

# SCS LIFE



## LIFE CHANGES

Natalia Cinelli and her changing life in Sun City.

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Sun City Summerlin's Independent Monthly

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### HOME SALES

Sun City home sales remain steady; inventory increases.

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## PRETTY IN PINK

Clete Meyer has been cruising Sun City in his pink 1957 Thunderbird for 30 years now and his car still draws stares. The car will be part of the big Show & Shine show for the Cruisers Sun City Summerlin club on April 25. See page 8



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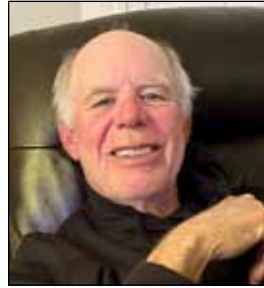
# Man on the Moon: An epic story of our time

I don't know about you, but I followed the launch and flight of the Artemis 2 moon mission probably more closely than those who are not members of our generation.

Like a lot of my fellow Sun City Summerlin residents, I grew up with the space program. I clearly remember the Gemini series of launches and when the Apollo capsules began soaring toward the moon I could identify the different crews by name and understand they were risking their lives every time they went into space.

And, of course, the first moon landing remains seared into my aging brain almost like it happened yesterday. That's understandable for most of us because it's one of those moments in life that remains suspended in time.

So, my question is, where were



**TIM DAHLBERG**  
SCS LIFE  
COMMENTARY

I know where I was that night in July 1969, and I know what I was doing. I was 15 and working my first summer job, washing dishes at the Steak Corral, a Sizzler-type joint on some prime real estate just past the north end of the Las Vegas Strip. Someone had brought in a portable black and white TV, set it up in the kitchen and fiddled with the anten-

nae so we could see the moment as it unfolded.

you and what were you doing when Neil Armstrong climbed down the ladder and declared it was "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind?"

nae so we could see the moment as it unfolded.

As the magic time approached, the cooks stopped slinging steaks and I left a big stack of dishes unwashed. The restaurant basically came to a halt as we gathered in the kitchen, and invited the few customers still in the joint to join us.

The images were ghostly and hard to decipher on the small TV. But we heard the words and, even at the age of 15, I knew something momentous was happening.

Later in life I would meet and talk with Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, who piloted the lunar module with Armstrong onto the moon. The second person to walk on the moon, Aldrin's first words on the surface were a much less memorable "Beautiful view" and he never received the acclaim that Armstrong did.

But he did, at the age of 72, punch



**The moon rises over Las Vegas as seen from Sun City on a recent evening.**

in the jaw a Japanese moon conspiracy theorist who insisted the whole thing was a setup, so he was not one to suffer fools easily.

I thought about all of that as Artemis 2 blasted off triumphantly and headed for a flyby of the moon. That night the moon was full and pink and I sat out in my backyard looking

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# Dahlberg

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at it with awe and wondering where all the years had gone.

In almost every issue of SCS LIFE I ask for reader contributions, and I do it for a reason.

SCS LIFE isn't a one way street and we welcome input ranging from letters to the editor (we have a bunch this month) to essays on Sun City topics. I like funny stuff, so John Wood joins us every month with a humor column and Craig Blek made his inaugural debut with a funny piece of his own last month.

I also want to hear from residents who have a story of their own to tell, especially about life as they know it in Sun City Summerlin.

So it was nice to hear from Natalie Cinelli, who sent me a short essay and wondered if I'd be interested. Her story about adjusting to new life circumstances isn't a new one with people our age but she tells it in a way that should resonate with all of us.

She also must have some writing

experience in her background because her essay wasn't just good but was just the right length.

Check Natalie out on Page 7.

Like many of you, I get an email every Tuesday inviting me to catch up on the latest events and happenings in Sun City. Sent by the Link, it's the official guide to activities for the week, ranging from the latest shows at the Starbright Theatre to an invitation to attend a monthly drum circle at the Sun Shadows community center.

Looking through the recent listings, I also found a new chair yoga class with Maggie and a luncheon seminar put on by University Medical Center on the benefits of a fiber-rich diet.

That's all good but I was a little taken aback when, in between Soundbath Meditation with Amy and Karaoke night at the Summit, was a big listing for a seminar on replacement windows put on by a well known window company. There was another listing for a luncheon by a company that wanted to advise residents on how to get rid of unwanted time shares.

Neither of these were listed as advertisements. Both appeared to the casual reader to be official SCSCAI events like the other listings.

But they're not. These are companies advertising in the Link and/or renting space in our community centers to sell things.

That's fine, but they need to be clearly labeled as such. To many SCS residents, it seems like the gatherings are sponsored by the association for the good of homeowners.

Meanwhile, the window company is well known for being the most expensive option homeowners have when looking to upgrade. The time share people weren't putting on their seminar to benefit the community, either, but to sell services to residents desperate to get rid of their time shares.

Put it this way: If they came door to door selling their wares, they would be suspected of scamming residents.

Finally, I have to say something

about Tiger Woods and his most recent brush with the law, if only because I realized when reading about his rollover crash that I've been writing about him for 30 years now.

I was a sports writer for The Associated Press when Tiger came to town in 1996 as a newly minted pro looking for his first PGA Tour win in the Las Vegas Invitational. With inside the ropes access, I followed a few steps behind him that week as thousands of new golf fans cheered every shot in a rowdy scene that culminated with 20-year-old Tiger winning a playoff against Davis Love III to capture his first tournament.

I knew he was a phenomenon never before seen but I didn't know at the time that I would cover him winning major championships around the country and across the pond over the next 23 years, a streak that ended with his last major title at the Masters in 2019.

After he sank the winning putt at TPC Summerlin, Tiger was feted in a ceremony on the 18th green that included two statuesque showgirls as we interviewed Love in the tiny media room to find out how he choked the tournament away. When Love was finished, I went to the adjoining room where my laptop was, and there was Woods sitting in my chair while he waited for his turn before the media.

He was looking at the screen so I asked him: "Anything you like there?"

"I like this," Woods said, pointing to my mention of the \$242,000 first prize money in the story.

Tiger's own story over the last 30 years is one of glory and triumph, clouded by addiction and the personal humiliations he brought upon himself. To many he remains the greatest golfer ever, and to others he is simply a reminder that all the fame and all the millions don't buy true happiness.

I've written tens of thousands of words about him over the years. I'm happy to report I have nothing more to say.

Tim Dahlberg is the publisher of SCS LIFE. Write to him at [timd@scslife.net](mailto:timd@scslife.net)

# The Carrot and The Stick: SCS officials try different approaches

SCS LIFE

Top SCSCAI officials are using the carrot and stick approach to deal with a disgruntled community of Sun City Summerlin homeowners who are active on Facebook.

The carrot came from Executive Director Mitzi Mills, who, after first dismissing the homeowner's idea of restructuring how HOA dues are paid, reached out to the group asking them to participate in an effort to do just that.

In what she called "a sincere and humble request," Mills invited those interested in the subject to form a new volunteer task force to come up with a plan to make all assessments renew at the beginning of each fiscal year. She pledged to support the group and find a place for it to meet.

"The timing is right. Beginning now would give us approximately nine months to thoughtfully develop a plan that could be included in the next election ballot for consideration by the Owners," Mills said in a March 31 email blast to the community. "If you truly believe in this change and have the expertise and ability to contribute, I respectfully ask you to volunteer your time and expertise. This is an opportunity to turn a strong idea into a real solution that benefits the entire community."

