

SCS LIFE



Lifetime of Memories

At age of 95,
Mary Lee is still dancing.

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Sun City Summerlin's Independent Monthly

SCSLife.net | August 2025

Woodworkers Wanted

SCS club looking for
new members.

See page 6

Belly Dancers

25 years ago, SCS dancers
win national title.

See page 10

Heat is On

John Wood on ways to
make it through summer.

See page 17



HIGH ROLLERS

Christine Robbins brings the energy
as she dances through a halftime
performance as a member of the
High Rollers troupe at the
Las Vegas Aces games. *See page 8*

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This SCS High Roller comes up Aces

Willie Ramirez covers the Las Vegas Aces for the Associated Press and others, so he knows a good story when he sees one. And watching the High Rollers 50-plus dance team during one game at Mandalay Bay he wondered: “Is there anyone from Sun City on the squad?”

Turns out there was, and she’s not only a great SCS LIFE cover this month, but a pretty good story. Christine Robbins’ career was in law enforcement but in retirement she’s a leading member of the dance group that gets fans on their feet at the women’s pro basketball games.

Christine gets the full cover treatment this month thanks to Willie, one of our regular writers. That he found it at a sold out woman’s game at Mandalay Bay makes it even bet-



TIM DAHLBERG
SCS LIFE
COMMENTARY

ter.. There was a time, actually when I was growing up, that girls didn’t play sports and if they did no one paid much attention to them. I can’t remember any girl’s basketball or volleyball teams when I was in high school and I’m pretty sure there wasn’t even a girl’s golf team.

Now, suddenly, women’s sports are big. Franchises in the WNBA are being sold for record sums and players will soon get their cut. Women’s tennis is more fun for me to watch than men’s, and the golf is pretty solid, too. There are women pro soccer teams, a pro hockey

league, female boxers and MMA fighters and, more importantly, growing opportunities for girls to play what they want growing up.

There’s plenty of women involved in various sports in Sun City, too, and not just on the golf course or pickleball ball courts. They began playing softball two years ago when the Sun City Men’s Softball Club had to change its name to accommodate them. This year, there’s an entire team composed of women.

It’s the wave of the future, though it took a long time. The passage of Title IX in 1972 helped even the playing field but it was more than a half century before a women’s pro basketball game became must-see TV.

When I was writing sports columns I covered a soccer match that was supposed to speed that process up. It was 1999, and the U.S. was

playing China in the finals of the Women’s World Cup, which was itself only first held eight years earlier.

I walked through the stands at the Rose Bowl before the game, talking with parents of girls with soccer balls and U.S. flags painted on their faces. They were excited about their girls playing sports and excited about the future that the excitement of the win was supposed to supercharge. But it took decades more than what anyone thought.

It’s not like there hadn’t been women athletes who shined before. I wrote a book (America’s Girl, St. Martin’s Press 2009) about Gertrude Ederle, who in 1926 not only became the first woman to swim the English Channel but beat the record of the five men who had made the treach-

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NEON DIARY

Family, friends, and Sun City fun keep Mary Lee dancing

Mary Lee came to Sun City Summerlin and danced. She danced with the SCS Dance Company Club and learned folk dancing. Her fingers danced on the keys as she took piano lessons and joined the Organ, Piano & Keyboard Club.

And the longtime SCS resident, who turns 96 in October, danced into the hearts of all who know her.

“Mary Lee has lots of energy, and is always the ‘life of the party!’” said friend, neighbor and SCS entertainment fixture Yukon Jack Lohman. “She is an inspiration for all of us.”

Mary and her husband, Al, moved to Sun City Summerlin in 2004. It was their son Dan — a well-known casino executive — who bought their home and helped them settle in.

By then, Mary already knew the



DOUG PUPPEL
NEON DIARY

Vegas lights well. “Nothing really surprised me. I had been coming to visit for years,” she says, including first seeing the town when the car broke down en route to California

in June 1951.

What did surprise her was how fully she could step into long-held dreams. “I always wanted to dance as a kid,” she says, “but we were a poor family during the Depression, so no lessons.”

Once in Sun City, she made up for lost time.

“I love Sun City because of all the friends I’ve made,” she said, encouraging others to “join as many clubs as you can” and to “put out the effort.”



Doug Puppel

Mary Lee pores over a lifetime of memories on one table, while a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle awaits on another.

Mary’s path began in Syracuse, N.Y., and she and Al, who passed away in 2012, crisscrossed the country — including two California stints — for his work.

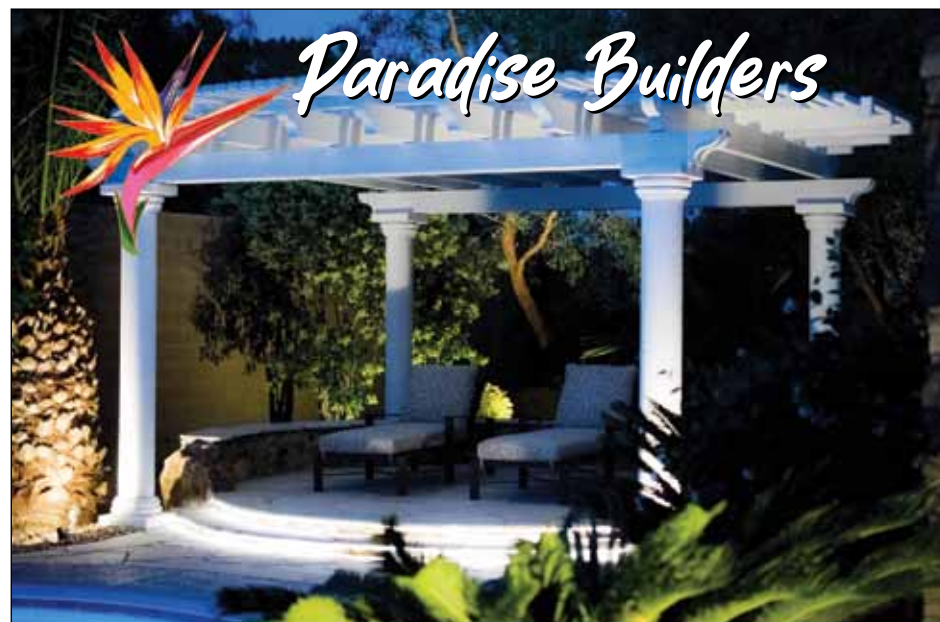
These days, she is recovering from a fall that left her “bruised but not broken” — yet her schedule remains a whirlwind. On a recent Saturday,

she had a piano lesson, an interview and photo shoot, and mahjong and bunco games, an agenda she called “a little busy.” Mary, who takes no regular medications, also looks forward to returning to the stage this fall in the SCS Community Theatre production of “Guys and Dolls.”

As for the family stories she heard about her husband’s possible connection to a famous Virginia general, she’s not so sure. One thing’s for certain, though: Mary Lee earned her own place in the Sun City Summerlin history books.

ROLES OF THE DICE: Several new faces will be among the cast for the Oct. 18–19 SCS Community Theatre production of “Guys and Dolls,” currently in rehearsals. DeAnne Sheehan, Marty Barris, Lida Derrin, Paul Brandt, Nancy Adler, Melanie Goldish, Kate Ksobiech, and JJ Barker will be making their SCS stage debuts in the beloved musical about 1950s New York gamblers and unlikely romances. Tickets are \$20 and go on sale at the end of August.

