

THE LDLP BREEZE

The Official Monthly Newsletter of Laguna de la Paz



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**YOU CAN WIN
\$20 CREDIT TO BE
USED AT LA
QUINTA FARMERS
MARKET! SEE
PAGE 7 FOR
DETAILS ON HOW
TO WIN! OPEN TO
ALL LDLP
RESIDENTS**

Message from the President

Hello, LDLP residents, and thank you for the vote of confidence and allowing me to guide the LDLP community for the next twelve months. I consider it an honor and a privilege, and I am looking forward to the challenge. Of course, I won't be able to do it without all the many amazing, dedicated volunteers across all the community, both those serving on committees and others who give of their time in other ways. Let's make 2021 a great year!

For my first 100 days in office, I do plan to be busy, and I aim to accomplish a number of tasks. Let's take a quick peek at some them.
[continued on next page]

LDLP Dog of the Month

I'm Max, and I'm a Guide Dog of the Desert puppy-in-training. When out in public, I must always wear my vest and cannot socialize with other dogs. My foster parents/trainers are Judy & Dave Terry on Via Amistad. I am just 9 weeks old, will live with the Terrys for about 19 months, in which time they will socialize & train me, utilizing lots of outings, varied experiences, to prepare me for my formal training by Guide Dog of Desert trainers to assist a visually-impaired person.





[Message from the President, continued from Page 2]

- >>LDLP website will be updated and revised.
- >>Agendas for board meetings will be reorganized to ensure portions requiring community participation occur first, minimizing wait times.
- >>Formation of a Communications Committee.
- >>Implement new tracking system for maintenance orders, architectural requests, landscape requests, and violations.
- >>Signs at guard house will be updated or replaced.
- >>A joint monthly meeting between myself and all committee chairs
- >>More *and improved* communication between leadership and community.



I'd like to include "*OPEN THE CLUBHOUSE*" too, however, Governor Newsom's pay grade is a tad bit higher than mine, so we'll have to wait...
--John Guerrini, LDLP Board President

Winner, Winner, Chicken Dinner!

Charlotte Pyle is the winner of February's LDLP "*I Spy*" contest. Many residents correctly identified the location of the decorations in the photo as at Pool #1; and from those entries, Charlotte's name was chosen at random. Nice work, Charlotte. Enjoy the \$20 *RD RNNR* gift card! (Full disclosure - she's dressed up in her best leprechaun dress here!)

And P.S. If you need someone to go with you to *RD RNNR*, La Quinta's best bistro in Old Town, please let *The Breeze* editor know, as he is particularly fond of the *Fooled You Burger*!



LDLP Drink of the Month

Irish Mule



Just in time for St. Patrick's Day! Forget the *Moscow Mule* and ease into something that oozes a bit more of the luck o' the Irish (and certainly more character than plain ol' vodka)... *The Irish Mule*!

Ingredients:

2 ounces irish whiskey
6 ounces ginger beer
Juice of half a lime
Lime slices
Mint sprigs

Method: Fill a copper mug (or other glass) with ice. Pour in whiskey and lime juice, top with ginger beer. Stir, then garnish with lime wedges and fresh mint sprigs. Enjoy. Repeat.

If you have a submission that you would like to be considered for LDLP Drink of the Month, email to john.guerrini@ggclaw.com, and your drink could appear in a future newsletter!

**Disclosure - your newsletter editor's husband is a huge fan of the Moscow Mule and will probably never consider anything Irish...*

Tina's Famous Slow-Cooked Baby Back Ribs

From LDLP's very own Assistant Manager "Tina"

RUB ingredients:

- 2 TBSP crushed black pepper
- 2 TBSP garlic powder
- 2 TBSP kosher salt
- 2 TBSP paprika
- 1 TBSP onion powder
- 1 TBSP ground coriander
- 1 TBSP dried dill weed
- 1 TBSP crushed red pepper flakes

SAUCE ingredients:

- 1 cup water
- 5 TBSP brown sugar
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1 TBSP garlic powder
- 1 TSP minced fresh ginger
- 2 TBSP cornstarch

METHOD:

Combine all ingredients for the SAUCE; whisk over high heat until combined and thickened; put aside for later.

