



Friends of Carefree, I hope you are all enjoying the awesome and much needed rain we have been receiving. That low pressure system is projected to clear out overnight, opening a path for pleasant days through the coming weekend.

This mid-week edition is intended to impart some brief information on several subjects. First up, Mayor Crane thought it would be a nice idea for CFM to alert you to the special event scheduled on Friday, January 26th for the dedication of the new Fire Engine and Brush truck. The event will take place at the Carefree Fire Station #1 [*no, we really don't have 820 others 😊*], beginning at 1:30 PM on Friday. The weather should be very accommodating, so come on out and participate if you are able. Our Rural Metro Firefighters and EMS personnel will certainly be on hand. According to a recent Town email, you can “Enjoy a ribbon cutting ceremony, open [fire] house, hot dogs, chips, and refreshments! Sounds good!

Next, along with several other residents, including Mayor Crane, I attended the Carefree SkyRanch Community Relations Meeting in the Fire Station this morning. Although the meeting was relatively brief, it was efficiently run and informative. We heard current statistics regarding Flight operations and noise complaints. There was only 1 complaint reported that occurred at 2:30 AM, on a Saturday? over Black Mountain but it was not related to SkyRanch operations.

Wendy Mattes was present to provide information on the important quest by Carefree Park (non-profit) to acquire the 48 acres of state land across from the airport in order to preserve it in perpetuity. She outlined the current status of contributions and pledges, totaling over \$900,000 since beginning, in October of 2023. Wendy also mentioned that a fund raising event will be held on March 19th, on Keeler's Rooftop starting at 5PM. It will be a ticket entry event, so please visit the website [<https://www.carefreepark.org/>] to reserve your tickets. More info will be posted as we get closer to that date.

Preserving that land should be important to all Carefree residents, in addition to airport operations. JR SPalj (18AZ President), suggested that their Community Relations Chair should send out a communication to members updating them on Carefree Park's progress and describing how members can contribute or pledge. He also suggested that someone should contact the other SkyRanch HOAs to share the same information. By copy of this edition, I am reaching out to some of those individuals who receive this newsletter and suggesting that they too spread the word in their HOAs that Carefree Park is for real and certainly will appreciate any and all financial and moral support. Hey SkyRanchers, doesn't 'SkyRanch - Carefree Park' have a nice ring?

On other less tasteful fronts we have the Unity group stirring in the weeds. A recent communication to their shrinking distribution list suggests that, by tone and content, the ex-mayor (you know who he is, I'll just refer to him as *ex* going forward) just can't go quietly into the night, as he should. Every communication from that non-Unity group carries the scent of Les Peterson. The lust for power and influence is pathetic.

Not content to let the new mayor run the town unencumbered by ghosts, *ex* also appears to be playing games in an upcoming council election. Certainly, anyone is entitled to support a candidate, or candidates, of their choice but there should be limits to the ethical means of doing so. Pushing his very loyal council member, who is likely to be the low vote getter in the upcoming council primary election, this early, is a reach born of desperation. A special favorite of that *ex* turns out to also be a long-time favorite of the Hitchons as well. Imagine that coincidence.

A conspiratorial mind could imagine a scenario wherein a loyal clerk notifies the *ex* of the State Land Trust letter. That *ex* notifies his favorite, who calls Lyn Hitchon, just in time to publish that letter before the **actual mayor** can discuss the matter during a public council meeting, as is his right. The scent I mentioned previously is also obvious in a recent letter sent to the Sonoran News by the favorite one. Ghost writing has its limits, Mr. *ex*. In the immortal

words of a good mayor, Ed Morgan, “*don’t embarrass yourself.*” It did not pass the sniff test for me, I hope my readers noticed as well.

And there you have it, for now.

Respectfully submitted by John Traynor

Notice: In addition to reporting *facts*, this Newsletter will contain the author’s perspective on topics or events affecting Carefree residents. That perspective may not be popular with the mayor, council members, staff, town attorney, or Facebook Trolls. The fact is, I don’t care what they think.

If we lived in a perfect world, we would need but one newspaper.

God Bless America.

If you wish to **Subscribe** to this Newsletter [Click here](#)

or

If you wish to **Unsubscribe**, simply [Click here to Unsubscribe](#)

Carefree, what life should be!

Copyright ©2015-2024, CarefreesFutureMatters.com

"The power of accurate observation is frequently called cynicism by those who don't have it." - George Bernard Shaw