



Neighbors

Women find
friendship with
social club; **16**



INDEPENDENT

Clubs

NextGen club
bringing laughs to
Sun City; **22**



October 28, 2026 Volume 66 Issue 43 Your Nonpartisan Community Newspaper • YourValley.net

Sun City board launches member motions forum

By Zev Black
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Recreation Centers of Sun City has unveiled its new members motions community forum to allow for resident engagement and education ahead of the proposed motion voting period Friday, Jan. 15–Friday, Feb. 26.

“We chose the website as one of the venues, one of the avenues to do that, because many of our members are on social media,” RCSC Vice President Chris Nettesheim said. “Definitely some of our more active members are on social media. It allows them to use a platform that they’re comfortable on to talk to each other about things.”

Residents looking to comment can go to motions.suncityaz.org. Nettesheim said this forum is similar to the Talk of Sun City community page.

There are currently 13 proposed motions on the site. Residents can read each proposal and leave a

• See **Forum** on page 5

Sun City COA to shut down after years of service



Pat Bryant, left, and Sue Clark, president of the Sun City COA which will permanently close at the end of the year. (Independent Newsmedia/Zev Black)

By Zev Black
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Sue Clark, Condominium Owners Association of Sun City president, recently announced the COA will permanently close its doors at the end of the year. She said the decision was made because the directors believe the group was “not doing what it was originally made to do.”

She added it’s expensive to run the organization and prices were getting out of hand.

“Times are tough now,” Clark explained. “Not just for us, but for the members. We were looking at increasing our dues as well from \$200 to \$210 or \$220... people are paying more at the grocery store, more at the gas

• See **COA** on page 6



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MUSIC

Sun City big band prepares for the big stage

The Rhythm Ramblers big band will perform the music of swing musician Glenn Miller with vocalists Beth Leligdon and Marc Redlich 2:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3, in the Sundial Auditorium, 14801 N. 103rd Ave. All selections will be suitable for dancing.

"Glenn Miller's band had a unique sound that was wildly popular in the 1940s," Ramblers music director Bryan Altherr said. "Dancers still love it today."

Hits such as "Sentimental Journey," "Chattanooga Choo Choo" and "Moonlight Serenade" will be presented, along with the national anthem of swing, "In the Mood." In addition to Leligdon and Redlich, trombonist Jim Lee and guitarist Lynn Altherr will take a turn each at



(Submitted photo/Rick Lamb)

the microphone.

Event admission is \$10 for Recreation Centers of Sun City cardholders and escorted guests. Members of the Rhythm Ramblers Club get in free.

RCSC cardholders can join the club at the door for \$15, which includes admission to the two remaining performances in 2026. Drinks and snacks may be brought in. Cups and ice will

be provided. Tables for four or more can be reserved by calling Lynn Altherr at 602-909-7586.

Contact Rick Lamb at 602-677-8841 or ricklambphd@gmail.com.

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ATHLETE

Resident brings home multiple golds

Dr. Lydia A. Woods competed in Las Vegas and St. George, Utah, over six days in October, earning seven medals at the Nevada Senior Games and five awards at the Huntsman World Senior Games. This was her seventh year competing in the two meets back-to-back.

Woods competed at the Nevada Senior Games on the University of Nevada, Las Vegas campus Oct. 2–4. She won gold medals in the triple jump and 80-meter hurdles, silver in the long jump, 200-meter run and 400-meter run and bronze in the high jump and 50-meter run. She also

placed fourth in the throws pentathlon and 100-meter run.

After the Nevada meet, Woods drove to St. George to compete at the Huntsman World Senior Games Oct. 5–7. There, she placed fourth in the triple jump, 3,000-meter run and 80-meter hurdles, and sixth in the long jump and 800-meter run.

The back-to-back meets called on Woods to move among sprints, distance running, hurdles, jumps and throws. At 73, she is in her 23rd year of masters track and field competition. A former track and field coach and retired college professor, Woods

continues to compete in a wide range of events.