Combine all ingredients for the RUB and rub all of it over the ribs then grill on lowest setting for 90 minutes. At that point, baste the ribs with the SAUCE and continue grilling on lowest setting for another 30 minutes or until absorbed.

Take off heat. Rest for 10 minutes. Eat. Repeat. Repeat. Repeat.

**PRO TIP: Tina suggests a grilling mat, as it allows control of flames and minimizes the risk of burning the rib meat.*





PICKLEBALL PLAYERS CAUGHT IN THE ACT!



Do you hear that sound? What is that???

That's the sound of the PICKLEBALL ... it's calling you to the pickleball courts.

Want to play? Let's go:

Men's open play: Monday 8:00 a.m.

Ladies' open play: Tuesday 8:00 a.m.

Mixed open play: Saturday 8:00 a.m.

***If You
Know Where
this Photo
Was Taken,
You Could
Win \$20!***



Join us for the March 2021 edition of **"I Spy"** and earn a chance at TWENTY DOLLARS IN CREDITS to the La Quinta Sunday Farmers Market - held in Old Town La Quinta (8am-Noon) and home to so much fresh produce, small-batch honey, bakers, the list goes on! Every Sunday 8am - Noon. That's twenty bucks cold hard credits ... which means your next pound of Lion's Mane mushrooms could be free! Here's how you can play: **YOU MUST CORRECTLY DESCRIBE THE LOCATION WHERE THE ABOVE PHOTO WAS TAKEN.** This one is a tad bit easier than last month's challenge. *Hint: It's taken somewhere along Vista Laguna.*

The Deadline to submit your answer to paaty@aol.com is March 20. If more than one correct answer is submitted, the winner will be chosen at random among those entries.

Why Did the Ducks Cross the Road?



If you know the answer, please email it to john.guerrini@ggic.law, and the best answers will appear in next month's edition of *The Breeze*!

Bike Club News

Due to COVID-19, the Bike Club has no activities planned for this month. We're waiting to see the results of the vaccination program before we mobilize for this season.

For information about Club Membership, Planning & Scheduling, contact: Ed Olinek, Email: edolinek@aol.com or Telephone/Text: (303) 669-7987.



Landscape Committee Report

This month in landscaping, our contractor *Sunshine* has applied fertilizer for all shrubs, sprayed insecticide where needed across the grounds, fertilized the annuals, and finished trimming the olive and citrus trees. *Sunshine* also continued spraying for Spurge and applied a pre-emergent spray.



The grass has really greened up. *Sunshine* continues to add mulch and seed to bare spots. Especially around the lake this a battle between our contractor and the ducks. One look at those fat little guys will tell you who is winning the battle so far. However, we will persevere.



The warmer weather is helping many of the plants that have been a little slow to flower this year to develop beautiful blossoms. And of course, the citrus are in bloom, and the scent from these lovely trees is magical. The gardening group continues to take on small *and* important projects at LDLP. If you are interested in getting your hands dirty and improving the looks of LDLP (and are willing to sign a liability waiver), please contact Margie Horgan at margiehorgan@gmail.com

The Landscape Committee thanks the board for its efforts in skinning the palm trees on Laguna Vista. They look gorgeous!

--Dawn Billings, Landscape Chair



Hear ye, Hear ye ... Election results!



From Dean Wendlund, LDLP Association Manager:

Dear Homeowners,

The Association held its annual meeting and election on February 27, 2021. At that meeting, after tabulation of the ballots cast, the following persons were elected to the Board of Directors:

**Dawn Billings
Dena Priser
Jonathan Becker**

The current Laguna de la Paz Board of Directors (with term expirations) are:

**John Guerrini, President (2022)
Dawn Billings, Vice President (2023)
Jackie Bivens-Kaufman, Treasurer (2022)
Dena Priser, Secretary (2023)
Jonathan Becker, Director-at-Large (2023)**

The 2020 Annual Meeting minutes and the motion regarding IRS Revenue Ruling 70-604 were approved. Thanks to all of you who submitted your ballots. Let's make 2021 another stellar year for LDLP!

--Dean Wendlund, LDLP HOA Manager



The LDLP Book and Puzzle Exchange Is Now Open!



