by the Eberhardts and grown in Scotts Valley (Santa Cruz Sentinel, August 14, 1955) is still available. But spiders!

The first part of this series in the May 24 Gazette describes the ancient history of SLP. To chat or tour the basin, call Leslie Willoughby (760) 709-6599. 📞