

ROBINSON CRUSOE OBSERVER

News of the Meadows

Winter 2018

50 cents

Truth, and a little bit more.

Special Extra

A Visit to Guatemala

By Nelson Reyes

During my winter break from school, I went to Guatemala with my dad and my three-year-old sister. I had been there once before, so this was my second visit to the place where my dad grew up.



We took a plane and left at night and got there in the morning. We arrived in Guatemala City and my uncle and great grandpa picked us up and we drove to the town of San Carlos Sija, near Quetzaltenango.

Right now in Sija there are lots of fairs, or carnivals. People visit this town from around the area and have fun. For example, there were many foosball tables set up and people paid one Quetzal to play. The Quetzal is the money of Guatemala. Incredibly, one entire day of a large festival is named after my family, Reyes. We are pretty important in this town.

We stayed at my grandma's house. Her house is on a rather loud street, because it is near a freeway. The house is near a big soccer field. She fed us plenty of food. We killed a pig for a party and all my aunts, uncles, and cousins came.

My dad gave my 100 Quetzales and I wasted 20 of it on a big big firework that shoots 20 big fireballs into the sky. On New Year's Eve, I

shot it off. I also bought a huge exploding bomb that almost took my head off!

Nearby my grandma's house is the local elementary school. It is a Christian school, and I went there for a week. The teacher was also my aunt. She teaches sixth grade and we learned about Colombia, Puerto Rico, and some other countries. The hard thing about it was we had to skip count by 6 to 3000! This was almost impossible.

On the sixth day of my visit we visited the zoo in Guatemala City, near the airport. The zoo is home to plenty of animals, including a panther, tons of monkeys, a tiger, and a bunch of birds. My favorites were the monkeys. I don't really know why.

Guatemala is a great place to visit, even if you don't have lots of family there.

Who Are All Those Cats?

By Talullah Kram

The cats at the Meadows are very sweet and gentle. Let's get to know some of them! Like Pipa! Pipa is very sweet and gentle once you get to know her! She is a Tabby with green eyes! And has ginger fur with black stripes. She is also very shy.

Now we will move on to Fisher. Fisher is all black. My friend Cadie thinks he is fat, but Fisher isn't very gentle: the opposite of his sister.

Now meet Coco, one of my friend's Cats. Coco used to, and still does, have showdowns with Stella a cat from 2 doors down! Coco is a Mackerel Tabby with white paws and yellow eyes. And is very playful! And has very long fur!

Now we need to meet Shadow! Shadow is an indoor cat. And is a he! He is a Tabby with green eyes. He is also very playful! And is also very relaxed and confident about being pet and picked up! He also has a big love for the great outdoors and is very persistent about trying to get out onto the porch or out the front door.

What about Pablo? Pablo is a black and white cat. With lots of territory! And is very interested in keeping it! Pablo also has a sister! Stella! But both Pablo and Stella are very shy and are very hard to get to know. But it is always possible! Stella and Pablo are thin and lithe and probably good at catching prey if they can!

I love cats, whether they're old or young. I love their soft fur their soft toned purr their quick stride walking. I just love everything about them! The end!

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The Meadows' Beauty
By Sahaj Malik

I have been living in the Meadows for about 6 months. It is really peaceful around these areas. It is really majestic and beautiful. There are unique animals around here.

For instance, coyotes. They may seem scary, but if you don't bother them, they won't bother you. There are also cats. They may seem cute, but they can give you bad luck!

Of course, the trees are the best part. There are so many trees that, the whole Meadows of Terra Linda is so beautiful! They give you the feeling that Spring is always around. It's like living in a redwood forest. If there were maple trees, we could get maple syrup right from our backyard. This is the natural beauty of the Meadows of Terra Linda.

Nature Beat
A View from the Top
Talullah Kram & Caedryn Pierce

The Meadows offers its residents a place to experience the flora and fauna of Marin County.



Notably, its exquisite trees offer shade and beauty. They also offer a great vantage point from which to see the goings-on down below. But to get to the top, one must climb. That's what we do. Here's a few of our favorite Meadows climbing trees.

The Maple Tree is located in front of 104 Surrey Lane. It is a very tall tree with bark that is both rough and smooth. It is brownish-green in color. Perhaps the proper color name is hazel. It's a joy to climb because it

has so many branches and it is super high. Sometimes it feels like it may be too high. It is quite a challenge to climb, but once you do, you will feel proud of your accomplishment.