Closer to home, Woods teaches a fall prevention and chair fitness class at Lakeview United Methodist Church in Sun City. The class began its 10th year Oct. 12. Woods has earned 860 track and field awards over 23 years, including 185 Senior Games gold medals and 168 gold medals in Masters track and field competition — 353 gold medals in all.

She plans to compete in 10 events at the Arizona Senior Games track and field meet Saturday, Nov. 14.

Forum

• From page 1

comment. Those looking to make a note must input their full name, member ID and member email.

The maker of the motion can then read through the comments and adjust the wording of their proposal to better suit resident views.

There is what Nettesheim is calling an “audit trail” showing the history of what and when wording in a proposed motion was changed.

“It’s a positive to me,” she said. “It’s a good audit trail for the members to see that we’re not changing the motions behind the scenes. At times, there have been questions about member motions have been handled.”

She added the only items on the site are ones that have been approved as a proper member motion. Motions that are voted in by members will be implemented, according to Nettesheim.

Peter Orillo, RCSC director of IT, worked to develop the website

with his team. He said the RCSC wanted it to be very simple and easy to use.

He added the biggest challenge is creating it was “the unknown.”

“We weren’t really sure how this is going to be used for the members,” Orillo said.

“So, it helped a lot along the way gathering a lot of information from the board of directors, from Chris.”

He said it was a full team effort, and there was a lot of back and forth.

“The impact is that we want to make sure that the people that are using it really find this website easy to navigate, simple to use,” he said. “When they respond to the motions, for example, I want the work flow to really function the way it’s expected to.”

The RCSC wants to be able to reach as many people as possible with the forum.

However, some residents don’t believe many will use the site.

“The idea that suddenly thousands of members are going to engage online on discussions on

bylaws sounds good,” Sun City resident Bill Pearson said during October’s exchange meeting. “Maybe it’ll work, I could be wrong. I think it’s going to be more in the number of tens, but we’ll see.”

Nettesheim conceded it’s possible not many people utilize the website, but said the idea is still worth the effort.

“If we do not try, we will never know,” she said. “When some things don’t work, we don’t do them again. If they do work, we continue to do that. You don’t choose not to do something because someone may not participate. You do something with the hope that it improves participation.”

In addition to the forum, the RCSC is hosting a town hall for residents to discuss the motions 3–9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 30. The location of the meeting has not been confirmed by deadline.

Reporter Zev Black can be reached at zblack@iniusa.org. Please submit comments at yourvalley.net/letters or email them to AzOpinions@iniusa.org. We are committed to publishing a wide variety of reader opinions, as long as they meet our Civility Guidelines.



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COA

• From page 1

pump. They're going to start cutting things from their payments."

She added associations are looking at ways to cut back, not add more costs.

"The people that I have living in my association right now, they don't want an increase in their assessments," she said. "And, you know, you still have to pay the bill... Ultimately, it's too expensive to try to do."

One of those members is Pat Block, who is on the board for two associations.

Block admitted she didn't find the COA "overly helpful" but is still unhappy it is ceasing operations

"I was kind of disappointed when I heard that they were closing," she said. "I do think it's valuable because Sun City Homeowners Association doesn't have any jurisdiction over condos. People do need a venue to ask questions and find out information."

Ed Van Ness, president of the Sun City Home Owners Association, also weighed in.

"It's going to be a subject of discussion in our executive session," he said. "It kind of leaves a wide open space for stuff to run rampant. We don't really have the space or the people to oversee that. The COA closing their doors is not good. A lot of stuff is going to happen."

Another reason the COA is ceasing operations, according to Clark's announcement, is that it has become difficult in recent years to find volunteers.

"This work has always depended on volunteer leadership," Clark wrote. "In recent years, however, it has become increasingly difficult to recruit new volunteers willing to take on the responsibilities required to keep COA operating."

She added the volunteers are "no longer able to continue at this pace."

Block said she hadn't seen anything promoting the fact it needed more volunteers. If she had, Block would've stepped up.

"If they had made more of an effort to recruit volunteers or maybe asked the HOAs what they thought rather than just throwing up their hands and saying 'we're done,' then I'd have been able to get some people to step up," she said. "After all, Sun City is supposed to be called the City of Volunteers."

Although the COA is closing its doors in December, this is not the end of its help.