Las Vegas writer and model Doug Puppel contributed five stories to Engineering News-Record since his last Neon Diary column.



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SCS LIFE

Sun City Summerlin's Independent Monthly

EDITOR

Eric Dahlberg

edahlbergmcin@gmail.com
775-316-2265

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Breven Honda, Kayla Anderson, W.G. Ramirez,
Jenny Scheid

PHOTOGRAPHY

Jeff Scheid

ADVERTISING

Eric Dahlberg edahlbergmcin@gmail.com
Kirk Kern kirk@hyperlocalmedianv.com

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Rare board split surfaces in denial of remodeling vote

By Tim Dahlberg
SCS LIFE

Through much of the year the Sun City Summerlin Board of Directors has been an agreeable bunch, voting in lockstep on nearly every motion brought before them.

Out of more than 100 votes spanning seven months, only two weren't unanimous. Both of those involved people under 55 wanting to move to Sun City, and both were opposed by board member Steve Douglass.

Other than that, unanimity has reigned. Until this month, that is, when a rare disagreement arose over choosing materials in remodels at the Pinnacle Community Center and Tavern at the Falls.

A motion to approve the materials not only garnered opposition but failed on a 4-3 vote against allowing a Common Area Properties design committee to pick tables, chairs, art-

At the same meeting, the board voted unanimously to proceed with bathroom remodels at the Tavern at the Falls.

work and fixtures for the two projects.

Board member Ellen Bachman led the vote against the proposal, saying the board itself should have responsibility for choosing the design features.

"I think to delegate this to a subcommittee that's not elected, as good as they are and as hardworking as they are, is an abrogation of our responsibilities," Bachman said. "I simply cannot approve this."

Board member Lynn Kasner Morgan also opposed the proposal, saying she was concerned already about chairs being picked that aren't com-

fortable and light fixtures that are not designed to last another 35 years.

"This board has never really approved an overall design and color scheme," Kasner Morgan said. "There were decisions prior to this board but four members of the board are different from the original group that approved the design and it would have been really very helpful to have seen an overall design to make informed decisions."

Earlier at the same meeting the board voted unanimously to proceed with bathroom remodels at the Tavern at the Falls and to purchase bar stools and table tops as part of a remodel that will include a new bar with gambling machines. Construction has already begun on the project, which is nearing the \$400,000 mark in total costs.

At the Pinnacle, the main areas are being remodeled as part of a fit with the recently remodeled Summit res-

taurants. There has been debate over the furnishings planned for the facility as well as a plan to paint the dark red wood touches with black paint.

"The furniture that's selected has not been comfortable for everyone, and it's not commercial grade," Kasner Morgan said. "I really believe that all selections should be vetted by a wider audience and the full board. I understand that time is really of the essence, but there are some items that can be selected and installed after the basic construction has been completed, and that we should not rush to do things because of the timeline."

Bachman noted that while there was rare disagreement at a board meeting, it was not a bad thing.

"I think you could see that we disagreed on some issues here, but we were all able to disagree civilly and with respect, and I think that's very, very healthy," she said.

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The Sun City Summerlin Sawdusters Woodworking Club is offering a special discounted rate for new members.

Woodworking Club offers special dues to new members

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The SCS Sawdusters Woodworking Club is looking for new members to join the 100 or so members of the club that is headquartered at the Pinnacle Community Center.

The club was established in 1993 and draws members with a wide variety of experience and skill sets, from the novice to the highly skilled woodcrafter.

The woodshop is a good place to learn or improve your woodworking skills. It prides itself on being a NO JUDGEMENT ZONE where woodworkers of all skill levels can work on their projects.

Have you ever wanted to make a bowl on the lathe? Perhaps you have an idea for a beautiful cutting or charcuterie board for your kitchen. Maybe you just want to make something special for a family member.

Many members make items for their grandkids. There are members making wood fountain pens, fancy

jewelry boxes, even large items like Murphy beds. Whatever your goals are, the Club woodshop has the tools and know-how to help you accomplish them.

Some of the tools available in the shop are: lathe, table saws, planer, jointer, miter saws, band saws, table router and much more.

Help is always available and the woodshop has a laid back, no pressure atmosphere. Only attention to safety and your imagination are necessary to realize your dream project.

Current dues are \$40 annually. However, new members who sign up before the end of this year get a discounted rate of \$20.

There are also no obligation personal tours available and all new members will receive an orientation and safety course of the shop and its equipment. Individual skill training for specific machines is also available on request.

For general questions, information, or to schedule a tour, contact club President Craig Kam at: info@sawdusterslv.com or visit online at www.sawdusterslv.com

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Dahlberg

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erous crossing before her.

Trudy got a ticker tape parade before 2 million people in the Canyon of Heroes in New York. She set off on a barnstorming tour complete with a diving platform that earned her an incredible \$10,000 a week for a few weeks.

A few months later, Charles Lindbergh flew the Atlantic and Trudy became yesterday's news.

The point I guess I'm trying to make is that women like Trudy were always there, but seldom were given a chance. Now they finally are being treated like the elite athletes they are.

That, as well as Christine Robbins, makes me want to get to an Aces game. I just hope I can get a ticket.

Sam was one of the first people I met when we moved to Sun City. He crossed the street to chat, and it wasn't long before I knew pretty much his whole life story.

The golf cart in his garage was a big part of it. Seems his wife had been out gambling, hit a jackpot, and decided that Sam could have the cart he'd been dreaming about. It wasn't new with the latest lithium battery but it ran well and the \$4,000 price tag was just right.

Sam and his wife had moved to Sun City from California, settling in a small house on a large corner lot that was meticulously landscaped. By the time my wife and I moved in

across the street four years ago he was a widower. One day he invited me inside to see his new flooring and the picture of his late wife was the only thing hanging on the living room wall.

Sam talked about going up to Eagle Crest and hitting some golf balls occasionally but I can remember only one time I saw him in his cart. He was in his early 80s but still got around well but he didn't seem to have the desire to play golf anymore.

Still, Sam seemed happy every time I talked to him with no particular health issues. He had what he called a "lady friend" who often came by and he spent plenty of time at her place, too, it seemed.

We watched the other night as the fire truck and ambulance pulled up to Sam's house. Both left quietly about a half hour later, followed soon by Sam's lady friend, who closed the garage door and drove away.

We suspected the worst, and another neighbor confirmed it later.

One of the painful things about life in Sun City is that illness and death never seem too far away. That, perhaps, is expected in a 55-plus community but it's still jarring when it's a neighbor you've been friendly with.

I haven't seen anyone at Sam's house since he passed. I don't know if he had any family or what will become of his house and whatever he had left.

I do know there's still a lightly used golf cart in the garage.

Loyal readers of SCS LIFE know

who John Wood is. He's the guy who makes them laugh when they least expect it in his monthly humor column that has been a staple of the publication since its inception.

John branches out this month to give us the insight to his night at speed dating, which I urged him to cover. Trust me, you'll enjoy the read.

John also noted that there are a lot of single people in Sun City who would like nothing better than to meet other single people for companionship. He suggested we run a page of ads in SCS LIFE, kind of like the personals of papers of yesteryear but with a modern touch.

I'm not so sure but I'm willing to listen. The most recent census figures show 4 out of 10 Sun City homes have just one occupant so there are certainly a lot of singles out there. So anyone who might be interested send me a quick email with your

thoughts to timd@scslife.net

If there's interest, we'll figure out a way to do it. If not, well, there's always another speed dating night.