Mills' email came just a few days after she dismissed the idea on her weekly Chat with Mitzi, saying it was unworkable and impractical. Mills spent some time on the chat saying there would be "massive refunds and proration of dues" if the

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**EDITOR**

**Eric Dahlberg**

[edahlbergmcin@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:edahlbergmcin@gmail.com)

**Kirk Kern** [kirk@hyperlocalmedianv.com](mailto:kirk@hyperlocalmedianv.com)

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## NEON DIARY

# A column about Boulder City — and only one dam pun



Courtesy of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
**Famed photographer Ansel Adams captured Hoover Dam in 1941 as part of a National Park Service commission.**

Sometimes a low point can be a high point. That's true on May 7, when Sun City Summerlin residents have a chance to visit historic, slash quaint, Boulder City on a daylong bus tour.

Boulder City, with an elevation of 2,500 feet, sits near the bottom of the Southern Nevada basin, while Sun City Summerlin, at roughly 3,500 feet, rests along the western rim, just a little closer to heaven.

That geology sets the stage for the first headliner of the tour: Hoover Dam, which stops the Colorado River, generates electricity and helps provide our water. The itinerary allows two hours to take in canyon views, peek over the edge and experience the dam's unforgettable Art Deco design.

Then it's back on the bus and into nearby downtown Boulder City, created as a company town during construction of the dam and proud of its history.

"A day trip to Boulder City lets guests slow down and savor the moment," says Jill Rowland-Lagan, CEO of the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce. Visitors, she says, can take in "charming shops, welcoming cafés, public art, and beautifully preserved 1930s architecture."

With 1 hour and 45 minutes in town, the SCS tour offers enough time to do a lot — or a little — de-



**DOUG PUPPEL**  
NEON DIARY

pending on your gearshift.

Some ease into Nevada Way — window-shopping, a generous scoop of ice cream, then a shaded bench at Bicentennial Park where the breeze

and the view handle the rest.

Others explore — few places in Southern Nevada are as walkable as Boulder City, where you have your choice of a tourist district, history, and parks.

"They have to see the Boulder Dam Hotel," advises Regina Marvin, president of the Boulder City Art Guild — and not just because the guild has its gallery there, at 1305 Arizona St.

"It's a working hotel built in 1933 and has a museum and a restaurant," says Marvin, whose group has supported and promoted Southern Nevada artists for 30 years.

The Boulder City Art Guild & Gallery features the works of local artists, and there's a good chance you'll bump into one there, maybe with brush in hand.

Tickets for the bus tour are \$105 and at [suncitysummerlin.com](http://suncitysummerlin.com) and the usual locations. The Boulder City chamber has a downloadable walking map at [bouldercitychamber.com](http://bouldercitychamber.com). And leave your lucky charm at home: Boulder City is the only Nevada municipality without gambling.

Return to the office: Save the dates Oct. 17 and 18 for the Sun City Summerlin Community Theatre production of "9 To 5, The Musical," a workplace farce with plenty of wit and a strong message.

Doug Puppel is a Las Vegas writer and model who drove across Hoover Dam when he moved to Nevada



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# Advice I'd give the grandkids



**SHERMAN R. FREDERICK**  
COMMENTARY

That's the thing no one tells you: life has a way of circling back. The destination doesn't care much about the route you took to get there.

I was reminded of that while reading this untitled ditty from a humor writer named Daniel Piper. As a sidebar, when people write him to say his humor made them laugh, he often replies, "It wasn't meant to be funny." That's funny. Anyway, here's his piece:

*quit the job  
buy the ticket  
take the leap  
see the world  
open your heart  
run out of money  
go back home  
close your heart  
re-apply for the job*

**A**s I watch my grandchildren head out into the world, I'm not inclined to dress this up as wisdom. Most advice is just autobiography pretending to be instruction anyway.

My grandfather gave it to me straight when I was 18: Stay in school or join the military.

I managed both, though not out of discipline or foresight. I drew a single-digit draft number and lost my student deferment at Arizona State because, for the life of me, I couldn't pass a math or science requirement. The universe ended the debate.

So off I went into the U.S. Navy—no grand plan, just momentum. Looking back, I wouldn't trade it. Not a minute of it.

I could have taken a different road. Headed to Sausalito in Marin County in '69, drifted into the orbit of the Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane, and Janis Joplin. That was one version of a life.

Instead, I got there in 2015, owning the Sausalito newspaper. Coolest gig ever ... until COVID-19 hit, making business in California almost impossible. But it was a helluva ride while it lasted.

Most people live in the last four lines.

Safe. Sensible. Stuck.

I'd tell you to live in the first five as long as you can stand it.

College? Fine. But if all you get out of it is employability, you missed the point.

Travel? Same deal. If it doesn't change you, it was just movement with bad airline food for extra punishment.

There's no single right path. There are plenty of wrong ones—but most of them share one trait: standing still too long.

So don't.

Go. Try something. Try something else.

The clock is running faster than you think.

You can read more from Sherman Frederick on Substack: [shermanfrederick.substack.com](https://shermanfrederick.substack.com)

## LIFESTYLE

# As life changes, some adjustments must be made

By Natalie Cinelli

So my Gen X son has moved in with me.....not for the long run, but temporarily to help me out and comfort me since my husband recently passed away. I am a Baby Boomer resident of Sun City. My son and I haven't lived together under the same roof since he was in high school. Needless to say, we have both had to make some concessions and adjustments since we are now, as my son likes to say, roommates.

For example, I still use a Mr. Coffee to make my morning coffee. Little did I know that this is a slow and inefficient way to brew coffee. It requires a glass carafe, a basket and a paper filter to line the basket into which you measure out the ground coffee. Then you plug it in and turn it on and wait. (And, by the way, my son asks, why do you unplug it each day?) How old school is that? My son has no patience with waiting. He says we should switch to a Keurig single serve pod coffee machine. That's what he's used to. No fuss, no muss.

Since my Mr. Coffee is relatively new and still working, I'm not switching. I don't mind waiting a few minutes for my morning cup of coffee. What else do I have to do?

But I have to admit that it's thanks to my Gen Xer that my garage is now neat and orderly. My husband was an inveterate collector of things.... tools, books, records, coins, beer mugs, newspaper clippings and every greeting card he ever received.

He would tell my son, "This will all be yours someday." But, guess what, my son had no use for any of it. We were hoping we would find a hidden treasure buried somewhere in the boxes of memorabilia. No such luck.

I admired my son's tenacity and desire to turn chaos into order. He took one day at a time to sort through every box and folder. What was salvageable we donated. The rest went out with the trash. I could not have cleared out the garage on my own. How could I when my son has said he doesn't want me climbing up on ladders anymore. "At your age you could fall and break something."

No, my son was impatient to get this job done himself. After all, he needed to make room for all his stuff.

Now he says there is a place for everything and everything in its place. Mostly his stuff, of course.

On the plus side, it's been great having someone else to eat dinner with again. Sometimes I cook and sometimes he does which I like even more.

Then we sit down in front of the TV and watch Jeopardy together. We shout out the answers to the questions. And sometimes my Gen X son is amazed at how much his old Baby Boomer roommate actually knows. His mother is not as senile as he thought!