Time to go through your shelves and bring the books you've read along with any jigsaw puzzles you would like to share ... or.... come pick out some books you would like to read or jigsaw puzzles to put together! Please join Carolyn Todd at the *Book and Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange* **OPEN NOW at the Clubhouse.**

Tuesdays: 9 - 10 am Thursdays: 3 - 4 pm

Masks are required along with six feet social distancing. This is not a social gathering - it's an opportunity.

Is Your Pooch the Next LDLP Dog of the Month?

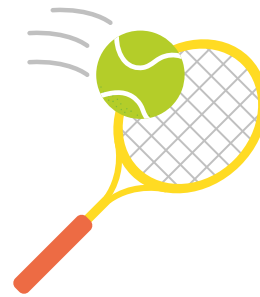
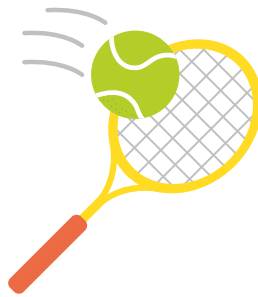
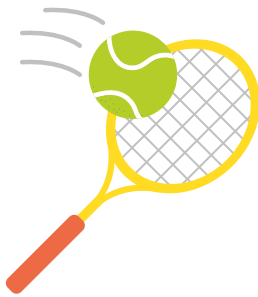
Does your pooch have what it takes to be an LDLP DOG OF THE MONTH? If you think Fido should be considered, do the following:

- 1 - Take a clear photo of Fido**
- 2 - Write a few sentences about why Fido should be the next LDLP Dog of the Month**
- 3 - Email both to the newsletter editor:
john.guerrini@gglc.law**



Maintenance Committee Report

- New maintenance report shows almost all committee items closed.
 - Concrete repairs completed, an updated survey will be taken in spring and fall.
 - Roofing project slightly behind schedule, and expected completion of this phase in mid-April 2021.
 - Street lighting options are being explored by some members of the committee.
 - A full review of possible pool repairs and renovations will begin in late March 2021.
-



Racquet Committee Report

All the LDLP courts are being used at a high clip, with both pickleball and tennis courts in high demand. Many new players are taking advantage of our great weather.

Pickleball sessions are being coordinated by Greg Asbra. Open courts are generally available. Contact Greg at ggasbra@yahoo.com

Tennis clinics continue to be led by Murray Todd on Monday, Thursday, and Saturday. Show up at 9am or contact Murray at oztennis@msn

Architectural Committee Report

We have kicked off 2021 and are off to a busy year with many architectural request improvements. Thank you to those who have filled out and submitted the required request forms before beginning any work. As a reminder, the Architectural Request forms can be found on the LDLP website [here](#).

Did you know? The Architectural Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month. If you would like to watch via Zoom, contact the Committee Chair, Nicholas Robles, at *nicholas.robles.20@gmail.com*. Thank you!

Safety Committee Report

This has been a busy month. The Safety Committee is preparing a packet for each residence in Laguna de la Paz which will include a door hanger to inform committee searchers of how you are doing after a quake, instructions on how to assemble an emergency supply kit, what to do before/during/after a major earthquake, a magnetic *File of Life* pouch to attach to your refrigerator with medical and contact information in case you need medical help, and FEMA information. These will be distributed in March.

We now have our primer, paint, and thermal additive ordered for the exterior of the container. After rust abatement, we will start the painting. We will be installing two ventilation turbines, a portable A/C, finish organizing our supplies, and setting up procedures for the operation of LDLP earthquake response. We are optimistic all this can be accomplished by the end of May 2021. Join us to help with this important work!

Mary Bryant – *marybryant2323@gmail.com* - 541-977-3744



Do you know the way to *RD RNNR*?



Everyone likes to support local business, right? In La Quinta, that's easy to do, with so many great wonderful locally-owned restaurants. Head to Old Town LQ and find "*RD RNNR*," home of some of the best bistro-style fare and drinks. Calling its menu, "*Craft American*," *RD RNNR* features standouts such as cheesesteak, "Big Boy" grilled four-cheese sandwich, the RD Burger (beef, vegan patty, shortribs, chili, bacon, avocado, fried eggs, even grilled jalapenos can be added), and "Adam's Gift" (baby back ribs that literally fall off the bone). All salads can be topped with salmon, lobster, chicken, shrimp - or all four! And the drinks...oh my, so many fine drinks. Go early, as *RD RNNR* gets quite busy.