Finally, I'm happy to report I can see again. Not that I couldn't before, but apparently things were worse than I thought.

Mine was a combination cataract/vision correction surgery where I had trifocal lenses implanted in my eyes. My surgeon, who is my longtime ophthalmologist, was superb and now I can happily report I have 20/20 vision in both eyes and everything seems so much more vivid.

I highly recommend it if needed, if just for the little pleasures like being able to read a book in bed without reaching for a pair of glasses.

Tim Dahlberg is the publisher of SCS LIFE. Write to him at timd@scslife.net



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Dancing Time: Christine Robbins struts her stuff as a High Roller for Las Vegas Aces

By W.G. Ramirez
SCS LIFE

Whether the Las Vegas Aces are winning midway through the fourth quarter or not, there's one group that always provides electricity inside Michelob Ultra Arena at Mandalay Bay.

The High Rollers have become the hottest in-game entertainment, with sharp moves, big smiles, and synchronized choreography that Aces crowds love to see.

Sun City resident Christine Robbins has been a member of the High Rollers since the dance team's inception in 2022 after a friend who once was a Raiderette suggested she attend the first audition.

Three years later, Robbins is a captain and illuminates center court in her glittered tops, while performing with confidence and an intoxicating smile.

"I think Christine just brings this level of professionalism," said Aces executive assistant Justice Toailoa, the brainchild behind the High Rollers. "But also, she has a great way of bringing people together."

While professional sports audiences don't necessarily expect high-impact performances from an older generation, Robbins and the rest of the 50+ year-old High Rollers never fail to bring smiles to everyone from Gucci Row to the upper bowl.

"The first time we went out and did our routine, there were only about 5000



Kaylie Phillips/Jades Media

Sun City resident Christine Robbins poses before a Las Vegas Aces banner before a recent game at Mandalay Bay. She has been a member of the High Rollers dance team that entertains fans at the games.

people in the stands - they roared," Robbins said. "And Justice came in, and she goes, 'Oh my God, they loved you. Standing ovation. Oh my God.'"

Now, Robbins said, the Rollers are treated like celebrities.

"I think I had more media coverage and interviews as a deputy sheriff in my 31 years of a (law enforcement) career than I've had here," she said. "But I've been recognized more here than I ever was."

"I would get recognized out in public sometimes by people that I had arrested: 'Do you remember me, you

arrested me?' I'm thinking, where's my gun?"

Plot twist.

GOING IN

Long before she would lace up her high tops and strut her stuff at Mandalay Bay, Robbins was part of a much different team. Intrigued with law enforcement after seeing her mother, Carolyn, serve as a reserve police officer for the San Diego Police Department, she attended a police explorers meeting and immediately became hooked.

She worked for the San Diego police explorers for four

years and eventually was selected to attend the academy by the San Diego Sheriff's Department. Upon graduation, Robbins worked at Las Colinas Women's Detention Facility for four years before moving to patrol. During that time, she got married, had her first son, Parker, and was promoted to sergeant and later lieutenant.

Working patrol with other officers, she would go on calls, write reports and operate the radio. With her responsibilities came writing citations and conducting field interviews, all while soaking up valuable information about the job.

"It was exciting," Robbins said. "It was never the same thing."

After a couple of more years working in the jail, she and her husband, Paul, had their second son, Preston, and again returned to patrol before applying and being selected as the search and rescue coordinator for the San Diego County Sheriff's Department.

Robbins was suddenly in charge of more than 200 volunteers who searched for missing and lost people. They did water rescues, dive missions, searched for Alzheimer's patients, missing children, and abducted children.

But it would be the 2001 Santana High School shooting incident that would forever resonate with Robbins, and forever embed the phrase "I'm going in" into her life.

After the Columbine High

School massacre in Colorado, Robbins sat down with her team of officers to discuss what they would do if something similar were to happen in their area.

The proper protocol at the time was to wait for the SWAT team to arrive on scene and address the threat, but everyone on her team said, "We're going in."

"One of the guys said, 'I am not going to let any kids get shot or killed if there's something I can do to intervene,'" she said.

Roughly six months later, driving on patrol, Robbins hears dispatch call out the shooting at Santana High School.

As a supervisor, her job immediately turned to coordinating the entire situation by using the resources as they rolled in, telling everyone where to go and taking command of the entire situation. She set up a command post out of the trunk of her patrol car, used a big white board to blueprint the operation, and began activating everything that needed to be in place when, sure enough, she heard one of her guys say, "I'm going in."

Within moments, she witnessed more than 1,500 children running across the street, escaping the school, and before she knew it, her team had the suspect in custody.

The next day, LAPD traveled to San Diego and met with the SWAT captain at the

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Robbins

continued from Page 8

time, interviewed Robbins, and was debriefed on their procedure, which eventually became known as Immediate Action Rapid Deployment (IARD).

“My bosses in the department, decision makers, saw that I had the ability to be real proactive, forward-thinking, and be able to get things done in a quick moment,” she said. “But at the same time, have a positive reflection on the department for the community to see.”

ALL IN

Ironic how that one quote changed Robbins’ perspective on enacting a proactive mindset, as she’s now part of an organization that embraces the mantra “All In.”

Back to the inaugural year of the Rollers, when team owner Mark Davis wasn’t sure what to expect when Toailoa told him her idea.

“I think after their first-ever performance back in 2022, they got a standing ovation, and from there he was like, ‘You know what, you guys know exactly what you’re doing, so I’m gonna let you run with it,’” Toailoa said.

Davis confirmed the conversation with a chuckle during the recent Raiders-Golden Knights charity softball game at Las Vegas Ballpark in July, and said he still enjoys watching

the High Rollers, who greet him with fist bumps as they run by his seat upon exiting the court.

“They’re awesome,” he said.

For Robbins, who retired to Sun City in 2019 after coming to Las Vegas with her husband for a concert and speaking to another retired officer who was raving about home prices, it’s something that’s become “bigger than life; the team atmosphere,” as she puts it.

“My career was involved around working with teams,” said Robbins, whose sons are now in law enforcement. “We’re in a family environment. It’s all about teamwork. It’s not about individuals standing out. It’s about being a part of a team. And then I stumble on the Aces. What a great environment and organization.”

Robbins said she’s been able to meet different women from different environments who have done different things throughout their careers, and the camaraderie is something she’ll treasure the rest of her life.

She also enjoys knowing the fact the group dancers are performing in front of one of the most raucous fanbases in one of the fastest growing professional sports leagues, doing what younger people normally do.

“And actually look really good doing it,” she said. “And we’re not doing just mediocre steps. We’re dancing, and we’re together, and it’s clean.”

From “going in” to “All In,” Robbins’ long list of teammates has provided her with memories that will last a lifetime.



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LOOK BACK

Years Ago: Sun City Summerlin Exotic Dancers bring home belly dancing contest title

25 YEARS AGO

• Sun City has some new national champions in its midst. Members of the Sun City Summerlin Exotic Dancers took the title in a recent belly dancing contest. The 12-woman troupe took two first place awards in the 50-plus age division in the competition at UNLV. Club members say they not only enjoy the camaraderie of belly dancing but also the health benefits of exercising.

• Nathan Adelson Hospice officials say their soon-to-open new hospice in northwest Las Vegas is needed, particularly for Sun City Summerlin residents. The hospice on North Buffalo Road will be in addition to the hospice facility currently operated on Paradise Road.

• A corner home with 1,842 square feet and city views is being advertised for \$284,500.