Natalie Cinelli has been a resident of Sun City Summerlin since 2013

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# SCS car club to hold first Show & Shine

By Eric Dahlberg  
SCS LIFE

The Cruisers Car Club in Sun City are sure to have many things they are passionate about individually. But one thing brings them together more than any other – their passion for a sweet ride.

That was evident on a recent evening when a handful of them cruised through Sun City for a photo shoot to promote their upcoming Show & Shine this month.

Club president Alan Greenberg arrived in style in his 1981 T-Top Corvette; Clete Meyer and friend Bev Haggadorn caught eyes in Meyer's 1957 pink Ford Thunderbird; Mo Levy was looking sharp in his 2016 Bentley; and Doug and Jane Nestor showed off their special edition 2023 Corvette 3LT convertible.

Those are just a few of the cars that will be showcased on Saturday, April 25 at The Pinnacle Community Center parking lot as the club will be holding its very first Show & Shine. The event is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and approximately 40 club members will display their cars. Trophies will be awarded to the three most popular and will be voted on by their Sun City neighbors. The Summit will be selling tacos and hot dogs and music will be provided by The JukeBox DJ. Admission is free.

"It's something new for the community and we encourage Sun City residents to come and check it out," Greenberg said.

The club was chartered in



SCS LIFE photo by Tim Dahlberg

**A few Cruisers Car Club members gather to compare rides in advance of the April 25 show the club is putting on at the Pinnacle Community Center. From left, Doug and Jane Nestor in their special edition 2023 Corvette 3LT convertible; Clete Meyer and Bev Haggadorn in Meyer's 1957 pink Ford Thunderbird and Mo Levy in his 2016 Bentley. Rounding out the group is club president Alan Greenberg in his 1981 T-Top Corvette.**

August of 2025 and as of just this week is up to 63 members. They meet the first Thursday of each month for Cars & Donuts in the Wicked Donuts parking lot, and also schedule a cruise every month besides July and December. In September the group will be taking its first overnight trip to the Tuacahn Amphitheatre in Ivins, Utah to see the Broadway Show GREASE.

Greenberg said the club's initial purpose was to serve people who are passionate about showing, cruising and sharing knowledge about cars, trucks, motorcycles and even golf carts.

The club's car inventory is varied with the largest population being Corvettes spanning the 1950's through 2024. Other popular models include T Birds, Camaros, Mustangs, Porsche and

Mercedes.

"We are not a Classic Car Club. We have cars ranging in age from one to 70 years old," Greenberg said. "Our membership criteria includes living in Sun City, taking good care of your car, enjoying "cruising" with other club members, visiting interesting destinations and breaking bread together while sharing memorable stories."

The founding members

were Randy Gast, Rob Wilkinson and Bruce Cooksey, and the board has welcomed some new faces in 2026. Greenberg took over as president, Bruce Cooksey is now vice president, Rose Cookset is the secretary and Jane Nestor serves as treasurer.

For more information on club membership and events, visit their website at <https://cruisersscs.club/>

# SCSCAI

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schedule was changed and that there was really no feasible way to do it.

Mills also said it would also involve a vote by residents, who may not understand what they are voting on.

“Think of how clear the NORA was of what it was going to do for the association, and people, we confused them on who was actually going to pay it,” she said by example. “Imagine trying to tell people, we’re going to move your due date of when your dues are due, and we’re going to change the amount outside of the regular amount. People would just say, I’m just not going to vote because I can’t figure this out. So that’s why it is the way it is.”

The idea was raised in Sun City Community Issues, a Facebook page with about 500 members that in recent months raised questions about

**“In the last few months I have watched quietly as a very vocal minority in our community has tried to dominate the conversation. That silence ends today. It is time for the silent majority to speak up.”**

**JEFF RORICK**  
SCSCAI PRESIDENT

board President Jeff Rorick’s eligibility for re-election, the health of the reserve fund, and other matters. A key member of the group is Sandy Krause, a former member of the SCSCAI Board of Directors.

Proponents said the current method of payments based on when the home was originally sold makes it difficult to budget accurately and that revenue would be increased with a common date to pay.

Why Mills suddenly decided to try

and work with the group just a few days after dismissing the idea was not clear. But she said she was committed to the idea of a task force composed of people who want to make it happen. She said five people contacted her interested in being a member of the task force.

While Mills reached out to the group, Rorick took a different approach in his monthly column in the Link, the official publication of SCSCAI.

Rorick said in the column that he has been quiet for some time while disgruntled residents offered what he called “misleading information” about Sun City’s budget and the health of its reserve fund. He said the residents composed only about 3-4 percent of the community but had a loud voice.

“Even more concerning, they have enlisted the help of a few unprofessional journalists at Channel 8, allowing these falsehoods to reach national audiences,” he wrote. “Their actions harm every homeowner by damag-

ing the reputation and perceived stability of Sun City Summerlin.”

Rorick, who in February was elected to his final three-year term, was referring to a report on Channel 8 that ostensibly was about Mills’ request for bulletproof glass for her and her assistant at board meetings. While that was the lead of the story, it was mostly a rehash of claims advanced earlier about the health of the community’s reserve fund.

The story came despite SCSCAI hiring a public relations firm for \$45,000 in the wake of the station airing a similar report last summer.

“In the last few months I have watched quietly as a very vocal minority in our community has tried to dominate the conversation,” Rorick wrote. “That silence ends today. It is time for the silent majority to speak up.”

Rorick said residents have the right to question everything the SCSCAI does but need to stick to facts when they do so and not spread what he called misinformation.



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# 10 YEARS AGO: Mini crime spree prompts calls for license plate cameras

SCS LIFE

• A mini crime spree that broke out in Sun City Summerlin has officials calling for cameras to track people moving through the community. The incidents, which occurred April 7-10, included two attempted robberies of residents at gun point, two break-ins of the Sun City computer lab at the Pinnacle Community Center and three home break-ins. With residents worried, the SCSCAI is exploring expanding its current alarm and video surveillance systems at its facilities. Board member Joe O'Connell said the board believes there should be cameras installed at all of the main entrances to Sun City Summerlin "The cameras should have the capability to identify license plates and we would like to expedite the installation of these cameras," he said.

## 30 YEARS AGO

• Del Webb Corp. is offering new models as the community expands to three golf courses and four recreational centers. Now home to 10,000 people, Del Webb is projecting 14,000 residents by the time construction is over. The latest home models are just off Sun City Blvd., past the 17th hole of the Highland Falls Golf Course, and include the Buckingham, a 2,507 square foot home that begins at \$243,300 and can be customized by buyers.

• A new home in a "super

location" is being sold by Del Webb for \$304,485.

## 25 YEARS AGO

• About 70 Sun City Summerlin residents came out on March 16 for the community's first St. Patrick's Day Poker Fun Run/Walk. Most running events reward those who finish the course first. This run rewarded those who played the best poker. E.J. Zulauf, 69, walked the course and won at poker, picking up a free tin of Keebler cookies. Sun City fitness director Jenny Wells said Sun City residents like to gamble so the race was a natural.

• Del Webb Corp. says the most popular club in Sun City Summerlin is the Computer Club, which didn't even exist when the community was conceived. About 1,700 residents belong to the club, learning to do things like graphics and paying bills on the internet.

