Enjoying Our Pools



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It's springtime and the outdoor pools and spas open on April 1 for all to enjoy! Sun City Summerlin's four Fitness Centers, along with two indoor swimming pools and three outdoor pools, are used daily by hundreds if not thousands of residents who enjoy our wonderful amenities. The Maintenance and Landscape departments have been busy preparing for the upcoming pool season.

Those visiting the Pinnacle pool will notice the lack of pine needles littering the poolside. A few pine trees and several bushes were removed to help improve the pool environment. We hope to have fewer bees after removing some of the flowering bushes that attract them; residents will see a noticeable difference while enjoying their time in the sun.

At Mountain Shadows, the pool bathrooms have been updated with new tile and vanities for a fresh, clean look, and the Maintenance staff has repaired the pool decks at all of our outdoor pools.

FUN IN THE SUN

Sun City Summerlin is made up of a wide variety of residents. We all share the facilities, and there are rules in place to help make usage fair, safe and enjoyable for all. Our pool rules are in accordance with the SCSCAI Rules & Regulations and the Southern Nevada Health District. Below are a few issues and rules that residents question the Fitness staff about on a regular basis. We hope this information helps all residents have a pleasant experience when visiting the swimming pools.

Showering & Sanitation Laws: Showering before entering the pool or spa is required by the Southern Nevada Health District in order to reduce contaminants brought into the pool and spa. It is also highly recommended to rinse off by showering after exiting the pool. You always will see professional and Olympic-competitive swimmers and divers rinse off as soon as they exit the pool. Although chlorine (salt or liquid) is necessary to keep the pools clean and sanitary, showering after swimming will help keep your skin and suit in healthier condition. No adult disposable briefs are allowed to be worn in the pool or spa.

Pool Water & Bodily Fluids: Even with nightly maintenance, it is important to maintain the cleanliness of the pools and spas on a daily basis. Association rules and the Health District restrict individuals with any open sores from entering a pool or spa. Regardless of where the open sore is, on the top of the head or the bottom of the foot, residents with an open sore may not enter the pool or spa water. For those who like to spend hours walking in the pool, please remember to vacate the pool often and use the restroom. Studies show that urine combined with chlorine creates many health risks for individuals. Please use good hygiene and do not urinate in the pools or spas.

OTHER FITNESS CENTER AND POOL RULES

- Residents must be present to check in their guests.
- Street shoes are not allowed in the pools or pool areas. Clean pool shoes are acceptable.
- Persons with a cold, cough, sore or inflamed eyes, any skin or communicable disease, or with open sores or bandages must not enter the pool or spa.
- Children (under 19) must be 42 inches tall (without shoes) to use the pool, and must be supervised by an adult at all times. Children (under 19) are not allowed in the spas.

In order for all residents to enjoy their experience at the pools, we suggest picking up a rule pamphlet from the Fitness Monitor desk and being familiar with pool rules and water classes that may be using the pools at certain times.

Outdoor pools and spas open April 1



On a clear day, visitors to the pool at the Pinnacle can see forever across the Las Vegas skyline. Photo by Jeannette Carrillo/Link

Lightbulb Moment

By Jeannette Carrillo/Link

Attracting Next Generations to Sun City Summerlin



Dolly Mack, left, and Wendy Bowles pioneered the Electronic Focus Group to give residents a chance to have their voices heard. Photo by Jeannette Carrillo/Link

Everyone has had them. And every time they happen they make us slap our forehead and go, "Aha!"

Such lightbulb moments are illuminating. Sometimes they are the result of much trial and tribulation; other times they happen quite quickly. Regardless of how they occur, when the lightbulb goes on, it's a rush.

Sun City residents Dolly Mack and Wendy Bowles experienced one such lightbulb moment recently that motivated them to start a project. They have turned their vision of attracting next generations to Sun City Summerlin into a project that involves gathering data to determine what our community needs to do to plan for the future. First, Dolly and Wendy facilitated some focus groups, interviewed several local real estate professionals, and now have designed and beta tested an online questionnaire called the Electronic Focus Group. This month, every resident will be able to participate in the Electronic Focus Group. "We want

The Electronic Focus Group will be available as a live link on www.scscai.com and www.suncitylink.com from January 8-22.

SCS to remain viable, desirable and competitive among all active adult communities in the Las Vegas area," Wendy said.

The Electronic Focus Group will be available as a live link on www.scscai.com and suncitylink.com from January 8-22. All responses will be anonymous and no email addresses will be collected.

"We have no hidden agenda for this effort," said Dolly, who moved to Sun City Summerlin a year and a half ago with her husband from a brand new Del Webb community in Reno.

"We truly want to know what current and future residents want from this community," said Wendy, who still works full time and moved to Sun City from Las Vegas a year ago.

Relatively new residents, Dolly and Wendy couldn't wait to settle into their new community. For them, settling in meant meeting neighbors, making friends, participating in activities and groups, attending meetings and generally getting involved.

"I attended the new resident orientation and new residents' happy hour at The Summit, but was still finding it difficult to integrate into this community," Wendy said. After that, Wendy made the rounds to clubs that interested her and even joined one. "But since I work full time and most clubs meet during weekdays, many activities are not available to me. Also, I didn't find an easy way to get answers to questions I had about simple things, or make suggestions," she said.

Dolly, who also sought out a community connection, had a different experience. An avid golfer, she and her husband were welcomed into Sun City Summerlin by clicking on the Golf Ambassador link on the Association's website when they decided to look for a house in the Las Vegas area.

Sun City's Golf Ambassador Program pairs potential homebuyers with resident golfers and acts as a sort of buddy system. Prospective homeowners play a round of golf with volunteers, have lunch at an Association restaurant, meet other golfers, receive a tour of the community and get a lifeline to helpful residents who become a resource for everything relating to Sun City. Dolly and her husband were so impressed with the warm welcome that they decided to purchase a home.

Despite having two very different introductions to the community, Wendy and Dolly made the best of it. Dolly joined the Lady 18-Holers, the Hiking Club, the Dance Company and Dance Connection, as well as the Fitness and Classical Music clubs. Wendy became a member of the Art Club and attended meetings when she could but her work schedule conflicts with many club activities she would like to participate in. When Wendy started a Neighborhood watch group, she found other residents had similar experiences trying to integrate into the community, even after living here for quite some time.

Dolly and Wendy didn't know each other until an SCSCAI Board member, who heard them speak up at Board coffees, connected them, thinking that they might be able to work together for the future of our community.

"Now, I've met someone new who also shares my vision to attract future generations here," said Dolly.

Not only has each woman met someone new, but together they've set their vision into motion. "After we collect all of the data from the Electronic Focus Group, there is still a lot of work to be done," Dolly said. "We'll need to summarize the findings, boil down the facts to determine if there are any changes we can make as a community to satisfy our current residents and to attract next generations."