30 YEARS AGO

• A Southern California couple is being feted for being home buyer No. 5,000 in Sun City Summerlin. The sales mark was hit in the community, which is still under development, with the purchase of a home by Bill and Kathy Brennan of Woodlawn Hills, Calif. The couple purchased the Minden model, joining the nearly 9,000 residents who live in Sun City.

• An outdoor concert series and Fourth of July celebration were highlights of entertainment provided by Sun City developer Del

Webb Corp. Hundreds of people attended four different "Melodies on the Green" concerts, and attendance was strong at the annual Fourth of July Spectacular. Del Webb has also hosted several ice cream socials for residents to gather and get to know each other this summer.

• Sun City Summerlin is seeking kitchen help for its restaurants, promising to pay line cooks \$8 an hour and food servers \$4.25 an hour plus tips.

• New SCS homes are being advertised by developer Del Webb ranging from \$95,200 to \$271,000.

20 YEARS AGO

• Lake Mead Boulevard is the only remaining major road that is not plugged into the new 215 Beltway project, largely because of resident protests against an interchange there. A Beltway link is now planned, with planning expected to begin in 2007 and the opening of the interchange no later than 2013. Some Sun City residents held up the interchange by claiming it would deposit large amounts of traffic on Lake Mead Boulevard and endanger residents.

• A 2,934 square-foot home with city views and other upgrades was listed for \$949,500.

15 YEARS AGO

• A new Thai-based restaurant is enticing Sun City residents with a unique

menu. Nittaya's Secret Kitchen recently opened at Rampart and Lake Mead Boulevard. Owner Nittaya Parawong also operated Jasmine Thai Gourmet Express on Lake Mead but closed it to focus on a new expanded restaurant that can seat 45 people. The restaurant offers a wine bar and a tapa menu that Parawong says she hopes people are talking about.

10 YEARS AGO

• A Sun City man is loaning out his collection of World War II era items to various groups to keep the memory of the time alive. Jim Brush estimates he has 200 items, including posters, magazines, print ads, sheet music and newspapers from between 1939 and 1946. Brush offers the items to casinos and groups that may want them to display at events. Most recently they were featured at the Sun City Military & Friends annual Oktoberfest meeting. Brush said he just likes old things and wants the period to be remembered.

• An authentic Greek restaurant in Sun City has a bit of everything - except customers. Mykonos Greek Cuisine, located in Sun City's main shopping center, features Greek specialties as well as such relative exotica as bakaliaro skordalia, pan-fried cod with mashed potatoes and garlic. A recent visit by the restaurant writer for the Summerlin View found the food to be on point, as

well as the atmosphere. The writer said the only thing missing was customers in the restaurant, though she hoped that would soon change.

5 YEARS AGO

• All four Sun City community centers will remain open despite difficulties finding workers to staff them because of COVID. Administrative workers and other managers will step in and fill some of the positions while new efforts are made to hire 10 new workers to staff the centers. The centers had 37 monitors for the Fitness Department when COVID first hit and is now down to 29, a reduction attributed to workers quitting because of fear of COVID or verbal abuse by residents.

• The Sun City Summerlin Community Association has received a \$832,000 PPP loan to help cover employee costs during the COVID pandemic. The loan will be forgivable after 24 months if SCSCAI meets requirements for its use, mostly for employee costs.

3 YEARS AGO

• Video from homeowners is being credited for helping identify the man who robbed and beat a Sun City resident in his home. The man was captured in Arizona after police appealed for video that might help identify his car. A number of residents submitted video from their security cameras, which led to the identifica-

tion of the car. The attack led to a Metropolitan Police town hall meeting that had to be divided into three separate meetings after some 750 frightened Sun City residents showed up with little notice.

• A new policy on the removal of live trees has been approved by the Board of Directors. The policy sets up a process for homeowners to apply for and pay for the removal of live trees that block views or are a nuisance.

1 YEAR AGO

• A Board of Directors meeting was disrupted by an angry homeowner, who yelled obscenities and said he had a right to speak because he was a homeowner. Another resident stood up and advised the man to be quiet but later he stood and made an obscene gesture to the board, resulting in board President Jeff Rorick warning him he could be removed from the meeting. The man then left.

• Board Secretary Gerry Sokolski told a homeowner who suggested selling or closing one of Sun City's golf courses to help fund the reserves that the idea was impractical. Sokolski said the golf courses serve as flood control channels for the northwest part of Summerlin and cannot be altered. Additionally, he said there are 1,900 golf course homes in Sun City and that any attempt to close a course would result in a class action lawsuit against SCSCAI.

COMMENTARY

The power of politics in 89134

For decades, the respect given Sun City as an influential piece in Nevada politics held legendary mystique.

Even back in the days when I ran the Las Vegas Review-Journal, politicians and reporters would tell me about how key the zip -- 89134 -- was to the political landscape.

"You can't afford to ignore it," they'd say. "Skews conservative, but gettable for any politician with any kind of affable personality." (Hello, Mayor Shelly Berkeley!)

I spoke to political groups in Sun City several times during the R-J days. The crowds were always bigger than I expected, and the questions from the rank-and-file were sophisticated.

I remember one occasion when Sen. Harry Reid was particularly vulnerable in 2010, despite his status as a national figure. A questioner voiced something like this:

"I don't like Harry Reid, but Sharon Angle says things I don't like, either."

I told her that I was sorry to say that those were the two choices in this election, and then went on one of my favorite "what-if" riffs about how Harr dodged a bullet by not facing Sue Lowden.

Lowden got beaten by Angle in the primary, and to this day, Republicans regret the day. I am convinced she would have knocked off Harry Reid



SHERMAN R. FREDERICK
COMMENTARY

reckoned with in Nevada politics?

I turned to my friend Jon Ralston at the Nevada Independent (Then-evadaindependent.com) with that question. He remains the expert in all things political in Nevada.

"Is 89134 still a thing?" I asked.

He replied:

"Sun City Summerlin has been seen as a key area for candidates from state-wide down to City Council because the turnout rates are so much higher.

"Older people vote, and candidates know that.

"You can also see the importance by the attendance at various forums there during campaigns -- the most famous was the 1998 Harry Reid-John Ensign forum when Reid said Ensign couldn't interpret the Constitution because he was a veterinarian.

"It tends to lean right -- ex-Vegas Councilman Bob Beers saw it as a bed-rock of support -- but neither party can afford to ignore it."

Jon added that he lives in the pow-

erful zip, but not in Sun City proper. "Not yet," he quipped.

Well, Jon, what's keeping you? I am pretty sure you are age-eligible. You can probably buy the house next to Bob Beers or Tim Dahlberg.

WHICH CASINO?

You will remember that last month I asked readers to tell me which casino they preferred -- Santa Fe Station or Sun Coast?

L.B., a loyal SCL reader, doesn't like the corporate nature of either casino.

"I prefer truly independent local casinos that truly appreciate my business instead of over-priced, lazy casino staff," she wrote.

And, L.B. had more to say:

"As for tipping hospitality workers now that they received tax relief, I rarely eat at restaurants anymore because I will not tip someone for doing the minimal work of bringing me 1 drink, bringing me my food order, and bringing me my check after waiting 15 minutes once my plate is empty. And if you want a box for take-home leftovers, just go get it yourself. Now, I simply do not tip anything unless my wait-staff go far beyond the minimum."

Yikes, L.B.. I'm not with you on that.