• A 2,200 square foot house built in 1998 was listed at \$320,000

## 20 YEARS AGO

• A Sun City resident recalled his days as medical director at the Nevada Test Site, at a location so secret he couldn't tell his wife where he worked. Len Kreisler said he arrived for the job in 1973 and was blindfolded when he got off the plane, an unmarked 737 that flew each day from Las Vegas to the secret testing area. Kreisler said he convinced officials he didn't need the blindfold

and would go on to a long career at the site before retiring and moving to Sun City Summerlin.

• A 2,500 square foot home at 10800 Baylark with mountain and golf views was listed at \$775,000.

## 15 YEARS AGO

• Temple Bet Knesset Bamidbar of Sun City Summerlin is getting a new spiritual leader. Rabbi Elaine Schnee steps into the spot vacated by Rabbi Hershel Brooks, who led the senior congregation for 15 years and grew it to 1,100 members. BKB meets at Desert Vista Community Center twice a month as a traditional reform temple. The congregation was started just after Sun City Summerlin began selling homes and expanded from serving just Sun City residents to anyone in Las Vegas who is 55 or older.

• Nevada had five times the home foreclosure rate as the rest of the country in 2010, and a number of homes in Sun City are either in foreclosure or have been abandoned by owners. Officials in the retirement community, though, said they are experiencing only minor adjustments in collecting HOA fees from the properties because they must be paid when they are eventually sold.

## 10 YEARS AGO

• A \$14.5 million budget was approved for SCSCAI for the 2016-17 fiscal year that leaves little margin for error. The budget called for

spending of \$14,530,135 and revenue of \$14,529,814, a margin of only \$814. Under the new budget, the HOA fee for homeowners in Sun City will be \$107 a month.

• Another tennis court at Desert Vista Community Center will be converted for pickleball use. The Board of Directors approved converting the No. 3 court to pickleball, with the provision that acoustic fencing be installed at a cost of between \$30-40,000 so that the noise from pickleball will be muted for nearby homeowners.

## 5 YEARS AGO

• A motion to revisit the issue of trees blocking views of homes on Sierra Heights St. failed when it did not receive a second. Board member Sandy Krause had sought the motion for homeowners, who were rebuffed earlier by the board in asking that trees in duplexes neighboring them be trimmed because they blocked views of the Las Vegas Valley.

• The annual assessment for Sun City homeowners for the 2021-22 fiscal year will go up to \$137.25, following ratification of the budget by the Board of Directors. The \$1,647 a year includes \$88.10 to fund the association's reserves.

## 3 YEARS AGO

• The new budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year will have homeowners paying \$172.76 a month in HOA dues. The budget approved by the Board of Directors will be

voted on by Sun City residents at the June 1 annual meeting, where approval is a formality.

• A pair of applicants looking to move into Sun City before they turn 55 years old met different fates before the board of directors. The board unanimously denied a request from Justin Caramanica to move to Sun City at the age of 52 despite a letter from Caramanica saying he was a longtime Las Vegas resident and would live alone. A second application by Barry and Jeanne Locke was unanimously approved, with board members noting that Barry Locke would turn 55 in September.

## 1 YEAR AGO

• A judge has approved a petition by SCSCAI to implement the NORA increase despite a low voter turnout on the issue. The decision means the increase to \$5,000 a home will be implemented in the coming months. The increased NORA fee is expected to bring in about \$1.5 million a year for the association's reserve fund.

• A plan to bring SCSCAI reserve funding up to desired levels was approved by the Board of Directors. Under the plan, Sun City will have 70 percent of the total reserves funded by 2029.

• Sun City residents will face another hike in HOA fees, this time to \$230 a month. The 11 percent increase comes on top of two 20 percent increases in the last three years.

# VDH

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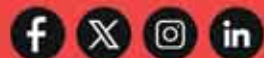
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# Save Water and Money with a Water Smart Landscape Conversion

It seems like we're all looking for ways to stretch a dollar these days. Make your dollars go farther and help the community stretch its limited water resources when you upgrade your thirsty grass to drip-irrigated, water-efficient plants and trees.

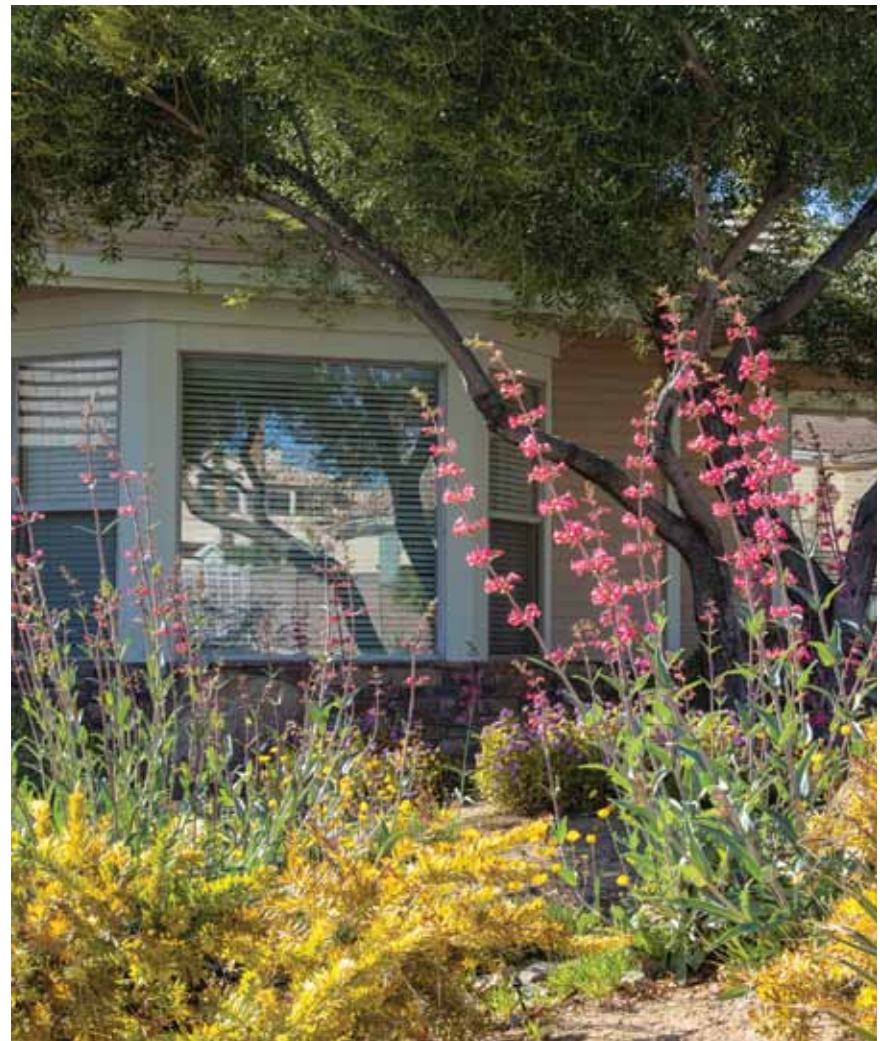
The Southern Nevada Water Authority's (SNWA) **Water Smart Landscapes Rebate Program (WSL)** offers qualifying single-family homeowners a cash incentive of up to **\$5 per square foot** (up to the first 10,000 sq. ft.) of grass upgraded to water-efficient landscapes, and \$2.50 per sq. ft. after that.