According to Clark, Colby Management has offered office space free of charge so a few COA volunteers can meet with condo owners to continue helping them.

Clark said she's built relationships with many owners through the years who regularly contact her.

"I don't expect that's going to change," she said. "There's going to be help out there for them."

She will also talk to the Sun City Coalition Leadership to discuss how it can help association members looking for more help.

"This office has been my heart and soul," Clark explained. "They're like an extended family to me. Anyone

who knows me knows that I'm not going to let them flounder out there... We all care deeply down here for every condo owner."

The COA will continue business as normal through December.

Visit azsccoa.org.

ARTIST

SilverStones name featured artist

Residents who have peeked in the window at the Sundial SilverStones Club and spotted someone carefully arranging bits of colorful glass into beautiful art, may have seen the club's featured artist: Tamie Fisher.

Fisher has been calling Sun City home for the past three years, but also has the distinction of being a second-generation Arizona native.

Fisher describes herself as "just a maker." From building with her grandson to creating fused glass, if it's artistic, she wants to try it. She's dabbled in beading, quilting, stained glass, photography and painting. Lately, she's been making tie-dye clothing and sourdough bread for friends and family. When she's not creating, she stays active with pickleball, Jazzercise, hiking and golf.

Of all her creative pursuits, glass fusion is where she really shines. Her sister nudged her toward it, and Fisher was hooked. She had been fusing glass for a few years before moving to Sun City, so finding a club with



Tamie Fisher (Submitted photo/Nancy Hann)

equipment and expertise close to her home was a big draw.

What she didn't expect was finding so many friendly and helpful people.

"Making great friends was an unexpected bonus," she said. "I think that's a bonus we can all relate to."

Fisher has taken fused glass classes with Kathy Smith and silversmithing with Dawn Saffel. She loved the silversmithing class and hopes to get back to it soon.

The club is open 8 a.m.-noon Monday-Friday.



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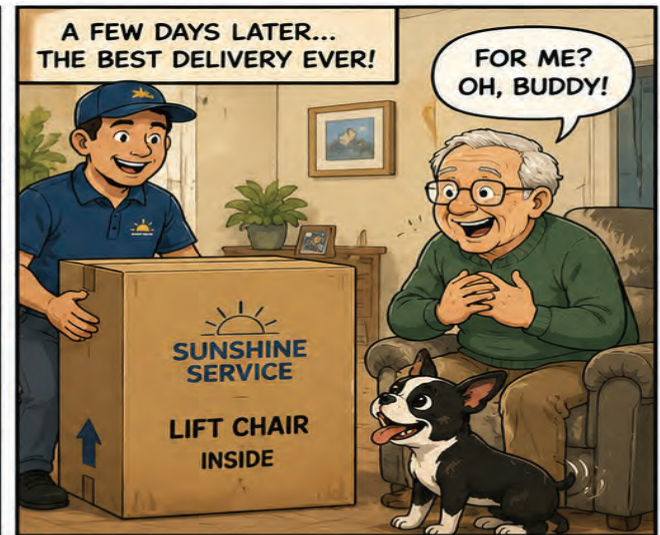
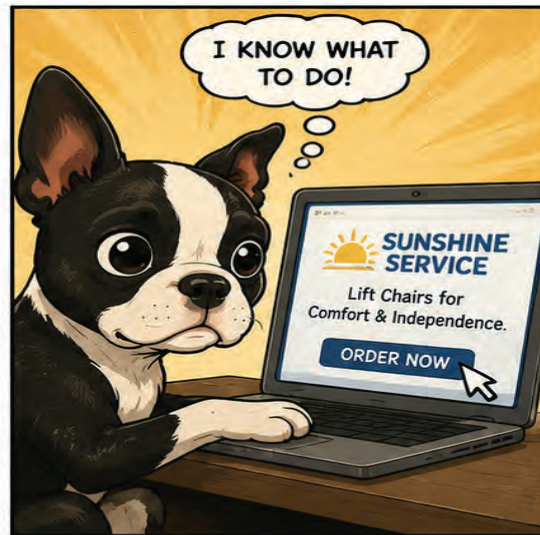


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MUSEUM



This aerial photo shows construction a few months prior to Sun City's opening and what existed at Grand and 107th avenues: five model homes, a grocery store, golf course and recreation center. What's left of the Town of Marinette can be seen in the upper right. (Submitted photo/Sun Cities Area Historical Society)

Sun Cities Museum to host special program

The Del Webb Sun Cities Museum welcomes back winter residents with a special program on Wednesday, Nov. 4, featuring Anna Andrzejewski discussing how Florida's retirement communities influenced the creation of Sun City.