SCSCAI Executive Director Mitzi Mills has offered to address any findings that the staff can handle, and "If there are any items requiring Board approval, we will present our recommendations to the Board. The information will be published," Dolly said.

So far, each woman has spent close to 300 hours on the project, which started in July. The Electronic Focus Group will be easy to complete with many of the questions in a check-box format, but some offer ample space for expanded comments. "We are truly hoping for a great response rate from our Sun City Summerlin residents," Wendy said.

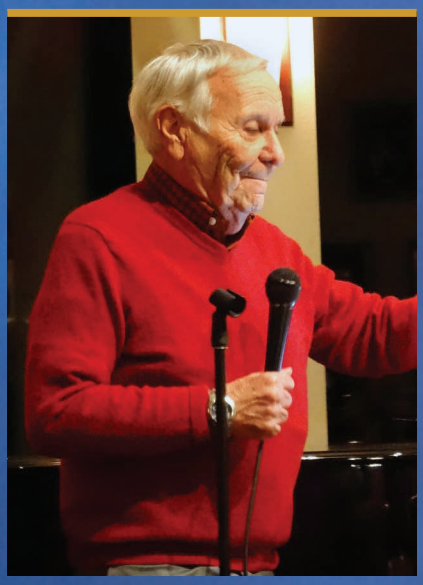
When asked why they embarked on the project, both Dolly and Wendy said because it is important to look toward the future – to find ways to better welcome and accommodate next generations and to keep our community competitive.

OPEN MIC

THIS STAGE IS FOR YOU

by Beth Nappe/Link







Top, from left, Jim Damele, Melanie Spector and Jimmy Schuppel perform a few numbers during Open Mic on February 21. Melanie is the event's organizer and emcee. Center, Ken Korotkin and Don Abramson (bottom) share several songs with the audience. Photos by Jeannette Carrillo/Link

Do you have a special talent? Would you like to perform in front of an audience? It might interest you to know that every third Wednesday of the month at The Summit various residents and their guests have a chance to perform in front of a live audience. There is no charge to attend or perform.

Melanie Spector, a six-year Sun City resident, came up with the idea of offering a venue for Open Mic, a place for residents to showcase their talents in a casual and pleasant coffeehouse atmosphere.

Melanie has been playing guitar since she was 14 years old. On this particular Wednesday, Melanie, along with her band mates Jim Damele and Jimmy Schuppel, played a variety of music including folk and pop tunes. On any given night, the audience can listen to a wide variety of music from Sinatra to Dylan, and show tunes to rock 'n' roll.

"It's a lot of fun. It's fun to see the audience reactions and to make them smile," Melanie said.

Also performing were some vocalists singing standards, a comic and a pianist. Although most of the performers are musicians and vocalists, the audiences have enjoyed various acts, including poets and even a clown.

The Summit offers a reasonably priced variety of food and cocktails to enjoy during the performances.

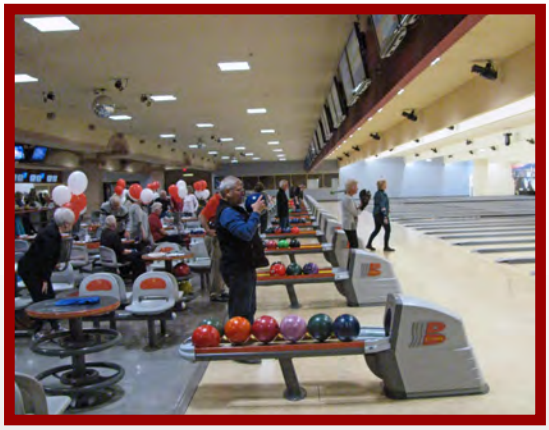
If you are looking for a pleasant way to spend an evening, Open Mic is the ticket. And if you are a talent in search of an audience, this stage is for you!

Any resident can sign up to perform 30 minutes before the show begins at 6 p.m. For additional information, contact Melanie, 254-5369.

Striking Up Some Fun at the Suncoast

In February, Security Patrol members got together for a bowling party at the Suncoast. Thirty Patrol members bowled while 10 others handled the evening's party arrangements. Nearly 70 prizes were contributed by Security Patrol and the Suncoast, including beer mugs, complimentary buffets, free bowling cards and more than a dozen T-shirts, polos and sweatshirts. Resident Jan Glass pulled the winning tickets and everyone took home a prize to commemorate the special evening.







"We had lots of food and so much fun," said volunteer Linda Engebretson, who organized the event with the help from new Patrol trainee Milt Goldstein.

"I forgot how great bowling was," said Assistant Chief John Lytle. "This is the most fun I've had in a long time."

The Suncoast charged Patrol bowlers only $2 a game while supplying free rental shoes, balloons and party decorations. Patrol driver Richard Lloyd bowled the overall high game of the evening, a colossal 245.

"I was relaxed and just had fun," said Richard, a competitive bowler who wound up with an impressive 600 series.

Sandy Lyons bowled a 162 game, high score for the women bowlers. Patrol Chief Dick Clark, a good sport, proved he is not a seasoned bowler; he earned a special prize for the lowest series. Dick's triple game score: 274.

"This was a big success. I'm so glad I came," said Watch Commander Walter LaMay. Dean Grassick, who serves in one of the community's Information Centers, said he had so much fun that, "It makes me want to join a league. I hope we do it again."

Some participating Patrol bowlers, including Kitty Copeland had not bowled in more than 10 years. Kitty earned a unique prize for having rolled the most gutter balls, all 30 of them.

~Story by Ellen Greenspan/Link;
Photos by Security Patrol Driver Thomas Dennis









The Serious Business of Fun

Sun City Goes All Out for Toys for Tots

By Jeannette Carrillo. Photos by DJ Minella/Link

Nothing in life is certain. Except, of course, for the inevitability and taxes. That said, there is something fantastic that's been happening in Sun City Summerlin for the last 22 years. For a little more than two decades, residents and staff members have been participating in the United States Marine Corps.' Toys for Tots program. Every October, the Community Services Department coordinates delivery of the big white boxes with the iconic red train logo to Desert Vista, Mountain Shadows, Sun Shadows and the Pinnacle social centers. And, according to several monitors whose desks are within eyeshot of the boxes, when residents see the containers show up the bags of toys start arriving.

"I just love doing this," said one Sun City resident as she placed two Hefty bags full of toys beside a drop-off box at Desert Vista. "I buy toys all year long and squirrel them away until I can bring them down. It's so much fun to shop all year long."

The Marines will accept new, unwrapped toys in Sun City through December 18. In addition to the community-wide drive, several clubs sponsor their own collection throughout the month that benefits Toys for Tots.