As a bonus, **Las Vegas Valley Water District customers can earn an added \$2 per sq. ft., bringing your total rebate to \$7 per sq. ft.** (up to 10,000 sq. ft.) and \$4.50 per sq. ft. thereafter.

Reducing outdoor water use is critical in Southern Nevada. That's because each square foot of grass needs 73 gallons of water each year to survive in our arid environment; yet, each square foot of drip-irrigated landscaping needs only 18 gallons of water per year to stay vibrant and healthy.



SNWA is a not-for-profit water agency



Because trees are a vital element of any landscape—and provide needed shade during our hot summers—the SNWA also offers a **rebate of \$100 for each new qualifying tree** you install (up to 100% canopy coverage) as part of your conversion. Visit [snwa.com](https://snwa.com) for a list of qualifying trees and tips to keep your trees healthy all year long.

Since 2023, the SNWA has provided rebates for more than 8,300 new trees in the community.

Upgrading your grass to a water-efficient landscape can help the community conserve water and save you money on your monthly bill in the long run.

To learn more about how you can save water—and money—and to enroll in the WSL program, visit [snwa.com](https://snwa.com).

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## DEAR EDITOR,

I have carefully followed the news regarding the potential need for bulletproof glass for safety precautions for staff. In the past few months, I have heard people question this, even laugh about it and throw it under the claim of hyperbole.

In 1982, as Labor Director of a large county, I was witness to the shooting death of my peer, the personnel director of a city across the block. He was a good friend and a very good administrator. The shooter was a disgruntled man who claimed the city was unfair to him in some kind of personnel matter. He shot my friend in his office. The shooter was an individual who showed up at a lot of their meetings screaming at staff.

I have been to numerous Sun City board meetings over the past six years where I have witnessed totally uncivilized, unprofessional behavior by individuals who scream at the board and executive director in the back of the room when they are dissatisfied with something. This type of childish and very aggressive behavior is one that I witnessed as well when I was our school board chair for many years. I never allowed it and had the same people escorted out of the room on more than one occasion and eventually barred them from attending.

This is a beautiful, fantastic community to live in. A voice of dissent must be allowed. A voice of disagreement on any issue should be heard in a professional manner. But to spread misinformation, distort facts and attempt to ruin the reputation of our leaders is wholly unacceptable. To have our employees live in a sense of fear must be addressed in some manner. Plexiglass might not be the answer, but this feel of threat and insecurity must somehow be addressed. No organization should ever tolerate inappropriate behavior that threatens staff. Time for our positive citizens to "step up to the plate."

JEFFREY THOMPSON

## DEAR EDITOR,

Once again, I feel it necessary to put the letter about the legal expense report in perspective as Paul Harvey would.

The eight expenses cited for the Executive Director's legal fees total \$39,716.91. When you divide that number by the number of homes (7,781), it costs only \$5.10 per home.

Regarding the NORA attorneys' fees of \$20,505.98, dividing that by 7,781 homes results in a cost of only \$2.63 per home. I think a total cost of \$7.73 per home is quite cheap for all the attorney fees from June 1, 2024, through November 7, 2025.

Breaking down the numbers so our owners can see the true out-of-pocket costs isn't nearly as dramatic as initially presented. I will have to skip my grande cappuccino and muffin at Starbucks so I can afford it.

Mr. Turner, I hope you sleep well because Mitzi is too classy a professional to take retribution on any owner. She will step up, as she should, when any of our governing documents are not being followed by us owners.

Thank you,  
WINIFRED WILSON

## DEAR EDITOR,

The areas of Sun City that have an ongoing issue between trees blocking the view of some homeowners and the homeowners where the trees are located is the result of having the wrong trees downhill of the obstructed view. This is a result of a planning oversight perpetrated decades ago when the choice of the existing trees was made.

As such it would be appropriate to remove the existing trees and replace them with trees that have a lower height at maturity than the existing trees.

I believe the trees in question are Ash. Sun City Summerlin could remove the Ash trees and replace them with shorter Oaks. The problem would be rectified for decades to come without topping the existing trees or losing shade the existing

> See LETTERS, Page 17



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<sup>1</sup> Coverage varies based on plan selected. As of 1/1/2020 due to changes in Federal law, only individuals eligible for Medicare prior to 1/1/2020 can purchase Plan F.

<sup>2</sup> A referral is not needed by the company, but always check with Medicare to see if a service is covered or needs a referral.

<sup>3</sup> Once enrolled into your Medicare Supplement insurance plan, your coverage is guaranteed for the life of the plan with only two exceptions/restrictions: nonpayment of premiums and material misrepresentation.

<sup>4</sup> SilverSneakers® is a value-added program. It is not insurance and not part of the Medicare Supplement insurance plans. It can be changed or withdrawn at any time. Please check with your doctor before you start a physical activity program. The SilverSneakers fitness program is provided by Tivity Health, an independent company. SilverSneakers and the SilverSneakers shoe logo type are registered trademarks of Tivity Health, Inc. © 2024 Tivity Health, Inc. All rights reserved.

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**Pastor Dan Newburn**

### Sunday

Bible Study 9:45 a.m.

Worship 11 a.m.

### Tuesday

Prayer Meeting 1 p.m.

Bible Study 1:30 p.m.

### Friday

Ladies Bible Study 10 a.m.

## Sun City Community Church

A congregation of people from a diversity of backgrounds and professions, coming together to exercise ministry as a church family. Our church is a living, growing organization with its members constantly changing.

If you are looking for a place where you can make friendships with others who want their lives to count, while investing yourself in eternal things, and if you are looking for a place where you are significant, where you are loved, where you can grow, where your talents and abilities can be put to work for Jesus, then Welcome to Sun City Community Church.

It is our desire and purpose to reach the hearts of people in our community, bringing fresh hope, encouragement, and joy through Biblical preaching and teaching for continued spiritual growth.

*We want the REST of your life to be the BEST of your life!*

8560 Del Webb Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89134 | 702-255-7729

## YOUR HEALTH

# Toni Says: Do you need your original American citizenship paperwork to enroll in Medicare?

Dear Toni,  
I had no problem opening the “My Social Security” account to enroll in Medicare because I knew those answers. When it came to filling out the application for Medicare, that was another story.

I had a problem with Medicare’s personal questions. I knew my name, address, date of birth, and Social Security number; when it came to what kind of citizen that was another issue. I am not a U.S.-born American, I was born in Greece and am proud to say that I received my American citizenship about 15 years ago. The application asked for the date that I became a U.S. citizen, and I could not answer that exact date and had to estimate. I now have to take in person or mail my original citizen-



**TONI KING**  
**HEALTH**

office.

Toni, your Medicare column readers need to know that even though this is supposed to be an easier process by enrolling online at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov), there are still a few kinks that can confuse Americans. Please let your readers know not to give up when having a problem. If my wife and I had not scheduled a Medicare consultation via Zoom with

ship papers, which I had found in our family safe with the exact date that I became an American citizen. I was happy to be able to take my citizenship papers to my local Social Security

the Toni Says office I would have been totally lost applying online.

—Nick from Tulsa, Oklahoma

Hello Nick:

What a great compliment! I’m glad that you found your original citizenship papers and could get them to your local Social Security office after you had put them in such a safe place.