I've found the staff at both casinos to be generally fine. Plus, tipping a bit above and beyond is a Las Vegas

thing to do.

There you have it. The bosses at Sun Coast and Stations Santa Fe, please take note. You have work to do in capturing the hearts and minds of the 89134. And, the best way to do that is to get your word out in every monthly edition of Sun City Life. Go to <https://scslife.net> and get the ball rolling.

Postscript: Yes, I know I'm shamelessly hawking this publication for casino advertising. You don't need to write to me to tell me. I know. But hey, thanks for reading the best new newspaper in Nevada, which is now celebrating its 2nd year of serving the 89134.

ONE MORE THING



You can read more from Sherman R. Frederick at shermanfrederick.substack.com

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WELCOME TO MEDICARE (A POEM)

By Linda Cook Salman

Happy 65th Birthday. Welcome to the benefits of Medicare
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raised toilet seats and shower chairs
home health, hospice and skilled nursing care.
All the benefits to help you age. Remember 65 is just a number,
just be glad you are now covered.

Linda is an active Sun City resident whose work has previously been published in SCS LIFE

Speed dating in Sun City? Wine not?!

By John Wood

It's been a while since I went on a date. So, when SCS LIFE's publisher Tim Dahlberg asked if I would like to attend Sun City's first-ever speed dating event at the Summit last week, I said, "You couldn't pay me enough."

"How about 75 bucks."

Hmm, with that I could finally retire. I agreed.

[FYI: Below are my experiences with the ladies. I'm sure the women had similar episodes with the gentlemen. The event was a great idea for Sun City, but changes are needed the next time.]

In speed dating, men and women sit across from each other. After each session, the men rotate to the next date. Everyone is given a form on which to jot notes and their dates' names. If you want to see someone again, you check it on the form. The organizers then forward the contact numbers to the participants whose choices match.

I was a wreck when I strode into the Summit Restaurant. How many women will show up? What if I freeze and can't think of anything to say? Chairs and tables completely circled the restaurant. Oh no. All speed dating firms limit attendees to thirty max to lessen the noise. I counted sixty chairs.

The event was from 6 to 8 but didn't start until 6:45. Probably late arrivals. Finally, a young woman walked out and spoke into a microphone that someone had mistakenly set at "NASA Acoustic Test Chamber" level. As we held our ears, she said a few words and left the floor. What? No other instructions? No forms? Everyone started talking at once, and the roar engulfed the room.

My first date was a sharp, impressive woman whom I enjoyed

because we were curious about the same things. After her was a blur of very nice women but none particularly stood out to me. But that was my fault. I'm attracted to women who are intriguingly different. When I reached the other side of the room, intriguingly different was the norm. The gals had been drinking and were hooting it up.

My next-to-last date greeted me with a beaming face and the most beguiling smile I'd seen all evening. But it was her alluring eyes that literally pulled me into my seat and said "Stay." We enjoyed ourselves for about two minutes before the "ROTATE!" woman interrupted us mid-laughter. Worse, the next guy rotating over was hovering above me. And that's when I made my tragic error. Instead of asking for her number right then, I thought it would be better to do it after the event when we could talk more and not be rushed.

I plunked down on the last seat. Facing me was a woman who was glaring at me like I'd just eaten her puppy. I smiled to break the ice. "Well...hello there!"

Her glare became a scowl. Then, either eager to get the night over or overserved on wine, she blurted out that she was good at, well, making a man happy.

Instead of politely excusing myself, I idiotically replied, "Well...I'm a good kisser."

Her eyes changed. "How do you know that?"

"Because many women have told me," I said as I quickly scooted away.

I was still intent on getting the previous woman's number. She wasn't by the door so I went outside.

She was gone.

Kicking myself all the way to my

> See DATING, Page 17



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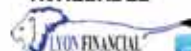
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Mr. Cool chills out with the animals

Have you noticed that you seem to be aging faster than your friends and relatives who live in cooler states? It's not an illusion. People residing in hot places age up to 0.6 percent faster than those who do not. That's why my fraternity buddies in Southern California are still tanned and look to be in their sixties while my tans have turned into crocodilian leather. There have to be ways to protect us from such heat! Well, lucky for you, I found some.

We've all heard the same advice: 1) before you go out, slather two pounds of sunscreen over every inch of your body, 2) wear light-colored clothing made from natural fabrics (cotton, linen, etc.) that allow airflow and reflect sunlight, and 3) float all day in a swimming pool protected by a sun hat the size of an aircraft carrier radar antenna. That's a lot of work for me. I prefer staying inside in a fetal position until October.

After approximately ten minutes of research, however, I discovered that desert animals are far more successful than us in fending off the heat, and they don't have to get gooey, wet, or wear silly garments. So, in the interest of science, I tested the six best methods they use to fend off the summer heat. Could they work for us?

1. Find or create shade. Some creatures rest under rocks or shrubs. I dug under several and lay underneath them for a while. The rocks were burning hot and the shrubs were streaming with red ants slathered in sunscreen. Conclusion: the animals that do this were clearly dropped by their mothers more than once.

2. Change activity patterns. Animals such as foxes and desert tortoises are nocturnal (active at night) or crepuscular (active before sunrise). I tried both. Good news:



JOHN WOOD
HUMOR

the heat was almost negligible at those hours. Bad news: I suffered jet lag the next week.

3. Eat plants. Many animals survive on plants that have high water content. I went out to the

spot where Jimmy Hoffa is buried (don't ask how I found out) and munched on mesquite, creosote, yucca, aloe vera, desert grasses, and cacti. The first five upset my stomach and the last one sent me running to my dentist to remove the spines.

4. Store water inside you. Gila monsters store water and fat in their tails, and desert tortoises do it in their bladder. We store water in our bladder, too, but the darn thing forces us to release it every few hours. Tortoises definitely have the better system, but we can walk fast and they can't, so there.

5. Burrow underground. Rodents and reptiles such as pocket gophers, ground squirrels, Sean "Diddy" Combs, snakes, and lizards do this because temperatures are cooler when they're confined in dark places. I was going to try this, but I was afraid I might run into more than one of them.

6. Increase your size. Arabian wolves dissipate heat through their tall pointed ears, increased surface area, and light-colored fur that reflects sunlight. Wow, that means large, big-eared women wearing white mink coats should have no problems walking outside this summer! You go, girls!

SCS resident John Wood is the author of *How I Killed Off My Ex-wife and Other Far-flung Misadventures*

Dating

continued from Page 12

car, I sat there a while imagining what could have been and cursing myself for blowing it. Speed dating might not have been my thing but I did want to know more about the woman I was able to talk to for only two minutes.

Therefore, I'm closing with this personal note:

To the woman seated by the door whose name started with P and ended with R:

A funny thing happened on the way home that night. I forgot to tell you I liked you and want to see you again, preferably where there are no microphones. If you feel the same, SCS LIFE's publisher Tim Dahlberg will graciously forward your contact number to me (go to timd@scslife.net). I've already sent him mine. I'd love to continue where we left off.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEAR EDITOR,

With all due respect, neither Santa Fe Station or Suncoast. I prefer truly independent local casinos that truly appreciate my business instead of over-priced lazy casino staff (now making \$20/hour or more). Feel free to include Rampart and Red Rock Station - after COVID-19, customer service is 3rd world.

As for tipping hospitality workers now that they received tax relief, I rarely eat at restaurants anymore because I will not tip someone for doing the minimal work of bringing me 1 drink, bringing me my food order, and bringing me my check after waiting 15 minutes once my plate is empty. And if you want a box for take-home leftovers, just go get it yourself.