WANT TO TRAVEL?
WANT TO EARN EXTRA CASH?
WANT TO VISIT EXOTIC PLACES?*

The Breeze, LDLP's official newsletter, is looking for a few residents who are called to contribute their unique set of skills to write regular features, contribute new features, and produce what we hope will become the standard-bearer of all HOA newsletters in the Coachella Valley. *THE FEW, THE PROUD*, are you with us? If so, consider the following openings to help with:

- >> CROSSWORD PUZZLE**
- >> LDLP RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEWER**
- >> LDLP DOG OR CAT OF THE MONTH**
- >> LDLP IGUANA OF THE MONTH**
- >> LDLP RECIPE OF THE MONTH**
- >> LDLP DRINK OF THE MONTH**
- >> LDLP DAY TRIP OF THE MONTH**
- >> LDLP LOCAL RESTAURANT OR OTHER FIND OF THE MONTH**
- >> LDLP *[YOU FILL IN THE BLANK]!***

Let's do this! Email Board President John Guerrini john.guerrini@ggic.law with your intentions and become part of the future!

**None of these benefits are actually available, as this is a volunteer position, and there's no travel other than around LDLP. But trust us, it's still a great way to meet people and make a difference at LDLP!*

RE-INTRODUCING: The Recently- Repaired-Spanish Ladies!

They're back and more beautiful than ever! Thank you to residents Patty Nichols, Denise Dubose, Margie Horgan, Jane Taylor, Dave Nichols, John Guerrini, and Ralph & Blas for their time and effort to bring the "ladies" back to life, replacing the fountains and pumps, and cleaning up the hardscape and landscaping.

Despite a fair number of cuts and scrapes from the various thorny branches (and a few unmentionable words uttered from Dave and John's mouths as they struggled to tear out the old concrete), everyone was able to declare success once the pumps began to flow with the water.

Stop by and visit our resident *Spanish Ladies* near the pickleball courts.



MARCH 2021

Palm Tree Skinning Project: SUCCESS!



Your Board approved the skinning of all palm trees along Vista Laguna, and now, LDLP has a new grand entrance!



A Malbec Blend to Pair with Tina's Baby Back Ribs

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA

APPELLATION : UCO VALLEY (MENDOZA)

PRODUCER: DOMAINE JEAN BOUSQUET

SIZE: 750 ML

**VARIETALS: 100% MALBEC, 5% MERLOT,
5% SYRAH, 5% CABERNET SAUVIGNON**

VINTAGE: 2018

WINE: RED

PRICE: \$14.95 (widely available)

BUY AT: DESERT WINE SHOP ON 111

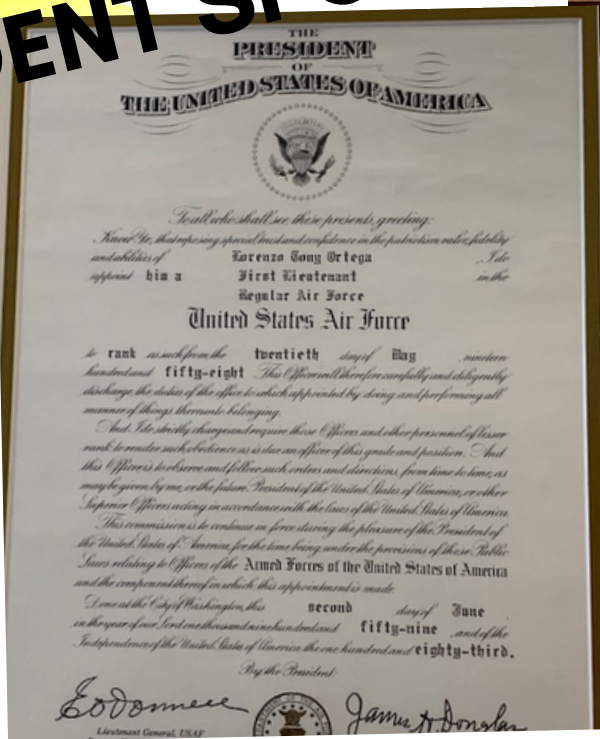
LDLP's **Wine Geek** saw Tina's *Famous Baby Back Ribs* with the dry rub and teriyaki sauce and immediately thought of a Malbec blend. Malbec blends scream out to be drunk with barbecued ribs or any grilled meat. Always a deep violet with red and black fruit on the nose, this Malbec also presents wet earth, mushrooms, and moist forest floor on the nose, with sweet cassis and violet flowers jumping around as well. Palate is the same and treats you with a very long finish. Full of fruit but definitely not sweet. Bonus: the grapes are organically grown.