Let’s discuss how to apply online, along with a few of the problems we are discovering when helping others apply for Medicare by visiting [www.ssa.gov/Medicare/sign-in](http://www.ssa.gov/Medicare/sign-in) when turning 65 or past 65 and you or your spouse are leaving employer benefits whether retiring or been laid off.

If you cannot open a “My Social Security Account” to apply for Medicare Parts A and/or Part B, then what? Contact your local Social Security office by phone or call 800-772-1213 and inform the Social Security agent that you are not able to open a Social Security account, are locked out and need Social Security’s help.

Once your “My Social Security Account” is established, you will need the following information to apply to Medicare on the [ssa.gov/Medicare/sign-in](http://ssa.gov/Medicare/sign-in) site:

- 1) Name, Social Security number, gender, and date of birth
- 2) Address, phone number, email address
- 3) Citizenship information regarding you
- 4) Questions about your health benefits
- 5) Then submit your application online
- 6) View your receipt

Your receipt will advise you what documents will be needed to approve your Medicare. In Nick’s case, he had to provide his original citizenship papers. Another example of

a document you might need is if you worked fewer than 40 quarters and will be asked to provide a marriage certificate to verify that you are married and applying under your spouse’s Medicare benefits when your spouse has worked 10 years or 40 quarters or more.

Nick, after turning in your documents, visit [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount) to find out when your Medicare application is finalized and approved. Download your “Benefit Verification Letter,” which will include your Medicare number and Part A and/or B dates. You will be able to enroll in a Medicare Supplement and a stand-alone Medicare Prescription Drug plan or Medicare Advantage Plan that includes a Medicare Part D plan. With your Medicare information, you will be able to open a [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) account where one can print off your Medicare card, pay your Medicare premium and discover which Medicare Part D or Medicare Advantage plan best meets your needs.

Readers, Medicare and Social Security’s rules are confusing for most Americans. Remember with Medicare...it’s what you don’t know that WILL hurt you!

If the maze of Medicare is confusing you, contact the Toni Says Medicare team at 832-519-8664 or [info@tonisays.com](mailto:info@tonisays.com) with your Medicare questions. Visit [www.tonisays.com](http://www.tonisays.com) to sign up for the Toni Says newsletter and download at no cost the new 2026 Medicare Roadmap workbook.

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](mailto:info@tonisays.com) or call 832-519-8664. Sign up for the Toni Says newsletter at [www.tonisays.com](http://www.tonisays.com) to keep up to date on Medicare changes.



## MARCH CRIME REPORT

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

### COUNTERFEITING / FORGERY

3-3 9:53 a.m. 10300 Block Marymont Place

### FRAUD

3-3 12:12 p.m. 10700 Block Mission Lakes Avenue

3-3 12:12 p.m. 11000 Block Mission Lakes Avenue

3-11 11:10 a.m. 10700 Block Bennington Court

3-12 1:28 p.m. 2800 Block Tumble Brook Drive

3-13 1 p.m. 3000 Block Cradle Mountain Drive

### DESTRUCTION PROPERTY / VANDALISM

3-8 11:29 a.m. 9300 Block Sun City Boulevard

3-25 4:27 p.m. 2300 Block Airlands Street

### BURGLARY

3-8 11:29 a.m. 9300 Block Sun City Boulevard

SOURCE: LVMPD Open Data Portal

# I wanted a different kind of safari

**T**his month, some nostalgia you might enjoy: Years ago, I treated myself to an African safari, but with a catch. If I was going to fly halfway around the world and be surrounded by thousands of wild animals, I wanted something to scare the dung out of me. Below is just a fraction of what happened:

Tanzanian guide Elias greeted our tour group at Kilimanjaro Airport and drove us to our tented camp at Tarangire National Park. The next morning, we set out on our first game drive. Within minutes, my assigned bunkmate Mike, a retired Missouri deputy sheriff, announced, “Critters ahead.”

Cameras flew from our bags. Herds of zebras, wildebeests, and impalas grazed along the road, and everywhere I looked, something different was happening. A zebra, as if mimicking a fashion model, lifted its hind foot, tapped its toe on the ground, swiveled on a dime, and pranced away bouncing its hind-quarters ba-boom, ba-boom, ba-boom. Nearby, a horned impala was throwing a fit at some others across the road. “He’s the alpha male and is scolding his females for wandering away,” Elias informed us.

“Yeah,” grunted Mike, who was divorced. “I tried that once, and it didn’t work then either.”

A few minutes later, a crash of timber and a deep rumble resembling an idling Corvette startled us, and two elephants smashed through the tall grass, ears flared. “Shhh, everybody!” Elias whispered urgently. “They don’t like the human voice.”

Too late. Both matriarchs charged as if shot from a cannon. I bent down and braced for impact. Nothing. When I looked up, a bulging eye was six feet away. Tantrum over, the behemoths stomped off, disintegrating two refrigerator-sized thorn-



**JOHN WOOD**  
HUMOR

bushes in their wake.

“Welcome to Africa,” Elias smiled.

As we sat around the campfire that night, Elias recounted some of his most harrowing encounters with predators. I especially liked the one where he led a tour group away from their vehicles to view a hippo pool—and walked straight into a pride of fifteen lions.

Two hours later, I was sitting in the toilet tent when all hell broke loose at the far end of the camp where our two newlyweds’ tent was. Barking, snarling, crackling timber, and one long shriek.

Tent zippers opened. Flashlights lasered the sky. We all ran toward the large fig tree where they were. “Everybody go back!” the woman in the tent shouted. “A leopard’s in camp—and it’s got a baboon!”

On our final night at the park, Elias warned us to empty our outside water basins before bed because hyenas liked to drink from them. “Mike,” I winked, “let’s not throw the water out.” He gave me a thumb’s up.

2 a.m. Something jostled me. I sprang awake, expecting fangs at my throat. It was Mike. I crept to the tent’s front flap. Not five feet away was the Hound of the Baskervilles. The furry, spotted, bat-eared demon, drooling water like gore, turned and bored its dead eyes into mine. Then resumed drinking. I looked at Mike. This thing wasn’t afraid of us. As the ravenous slurps of bloodthirst quickened with the rising beat of my heart, I wondered how secure our tent really was.

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

## Letters

continued from Page 15

trees may provide. The replacement of the trees may also give our association an opportunity to remove some additional grass from the area.

Sincerely,  
**DAVID WIGNALL**

### DEAR EDITOR,

As I look at the documents for the budgets from Sun City I see that when they talk about wages and salaries needed for administration but they don’t break it down to each position, ie. Executive Director position doesn’t have to give me a name. That’s fine but why doesn’t it break it down as to exactly what the salary is for that position?

The same would hold true for other positions that are utilized in administration.

And are those salaries with or without benefits? What is the benefit package for each one of those positions for example? Or as residents are we not allowed to see those figures? Also, can we see the PD For specific positions so that we too can have an understanding of what their job description is.

Meanwhile, the administration budget keeps going up.

Thank you  
**DUSTY ROSE**

### DEAR EDITOR,

I read your article on “dog” waste being left in the green belts and I also received Mitzi’s e blast.

Just an observation here. Obviously waste in a bag left on the ground is a negligent dog owner issue. However, it should be pointed out that although I am no biology expert, I am pretty sure that coyotes do #2 just like our dogs. And there are a lot of coyotes out there. I hear them every night.

Just something management should consider before blaming dog owners for all of the piles out there.