The Pickleball Club will hold a tournament at its courts at Desert Vista, December 2-4. All registration fees, donations and toys will go to support Toys for Tots. As in year's past, admission to the Residents' Forum's annual holiday party on December 14, which is open to all residents, is a brand new toy. And then there's the Aquacize Club, where members generously support Toys for Tots with their own activity.

THE DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Working on Toys for Tots does not end when all the shiny new gifts make their way into childrens' hands. In fact, the program remains in full force throughout the year as volunteers work to recruit new sponsors, plan more events and strategize ways to exceed the previous year's goals.

For Sun City resident Thomas Boyce, signing up to work on the Toys for Tots campaign was easy – as easy as a former Navyman enlisting in a U.S. Marine Corps. Project.

"Being the only Navy person on the board you can only imagine some of the ribbing I get," Tom said. "You have to be Marine/Navy to understand that, but it's all good and all in fun."

Tom says he was drafted, so to speak, into Toys for Tots by a friend who thought it would be a good fit for both Tom and TFT.

"I've got to tell you, when I get up in the morning I have Toys for Tots on the brain. When I go to bed I keep a pad and pen alongside the bed. There have been many mid-morning wake-ups due to an idea and sometimes it's hard to fall back to sleep, so I hit the computer and work it.

It's no surprise Tom's commitment to the program stems from the Marines' credo: "Every child deserves a Christmas."



"I wear my heart on my sleeve. Just making conversation with people on subjects of the need around us for kids, the elderly, the poor, animals the list goes on and on, I become emotional because I need to support the things that cannot support themselves."

And channel that energy he has.

Before TFT, Tom worked on the Las Vegas Police vs. Firefighters' charity golf event from 2002 to 2008. Proceeds from the event benefitted both the Police Athletic League and the University Medical Center burn unit.

Over the years, Tom has been involved with fundraising for various groups. For him, it's all about the journey toward the goal.

"Every year a non-profit wants to outdo itself and this year we did just that with the annual Toys for Tots golf tournament that took place in November. Auction prizes were amazing and the money raised for the charity will help a lot next year. Looking forward, I intend to continue non-profit work and charge ahead with my beliefs because I am proud to be a part of a group of men and women – Marines, Army, Navy, Coast Guard, active and non-active, as well as civilians alike – who not only have served our country but have the same passion. They are all simply wonderful people to work with and that is another win-win for me."





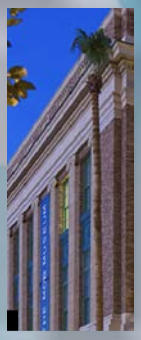
Toys for Tots volunteer and resident Tom Boyce says toy collection in Sun City is strong. The community has been participating in the drive for more than 20 years.



department

SPOTLIGHT

COMMUNITY SERVICES








SUN CITY'S SOCIAL HUB

ENTERTAINMENT AND ACTIVITIES START HERE



From left, Community Services Manager Melissa Spina oversees the department, with the help of scheduling coordinator Mary LeBaron and administrative assistant Janine Lowen.

On the Cover: *Social monitors pictured on the cover are, from left: Jean Mizzi, Joyce Martin, Andre Gray, Sharon Silva, Bobbi Graber, Fred Schrumm, Brenda Holland, Rita Brown, Beth Nappe, Sheldon De Graff, Karen Franich, Francis Sasaki, Ana Maria Chaves, Marge Nordell, AudreyLou Vincent and Ida Brannan. Social Monitors not pictured: Heidi Caroccia, Paula Frank, Olga Ginez, Patricia Gurule, Deanna Johns, Julie Kisosondi, John Marsh, Cynthia O'Connell, Ray Schantz, Kari Wilburn and Liddi Wilson.*

Sun City Summerlin Community Association, Inc., was established in 1989 and people from all walks of life with wide-ranging interests soon began starting new chartered clubs of all kinds. There are now more than 80 chartered clubs available to residents that include various sports and fitness-related clubs, arts and crafts, hobbies, cards, political, travel, ethnic and regional clubs.

Community Services Department Manager and 16-year staff member **Melissa Spina** oversees all of our clubs and community organizations, encouraging an active lifestyle for our residents. She is also responsible for vetting and booking the exceptional entertainment at the Starbright Theatre and creating and managing a variety of special events. Melissa manages a staff of 29 employees and the three social centers, including all craft rooms. Melissa also represents the Community Services Department by attending other monthly committee meetings.

Melissa is the club coordinator and liaison to the Clubs and Community Organizations Committee (CCOC), a standing committee of the SCSCAI Board of Directors. CCOC is composed of one member of the SCSCAI Board and several dedicated resident volunteers who make recommendations regarding policy and arbitrate matters of conflict that may occur within the chartered clubs and community organizations. CCOC provides direction and structure and, yes, a few necessary rules that enable all residents to enjoy our facilities and the recreational activities offered by our chartered clubs.

The Community Services office, located at the Desert Vista Community Center, is also responsible for community events such as the annual Home Expo and Arts & Crafts Fair, as well as monthly bus trips to various locales in Las Vegas and beyond. Melissa's administrative assistant and Sun City resident **Janine Lowen** assists with the research and planning for these events. An 11-year staff member, Janine is usually the first face you will see at the front desk. She assists with all club-related matters, correspondence, annual club forms, creates the advertising and fliers for many events published in the Link magazine, and various other behind-the-scenes duties.

Mary LeBaron, also a Sun City resident, and a one-year staff member, is the scheduling coordinator. Mary is responsible for booking the vast number of chartered club meetings, resident and non-resident birthday and anniversary parties, religious services, memorials, picnics and outside businesses needing space in Sun City to hold their events in the four community centers.

The 27 social monitors working at Desert Vista, Mountain Shadows and Pinnacle are also a part of the Community Services team. They provide general information about Sun City and events, check out equipment for residents' use, provide tickets to fitness seminars, sell tickets for our theater performances and trips, monitor the use of our facilities and make sure that each facility is safe and comfortable, and used exclusively by our residents and their guests.

Thanks to our dedicated Community Services staff!

CLUBS

Staying Connected

Clubs Are Community in Sun City

By Beth Nappe/Link

Numerous studies over the last couple of decades extol the virtues of staying active in our senior years. While diet and exercise play key roles in the longevity equation, staying socially active holds an equal seat at the table.

A study by the Center for Advancing Health found that "staying connected to other people through a wide variety of social activities can yield important health consequences as you age" and that, "older adults who maintain high levels of social activity or ramp up their social life as they age might be protected from increases in physical and cognitive issues over time."

Here in Sun City there are currently 80 chartered clubs covering a wide variety of interests; and the list is evolving to incorporate the changing face of our population.

"Clubs are part of the heart and soul of this community," said Melissa Spina, SCSCAI's director of Community Services. "Chartered clubs and community organizations are sponsored by Sun City to foster and promote hobbies, community interests, recreational and cultural pursuits."