The program will be 2 p.m. Nov. 4 at the museum, 10801 W. Oakmont Drive. Admission is \$5 for non-museum members; free to museum members.

Andrzejewski will present "How Florida's Vacation and Retirement Communities Influenced Del Webb's Sun City, Arizona."

She will share her research into South Florida's retirement villages, examining the kinds of buildings and features adopted by developers to attract older adults to the south after World War II. Her work sheds light on the initial development of Sun City and how buildings in these Flor-

ida retirement communities may have inspired early development in Sun City. She will share stories on places in Florida visited by the Del Webb staff prior to their decision to build Sun City – including meeting with gerontology specialists at the University of Florida to discuss a state-supported idea on housing retired adults.

Andrzejewski is the Frank Lloyd Wright Professor of Modern American Architecture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is completing a book on the history of retirement communities built in the 1950s and '60s in South Florida.

The Del Webb Sun Cities Museum is in the first of five model homes built in 1960. Beginning in November, the museum is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and noon-3 p.m. Sunday. Visit delwebbsuncitiesmuseum.org.

SUPPORT

Doing Grief offers healing to Sun City residents

Doing Grief Community Healing Project will offer four fall and winter programs to help Northwest Valley residents navigate grief, honor loved ones who have died and find hope and healing through the holiday season.

A Remembrance Celebration: Spiritual Practices to Honor Our Loved Ones in Spirit is set for noon-1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29, at Banner Olive Branch Senior Center, 13049 N. 103rd Ave. Inspired by Día de los Muertos, Halloween and Allhallowtide, the gathering will include reflection, music, candle lighting and spiritual practices honoring loved ones and the continuing bonds we share with them. People of all faiths and philosophies are welcome. Participants may bring a photograph or small memento for a remembrance table and an optional favorite snack of their loved one to share. Space is

limited to 20.

Two additional programs offer opportunities for reflection and self-care during the holidays:

- What Are You Carrying Into the New Year: noon-1:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. A guided experience with Lahman using her Clarity Method to reflect, reconnect with what matters and set intentions for the year ahead.

- Healing the Holiday Blues; Spiritual Practices to Foster Gratitude, Hope & Healing: noon-1:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17. Music, reflection, guided meditation and candle lighting with spiritual care provider Shea Darian.

All programs take place in the Movie Room at Banner Olive Branch Senior Center, 11250 N. 107th Ave. Space is limited for select programs.

For program information and registration, visit DoingGrief.org or email Connect@DoingGrief.org.



SUN CITY DAR HOLDS DAY OF SERVICE

Seven members from the Sun City National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Agua Fria Chapter participated in a NSDAR "Day of Service" by creating activity packets to be delivered to Benévillita facilities in Sun City and Surprise. Mary's Place combines health care and life-enriching therapeutic creative aging programming to meet the unique needs of each individual. Lucy Anne's Place is a day program in which attendees have community. Members created 56 activity packets, 28 going to Mary's Place and Lucy Anne's Place. Visit aguafria.arizonadar.org. Pictured are Penny Cook, Jamie Fairchild, Chapter Regent Kathie Mittelsteadt, Chapter Registrar Cindy Miers, Deena Gibson and Daneen Gibson. (Submitted photo/Shirley Staggs)



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OPINION

LETTERS

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Four of five decorative stones donated for Willowcreek Golf Course beautification recently went missing. The only one still on site features golf balls. (Submitted photos/Ellen Hansen)

Please return decorative stones to Willowcreek

I think it's a sad day in Sun City when things are stolen in plain sight. Our Willowcreek women's league has a beautification person who helps improve the looks of the course as much as possible.

