

## Just so you know! . . . . May 17, 2017

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. . . Our garden progress: still too chilly to do outside planting. We are buying plants and building/filling flower pots. They are all still ‘undercover’ in our garage.

. . . Geri, she comes to our village open house every year. She even brings friends. She’s a person we like to see. She looks at, and appreciates, everything we do. She asks questions. She looks again! She also eats at *DoNorth Pizza* in Hermantown, MN. If you don’t remember, pizza is my favorite food group. We saw her there.

. . . NCC gathering Tempe AZ <http://ncc56.com/NCC25/Marketplace.shtml> They list fourteen vendors for the gathering. Most say “Department 56 buildings and accessories.” Also shown are Village D-Lights, Village Display Tips, Hot Wire Foam Factory, Dept. 56 Retirees, Inc., and Golden Glow of Christmas Past.

. . . Village D –Tails, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition - still nothing new.

. . . From NPSue on the Yahoo Dept. 56 Group: “Thought I would let you know that there will be a gathering in Chicago in 2018. ‘**Sweet Home Chicago**’ will be held in September 2018. More information will be shared as soon as possible. Plan to share some of the information in AZ in June but the committee has met and narrowed down somethings and will continue to meet.” We have marked it on our calendars for 2018.

. . . Kathy Belfanz was at our Village North Collectors Club meeting this evening. Now I know who she is, ‘in person.’ We exchange emails on a regular basis. Oops, forgot to say that Kathy works for Dept. 56. She told us some stuff, answered questions and asked for suggestions. She shared some company ‘handouts.’ The Dept. 56 provided drawing prize was won by me. It was Holy Land Little Town ‘The Inn at Bethlehem.’ Thank you!

. . . “The harder you work, the luckier you get.” – Gary Player

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