Games like bridge, euchre, canasta, pinochle, pan, mah jongg and poker exercise the brain, but the social benefits are equally important. Golf, Pickleball, hiking bocci ball, tennis, dance and swimming are just some of the offerings for physical activities. And Travel,













Classical Music, Book Club, Investment, Community Theater, Jewish Friendship and Boomer Connection offer activities, as well. A list of current clubs can be found each month in the Link.

If you find that your particular passion is not already represented, you may want to investigate starting a new club. Contact the Clubs and Community Organizations Committee (CCOC) for guidance. CCOC meets the first Thursday of every month at 9 a.m. at Desert Vista.

So how does Sun City keep up with the changing times and interests of its new residents? Through its membership. The Bicycle Club was recently formed as an example.

community, he belongs to the N-Scale Model Club and the Chapman Jeep Club.

"These clubs are what keep our property values up," Dick said. "We need to get the maximum use out of our property. The more it's utilized, the more valuable it becomes."

And, former executive director Sue Papilion is currently gauging interest in forming a West Coast Club for "wine lovers, coffee connoisseurs, surfers and rockers," she said. She is also soliciting to form another club, Friends of the Summit, to discuss ways to continue the weekly Band Night and bring more music events to The Summit.













"It can be difficult to get that first group of people to sign up," said Bicycle Club President Dick Edmister, explaining how new clubs need 50 residents in good standing to sign a petition to charter a club. "The clubs are the reason I moved to Sun City," added Dick, who also belongs to the Hiking, Fitness, Swim, Sawdusters and Model Builders clubs in Sun City. Outside the

As for what is down the road, and what will be the needs of the next generation that chooses Sun City as its retirement community, an informal survey of some 20- and 40-somethings provided a glimpse:

"Fitness will continue to be an important component. As the Internet natives grow older, the ever-expanding digital world will be a platform for future activities."

LANDSCAPE DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

Mission: Maintain Community's Splendor While Conserving Water

By Ellen Greenspan/Link

For the past 20 years, Louis Darling has been responsible for maintaining the mature landscaping that beautifies today's Sun City Summerlin community. As a teenager, Louis learned and labored in landscape construction. That career spanned 30 years before he began to focus on landscape maintenance. Except for time out for his U.S. Naval service, construction and maintenance of turf, plants and trees has been his life's work.

According to Louis, evergreens, or pine trees prevalent in Sun City were thee perfect trees for Del Webb to plant in the desert. Most of them, native to Afghanistan and Mediterranean countries, were durable attractive young trees when originally planted in the barren new Sun City community. More than 25 years later, these extensive huge-rooted, needle-dropping trees have become problematic. Our landscape staff has removed about 30 percent of the community's originally planted pine trees, most often to prevent their roots from damaging walls and concrete walkways.

Sun City's landscapers avoid plants that are known allergens. Louis mentioned that new residents who relocate here from non-desert areas often develop allergies due to the native plants. For that reason, olive or mulberry trees may not be planted in Nevada or California.

Snap dragons planted in early fall add vivid color to entrances and intersections throughout Sun City. In early summer, they are replaced by colorful heat-tolerant Pintas and Vincas. Residents might notice the plants that have been cropped back along Lake Mead's perimeter to Sun City. This is called restoration pruning. "That promotes better health for those plants," explained Louis. "By cutting them back, the plant is less woody and more colorful flowers will re-bloom."





SCSCAI Director of Landscape Louis Darling. Except for his time out for his U.S. Naval service, maintenance of turf, plants and trees has been his life's work. Photo by Jeannette Carrillo/Link.

Louis advises newer residents looking to landscape their yards to drive around the community to appreciate properties that appeal to them. "Take photos of trees and plants that you like. This will help you know which plants do well here," he said.

Texas Rangers, green or grey clouds, and roses all contribute color and do well in desert areas with average care. Ocotillos are attractive desert plants that occasionally are killed by residents who over-water them. "A big killer of plants in the summer is over-watering," Louis said. For the first year, an Ocotillo needs only to have its trunk occasionally sprayed, after which it can be watered, weekly. At maturity, an Ocotillo may be watered up to three times a week or less.

Louis is serious about our community's obligation to never waste water.

"Wasting water in the desert just isn't smart," he said. "We cannot let younger generations worry later about diminished available water."

Resident's Donation Is a Beautiful Gift

~ Ellen Greenspan/Link

A year ago in May, David Urban became a Sun City resident property owner, whose new home was decked out with lush sago palms. Sagos are magnificent and they are costly, but they are not an ideal landscape selection if you tend to let gardening slide. Each year, maintenance necessitates that excessive growth at the base of a sago must be chopped off to avoid tangled clutter. Older leafy spines also should be routinely cut off.

"One huge palm was impeding the driveway and other large plants were scratching stucco on the house," said David, who decided "It was my responsibility to remove the trees and transition to a desert landscape."

Leaving only three small palms in the back patio area, David offered to donate five sagos to his new community.

Upon learning of the donation, SCSCAI Landscape Maintenance Director Louis Darling was excited. Not only did he realize the value of the palms, but he had an ideal location in mind for them – in the spacious patio area alongside the Mountain Shadows Community Center.

"I'm glad the community can enjoy the sagos, and that the community employs professional landscapers who will take care of them," David said.





SCSCAI Director of Landscape Louis Darling, in the red shirt, and Sun City resident David Urban show off each others' efforts in relocating five sago palms to the Mountain Shadows patio (photo by DJ Minella). Right, from left, Nicolas Martinez, Nelson Hernandez, Basilio Saldivar and Marciano Olivia put the finishing touches on rehoming the sagos (photo by Jeannette Carrillo/Link).

In March, 190 days had passed with no measurable rainfall in Sun City. One fairly recent conservation project involved Louis' crew removing the grass that covered the hill in front of the Desert Vista Community Center. According to Louis, the grounds were watered every day in the summer from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., utilizing an exorbitant amount of water. Since the turf's removal, the modified desert-landscaped is watered for only a half-hour each night.

Two neighboring developments to our community have not invested efforts in excess turf modification.

"When I drive through those communities, I see puddles and water running along the curbsides – all wasted water that is not being monitored," Louis said.

When we irrigate turf areas in Sun City, Louis said, water is turned on, depending on the type of sprinklers, for 3 minutes. Then, it is turned off for 15 minutes, which allows the water to soak into the ground. Finally, the water is turned back on for another 3 minutes. "We have no collecting puddles, no wasted water," Louis said.

Sun City's landscape staffers are on the job weekdays from 5:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. They take a 15-minut break at 8:30 a.m. and a half-hour for lunch at 11 a.m. Our easily recognizable landscape employees wear bright yellow shirts with their name and "Sun City Landscape" imprinted on their shirt fronts.