I donated five crafted decorative stones. Two (golfers and wine glasses) were placed by the outdoor seating area. A welcome stone was placed by the entrance near the front of the building and a sun was placed near the Pro Shop by the golf cart area. All four are gone. The only one left is the stone featuring golf balls.

My only hope is that the person who took them would feel remorseful and bring them back.

Ellen Hansen
SUN CITY

RCSC should proportion annual fees fairly

I completely agree with LM Anderson on the Recreation Centers of Sun City's ever-rising annual fees. In my opinion, this is not a burden on two-member households, where they have two incomes.

But the burden has been increasing every year for singles who are retired and have no way of increasing income. Many of us accepted the fees when we moved here, even knowing we wouldn't use the facilities.

But it has gone up — and not just a few dollars.

It's time to proportion this fairly. Make every resident of Sun City pay an equal fee. No more advantage for two-person households. They are not the ones needing a break. If RCSC can't figure out how to do this — then someone else needs to handle the budget.

Martha Amabile
SUN CITY

Meals on Wheels grateful for clients, supporters

As we move into fall, and the season of sharing, I want to thank our clients and our supporters for helping us through donations as we strive to serve our community with nutritious, affordable meals.

A few years ago, Sun City Meals on Wheels became a Qualified Charitable Organization. At the same time, we lowered the cost of our meals from \$10.50 a day to \$8

Low-income clients receive their meals for \$4. Partnering with Lifestream, we subsidized the cost of all meals so we could keep the price affordable for all. We plan to continue to do this in the coming year with

the hope that charitable donations will continue to offset the cost of meals.

As a Qualified Charitable Organization, individuals who file 2026 State of Arizona taxes may take a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for donations to us. Married filers can donate up to \$1,009 and single taxpayers \$506.

The donations we receive have permitted us to continue to provide healthy and tasty meals to our Sun City and Youngtown community. We are firmly committed to the health and welfare of our clients.

It is the American way to take care of our own, and we thank all who have supported us to continue our mission.

Cheryl Duter
SUN CITY

The author is president of Sun City Meals on Wheels Board of Directors.

Sun Citians with dementia shouldn't be driving

I've lived in Sun City West for 17 years. I recently had a strange encounter at the Post Office. The drive-thru drop box for mail has one entrance and one exit. I was in it when suddenly there was a woman in a large sedan facing me.

I thought she must have gone into the exit. While she got out and walked around the car to mail her letter, I tried to pull over to the right as much as I could to let her get around me.

In the meantime, a car pulled up behind me and one pulled up behind her, hanging out into the street!

The lady in the big car pulled around me, rolled down her window

• See **Letters** on page 14

Take the Civility Pledge

Yes, I will do my part to help my community become a safe place for people to engage in civil discourse about public issues. Visit iniusa.org/civility-pledge/ to take the pledge.

Your Opinion

Our opinions page is to provide an open forum for our readers. We hope to stimulate debate, not to dominate or control it. We reserve the right to edit our opinions, and we insist on civility. Please include your name and phone number, so we can contact you for clarification or confirmation. We welcome your photo. All opinions must be no more than 300 words.

Those that are judged as personal attacks or complaints about neighbors, businesses or other opinion writers will not be considered. No person may submit more than two opinions for publication during a calendar month. Two submissions in the same issue will not be published. The content of a submission is the responsibility of the person who submitted it.

Speak Up

We support the use of pen names. Too many people don't speak up because they fear intimidation or even danger to their families and/or careers. Pen names are an important part of our nation's history.

Corrections

We will promptly correct all factual errors. We offer a "right of reply" to the people about whom we write. Readers who disagree with a news story are welcome to respond with a letter.

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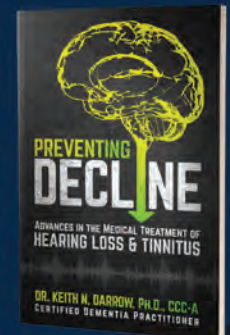
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POLICE REPORTS

Editor's Note: The following information is obtained from Maricopa County Sheriff's Office District 3. This column lists arrests, not convictions, unless otherwise stated. Arrested persons listed here who are later found not guilty are welcome to inform the Independent by calling 623-972-6101.

