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Editorial

PAG meeting Wednesday is chance to show region GV loves bicycling

The Pima Association of Governments is holding an open house on a draft Regional Plan for Bicycling in Green Valley on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

We encourage this bicycle-loving community to show up in force to have a say in how the Regional Plan is developed.

This is a first for Green Valley, and PAG's coming here to solicit opinions is evidence that our active retirees are not to be ignored when it comes to regional planning.

Bill Adamson, co-chair of the Santa Cruz Valley Bicycle Advocate Commit-

tee, said as much in an e-mail to the *News* this week.

"The fact that PAG is holding this open house in Green Valley is recognition that the Green Valley/Sahuarita region has become Southern Pima County's center of enjoyable bicycling and safety improvement planning," Adamson wrote. "We in the SCVBAC take pride in the role we have played."

We agree. Bicycle riding is great fun, great exercise, and, if the current world situation continues in its current state, likely a serious form of transportation for generations to come.

Also, a good turnout at the meeting will show PAG that we are a force to be reckoned with here, a truth that organization hasn't always believed.

When PAG produced its 2000 Regional Bike Plan, Green Valley wasn't even consulted. When the organization mailed out the survey for the 2000 plan to the public, the 85614 zip code wasn't included.

At the meeting, copies of the draft plan will be available, along with public response questionnaires.

The plan will identify recommended bicycle facility improvements through

2030, and will also include bicycle, pedestrian, and shared-use path facilities approved by voters as part of the \$2.1 billion Regional Transportation Authority plan last May.

The meeting is scheduled to start at 3:15 p.m., Wednesday, at the Abrego South Center, 1655 Abrego Drive.

If you can't make it to the local meeting, you can access the survey questionnaire by going to the Santa Cruz committee's Web site, www.scvbac.org.

We hope to see you there, and, weather permitting, let's all ride our bikes.

Letters to the Editor

Water concerns

Editor:

I see the Indians are developing land for houses on their land. First they put in deep underground water storage tanks,

The white man stores drinking water in lakes and dams, where a lot evaporates, reducing the quality and amount of water, and increasing the saline content.

This proves once again that the Indian is smarter than the white man.

Richard Spahr
Green Valley

pass? The rest of us do it with no problems, so why does he think he is somehow better than everyone else.

The only problem I see with this story is that the authorities were not called and Mr. Shuman and his guests were not escorted out.

I would also suggest that the GVR suspend his membership for at least a year or until he agrees to abide by the rules.

Dennis Hjerpe
Green Valley

This is an invitation to all of the good people in Southern Arizona to find out what ahs happened to the United States during the past six years.

Pick up a copy of the "Greatest Story Ever Sold," by Frank Rich.

It is available at the Joyner-Green Valley Library and at all leading bookstores. When you read the book and think about the consequences, it will chill your bones.

William T. McDonough
Corona de Tucson

and nursing needs and to be part of a decision to keep or close the facility.

Katherine Peck,
RN, CNS (Clinical Nurse Specialist)
Las Cruces, N.M.

Humor?

Hey Editors:

You guys have a mean streak. Two days ago you printed a letter from John Berkes displaying his ignorance of Iraq and the Middle East, then today (12/1) you feature him again writing what I can only surmise is an attempt at humor (?), urging George Bush to reinstate Saddam Hussein as president of Iraq (because we can trust of Saddam to do what's right).

I got a chuckle out of it, but rereading Mr. Berkes' letter, I wasn't so sure that he meant it as a humorous piece.

Can you imagine the bloodbath if Saddam re-emerged? That possibility is what has kept so many Iraqis from signing on with the new government.

Pol Pot and his Khmer Rouge would look like amateurs compared to what Saddam would visit on his people. But Mr. Berkes' letter was good for a laugh.

Scott Anderson
Green Valley

GVR hubris again?

Editor:

Why did you waste so much editorial space on a letter like this? The man created the problems for himself by not following the rules.

No one made an "ugly scene" and "destroyed the enjoyment" for him and his guests but himself.

How about printing a guest comment of equal length lauding the unsung heroes of GVR, both paid and volunteer, who have to put up with the abuse of members like Dick Shuman?

I fully support the policy of guest passes and applaud the volunteers and paid staff who are trying to enforce the new rules.

I pay the dues and have the right to know who's using MY facilities!!

Lois Spacapan
Green Valley

Many defined

Editor
"How many are many?" ("Fairness in All Things," 11/29/06) is the question. While the unabridged defines it as "constituting a large number," Journalism 101 cautioned us: "Many means one more than half, e.g. 51 percent." Hope this helps.

Paul Migacz
Green Valley

On CO2

Editor:
When Dick Kamp, author of the two-part series on the proposed Bowie power plant refers to CO2 as a "pollutant," he sounds like an environmental extremist.

CO2, as Dick knows, is an essential basic of photosynthesis, without which nothing green would grow.

Since our atmospheric oxygen is created mostly by green plants, there would be no oxygen-breathing life without CO2.

It's hard to understand how anyone could be so concerned about a gas that makes up only 5 percent of our atmosphere (CO2) as the environmental extremists are. Pollutant indeed!

Bob Roof
Green Valley

Suggested reading

Editor:

Disagrees on GVR

Editor:

I don't know Dick Shuman and frankly hope I never do. The world is full of bullies like him who somehow are able to rationalize that they are above the laws/rules and should be allowed to act like they own the place.

1) Because he has been a member for 25 years—that is a reason for him to be above the rules!

2) Because 25 years ago the rules were such, they can never change or if they do, they don't apply to him!

What is the big deal about getting a guest

Letters Policy

The News reserves the right to edit contributions for length, accuracy and clarity. Letters exceeding 300 words will be edited. Readers are invited to submit guest commentaries

which should not exceed 700 words. Writers of commentaries may submit an accompanying photo and brief biographical information. The News also retains the right to reject any

letter and limit frequent contributors to a maximum of one per month. All contributions must include the writer's name, address and telephone number for verification purposes.

Letters and commentaries should be submitted to any of the following: Fax: 520-625-1603. Email: letters@gvnews.com Mail: P.O. Box 567, Green Valley, AZ 85622

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