When driving family or visiting friends through Sun City, it's impossible not to hear someone remark about the community's attractive mature landscaping. It's all the result of very hard work and very well-planned maintenance.

FOOD & BEVERAGE

By Barbi Meinel, SCSCAI Food & Beverage Manager
Photos by D.J. Minella

Team Spirit Helps Boost Golf Experience

If you golf in Sun City you may have met our cart attendants on the course or grabbed a drink at The Summit Snack bar. Perhaps while taking advantage of golf's year-round twilight rates you have enjoyed an early dinner at Tavern at the Falls after a late round? If so, fantastic. But if not, I wanted to give you the opportunity to meet some of our team members and learn about the ways Sun City Summerlin Food & Beverage helps support our great golf community.



Above: Anthony Marrone puts a sweet twist on a classic Manhattan with Honey whiskey at The Summit.

I am excited about some simple improvements that have enhanced service on the golf course. We now offer refreshment carts every day at Palm Valley and Highland Falls golf courses. Although our executive course at Eagle Crest does not have a refreshment cart, it has a snack bar that offers more healthy, grab-and-go snacks along with the popular pizza menu.

At the eighth hole at Highland Falls and Palm Valley, golfers will see new signs reminding them to call in their food orders for a quick pickup at the turn. In addition, our cart attendants have menus and can help you place an order.

Quiet, Please!

Have you ever had the experience of putting on the green with your group and waved off one of the refreshments carts only to see that they park and wait for you to finish your round? They do this because they are trained to let golfers play their game in silence. Our carts can be a little loud and we are very conscious of being courteous to our golfers so that they can have the best experience possible.

Next time you're out on the course, come meet our friendly refreshment attendants. Amber White has been with us since last fall. She is a mother of three young boys and is currently adopting two of her nephews. She brings Southern hospitality to Sun City and will brighten anyone's day. Our own Sun City resident Kathy Cornelius moved here with her husband, Darryl, in 2013 from Cannon Beach, Ore. She retired in 2007 from sales and marketing. Kathy is an avid walker and you can see her power-walking the hills of Sun City when she is not golfing or attending her cart. Kathy's positive energy and smile is infectious.

Are you new to golf or thinking about starting? If so, then you have something in common with Anthony Marrone, our lead server at The Summit Snack bar. Anthony joined the Army after high school and is now studying business full time at CSN. He started golfing in the spring when he started working here and plays at Eagle Crest on his days off. Come meet Anthony every Friday Night during the popular Band Night concerts in the main room at The Summit, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. There is a $10 cover charge and a one-drink minimum with dancing and live music.



Cocktails anyone? Cart attendants Kathy Cornelius, left, and Amber White stock more than beverages and snacks on their carts. Kathy can help hungry golfers place their food orders at Hole No. 8 on Highland Falls, while Amber keeps an eye out at Palm Valley.

TAVERN AT THE FALLS

Tavern Twilight Special

One free draft beer, house wine or soft drink with any meal that costs $5 or more.

One discount per person in household (couple or single only). Must present coupon at checkout. Good from March 1-31 Management reserves all rights.

$2 SUMMIT SNACK BAR SPECIALS

Mexicali Beer, $2. Buy two watermelon beers for $2. Honey whiskey drinks, $2.

While supplies last. Management reserves all rights.

Buy one drink and get one drink free of equal or lesser value. Limit one discount per coupon. Must present coupon at checkout. Good from March 1-31.

GOLF COURSE SPECIAL

VALID WITH CART ATTENDANT ONLY.

Buy one item and **get one item free** of equal or lesser value. Limit one discount per coupon. Must present coupon at checkout. Valid only at Palm Valley or Highland Falls golf courses

Good from March 1-31. Management reserves all rights.



D-O-G

ONE BIG DILEMMA

THREE SMALL LETTERS,

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY JEANNETTE CARRILLO

Consider this, according to the National Center for Biotechnology Information, in the year 2000, the average adult human attention span was 12 seconds; in 2015, 8.25 seconds. Compare that to the generally accepted 3-minute attention span of a 3-month-old puppy by several leading dog-training camps, and we're in trouble.

Why? Because despite the many signs posted throughout the community, whether by the administrative association or residents on their own property, a dog cannot read. It is unfortunate that in Sun City Summerlin many look upon dogs as a nuisance when, in fact, it would make more sense to transfer their ire to the offending party – the irresponsible dog owner.

It is a fact: Dogs bark. Dogs take bathroom breaks. Many dogs need and enjoy walks with their owners, and some dogs crave play dates with their pals around the community.

A quick scan of the Internet yields numerous articles on the health benefits of dog ownership by senior citizens. In addition, data by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) reports that roughly 37 percent of all seniors living in the United States own at least one dog. So, if one-third of the U.S. senior population owns a dog, how can such a small, three-letter-word entity cause so much frustration?

Same Answer: Irresponsible dog owners.

That is not to say that all dog owners are negligent. In fact, most are great – they are respectful of property, courteous to their neighbors and they obey civic ordinances. But like everything else, it's the bad apple that spoils the bushel.

"It is really a great experience to walk dogs in Sun City, especially along the main boulevards where the mature trees provide patches of welcome shade all along the way," said resident Vicki Carnes (left). "Me and the boys



enjoy the pretty landscaping, the incredible views, the occasional benches to take a break on and, most of all, the super friendly people who stop to comment on how adorable Higgins and Chummy are. There is a very high level of pride in the neighborhood as I rarely see a dog mess or litter anywhere along the streets. Now if I could just keep my dogs from wanting to chase bunnies. I just love walking my dogs in Sun City!"

According to Sun City resident Carmen Sorvillo, "The issue to me is that of private property. When I lived in a villa it wasn't too unusual to have strangers walk their dogs on the common property up front and behind. It's one of the reasons that we bought a house. No one has the right to allow their dog to roam on my front yard and driveway, urinating on my garage door, eliminating on my rocks and kicking them across the sidewalk."

Other observations from residents who call the Link to discuss dog-related issues and story ideas revolve around waste bags they see left behind or disposed of in a neighbor's trash can. While there may not be a law against it, ditching your dog's droppings in someone else's trash can is not a good idea. Neither is picking up after your dog and then leaving the sealed bag on the sidewalk or in someone else's front yard to be picked up. C'mon.

As for the law: The city of Las Vegas requires all dogs be on a leash when outside their homes and yard areas. Any dog owner caught breaking the law could face a penalty ranging from a warning up to as much as a $1,000 fine. Failure to scoop up after your four-legged friend is technically a misdemeanor and a complaint regarding barking can land you in mediation court. If your dog bites someone, you can be held civilly liable for personal injury and, depending on circumstances, criminally prosecuted. After that, the potential for citation gets furry. According to Las Vegas Animal Control, officers do not patrol neighborhoods for such infractions. Rather, they are dispatched to calls that involve public safety. And they are busy. A recent conversation with an Animal Control officer revealed that their phone lines are live, 24/7. That said, be warned, if an Animal Control officer happens to be in the neighborhood and all forces align, you could get a ticket.