SEPT. 29

- Criminal damage was reported 10:54 p.m. in the 12800 block of North 113th Avenue.
- Criminal damage was reported 9:32 p.m. in the 11500 block of West Camden Drive.
- Unknown trouble was reported 8:27 p.m. in the 13300 block of West La Terraza Drive.
- A prowler was reported 7:53 p.m. in the 11400 block of West Lakeshore Drive.
- A stolen vehicle was reported 6:43 p.m. in the 10200 block of Northwest US60 Grand Avenue.

SEPT. 30

- A citizen assist was reported 7:11 p.m. in the 14400 block of North Lake

Forest Drive.

- A welfare check was reported 9:01 a.m. in the 12400 block of North 113th Avenue.

OCT. 1

- A theft was reported 8:41 p.m. in the 11300 block of West Bell Road.
- A vehicle crash with no injury was reported 5:24 p.m. at the intersection of North 111th Avenue and West Alabama Avenue.
- A subject with a gun was reported 12:54 p.m. in the 11100 block of West Arizona Avenue.
- A theft was reported 11:41 a.m. in the 18200 block of West Ruth Avenue.
- Threats to commit an offense was reported 11:51 a.m. in the 17000 block of North 107th Avenue.
- A theft was reported 9:20 a.m. in the 18600 block of North Spanish Garden Drive.
- A vehicle crash with no injury was reported 6:46 a.m. at the intersection of North Del Webb and North 107th Avenue.
- Narcotics or other drugs were reported 2:43 a.m. at the intersection

of North 111th Avenue and Northwest Grand Avenue.

OCT. 2

- A burglary was reported 1:36 p.m. in the 13200 block of West Bonanza Drive.
- Suspicious activity was reported 5:06 p.m. in the 14000 block of West Caballero Drive.
- Found property was reported 1:34 p.m. in the 14800 block of West Las Brizas Lane.
- A vehicle crash with no injury was reported 12:31 p.m. in the 13500 block of West Camino Del Sol.
- Identity theft was reported 9:38 a.m. in the 179000 block of West Brown Street.
- Vehicle crash with injuries was reported 8:16 a.m. in the 10000 block of West Kingswood Circle.
- A vehicle crash with no injury was reported 7:11 a.m. at the intersection of North 135th Avenue and West Parada Drive.

OCT. 3

- A vehicle crash with no injury was

reported 9:37 a.m. at the intersection of West Bell Road and North R.H.

Johnson Boulevard.

- A vehicle crash with injuries was reported 6 p.m. in the 11100 block of West Arizona Avenue.

OCT. 4

- Narcotics or other drugs were reported 11:53 p.m. at the intersection of North 108th Avenue and West Oakmont Drive.

OCT. 5

- An assault with a deadly weapon was reported 9:18 p.m. in the 11300 block of West Kansas Avenue.
- A fraud or con game was reported 1:14 p.m. in the 10200 block of North 175th Avenue.
- A burglary was reported 1:29 p.m. in the 14100 block of West Penny-stone Drive.
- Criminal damage was reported 1:18 p.m. in the 14200 block of North Newcastle Drive.
- Identity theft was reported 10:11 a.m. in the 12600 block of North 113th Avenue.

Letters

- From page 10

and asked, "Is it a holiday or something? There are no cars in the parking lot," to which I answered, "it's Sunday. The Post Office isn't open on Sundays."

As she rolled up her window, she said, "I have dementia, can you tell?" I told her if she has dementia she shouldn't be driving. I hope she heard me before her window was up.

Anyone with family members who have dementia should have a pleasant talk with them to point out this letter, if necessary. No one who has dementia should be driving, let alone pointing it out to others!

Terry Ann Smith
SUN CITY WEST

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THEATER

Players prep for final Mountain View show

Ainsley and Lenora are the central characters in Act 2 Scene 1 of the comedic play, *Dashing Through the Snow*, by Jones Hope Wooten. They are portrayed as self-involved actors from a low-budget touring production of "A Christmas Carol." Their arrival at the Snowflake Inn sets off a series of hilarious events as they attempt to fulfill a promise, leading to chaos and hilarity among the other eccentric guests at the inn.