Cheers! If you have a food/wine pairing question, email the *LDLP Wine Geek* for help!



MARCH 2021

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT



Meet Your Neighbor, Retired USAF Lt. Colonel and College Professor, Dr. Tony Ortega

A resident of LDLP since 1999, Tony Ortega is just getting started with his adventures in life! In 1952, at 21 years of age, Tony was placed in charge of a nine-megaton bomb aboard a B-47 Stratojet Bomber, and there he served the United States Air Force for over 20 years including a tour in Vietnam and serving at Strategic Air Command aboard the EC-135 "Looking Glass," an airborne command base. After earning a doctorate in philosophy (1976), he worked in Argentina from 1979-1982 helping the government with air defense systems. Then he landed at Rockwell (1982) and helped design, build, and deliver 100 B-1B "Lancers." The Lancer is a supersonic variable-sweep wing heavy bomber used by the USAF, and is commonly known as "The Bone." Tony helped design the avionics of the plane, which lower the "radar cross section" to such a degree that the plane is nearly considered a "stealth" plane. As he explained, "We created a skin of the plane so that it absorbs energy, helping to evade radar detection." After Rockwell, he taught business administration at California State University, Bakersfield, retiring in 1999. Most afternoons, Tony and his wife of 41 years, Janet, can be found sipping wine and watching the sun set over the mountains.

FIVE MORE MINUTES WITH MAX: GUIDE DOG OF THE DESERT PUPPY-IN-TRAINING



Our LDLP *Dog of the Month* (featured on page 2) is a "Guide Dog of the Desert Puppy-in-Training." Guide Dogs of the Desert provides mobility, companionship and independence for the blind with custom-trained guide dogs like Max. Blindness is a disability that can strike anyone at any moment, with devastating results. Blindness can happen at birth, from an accident, complications associated with aging, coronary disease, diabetes, glaucoma, and macular degeneration.

Not all dogs can be Guide Dogs. Currently, only Labrador retrievers and standard poodles are eligible; they are selected between 8-12 weeks of age, placed in their new homes to learn about the world and bond with humans. The whole family commits to the puppy until he/she is 18-24 months of age. The goal is to socialize the puppy into an easy-to-manage dog that can demonstrate excellent behavior in places of public accommodations and in the home. For more information, please visit <https://guidedogsofthedesert.org/>

Before & After - One Resident's Front Yard Landscape Makeover

We'd thought about updating our front yard for three years. We love the lush greenness and color of LDLP and wanted a "pop" of desert-scape against the house to complement the community's winding lawns and flower beds. We also wanted to add the convenience of a concrete walkway from the driveway to the back patio.

Inspiration for the front yard design was only a few doors away, at the home of Dena Priser. It was featured in last month's *The Breeze*. We relied on LDLP's catalog of approved plants, which features plants that are compatible with LDLP's architecture while also being low maintenance, drought-tolerant and hardy. After receiving approvals from the Architecture Committee for the walkway and the Landscape Committee for the plants, work proceeded smoothly. We now have a smooth, firm walkway to the backyard and fresh, bright plantings with lots of room to grow for many years. Onto the next project – updating the showers!