Thank you,  
**MARK SANTORO**

### DEAR EDITOR,

Re: Dog Gone? (March 2026 issue)

As a long-time dog owner, certainly it infuriates me when I come across pet waste left in a greenbelt or sidewalk strip by an inconsiderate resident. But a hollow threat of banning dogs from those areas is just an unnecessary and untenable knee-jerk statement to make. I’ve never understood why SCS doesn’t have pet waste stations with bags and receptacles at entrances to the greenbelts.

Will it stop the problem completely? Not as long as there are selfish and narcissistic people amongst us. But given some of the more frivolous expenditures that are regularly made, it seems these are a reasonable operating expense towards the upkeep of our community (\$200 per station on Amazon).

The argument that it’s spending on an amenity for a small segment of our population is a false one; there’s bound to be at least as many dog owners in SCS as pickleballers or softball players, and we’re spending thousands of dollars for their exclusive benefit. And let’s not talk about the ROI on all the money thrown away on hiring a PR firm.

**STEVE WEED**

### DEAR EDITOR,

I always enjoy reading your SCS LIFE. I especially enjoyed reading the most recent article about Sun City Clubs, by Craig Blek.

I am the President of the prestigious “Model Builders” Club in Sun City, with a fabulous workshop at Desert Vista. We have about 50 members, and build all sorts or models, dollhouses, HO scale railroad, and enjoy wood carving and leather crafting. Most of our members are collectors of one sort or another, so we actually qualify as the infamous “Hoarders” Club, as well.

I have been trying to establish a new club, with little success. It is the “Russian Roulette” Club. Can’t seem to ever get more than six members.

Stop in and see our model displays and HO Railroad any time. We always welcome visitors.

Thanks,  
**BRUCE ADAMS**



## SAVVY SENIOR

# Where to get help with Medicare decisions

Dear Savvy Senior,  
I'll be 65 in a few months and could sure use some help sorting through all the confusing Medicare options that are available to me. Where can I get help with my Medicare decisions?

--Baffled Bob

## Dear Bob,

With around 11,400 Baby Boomers turning 65 every day in 2026, you're asking a very timely question.

Many people approaching Medicare are confused by all the choices available today. In addition to original Medicare (Part A and B) that has been around for more than 60 years, you also have the option of enrolling in a Part D prescription drug plan, and a supplemental (Medigap) policy – both of which are sold by private insurance companies.

Another option is a Medicare Advantage plan. These plans, also offered by private insurers, bundle hospital coverage, medical care, prescription drugs, and often extra benefits like vision, dental, and hearing into one policy. Most operate as HMOs or PPOs and require you to receive care within a defined network of providers in your area.



**JIM MILLER**

Medicare Advantage plans have also faced increased scrutiny in recent years over prior-authorization requirements that can delay or deny cer-

tain services.

To help you determine which path makes the most sense for your situation, there are several reliable resources available, depending on how much assistance you need.

## TOOLS AND RESOURCES

A good starting point is the “Medicare & You” handbook, which provides a clear overview of the program and your options. You can download a copy at [medicare.gov/medicare-and-you](https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you), and you should receive a printed version in the mail about a month before your 65th birthday.

The Medicare website also features a helpful “Find a Medicare Plan” tool at [medicare.gov/plan-compare](https://www.medicare.gov/plan-compare) that allows you to compare health plans, prescription drug coverage, and supplemental



policies available in your area. If you prefer to speak with someone directly, call Medicare at 800-633-4227, and a representative can walk you through your options over the phone.

Another excellent free resource is your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), which provides unbiased Medicare counseling either in person or by phone. To locate your local SHIP office, visit [shiphelp.org](https://www.shiphelp.org) or call 877-839-2675.

You can also contact the Medicare Rights Center ([medicarerights.org](https://www.medicarerights.org)) at 800-333-4114 for help with specific questions.

In addition, HealthMetrix Research publishes a free Cost Share Report at [medicarenewswatch.com](https://www.medicarenewswatch.com) that compares Medicare Advantage plans by area based on cost-sharing and health status.

## GET HELP

If you'd like more hands-on help,

you can work with a Medicare insurance agent.

Keep in mind that agents are paid commissions by insurance companies, so it's important to choose an independent agent who represents multiple insurers – not just one. That gives you access to a broader range of options.

Also understand that commissions are typically higher for Medicare Advantage plans than for Medigap and Part D policies used with Original Medicare. As a result, some agents may have a financial incentive to recommend Advantage coverage. That doesn't mean the advice is wrong, but it's wise to ask questions and understand all your choices before enrolling.

You can search for licensed agents through [nabip.org](https://www.nabip.org), the website of the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals.

Taking the time now to compare your options carefully can help you avoid costly mistakes and give you confidence in the coverage you choose.

Send your questions or comments to [questions@savvysenior.org](mailto:questions@savvysenior.org), or to Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070.






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## SCS REAL ESTATE

## Home sales hold steady

SCS LIFE

Home sales remained steady if unspectacular in Sun City Summerlin in March, with 45 homes closed compared to 44 a month earlier.

Homes sold in March ranged from a 1,062 square foot Bristol model townhouse at 8729 Smokey Dr for \$265,000 to \$1,299,900 for a 2,661 square foot Wendover model single family at 2216 Sierra Heights Dr.

Inventory was up at the beginning of April, with 160 homes for sale. That includes 22 on the golf course, ranging from \$449,900 to \$1,349,000 and 10 with a strip view,

ranging from \$314,900 to \$1,695,000. The lowest price home for sale was a Bristol model townhouse on Gold Mountain Dr. for \$299,000.

Real estate observers say the increase in homes for sale to 160 from 145 a month earlier reflected a trend as some sellers who couldn't sell their homes earlier returned to the market. The 160 homes reflected 3 months and 29 days of inventory in SCS.

Of the listings for sale, 115 were single family homes and 45 were townhomes. Cash sales remain popular, with about 6 in 10 home sales in the past year recorded without a mortgage.