Now, I simply do not tip anything

unless my wait-staff go far beyond the minimum. I have watched too many wait-staff chat with colleagues, text on their cells, flirt with younger clientele or just ignore my requests for service. Apparently, tip income is more valued than my salaried income with the current squatter in the White House. Mr. Frederick - you can tip extra on my behalf?

LINDY BAKKEN
SCS, NV

DEAR EDITOR

I am hopeful that SCS rulers will convince the LVVWB to lower rates and have the 2 million CC residents subsidize our golfers. Unlike other golf courses, we at SCS (7,000) homes pay 50% of the cost for the 700 resident golfers.

JOE DYLAG

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This test tells you more about your heart attack risk

By Paula Span
KFF Health News

A long list of Lynda Hollander's paternal relatives had heart disease, and several had undergone major surgeries. So when she hit her mid-50s and saw her cholesterol levels creeping up after menopause, she said, "I didn't want to take a chance."

A cardiologist told Hollander that based on factors like age, sex, cholesterol, and blood pressure, she faced a moderate risk of a major cardiac event, like a heart attack, within the next 10 years.

Doctors typically counsel such patients about the importance of diet and exercise, but Hollander, now 64, a social worker in West Orange, New Jersey, didn't have much room for improvement. She was already a serious runner, and although "I fall off the wagon once in a while," her diet was basically healthy. Attempts to lose weight didn't lower her cholesterol.

Her doctor explained that a coronary artery calcium test, something Hollander had never heard of, could provide a more precise estimate of her risk of atherosclerotic heart disease. A brief and painless CT scan, it would indicate whether calcifications and plaque were developing in the arteries leading to her heart.

When plaque ruptures, it can cause clots that block blood flow and trigger heart attacks. The scan would help determine whether Hollander would benefit from taking a statin, which could reduce plaque and prevent more from forming.

"The test is used by more people every year," said Michael Blaha, co-director of the preventive cardiology program at Johns Hopkins University. Calcium scans quadrupled from 2006 to 2017, his research team reported, and Google searches for related terms have risen even more

sharply.

Yet "it's still being underused compared to its value," he said.

One reason is that although the test is comparatively inexpensive — sometimes up to \$300, but often \$100 or less — patients usually must pay for it out-of-pocket. Medicare rarely covers it, though some doctors argue that it should.

Patients with a CAC score of zero — no calcification — have lower risk than their initial assessments indicate and aren't candidates for cholesterol-lowering drugs. But Hollander's score was in the 50s — not high but not negligible.

"It was the first indication of what was going on inside my arteries," she said.

Though guidelines vary, cardiologists generally offer statins to patients with calcium scores over zero, and suggest higher intensity statins when scores exceed 100. At over 300, patients' risks approach those of people who've already had heart attacks; they may need still more aggressive treatment.

Hollander has taken a low dose of rosuvastatin (brand name: Crestor) ever since, supplemented by a non-statin drug, a shot called evolocumab (Repatha).

This is the way calcium testing is supposed to work. It's not a screening test for everyone. It's intended only for selected asymptomatic patients, ages 40 to 75, who have never had a heart attack or a stroke and are not already on cholesterol drugs.

The test helps answer a pointed question: to statin, or not to statin.

If a doctor calculates the 10-year risk of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease at 5% or lower, drugs are unnecessary for now. Over 20%, "there's no doubt the risk is sufficiently high to justify medication," said Philip Greenland, a preventive

> See TEST, Page 19

Test

continued from Page 18

cardiologist at Northwestern University and co-author of a recent review in JAMA.

“It’s the in-between range where it’s more uncertain,” he said, including “borderline” risk of 5% to 7.5% and “intermediate” risk of 7.5% to 20%.

Why add another measurement to these assessments, which already incorporate risk factors like smoking and diabetes?

“A risk score is derived from a large population, with mathematical modeling,” Blaha explained. “We can say that this score describes the risk of heart disease among thousands of people. But there are lots of limitations in applying them to one individual.”

A calcium scan, however, produces an image of one individual’s arteries. Alexander Zheutlin, a cardiology fellow and researcher at Northwestern University, shows patients their images, so that they can see the lighter-colored calcifications.

Cardiologists tend to be fans of calcium testing, because they so regularly encounter patients who are reluctant to take statins. People who feel fine may hesitate to start drugs they’ll take for the rest of their lives, despite statins’ proven history of reducing heart attacks, strokes and cardiac deaths.

In 2019, a survey of almost 5,700 adults for whom statin therapy was recommended found that a quarter were not in treatment. Of those, 10% had declined a statin and 30% had started and then discontinued, primarily citing fear of side effects.

An American College of Cardiology expert consensus report recently put the rate of muscle pain, statin users’ most common complaint, at 5% to 20%. Researchers consider the fear of side effects overblown, citing studies showing that reports of muscle pain were comparable whether patients

took statins or placebos.

“The actual risk is much, much lower than the perceived risk,” Zheutlin said.

That may be little comfort to people who are in pain, but cardiologists argue that reducing doses or switching to different statins usually solves the problem. Some patients will do better on a non-statin cholesterol drug.

Hollander, for example, suffered “muscle cramps that would wake me up at night.” Her doctor advised fewer doses, so Hollander now takes Crestor three days a week and self-injects Repatha twice monthly.

(Statins also carry a very low risk of a dangerous condition, rhabdomyolysis, that causes muscle breakdown, and they slightly increase the chance of diabetes.)

Some caveats: No one has undertaken a randomized clinical trial to show whether calcium testing eventually reduces heart attacks and cardiac deaths. That’s why, although several professional associations endorse calcium scans to help determine treatment, the independent U.S. Preventive Services Task Force has called the current evidence “insufficient” to recommend widespread use.

Such a trial would be expensive and difficult to mount, with many confounding variables. And pharmaceutical companies aren’t eager to underwrite one, since a successful result could mean that patients with zero scores avoid cholesterol drugs altogether.

But a recent Australian study of asymptomatic patients with family histories of coronary artery disease found that, after three years, those who had undergone calcium scans had a sustained reduction in cholesterol and a significantly lower risk of heart disease than those who had not been tested.

The test “leads to more statin prescriptions, better adherence to statins, less progression of atherosclerosis, and less plaque growth,” Greenland said of the study, in which he was not involved. “It tips the scale.”

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POND RENOVATED



SCS LIFE photo

Workers prepare the pond on No. 17 at Highland Falls for a new liner and other renovations. The pond, visible to motorists as they drive into Sun City on Sun City Boulevard, has been dry for months after being drained because the original clay liner was leaking badly.

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YOUR HEALTH

Toni Says: Know your options for a long-term care plan when there are health issues

Morning, Toni:

I am retiring in January, when I turn 70 and my wife, Sharon, will be 66. I have heart issues, with atrial fibrillation (AFib), and Sharon is a diabetic.

Last month, we each applied for a long-term care policy and were both denied due to our health. The agent who helped us search for long-term care insurance plans said that people over 60 find it difficult to get accepted.

Our concern is that my two younger brothers and I are paying about \$9,000 a month to an Alzheimer's facility for our father's care. Can you please explain other long-term care options that we can explore, because my father's rate of \$9,000 per month will drain our retirement! My wife and I do not have a plan in place should we need extra financial help since we were not approved for a long-term care policy. Thanks, Toni.