--As shared by residents Margaret Sullivan and Tom Caspers

THE LDLP BREEZE



(Below photo, *before...*
Above photos, *after!*)



March 2021: "Dark Skies" Pilot Project



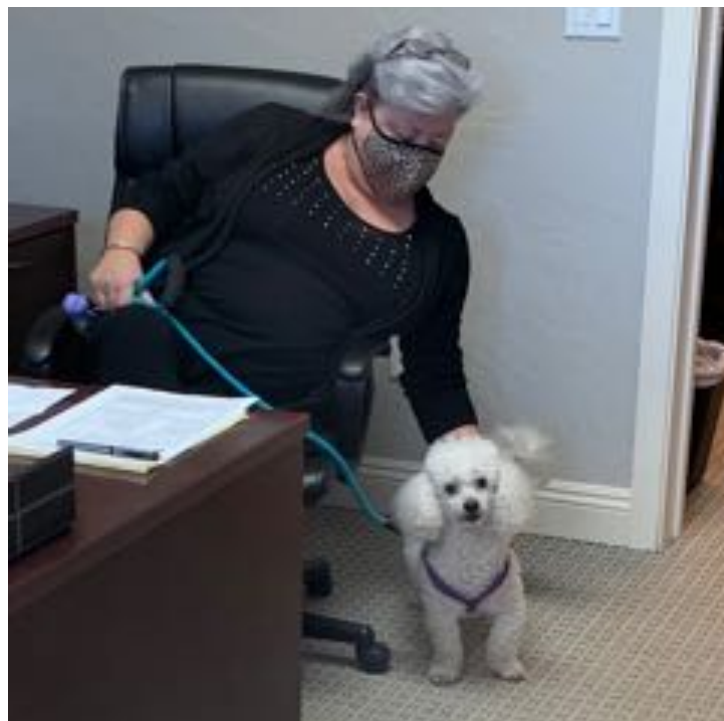
The LDLP residents have spoken, and the Board has listened! The overwhelming majority of respondents to the February 2021 survey indicated that they wanted to shut off the street lights in March 2021 as a pilot project. There is a "Dark Skies" ordinance in La Quinta, and LDLP is one of the few (if not the only) community with street lights. So we're going to try it out for a month and see how it goes. Lights in the parking lot, around the lake, and around Vista Laguna are unaffected. Here's a picture of LDLP maintenance staff disconnecting the power to a street light.

Office news

Meet the new *Assistant to the Assistant Manager*. When asked if he likes his new role supporting staff, he replied, *"It's doggone ruff work, and I'm ready to lick it."*

Asked what his first task will be, and he said, *"Supervising the removal of the BARK from the palm trees, of course."*

THE LDLP BREEZE



SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

As provided by Allied Universal Security, LDLP's security guard and patrol service.

TO HELP PREVENT HOME BURGLARIES:

- LOCK ALL DOORS AND WINDOWS, EVEN GARAGE DOORS, WHEN YOU GO TO BED AND CERTAINLY, WHEN YOU LEAVE THE HOUSE.
 - CONSIDER DOUBLE-CYLINDER LOCKS ON PATIO DOORS.
 - WITH SLIDING DOORS, USE A DOWEL OR OTHER PIECE OF WOOD TO PREVENT DOOR FROM BEING OPENED.
 - DO NOT OPEN YOUR DOORS TO PERSONS YOU DO NOT KNOW.
 - BE SUSPICIOUS OF ANYONE WHO ASKS TO ENTER YOUR HOME FOR ANY TYPE OF "MAINTENANCE" AND DEMAND TO SEE PROPER IDENTIFICATION TO PROVE THAT THEY ARE WHO THEY SAY THEY ARE.
 - REPLACE BURNT OUT LIGHTS QUICKLY.
 - WHEN GONE FOR MORE THAN A DAY: (1) USE A TIMER ON ROOM LIGHTS, AND CHOOSE A TIMER THAT TURNS LIGHTS ON/OFF AT RANDOM TIMES; (2) STOP NEWSPAPER DELIVERY OR HAVE A NEIGHBOR PICK UP FOR YOU; (3) LET YOUR NEIGHBORS KNOW YOU ARE AWAY.
-

SOCIAL NETWORKING SAFETY SUGGESTIONS:

- NEVER SHARE FULL NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER, CREDIT CARDS OR BANK ACCOUNT NUMBERS.
- CAREFULLY CONSIDER WHAT INFORMATION YOU ARE SHARING AND ASK YOURSELF, *COULD SOMEONE USE THIS TO HARM ME?*
- SHARING PHOTOS OF YOURSELF ON VACATION IN REAL TIME TELLS THE WHOLE WORLD THAT YOU ARE NOT AT HOME.
- RESTRICT ACCESS TO YOUR SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES TO ONLY THOSE YOU TRUST. THEY SHOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE TO THE ENTIRE WORLD.