MARCH HOME SALES  
IN SUN CITY SUMMERLIN

- 9909 Woodhouse DR 1,468 SF \$500,000
- 9037 Grayling DR 1,781 SF \$480,000
- 2801 Byron DR 1,973 \$495,000
- 2216 Sierra Heights DR 2,661 SF \$1,299,900
- 8904 Evening Star DR 1,332 SF \$395,000
- 9240 January DR 1,767 SF \$514,000
- 10013 Crescent Creek DR 1,388 SF \$350,000
- 10717 Grand Cypress AVE 1,751 SF \$440,000
- 9840 Kernville DR 1,501 SF \$525,000
- 3100 Gladstone CT 1,653 SF \$545,000
- 2505 Palmridge DR 2,115 SF \$530,000
- 2108 Hot Oak Ridge ST 2,334 SF \$975,000
- 2712 Breakers Creek DR 1,533 SF \$584,000
- 2200 Beacon Ridge DR 3,008 SF \$968,880
- 8505 Festival DR 1,119 SF \$300,000
- 2904 Linkview DR 1,179 SF \$340,000
- 10621 Shoalhaven DR 1,713 SF \$625,000
- 1928 Hot Oak Ridge ST 1,713 SF \$895,000
- 2241 Airlands ST 1,201 SF \$424,800
- 10312 Cogswell AVE 1,319 SF \$349,900
- 2401 Ocean Edge CT 1,388 SF \$370,000
- 9409 Villa Ridge DR 2,577 SF \$900,000
- 2016 Hallston ST 1,520 SF \$519,000
- 8620 Prairie Hill DR 1,179 SF \$320,000
- 9048 Litchfield AVE 1,653 SF \$410,000
- 2633 Legend DR 2,115 SF \$1,065,000
- 8920 Litchfield AVE 1,179 SF \$300,000
- 2601 Desert Sands DR 1,119 SF \$338,000
- 2609 Sierra Sage ST 1,007 SF \$295,000
- 2411 Sungold DR 1,384 SF \$392,000
- 2009 Emery ST 1,215 SF \$437,500
- 11021 Rackhurst AVE 1,388 SF \$469,000
- 2456 Desert Butte DR 1,179 SF \$360,000
- 10413 Broom Hill DR 1,843 SF \$480,000
- 9320 January DR 1,332 SF \$380,000
- 9501 Villa Ridge DR 1,703 SF \$580,000
- 9149 Villa Ridge DR 2,176 SF \$732,000
- 3109 Goodnews CT 1,188 SF \$330,000
- 9452 Gold Mountain DR 1,332 SF \$420,000
- 9820 Kernville DR 1,653 SF \$525,000
- 10041 Nethernton DR 1,533 SF \$540,000
- 8729 Smokey DR 1,062 SF \$265,000
- 10512 Back Plains DR 1,520 SF \$638,000
- 9517 Quail Ridge DR 1,119 SF \$359,000
- 10620 GRAND CYPRESS AVE 1,215 SF \$405,000

Market statistics provided by Michael DelGais, Home Realty Center

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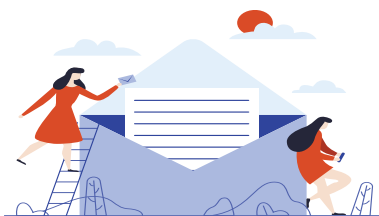
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Sun City Summerlin's Independent Monthly

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# 8817 SANDSPRING DRIVE | 2,115 SQ FT | \$649,900




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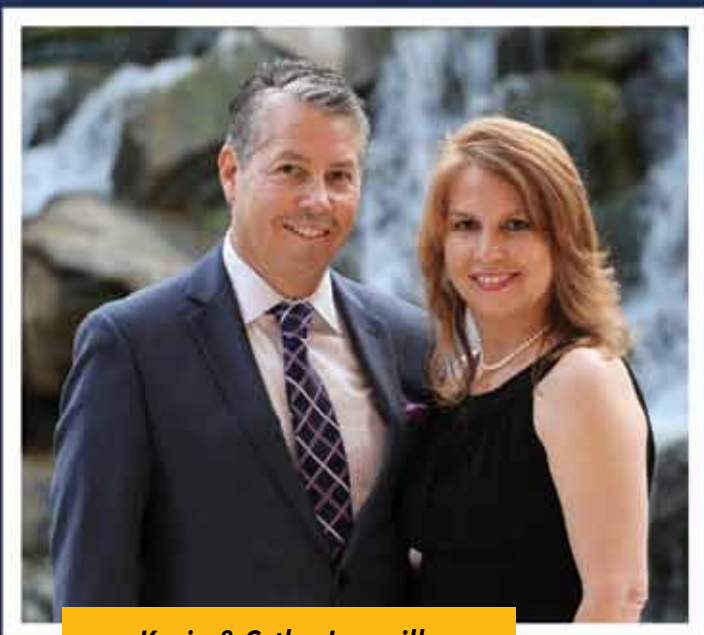
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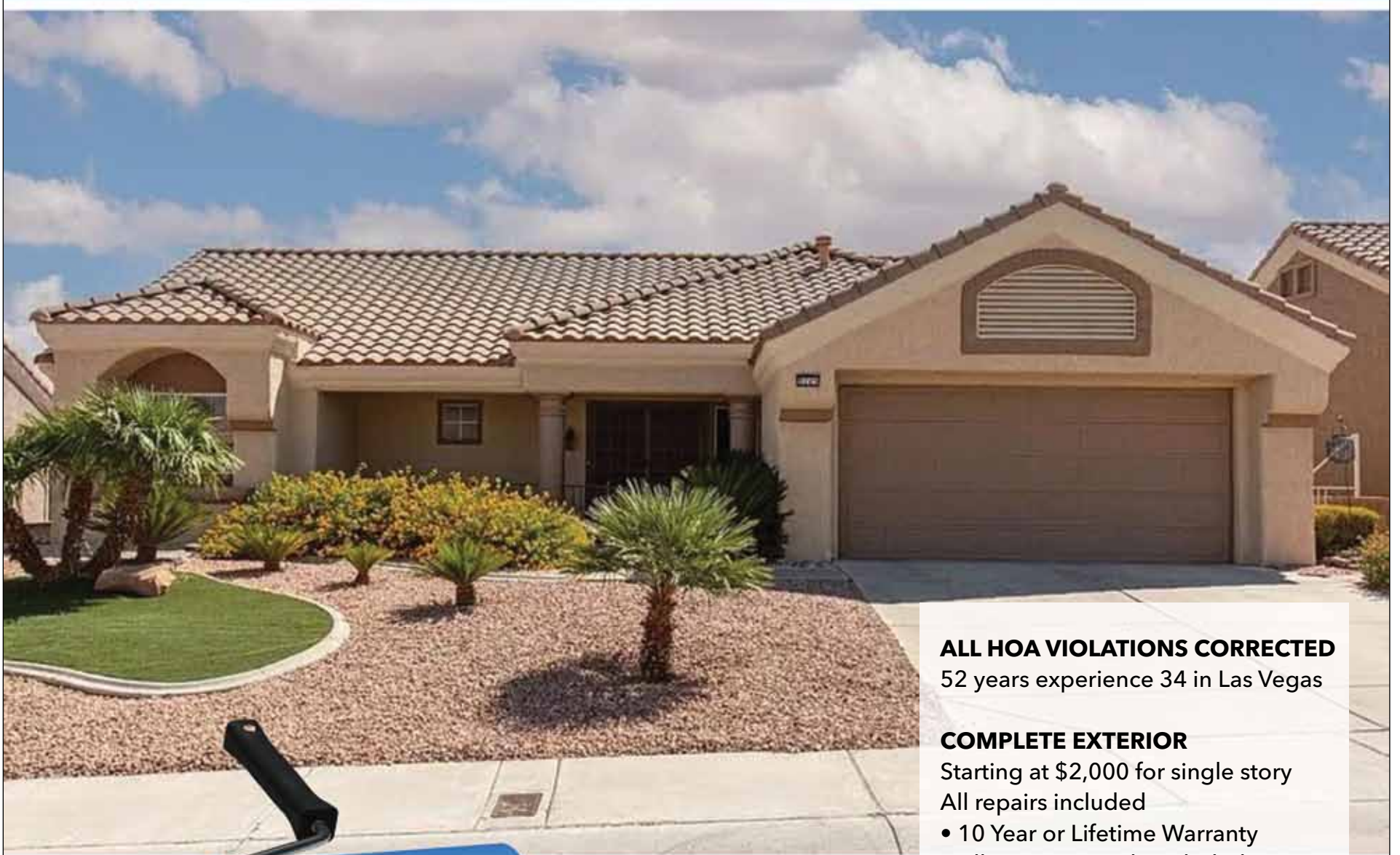
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