AREA DOG PARKS

When Del Webb created the master plan for Sun City Summerlin nearly 30 years ago it did not account for a dog park. The amenity simply was not on the drawing board as it is now for so many communities that have come online in the last dozen years. To allow for a designated space after the fact is challenging. Concerns for property values, maintenance, parking, landscaping, right of way, etc. are real. However, if you are looking for an organized park to visit with your dog/dogs, you're in luck. Whether you live at the top of the hill or the bottom, the city has provided for a number of nearby parks that are fully fenced. While some offer sections for small and large-size dogs, all have tons of cushy grass and a water source, while others are lit for nighttime enjoyment.



SUN CITY-ADJACENT DOG PARKS

Oxford Park
700 Anasazi Drive

Bruce Trent Park
Vegas Drive at North Rampart Boulevard

Police Memorial Park
3250 Metro Academy Way

Barkin' Basin Dog Park
West Alexander Road at North Tenaya Way

Kellogg Zaher Dog Park
7601 W. Washington Ave.

National Dog Bite Prevention Week, May 18 - 24

department SPOTLIGHT

By Brian Bagwell, SCSCAI Golf Course Maintenance General Manager

GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE

Sun City Summerlin Community Association, Inc., has three outstanding golf courses. They are Palm Valley, Highland Falls and Eagle Crest. Each course has its own different characteristics and unique challenges that make for a fun golf experience. Palm Valley and Highland Falls are both championship length, while Eagle Crest is our executive course with a par of 60 that challenges the golfer's short game.

The responsibility to ensure that the courses are kept in tip-top shape falls to the Golf Course Maintenance Department, which is divided into four groups. Each golf course operates independently under the direction of the respective golf course superintendent. This past year, Sun City's Board of Directors approved a new department that is responsible for the non-golf landscape areas surrounding the courses that typically fall out of play. The total landscape maintained by the GCM staff is 466 acres.

Our staff does an outstanding job and they are very dedicated to their jobs and take pride in the work they do. Many of our employees have been with us for 10 years or more; a few have been employed by Sun City for 20-25 years.

Highland Falls has been recognized multiple times now by the Las Vegas Review-Journal as the "Best of Las Vegas," earning the honor in 2016 for the second year in a row.

This is a great tribute, and the true heroes of this award is the GCM staff. The maintaining of the putting greens at Highland Falls and all of our courses are carefully considered by each of the superintendents. This is not an easy task and requires much skill and understanding of agronomic practices to ensure the proper management. There are so many different aspects to maintaining a golf course – not to mention the variety of grasses that have different requirements to survive, especially here in Las Vegas. It has been said that growing grass in Las Vegas is like trying to grow grass on the moon!

THE GURUS OF GRASS





Clockwise from top, Roger Knight, Lydia Lampasona, GCM General Manager Brian Bagwell, Rob Stottern, Eric Alms and Riot. Opposite page, GCM crew members are key to making Highland Falls a top-rated city course. Photos by Brian Bagwell, Jeannette Carrillo, Stu Gershon and DJ Minella.











Over the past few years, the GCM staff has accomplished many projects in house or were in some way a part of making the improvement, including rebuilding a majority of the tee boxes, renovating bunkers, removing turf, remodeling hole No. 9 at Palm Valley around Fire Station 107, as well as Highland Falls' practice area and hillside project along Hole 18.

The management staff at Sun City comes from various places. One grew up on a farm; others just have it in their blood. From Wyoming to Illinois to California to Utah, our managers have vast knowledge and experience that translates into success. This isn't just a job to them, it is their career. College education has led them to this profession with bachelor's degrees and turf grass certificates, specializing in turf grass management. Almost 11 years ago when I took over the maintenance of these golf courses, they were in tough shape. Dirt spots were visible on most golf holes, basic cultural practices were not being done, and we were considered one of the biggest water users in the valley. Today, we have really turned this place around.

In fall 2015, Sun City golf courses were awarded the 2015 Water Heroes Award from the Las Vegas Valley Water District. At that time we had converted 3.1 million square feet of turf to water-efficient landscape. Since then we have converted approximately another 500,000 square feet. All of this work was done with our current staff. We are fortunate to have talented men and women who have gotten really good at what they do.

All of this conversion of turf to landscape plants has required an extensive workload, requiring us to redirect our efforts in maintenance. Last fall our non-golf landscaping effort began. So far neglected areas of Eagle Crest are now being maintained and the course has seen a major transformation. But the landscape is a living element in constant need of care and maintenance, and I am confident that with this staff we will be able to do a better job of keeping up with the required maintenance that is out there.

All this could not have been done without the assistance of the great GCM staff that are outstanding employees and our most important asset to our great company. We take pride in what we do and do our best to provide great golf course conditions for an amazing community that we should all be proud of.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

By Bob Cohen

Medal of Honor Aviator ROBERT TEITLEBAUM





Bob today, displaying all of his medals earned during two wars. Bob Teitlebaum just before deployment to Italy in 1944.

"AS SOON AS I GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL, I WENT TO THE RECRUITING OFFICE TO ENLIST IN THE ARMY AIR CORPS," SAID NEW York-born, Ohio-transplant Robert Teitlebaum. "But it was 1940 and there were no openings there. The recruiter said Army Air was part of the Signal Corps. I knew Morse code from my Boy Scout days and I thought that would be useful, so I joined."

Bob spent the next two years in the Signal Corps as a company clerk. Advancement was limited, but all that changed on December 7, 1941.

As America plunged into World War II, the military expanded dramatically and quickly.

"I didn't want to spend the war manning a desk," Bob said, "So, I transferred to 6th Armored Division, but I was assigned to finance. Still behind a desk."

These were dynamic times and opportunities were soon to arise. The Field Artillery had openings for officers. Bob applied for OCS and 90 days later was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. More schooling was ahead, including the Field Artillery Battery Executive Course, Basic Flight School and the advanced flight training as part of the Liaison Pilots Course. As 1943 arrived, Bob was officially an Air Observation Pilot.

Sounds simple and safe enough: An Air Observation Pilot. The primary task, however, was to locate enemy targets from the air and direct and coordinate fire on them, all while piloting a slow, single-engine aircraft — an easy target for ground fire. But that was yet to come.

And, come it did.

In late October 1944, Bob shipped out to Italy, assigned to the 985th Field Artillery Battalion, a part of the 5th Army. During the next six months, he flew 70 combat missions, often under heavy ground fire.

"We returned to base with the plane full of holes a number of times, but my observer and I were fortunate. We were never hit," he said.

