

e-mail photos to rford@gvnews.com

GV Community Food Bank says goodbye to loyal worker

The Green Valley Community Food Bank bid farewell to Mike Averre, its warehouse supervisor, who retired recently after 10 years of service to the non-profit.

In his honor, Food Bank volunteers pooled their own money and threw a farewell bash for him at American Legion Post No. 66.

Averre and his wife, Cheryl, came to Green Valley 10 years ago to assist Mike's aging parents. It was to be a temporary situation.

They originally lived in Washington, where Mike worked as a logger. He retired in 1996, and he and Cheryl spent the next four years living and sailing on their boat, the "Salty Dog." The last two of the four years were spent sailing in Mexico.

Shortly after moving to Green Valley, Mike and Cheryl began volunteering at the Green Valley Community Food Bank. Both of Mike's parents were strong food bank supporters and volunteers.

After five years of volunteering, Mike was offered a temporary staff position as



MIKE AVERRE and his wife, Cheryl, say farewell to the Green Valley Community Food Bank after 10 years of service.

warehouse coordinator. His position became regular full-time and two years ago he was promoted to warehouse supervisor.

"Mike has been an exemplary employee and community servant," said Mary Jane Goodrick, Green Val-

ley Community Food Bank manager. "He is well-known throughout the community for his service at the food bank."

Working right along side of him, Cheryl volunteered an extraordinary number of hours each year, Goodrick

added. Cheryl clocked 1,013 hours in 2009 to be exact.

Both of Mike's parents are now deceased, so he and Cheryl decided to try retirement again.

They are returning to Washington to be closer to their children, grandchildren, and their beloved "Salty Dog."

"Both Mike and Cheryl are passionate about helping those in need and have always been willing to do whatever it takes to make sure that the mission of the food bank is fulfilled," Goodrick said. "They will be missed tremendously."



LOMA WOODBURN, left, and Mary Jane Goodrick, Green Valley Community Food Bank general manager, enjoy the party for Mike Averre, who recently retired from the facility where he worked as warehouse supervisor



THE CROWDED PARTY for newly retired Mike Averre included friends, staff and volunteers from the Food Bank.



A BUFFET of good food makes the retirement party a hit with the guests.

SCOTT A. TARAS PHOTOS | SPECIAL TO THE GREEN VALLEY NEWS

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IS YOUR VEHICLE SAFE FROM THEFT...?

Tucson makes the top ten list of metropolitan areas with the most auto thefts in the United States with about 8,000 cars stolen per year. Nationally, auto theft is an estimated \$7.5 billion business with a car being stolen every 23 seconds. Only about 14 percent of all auto thieves are apprehended, and the odds of you recovering your stolen car are equally unlikely. But there is something you can do about it and it's absolutely free. This Saturday, January 16th, the Green Valley Sheriff's Volunteers (SAV) will be acid etching VINs in their garage from noon to 3:00 p.m. No appointment is necessary and the process takes only about 10 minutes. Every vehicle has a unique alphanumeric identifier, the VIN or Vehicle Identification Number, which is assigned at the factory and registered with the Federal Government. It is located in several places, the most conspicuous being on the dashboard. You've seen it every time you enter and exit your car, but probably never give it much thought. But it's the most important way law enforcement uses to identify stolen cars. The VIN on the dashboard can be easily replaced from another vehicle. However, etching the VIN on the vehicle's windows has been proven to prevent theft and to make recovery more likely. In a study conducted by the Kentucky State Police, 125,000 vehicles were VIN etched. At the end of the year, the number of vehicles stolen for that area should have been nearly 800 based on previous statistics. But only four were stolen, three of which were recovered undamaged. Replacing the VIN on the dashboard is no big deal for a car theft ring, but replacing all of the vehicle's windows would be a very time intensive and costly task. Again, the SAV is providing this service for free to Green Valley and Sahuarita residents this Saturday, January 16th, from noon to 3:00 p.m. at our garage located behind the library. This is a free service although donations are always welcome. New car dealers who do VIN etching charge a substantial fee. If you think your vehicle isn't expensive enough or new enough for thieves to be interested in it, think again. The car most frequently stolen last year nationwide was a 1995 Honda Civic.