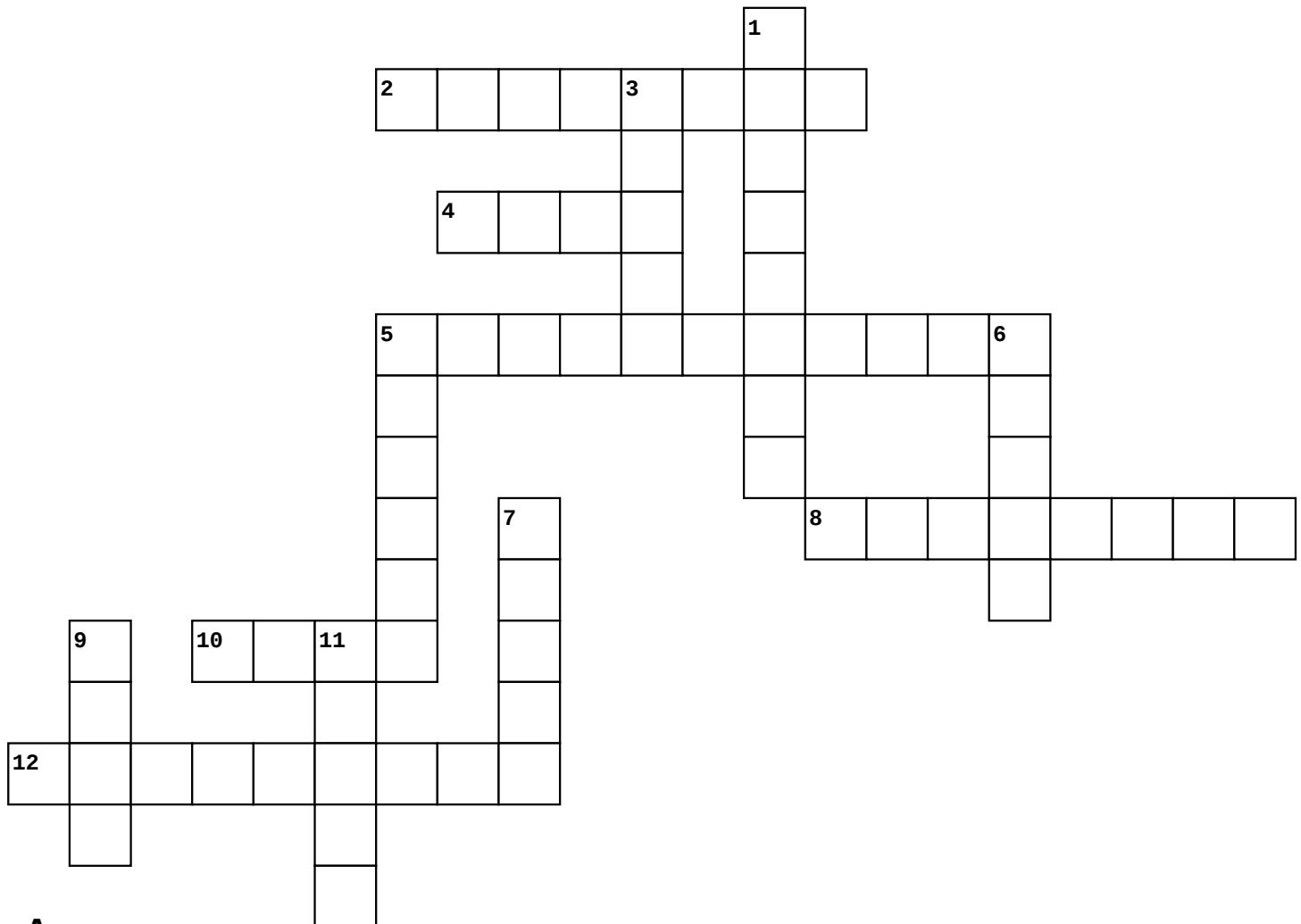
HAPPY 86TH BIRTHDAY TO MARGIE!



