



Friends of Carefree, there is new and important information to share, but first I'd like to wish you a **Happy Columbus Day!** All the current political correctness nonsense aside, this date has traditionally commemorated the discovery of the 'New World' by Columbus in 1492. So what if it was essentially a mistake.

Modern views of leisure time and personal convenience have moved the day to allow for 3-day weekends, so it's all good as long as we are happy, right? The fact is, here we are 526 year later, and neither you nor I would be here if it were not for old Chris and his somewhat faulty GPS. Thanks Chris!

Big news on three fronts, in the order of their discovery:

1) Our Town Administrator has apparently been job hunting in greener pastures. Paradise Valley Mayor Michael Collins announced yesterday that Neiss is one of three finalists in their search for a *Town Manager*. Many of our merchants, and residents, wish Gary well and God's speed.

2) The remaining Ed Lewis property adjacent to the Post Office building at 100 Easy Street is apparently once again for sale (you may have noticed the new sign). Does this mean that the most recent zoning giveaway by the Peterson administration made the property more valuable for sale than for the development they approved last fall? We'll see, but it doesn't appear that Luxury Condos will be popping up there anytime soon. Those two Lewis properties have been in play for well over 10 years with zero development, even with numerous council giveaways. Is that land tainted, or just destined for a nice Dog Park? *[Yes, I admit that comment was a bit 'snarky', but at least a Dog Park makes sense **and** it is not subject to Dodd-Frank banking-lending regulations!]*

3) Without help, input, or even the awareness of the Peterson administration, Spanish Village has inked a deal with the proprietors of Liberty Station to reopen the former *Bacán* restaurant as part of their group. That is expected to occur at the beginning of December. Liberty Station is also changing their DC Ranch location '*Market Street*' to the Liberty Station concept. The Liberty folks have operations in Nebraska. This is definitely a coup by the owners of Spanish Village and was deliberately kept outside the destructive influence of the Peterson-Neiss fiefdom. Thank God there are smart business people in Carefree.

4) Another development kept away from the rulers' meddling is the relocation of the Thunderbird Artists to Los Portales, where they will open a prominent and well publicized gallery of their own, their first. Hopefully the administration will keep their hands off this project in order to assure its success.

Both projects 3 & 4 above are dynamic developments by major players who were able to do what the ineffective administration of the Mayor For Life Peterson-Neiss dynasty could not, despite millions of taxpayer dollars thrown away.

This is another solid reason why Term Limits is needed here, as well as other stagnant or dying towns in Arizona. New blood is necessary from time to time in order to view opportunities with clear eyes and a fresh perspective. In the next legislative session, our local representatives (lead by Karen Fann and a coalition of other supporting representatives) plan to get a bill passed **explicitly** allowing all municipalities in Arizona to choose Term Limits, if they wish (no more end-runs by hangers-on and lawyers running to the courts to keep their council seats warm).

When meddling, ineffective governments get out of the way businesses can thrive, *and* good things can be accomplished.

Respectfully submitted by John Traynor

Notice: In addition to reporting *facts*, this Newsletter may contain the author's perspective on topics or events affecting Carefree residents. That perspective may not be popular with the mayor, some council members, staff, town attorney, a certain blogger, or even some members of the public. As I've stated many times over the past years, I try to identify those items which are *my* perspective of events by enclosing such material in *[brackets]*. If we lived in a perfect world, we'd need but one newspaper.
God Bless America.

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