—Jeff from Dallas, Texas

Hi Jeff:

I'm glad you took the time to email me about your situation, because I have an answer to your question. In the past few years, a few new plans with extended health care benefits have been developed, assisting America with unexpected health or accident issues.

The 2025 Medicare & You handbook, on page 56 under "Paying for long-term care," discusses how important it is to plan now and in good health to maintain your independence. You will want to receive proper care in the setting you desire, whether at home or in a medical fa-



TONI KING
HEALTH

cility such as assisted living, a nursing home or a private personal-care home.

America needs to be aware that Medicare only pays for medically necessary skilled nursing facility care or for home health care if you meet certain conditions. Medicare doesn't cover nonmedical long-term care. This is why purchasing a policy to help with a long-term need becomes essential.

Let's discuss options that can help to assist with ways to protect your finances from excessive long-term care costs, especially for those with health issues that can keep one from being accepted for a long-term care plan.

1. Short-term care insurance plans: These policies have a simple health questionnaire with yes/no questions, making it easy to qualify. They will assist in paying for a nursing home, assisted living or personal care home as "facility care," with additional benefits for care at home. Plans provide various facility-care options ranging from \$50-\$400 per day with benefit periods ranging from 1 to 2 years, depending on the specifics. A short-term care plan can help prevent draining your savings or 401(k) for an illness or accident, whether recovering in a facility or at home.

2. Life or annuity policies with long-term care benefits: Many life or annuity insurance policies have a provision for long-term care; you can receive a certain amount of long-term care with your life or annuity policy's face amount. Health issues may keep one from qualifying.

3. Traditional long-term care: If you are under 60 and in good health

> See TONI, Page 21

Crime stats aren't always what they seem to be

SCS LIFE

Burglaries aren't always what they're reported to be in Sun City.

That was the message delivered by Randy Klenosky, a Metro crime prevention specialist, who focuses on Summerlin and on Sun City itself.

In a call with SCS residents Aug. 13, Klenosky said there were five burglaries reported in the previous 90 days in Sun City but none were actual breakins.

Klenosky said two of the burglary reports were made by the same person and the details didn't support an actual burglary. Another was for a squatter living in a home who was removed, and another was a former boyfriend who came over to eat food but wasn't invited and was arrested for burglary.

The only burglary report where something was actually proven to be taken, he said, was someone who left their garage door open and something was taken from the garage.

Otherwise, the rate of burglaries in Sun City remains very low heading into the last part of summer, Klenosky said.

"I really don't see any issues here in Sun City on the burglary front," he said.

The biggest number of crimes during the three months was fraud, with 15 reports. But Klenosky said many of them were from online scams where people had their credit card information taken and used.

In the same 90 day period, there was one truck stolen and another vehicle tampered with at the same address.

The biggest number of crimes during the three months was fraud, with 15 reports. But Klenosky said many of them were from online scams where people had their credit card information taken and used.

There were 4-5 other fraud reports that involved people approached by others either outside their houses or at their door when they were swindled out of money for promised services, "in some cases several thousand dollars."

"It goes back to being careful of who you let in your home," he said. "You have to be diligent of who is allowed on your property."

changing his life forever. Always be prepared by planning properly for a long-term care issue. No one knows what the future holds for your medical care.

Toni King is an author and columnist on Medicare, Social Security and long-term care issues. She has spent nearly 30 years as a top sales leader in the field. If you have a Medicare question, email info@tonisays.com or call 832-519-8664. Sign up for the Toni Says newsletter at www.tonisays.com to keep up to date on Medicare changes.

Toni

continued from Page 20

when you purchase a long-term care policy, it may be easier to qualify, with lower premiums. A long-term care plan can help to protect your savings or 401(k). You have to answer health questions to be approved.

Remember, Christopher Reeve of "Superman" fame didn't think he would be thrown by a horse, paralyzing him from the neck down and



A look at July crime in Sun City Summerlin, as reported by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department:

FRAUD		
7-1	1:09 a.m.	10400 Block Cogswell Avenue
7-7	2:03 a.m.	10400 Block Villa Ridge Drive
7-10	3:55 a.m.	2800 Block Castle Bar Drive
7-10	3:56 a.m.	2500 Block Palmridge Drive
7-10	5:57 a.m.	8500 Block Festival Drive
7-13	9:20 a.m.	9700 Block Del Webb Boulevard
BURGLARY		
7-7	5:24 p.m.	10700 Block Argent Hill Drive
VANDALISM / DESTRUCTION PROPERTY		
7-7	3:41 a.m.	2600 Block Golfside Drive

SOURCE: LVMPD Open Data Portal

SCS REAL ESTATE

July home sales up slightly, but prices cut on some homes

SCS LIFE

The summer doldrums for the Sun City Summerlin real estate market continued in July, with listings rising and some homeowners cutting prices to attract reluctant buyers.

A total of 49 home sales closed in Sun City Summerlin in July up from 46 a month earlier.

Homes sold in July ranged from a 1,021 square foot Charleston model

townhouse at 2509 Banora Point Dr for \$322,250 to \$1,425,000 for a 3,526 square foot expanded Westminster model single family at 11037 Clarion Ln.

There were 198 homes for sale in Sun City Summerlin on August 1, ranging from a Bristol model townhouse at 8657 Prairie Hill Dr with 1,062 square feet for \$317,500 to \$1,729,000 for a 2,886 square foot Nevadan model single family at 2548 Faiss Dr.

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JULY HOME SALES IN SUN CITY SUMMERLIN

- 3012 Haddon DR 1,384 SF \$489,000
- 2437 Desert Butte DR 1,620 SF \$378,000
- 10709 Hunters Woods PL 1,703 SF \$640,000
- 2328 Hot Oak Ridge ST 2,162 SF \$560,000
- 2917 Golf Links DR 1,653 SF \$720,000
- 3105 Birch Hill CT 1,384 SF \$460,000
- 2801 Golfside DR 1,653 SF \$407,000
- 10036 Keysborough DR 1,533 SF \$400,000
- 2905 Legend DR 1,653 SF \$665,000
- 2820 Bluff Point DR 1,384 SF \$444,900
- 3032 Bonnie Rock DR 2,486 SF \$650,000
- 9813 Folsom DR 1,519 SF \$577,500
- 2520 Springridge DR 1,188 SF \$392,000
- 2608 Saltbush DR 1,119 SF \$380,000
- 10300 Bent Brook PL 1,713 SF \$550,000
- 10700 Button Willow DR 2,176 SF \$875,000
- 10301 Bent Brook PL 1,713 SF \$575,000
- 2305 Hot Oak Ridge ST 1,215 SF \$433,765
- 9552 Gold Bank DR 1,119 SF \$435,000
- 2212 Sierra Heights DR 2,577 SF \$950,000
- 8916 Desert Mound DR 1,105 SF \$415,000
- 9609 Eagle Valley DR 2,486 SF \$980,000
- 9337 Quail Ridge DR 1,354 SF \$400,000
- 10921 Grand Haven AV 1,402 SF \$487,500
- 10632 Clarion LN 2,176 SF \$637,000
- 10513 Longwood DR 2,176 SF \$610,000
- 3021 Lotus Hill DR 1,626 SF \$440,000
- 2605 Lotus Hill DR 1,165 SF \$345,000
- 2545 Banora Point DR 1,401 SF \$445,000
- 3104 Hayden CT 1,384 SF \$375,000
- 2904 Bow Bridge DR 1,843 SF \$745,000
- 2353 Lauren DR 1,520 SF \$545,000
- 2825 Brianwood CT 2,000 SF \$700,000
- 9520 Sundial DR 2,115 SF \$985,000
- 2521 Roseworthy DR 1,519 SF \$440,000
- 8613 Linderwood DR 1,188 SF \$365,000
- 2509 Banora Point DR 1,021 SF \$322,250
- 10417 Sea Palms AVE 1,360 SF \$430,000
- 2740 Billy Casper DR 2,486 SF \$610,000
- 8924 Signal Terrace DR 1,384 SF \$429,000
- 10413 Marymont PL 1,179 SF \$390,000
- 10524 Longwood DR 2,934 SF \$1,090,000
- 3101 Hayden CT 1,681 SF \$589,000
- 3013 Abercorn DR 1,668 SF \$408,000
- 10720 Bennington CT 2,210 SF \$575,000
- 10713 Shoalhaven DR 1,520 SF \$680,000
- 11037 Clarion LN 3,526 SF \$1,425,000
- 9201 Cactus Wood DR 2,486 SF \$908,000
- 10041 Arbuckle DR 1,220 SF \$355,000