"We were attacked by enemy airplanes only once," Bob recalled. "And that was almost funny. You see, we were often passed by British Spitfires returning to their base as we headed out. They would wag their wings and fly by. This time, the returning flight of two planes didn't wag their wings. In fact, the next thing I knew, they were shooting at me. They were German ME-109s! Flight training kicked in and I put my little L-4 into a maximum dive. The Germans started to follow me down, but for some reason broke off the engagement and continued on their way. I pulled up and returned to base."

WWII ended with Bob being awarded the Air Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, the American Theater Service Medal, the European African Middle Eastern Service Medal with two bronze stars, the Pre Pearl Harbor Medal, the German

Occupation Medal and, of course, the World War II Victory Medal. The war was over, Bob was separated from the service and returned to Oregon to enter college like so many other vets.

In 1949, the Army offered Bob a Regular Army commission if he returned for two more years. (He had been an Army Reserve officer during all of WWII.)

He accepted the offer and joined the 70th Infantry Division, then based in Oregon. In June 1950, South Korea was invaded; three weeks later Bob was in Korea, assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division as a liaison officer for an infantry battalion combat team. Shortly thereafter he was flying combat missions once again, directing artillery and naval gunfire.

Korea was to prove more challenging than WWII.

"Once, as we were traveling by road to Pohang AFB, we were ambushed. Fought our way to the base only to find that the Air Force had pulled out, leaving just one pilot and plane behind.," Bob said. "I pleaded with the pilot to take me up so that I could get a better view of the situation. He said that they would be shooting at us as we took off and he was right."

"Shortly after, I was visiting my battery commander at Taegu, when we were subjected to heavy shelling rom Chinese troops. I soon realized the Chinese spotters were using our own aiming stake lights to target us. I ran out and pulled the lights down to protect our personnel and Howitzers while we were still being shelled."

The Chinese later overran the position.

Bob went on to fly 300 combat missions in Korea, often flying two or three in one day. One mission he remembers well was a disappointment.

"I was assigned to fly fire control for the USS Missouri, the first Army pilot to get the assignment. Unfortunately, a combination of bad weather and radio problems caused the mission to be scrubbed. But I did have other opportunities to do fire control for other Navy ships," he said.

Other missions were far more successful.

In October 1950, Bob was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for action over the Naktong River Sector on September 3, 1950. The medal is awarded for heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight. Bob earned his medal for remaining on station and directing fire missions for the 2nd Infantry Division Artillery, despite heavy ground fire, supporting troops fighting superior strength North Korean units during what has been described as the "forgotten war's bloodiest battle."

In addition to the DFC, Bob earned an additional 14 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters for his air medal, awarded for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight. He was recommended for, but never received, a Silver Star.

After his Korean tour was over, Bob returned to the States as a fixed-wing flight instructor, a duty he considered far more dangerous than flying combat missions.

In 1952, he attended Air Force Flight Training School to be certified as a helicopter pilot. He then served as a helicopter flight instructor. Finally returning to civilian life, Bob had a long career in finance at Boeing in addition to stints as a factory rep, a real estate broker and a part-time flight instructor. He moved to Sun City in 1999.

A Day to Remember

An Original Poem by Natalie Marks

A day to remember is the
eleventh of November

We call it Veterans Day

It's to honor the men
and women who fought

To show us the American Way

They fought and served
to win the war

And now we pray there
will be no more

We only hope for peace ahead

As we honor the living
and remember the dead.

(Natalie Marks has lived in Sun City since 1994.)

MILITARY AND FRIENDS CLUB



Sun City Summerlin is proud to support a Military and Friends Club. The Club will meet this month on Friday, November 10, 1 p.m., at Desert Vista. Membership is open to all branches of the U.S. military and to those who want to honor active-duty and retired military. The Club aims to provide support to military-related personnel, offers information about veterans' programs and resources, and hosts social functions where residents can meet, mix and mingle. For information, call President Larry Jones, 405-8684.

NEWS Community News



Coffee With the Board

Keep Up With What's Going On in Sun City

October 21, 10:30 a.m. · Desert Vista

Residents are welcome to address the Board of Directors in a casual setting. While Board members are not allowed to vote on issues during the meeting, they are able to share background information on key decisions, answer questions and ask a few of their own. Sweets and coffee are served.



Driver Safety Program Desert Vista

Wednesday, October 5, noon
Thursday, October 13, 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday, October 26, 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 9, 8:30 a.m.

$15 AARP members · $20 non-members by check to AARP

Drop by the Desert Vista monitor station to sign up for this classroom refresher designed for those 50 years old and over. Improve your knowledge of traffic laws, learn to anticipate the actions of other drivers, and identify and correct poor driving habits. Upon completion of the four-hour course taught by an AARP-certified instructor, you will receive a certificate that may qualify you for an insurance premium reduction for up to three years. Max: 30. Signup available now at Desert Vista.



Shred Event

Mark Friday, October, 7, 10 a.m. to noon, on your calendar as that's the day Las Vegas City Councilman Stavros Anthony and his team will bring the popular shred fair back to the Mountain Shadows parking lot. The fall date moves the event from Saturday to Friday, so residents will want to take extra care navigating their cars/golf carts through the parking lot as traffic may be heavier during the weekday morning. There is a limit of five containers of material per drop off.

Mark Your Calendar for Early Voting

Early voting at Desert Vista will take place in Room 5 on Thursday, **October 27, and Friday, October 28.** Residents may cast their ballots from **9 a.m. to 7 p.m.** Early voting continues at Mountain Shadows on Saturday, **October 29, and Sunday, October 30.** Residents may cast their ballots in the Mint Room from **9 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

RELIGIOUS SERVICES DIRECTORY

Mountain View Presbyterian · 341-7800
Pastor David W. Dendy · 8601 Del Webb Blvd.
Sundays, 8:30, & 10:30 a.m.

St. Andrew Lutheran · 255-1990
Rev. Phillip Shuart· 8901 Del Webb Blvd.
Sundays, 8:30, 10 a.m. · Sunday School 10 a.m.

S.C. Community Church · 255-PRAY (7729)
8560 Del Webb Blvd. · Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Bible Study Sunday 9:45 a.m., Tuesday 1:30 p.m.

Temple Bet Emet · 240-3719
Rabbi Craig Rosenstein, Janet Seidel
1st & 3rd Fridays, 7:15 p.m., Mountain Shadows

Temple Bet Knesset Bamidbar
President Steve Commander, 304-1768,
Cantor Dr. Jonathan Friedmann
Rabbi Emeritus Hershel Brooks 256-9433
2nd & 4th Fridays, 7:30 p.m. at Desert Vista

SUN CITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

New Resident Happy Hour
Happy hours take place the last Tuesday of the month, 5 to 7 p.m. at The Summit. This month, it is Tuesday, October 25. If you are a new resident, our volunteers would like to present you with information about Sun City. Contact Linda Habel, 228-6898, or lasvegashabel@yahoo.com.