This scene explores themes of ambition, the absurdity of show business, and the holiday spirit, all wrapped in a light-hearted, festive atmosphere. The chemistry between Ainsley and Lenora allows for scenarios where misunderstandings and exaggerated interactions lead to humorous outcomes.



Cathy Corbin-Mannino, James Borgmann and Anna Thompson. (Submitted photo/Norman Krinsky)

James Borgmann portrays Ainsley, the pompous and egotistical archetype of an over-the-top actor, which role is not a stretch for him. "I am a chameleon of sorts, being whatever character I portray," he said. Like Ainsley, Borgmann brings dramatic flair and intense

self-absorption to every situation.

Cathy Corbin-Mannino is cast as Lenora, who is Ainsley's witty and charming "partner in crime". Corbin-Mannino shares Lenora's love of the theater. She admires that Lenora's personality is full of various dra-

matic feelings, which are "so much fun for me to emote, even if a bit over the top."

Appearing also in this scene is the character of Paulette Coogan, the blunt, humorless, stage/road manager of Ainsley and Lenora. Anna Thompson performs the role of this harsh, loud, yet determined businesswoman. Thompson welcomes this austere, fun-filled and challenging assignment, although Paulette is "a pussycat at heart."

Tickets, priced at \$15, are available at suncityplayers.org. You can also purchase tickets in person at the Farmers Market in the Bell Recreation Center east parking lot 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Thursday mornings. The show runs Nov. 13-22 at Mountain View Recreation Center, 9749 N. 107th Ave.



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WOMEN

Women find friendships with social club

By Zev Black
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

For some in the Women's Social Club of Sun City, the best part of the game isn't winning — it's having a place to go, people to meet and something fun to do.

The club, which is home to roughly 150 Sun City women, is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. seven days a week in room 215 of the Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd.

Its members play all sorts of games, including mahjong, canasta, hand and foot, bridge and Rummi-kub.

"It just totally depends on what people like," Kay Koehler said. "It's just a place to come and either learn a new game or bring your own little group."

Dianne Richards, a club member of 15 years, described herself generally as a "homebody." This group gets her out of the house.

"It gives you someplace to go and be around a large group of other women," she said. "That's my one thing to do that's not grocery shopping or getting gas for the car. It's just a fun place to go."

Koehler agreed, saying she could sit at home every day but chooses not to because of this club.

In addition to the games, the club is very social. Kat Rabe, the group's president, said she speaks with everyone in the club.

"When I walk in that room, I'm going to go to talk to every single table of ladies," she said.

"That may be for only two or three minutes, but I want them to know that they're important to me.



Club members play games during a daily get-together. (Submitted photo/Kat Rabe)

And I want them to know that they matter and their ideas matter."

She added when someone gives a suggestion for the club, she brings it to the board for discussion.

The club also hosts parties throughout the year. One of those is the much-anticipated Christmas party, which the board recently finished planning.

Rabe reported food for this year's party will be catered by BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse. She will also purchase a full sheet cake from Walmart as dessert.

Ultimately, all three members brought it back to the social aspect of the club.

"We just have so much fun socializing with each other," Rabe said. "It's a great time to just get together without the husbands and the dogs and cats ... There's always somebody to talk to or a game to get into. I've noticed they are always so willing to teach you their game."

Club dues are \$10 per year.

For more information about the group, go to suncityaz.org/clubs/womens-social-club-of-sun-city.

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John Morey Photography
Pictured: When Happiness Awakens

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WINNER

Resident wins new car

Matthew O'Reilly of Sun City, Arizona, a 14-time blood donor for Vitalant, has been announced the winner of a 2026 VW Taos S, donated by the Valley Volkswagen dealers to help increase summer blood supplies. His name was randomly drawn from bonus entry card online entries, one of the nine finalist categories in the Vitalant "Summer Drive to Save Lives" Volkswagen raffle.