LDLP resident Margie turned 86 years young on January 25. When asked what she is going to do to celebrate, she said, *"I want to go to Las Vegas to celebrate, just as soon as I can travel safely again!"*

March 2021 Crossword Puzzle

"THINGS YOU SEE AROUND LDLP"



Across

- 2 Structure from which jets of water are emitted
 4 LDLP's central feature
 5 Process of making a yard or land more attractive by altering existing features, trees and shrubs
 8 Rubbish goes into this
 10 Domesticated carnivorous mammals with long snout
 12 LDLP has beautiful ones to the north and west

Down

- 1 Paved path for pedestrians
 3 Woody perennial plants
 5 Decorative illuminations
 6. Vegetation consisting of typically short plants with long, narrow leaves
 7 Water birds with broad blunt bill
 9 Structure forming the upper covering of a building
 11 Person who keeps watch

Upcoming Dates



March 20 2021 - Deadline to send your submission and take part in the LDLP "I SPY" Contest for a chance to win \$20 credit to be used at the La Quinta Farmers' Market in Old Town La Quinta!

March 25 2021 - Next regular meeting of the Board of Directors.
Time TBD.

March 25 2021 - Deadline for submissions for April 2021 LDLP Dog of the Month, LDLP Recipe of the Month, and LDLP Drink of the Month.

Do you have a committee meeting, social event, or other event that you would like listed in this section? Please contact John Guerrini for inclusion in the next edition of *The Breeze*.

LDLP Management

Manager - Dean Wendland

Dean.Wendland@albertmgt.com

Assistant Manager - Clementina "Tina" Bolden

Clementina.Bolden@albertmgt.com

President - John Guerrini

Vice-President - Dawn Sullivan

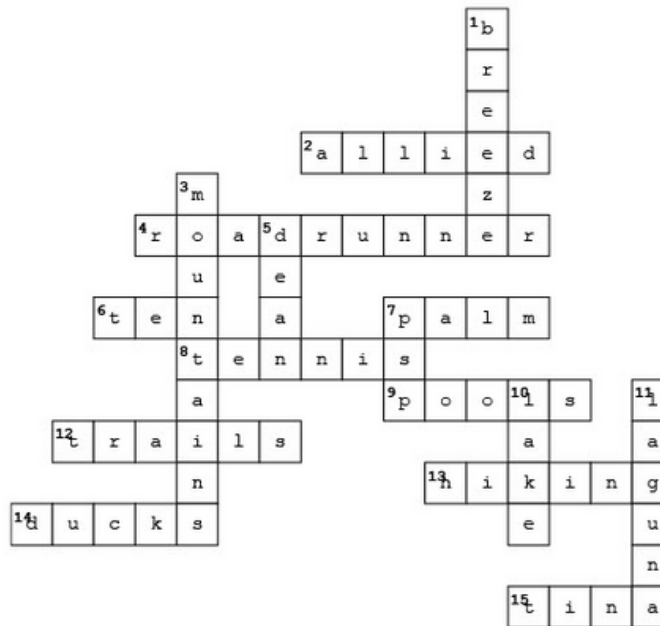
Treasurer - Jackie Bivins-Kaufman

Secretary - Dena Priser

Director-at-Large - Jonathan Becker

February 2021 Crossword Puzzle Answer Key

LDLP February 2021 Crossword Puzzle



Across

2. Name of our security company
4. Geococcyx
6. Number of cul de sacs in LDLP
7. Common tree at LDLP
8. Racquets required
9. LDLP has 15 of these
12. Paths
13. Long, vigorous walk
14. Swimming birds with short legs
15. Name of our association assistant manager

Down

1. Name of this newsletter
3. San Jacinto ____
5. Name of our association manager
7. Local airport code
10. Body of water
11. Spanish for lagoon

The Last Word



"Well, No One Else Was Using the Pool..."

Local resident ducks Dave and Dewey were caught lounging in one of the pools along Vista Laguna early in the morning.

The LDLP Breeze is published once per month. Send inquires, questions, comments, and submissions (but not complaints) to john.guerrini@ggic.law.

Photo credits in this issue: pages 2 & 20 Judy Terry; page 3 Charlotte Pyle; page 5 Tina Bolden; page 6 Greg Asbra; page 14 RD RNNR; page 21 Margaret Sullivan.