Sun City Summerlin Charities · 254-5831
10362 Sun City Blvd. · Mon. - Fri., 8:30 - 11 a.m.
Provides residents unable to drive transportation to medical appointments, shopping; offers handyman service and assists in contacting local and government services.

Sunshine Service Club · 341-9741
10362 Sun City Blvd.· Monday - Saturday, 9-11 a.m.
Loans medical and children's equipment for resident use. Association ID required. The Club will not meet in October. The warehouse will be closed on October 12 in observance of Yom Kippur.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous
St. Andrew Lutheran Church · Sunday, 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays, 2 p.m. (meditation meeting), Thursdays 12 noon and 7:30 p.m. Call Stan, **809-7475**

Alzheimer's
Desert Vista · First & third Wednesday, 10 a.m.
Call Marlene Wilson, **254-6144**

Bereavement/Grief Support
Sun Shadows · First Monday, 1 p.m., third Monday, 1:30 p.m. Call Hariet Miller, **471-0203**



Meet Your Link Advertisers

Saturday, October 22, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Desert Vista Ballroom



For the first time ever, the Link will give residents a chance to meet representatives of the businesses that come into their homes every month via the magazine. Whether you're looking to sell your home, tune up your car, plan an evening out at a nearby restaurant or need to draft a living trust, the Link advertiser FANFARE is a great place to meet professionals who service this community day in and day out. In addition to putting a face to the name of local companies, residents will be treated to great giveaways and have the chance to win fabulous raffle prizes.

Garage Sale Event Set Over Two Weekends



Whether you enjoy sorting through your collection of stuff and putting it up for sale, or look forward to trekking through open garage doors to discover that unique object, you are in luck. The community garage sale event gets under way Saturday and **Sunday, October 8-9 and 15-16**. Sales were approved by the Board of Directors as an annual event and are authorized to run from **7 a.m. to 3 p.m.** on those days only. Any Sun City resident wishing to have a sale may do so during those two weekends. There is no permit required to participate. Be sure to check out the Link's special classifieds ad section on Page 67 to see a list of homes participating in the sales. If you are looking to plan your bargain-hunting route, you may want to consult your community map. The Link's website, www.suncitylink.com, also will feature new garage sale ads as they come in. If you need a map, you may pick one up at the Link office at Mountain Shadows.

Political Signs

With Election Day fast approaching, SCSCAI wants to be sure that residents are aware of how they may display political signs. According to SCSCAI's Development Standards, A unit's owner or an occupant of a unit may exhibit as many political signs as desired, however, only one political sign is permitted per candidate, political party or ballot question. Residents are not allowed to post signs on golf courses, greenbelts or any other common areas.



Softball field Project Managers Fred Baniecki, l., & Jim Weniger. Photo by Michel A. Warzocha.

FRIEND OR FAUX?

Story by Bob Cohen

INITIAL BENEFITS OF SYNTHETIC SURFACE POINT TO SAVINGS, SAFETY

"IT'S GOING TO BE A GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION WORTHY OF THE AMERICAN PASTIME, AND ALL OF SUN CITY IS INVITED," SAID JOE O'CONNELL, BOD PRESIDENT AND FORMER SOFTBALL PLAYER. THE OCCASION, OF course, is the rededication of the Sun City softball field at the Pinnacle. There will be food, music, recognition of residents who were instrumental in establishing the original field, as well as the current upgrade and, of course, the ceremonial throwing of the first pitch.

Ken Caroccia, chairman of the Common Area Properties Committee and vice president of SCSCAI's Board of Directors, added, "The Board of Directors is committed to Sun City's Renaissance and to the residents who enjoy the active lifestyle we have here. We continue to work on upgrading golf, the newly remodeled Pickleball courts are fantastic and now we've turned our attention to America's favorite sport. The new surface at the softball field, along with other improvements, will not only maximize the experience for the club, but for those who come out to watch the games and others who will use the field in the future."

At this point, some history is appropriate. The original field was developed in 1997 with some upgrades in 2005. Time has taken its toll on the field. The infield dirt has compacted and become a hazard, with many player injuries suffered.

"We have had black eyes, broken fingers, stitches, etc. due to the bad hops of the softballs, as well as falls caused by uneven and unreli-













The evolution of Sun City's softball field began in July when Sun City's Landscape Department rerouted water lines. Then SCSCAI's Maintenance staff expanded the dugout areas while CG&B Construction broke ground on the turf installation. Photos by Fred Baniecki and Jeannette Carrillo/Link.



able dirt areas," said Men's Softball Club member and co-project manager Jim Weniger.

Additionally, before each game, the field required over an hour of preparation, which raised large clouds of dust. As co-project manager Fred Baniecki put it, "That didn't make us too popular with the nearby walkers."

The idea for the new artificial turf infield actually surfaced in 2010. There was an article in the Sun City West (Phoenix) journal describing upcoming renovations to its field to include artificial turf. The project remained dormant until last year, when Fred and Jim decided the time had come to address the problem. The two presented the problem and some proposed solutions to the Softball Club, focusing on the safety concerns. With enthusiastic approval, they took the plan to Ken Caroccia and CAP. Committee approval led to putting the project on the BOD agenda and the subsequent thumb's up. Bids were obtained by the Association and the contract was awarded to CG&B Construction to replace the infield with turf (complete with permanent foul lines). Other improvements, accomplished in-house, included expanded dugouts, new benches and water fountains.

During the construction phase of the project, a number of opportunities arose to reduce costs. Early on, Jim and Fred applied to the Southern Nevada Water Authority for a water conservation grant to replace the grass. That resulted in a check for $8,000 to the Association. Additionally, another $2,000 was saved when our Landscape Department took the dirt that had to be removed for the turf installation and used it on our golf courses.

"The Board of Directors is committed to Sun City's Renaissance and to the residents who enjoy the active lifestyle we have here." ~ Ken Caroccia, SCSCAI BOD vice president

While CAP approved an estimate of $169,000, the final project cost will be closer to $148,000.

"Our club members greatly appreciate Sun City's investment in this valuable facility," said Men's Softball Club President Jim Herhusky. "We now have the finest softball field in Las Vegas, and it represents its leadership's commitment to making Sun City Summerlin a preferred retirement community in the Southwest."

GRAND OPENING
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 29 9 AM
PINNACLE FIELD

Make history as you join Sun City's Men's Softball Club in rededicating the community's newest jewel, Pinnacle Field, with a lineup of games, special guests, free hot dogs, chips and beverages on Friday, September 29, 9 a.m. Refreshments provided by CG&B Construction and SCS Men's Softball Club.