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354 Via Del Ciruelo, Las Campanas. Combination of soft living & classy chic. Nicely landscaped lot with water feature & super mountain view. The zestful kitchen is open to the dining area. The sassy living room with sliding doors opens onto a wonderful screened porch ideal for coffee or cocktails viewing the mountains. On a corner lot with 2 car garage, this home is conveniently located for recreation & shopping. (MLS#41732)... **\$274,500**

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4947 S. Harvest Moon Dr., San Ignacio Vistas. ... Security, beauty & comfort for you. It's all here in this gracious home with large master suite and guest suite. The extended den provides a view to Tucson! The king size living room has an appealing view and opens to a lovely wrap around patio. The well designed kitchen has storage galore and provides a view for you while dining. (MLS#42186) **JUST REDUCED TO \$299,900**

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OPEN FRI. 1:30-3:30PM
MILES OF MOUNTAIN VIEWS
1913 W. Placita De Agosto, San Ignacio Ridge. Seeing is believing so you gotta see this special home. From the moment the front door opens you'll be in awe of the view! Combined living/dining room has vaulted ceiling & wrap fireplace. The spacious kitchen boasts elegant, green granite counter tops & cherry cabinets. Appliances have all been replaced. A large den has room for computer, library & TV. Final touch is extra large garage. (MLS#42817) **\$395,000**

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LOOKING FOR A SHOWCASE?
1200 W. Camino Del Pato, Canoa Hills Townhome. This is an opportunity to buy a home that has the perfect blend of comfortable living, choice location and affordable pricing. This 2 bedrooms townhome comes with great tile treatments throughout. A studio/office as an absolutely gorgeous mountain view. The living room has been expanded giving plenty of space for entertaining. A rear patio affords great privacy! (MLS#42736) **\$179,900**

VINTAGE ADVANTAGE!
721 W. Calle Regalo, Esperanza Estates. The owners have loved this older, Santa Fe styled home & it shows! It is meticulous top to bottom. An inviting living room has a large arched window overlooking a pretty courtyard. There is a wood-burning beehive fireplace and a wall of bookcases & cabinets to hide your TV. A U-shaped kitchen has a serving pass-thru to dining room & patio. (MLS#42556) **\$186,500**

SPECTACULAR VIEW
386 W. Continental Vista Pl., Sunrise Pointe Vistas. You literally climb the steps to heaven in your rear yard to a private viewing area of the mountains! You can truly enjoy casual living with all the modern conveniences. Two bedrooms, nice sized bathrooms, efficient kitchen with eating bar, charming living room & dining room with coffered ceiling. There is also a craft room, large garage & spacious rear patio. CALL NOW! (MLS#41556) **\$215,000**

OLD-FASHIONED PRICE...
2001 W. Via Del Picamaderous, Canoa Seca Est. ... on a modern, today home! This Granada floor plan is of excellent design. A large foyer brings your guests into an inviting living room that overlooks a very private patio, arroyo & golf course. The extra large family room will hold your big screen TV with space left over! A nicely done kitchen has a pleasant eating area opening to a covered patio. Don't let this steal get away! (MLS#42868) **\$299,000**

PRIVATE, PEACEFUL AND PERFECT
1174 Placita Inspirada, Portillo Hills. This is an owner designed home so great thought was given to livability and it shows. This is a casual home with a great open floor plan, ideal for being with family & friends. There are 3 bedrooms, 2 baths & separate laundry. The fresh white & blue kitchen has lots of storage. The Master suite has a separate room ideal for den, studio or office. Located on lot with privacy & wildlife. (MLS#42426) **\$310,000**

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