Market statistics provided by Michael DelGais, Home Realty Center

2729 ECHO MESA DRIVE | 2,368 SQ FT | \$999,900




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(B.0066235)

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PUZZLES

THEME: THE CIRCUS

ACROSS

1. *Jumbo The Elephant or Sirius in space
5. "But I heard him exclaim ' _____ he drove out of sight'"
8. Young salmon
12. Blood component
13. What Lizzie Borden did
14. Leather razor sharpener
15. "The Famous Five" author _____ Blyton
16. Back of the neck
17. Letter-shaped girder
18. *Feats-of-strength circus performer
20. Indian restaurant bread
21. In need of a muffler
22. Away's partner
23. Backward
26. Same as ruin
30. Greek R
31. Net sales minus cost of goods sold
34. Europe/Asia mountain divide
35. Approximately, as in date
37. Overnight lodging
38. Inflicted a blow
39. Celestial bear
40. Goose egg
42. _____-AFTRA
43. Frying pan
45. Eating establishment
47. Type of English crs.
48. Traffic accident
50. Wading bird
52. *Sara Gruen's novel "Water for _____"
56. *Lion tamer's tool or counter seat
57. Justice's garb
58. Hit it on the head
59. Run off, as in couple
60. Was in the hole
61. Japanese zither
62. Something _____
63. Movie "Saturday Night" subject matter, acr.
64. FedEx, verb

DOWN

1. Tom Jones' " _____ a Lady"
2. *Big Top
3. Gulf V.I.P.
4. Remodeled

CROSSWORD

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5. Tests
6. Settle a debt
7. Biblical place of bliss
8. *"The Greatest Showman" protagonist
9. Equals length times width
10. Multicolored horse
11. Dashboard acronym
13. Type of heart pain
14. Moses' mountain
19. Hollywood legend _____ Shearer
22. *Like circus audience's experience, hopefully
23. Bow-like structure
24. Dodge
25. Trunks
26. *Three-_____ circus lake
27. What phoenix did
28. Batu Khan's people
29. JD Vance's "Hillbilly _____"
32. Civil disorder
33. African grazer
36. *Sound of circus
38. Money under mattress, e.g. device
40. *Aerialist's bouncy safety
41. Piled
44. Twisted cotton thread
46. Give it generously
48. *Funny one
49. James Dean's famous role
50. It will
51. *Unwelcome reception, pl.
52. Cupid, to the Greeks
53. Sodium hydroxide
54. _____caca, South American
55. Trough stuff
56. Witness

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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SAVVY SENIOR

Where to find senior discounts in 2025

Dear Savvy Senior,

My husband and I are in our 50's and would like to know what resources you recommend for locating senior discounts, and what age do they kick in?

Frugal Fay

Dear Fay,

One of the great perks of growing older in America is the many discounts that are available. There are literally thousands of senior discounts on a wide variety of products and services including restaurants, travel and lodging, entertainment, retail, health, grocery stores, automotive services and much more. These discounts – typically ranging between 5 and 25 percent off – can add up to save you hundreds of dollars each year.

So, if you don't mind admitting your age, here are some tips and tools to help you locate the discounts you may be eligible for.

ALWAYS ASK

The first thing to know is that most businesses don't advertise them, but many give senior discounts, so don't be shy about asking.

You also need to know that while some discounts are available as soon as you turn 50, many others may not kick in until you turn 55, 60, 62 or 65.

SEARCH ONLINE

Because senior discounts frequently change and can vary depending on where you live and the time of year, the internet is the easiest way to locate them.

A good place to start is at TheSeniorList.com (click on the "Money" tab), which provides a large list of discounts in restaurants, grocery stores, retail stores, and for prescription medications, travel and more.

You can also search for discounts by provider. Go to any standard search engine like Google or Bing



JIM MILLER

and type in the business or organization you're curious about, followed by "senior discount" or "senior discount tickets." Or use an AI tool like Chat GPT or Gemini to do a search.

If you use an iPhone, you can even use the "Senior Discounts & Coupons" app (available in the App Store), which categorizes discounts by age and type.

JOIN A CLUB

Another good avenue to senior discounts is through membership organizations like AARP, which offers its members age 50 and older a wide variety of discounts through affiliate businesses – see AARP.org/ViewMyBenefits.

If, however, you don't like or agree with AARP, or don't want to pay the \$15 membership fee, there are other organizations you can join that also provide discounts like the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC.us), the American Automobile Association (AAA.com), or for retired federal workers, the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE.org).

TYPES OF DISCOUNTS

Here's an abbreviated rundown of some of the different types of discounts you can expect to find.

Restaurants: Senior discounts are common at restaurants and fast-food establishments – like Chili's, Denny's, Golden Corral, Outback Steakhouse, McDonald's and Sonic – ranging from free/discounted drinks to discounts off your total order.

Retailers: Many thrift stores like Goodwill and Salvation Army, and



certain retailers like Joann, Kohl's, Michaels, Ross, PetSmart and Walgreens stores offer a break to seniors on certain days of the week.

Supermarkets: Many locally owned grocery stores offer senior discount programs, as do some chains like BI-LO, Piggly-Wiggly, Fry's, New Seasons, Fred Meyer and Hy-Vee, which offer discounts on certain days of the week.

Travel: American, Delta and United Airlines provide discounted senior fares for select destinations in the U.S. to passengers 65 plus, while

British Airlines offers AARP members \$65 off economy seats. Amtrak provides a 10 percent discount to travelers over 65. Most car rental companies give discounts to 50-plus customers or AARP members. Royal Caribbean, Norwegian and Carnival cruise lines offer senior rates to cruisers 55 and over. And, most hotels offer senior discounts, usually ranging from 10 to 30 percent.

Entertainment: Most movie theaters, museums, golf courses, ski slopes and other public entertainment venues provide reduced admission to seniors over 60 or 65. And the National Park Service offers a lifetime senior pass for those 62 and older for \$80.

Send your questions or comments to questions@savvysenior.org, or to Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070.

Did you have, or still have, a career that might be interesting to Sun City Summerlin readers?

Perhaps you know somebody in SCS who has a career story they would like to tell? SCS LIFE wants to tell your story, or that of your neighbor. Send us a paragraph or two with your information and you might make our next edition! *Oh, and don't be afraid to nominate yourself!*

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