The Bottle Brush Tree can be found near Beatrix's house. It is really shady and in certain spots the leaves fall like curtains that hide the climber from view. This tree is one of the most technically difficult climbing trees at the Meadows. Getting a good start at the trunk is a bit like rock climbing. But the texture of the bark creates good handholds.

Finally, the luxurious Buckeye Tree is an arboreal classic located just outside of 5 Surrey Lane. It's a long-time favorite of climbers here because of its widespread branches. Folks look a lot like monkeys when they sit in this tree, getting a good view of the sporting events happening below. The best time to climb this tree is the springtime, when the branches are covered with green leaves. Buckeye seeds make their appearance on this tree in the autumn, giving climbing girls great ammunition to throw at frienemies below.

Everyone at the Meadows should give tree climbing a try. It's one of the greatest pleasures of life.

Real Estate Report
Recent Sales in the Meadows

Address	Bed/Bath	Price (\$)	Date
107 Forest Ln.	1/1	354,000	2/16/17
9 Forest Ln.	1/1	385,000	7/21/17
946 Lea Dr.	1/1	385,000	9/28/17
132 Surrey Ln.	2/1.5	500,000	4/21/17
37 Forest Ln.	2/2	510,000	8/4/17
14 Forest Ln.	2/2	525,000	7/25/17
42 Forest Ln.	2/2	525,000	11/28/17
920 Lea Dr.	2/2	526,000	5/17/17
53 Forest Ln.	2/2	529,000	7/21/17
38 Forest Ln.	2/2	540,000	8/18/17
9 Surrey Ln.	3/1.5	640,000	5/12/17
6 Surrey Ln.	3/1.5	665,000	8/4/17
18 Surrey Ln.	3/1.5	668,000	8/4/17

Around Town

The sometimes outrageously expressive drawings of Sarisha Malik are on view on the Northside at Gallery 15SL until February 28.



GenderWave, 2018



Betrayal at Stalingrad, 2018

Also at Gallery 15SL is the whimsical art of Iggy, on display through March 2018.



Carlos Guitarlos, 2018

Column
The Nosey Neighbor
Betty Pool



The last year has seen lots of activity here at the Meadows, with many folks moving out and plenty of new families moving in. I'm pleased to say that last summer Rajiv and Pragya Malik moved in to 6 Surrey Lane, along

with their two daughters Sahaj and Sarisha. The Maliks so extravagantly and beautifully decorated their home with traditional paintings and lights just in time for the Diwali holiday. Then, just a short time later, a Christmas tree in their front window! So much effort, and together it makes the Meadows a beautiful place!

I've also spied some new homeowners at 18 Surrey Lane. With a little snooping I've discovered they are Kyle Feasey and his wife Christine. They have a newborn daughter who apparently keeps them busy. We'll see them around soon.

The scuttlebutt around the Meadows includes chatter about some new furnishings in the clubhouse. Some new sofas and chairs in the bar. I've been told about it, but I've not seen it myself. I can't wait to take a peek.

A reader writes:

DEAR BETTY: I drive into Surrey Lane after work, often late at night. By that time, there are not many spaces and I end up driving to the end of the lane, turning around and looking for a spot on my way out. Thing is, sometimes I see a space on the left side of the road, rather than the right. Is it okay for me to park on the wrong side of the lane?
EXHAUSTED PARKER

DEAR EXHAUSTED: I know what you mean about limited parking! And I too get quite tuckered out during the day, what with all my responsibilities here at the Observer. But, you should know, it is not only illegal to park the wrong direction, it's also unsightly. Who wants to see all those cars parked heel-to-toe? I'll tell you, nobody. Remember, this is

the Meadows . . . not the ghettos.
BETTY

Announcements

- **Experimental Subjects Needed.** Rory Pierce at 15 Surrey Lane is busy at work on a few science projects. He asks for your help with a non-invasive psychology experiment. Subjects will be asked to complete a questionnaire. Anyone interested in volunteering about 10 minutes time may contact Rory by email at rrpjr1@piercespace.com

- **Call for Submissions.** The Robinson Crusoe Observer takes article submissions from freelance writers, young and old. Anyone interested in writing for the Examiner is asked to contact the editor by email at rrpjr1@piercespace.com