Matthew O'Reilly donated at the Sun City Fire and Medical Dept. Blood Drive. Matthew has dedicated his life to service. He is involved in his church and has worked in the medical field for 20 years. First, he served as a Navy medic, then as an ambulance EMT, and now as a fire captain.

"I've been on calls where trauma patients needed immediate transfusions of multiple blood products

to survive," said O'Reilly. "Giving blood is one of the easiest ways to give back."

He married his high school sweetheart and they have four children.

The grand prize ceremony flag was dropped by Eric Sredzinski, a 2024 bicycle accident survivor whose chance of survival was estimated at just 5%. After being struck by a vehicle traveling 45 mph, he sustained severe injuries and retrograde amnesia, leaving him with no memory of the day of the crash.

Sredzinski credits his survival to emergency responders, trauma care teams, and the lifesaving blood products he received. Today, he is a passionate advocate for blood donation and remains deeply grateful to the donors whose generosity gave him a second chance at life.



SUN CITY LIONS INVITE COMMUNITY FIGURES

The Sun City Early Bird Lions welcomed Christopher Lobmier, warehouse associate to the Lions, and Robyn Bridges, executive director of Sunshine Services, to share about their services to the community. For information on Early Bird Lions, call 623-238-8455. (Submitted photo/Louie Lyon)

Banner Olive Branch Senior Center unveils food menu

The Banner Olive Branch Senior Center, 13049 N. 103rd Ave., offers dine in meals, to go meals and food pantry services. The food pantry is available at no cost 7:00-11:00 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday. Lunch is served 11 a.m.-noon Monday-Friday at no cost for those age 60 and older, with a suggested \$5 donation. A \$5 fee is required for those under 60. Breakfast is served 6:30-8:30 a.m. Monday-Friday for \$5 and is open to all ages. To go meals are available 11 a.m.-noon Monday-Friday for \$5 per meal and are open to everyone. Guests are encouraged to arrive a few minutes early. The center offers benefits reviews and information, and referral services as well as many resources and activities. For more information, go to bannerhealth.com/OliveBranch or call the center at 623-465-

6004.

Menu:

- Wednesday, Oct. 28 - Pork schnitzel, sauteed spinach, scalloped potatoes, roll, mixed fruit
- Thursday, Oct. 29 - Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, peas and mushrooms, roll, fig newton, pineapple
- Friday, Oct. 30 - Cod in rosemary cream sauce, brown rice pilaf, Italian vegetables, beets, apple-sauce
- Monday, Nov. 2 - Marinated pork strips, cilantro brown rice, roasted cauliflower, capri mixed vegetables, apple slices
- Tuesday, Nov. 3 - Creamy chicken and broccoli casserole, Normandy blend vegetables, tropical fruit

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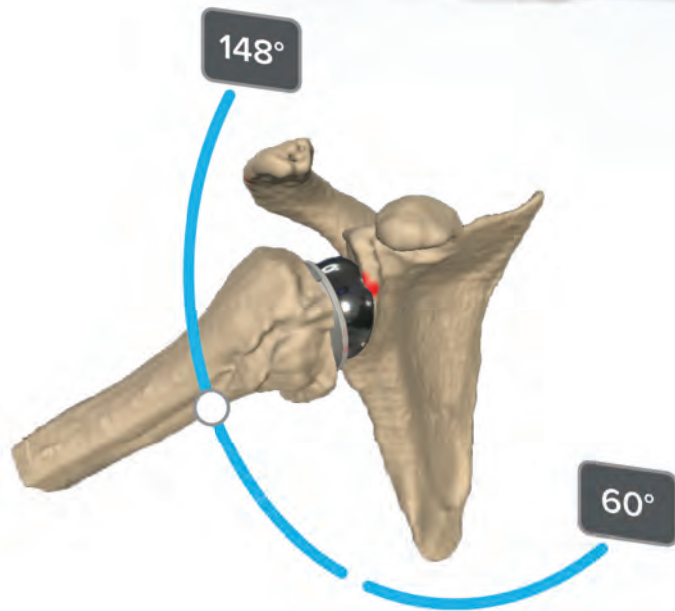
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SCORES

GOLF

DT Winners
At Stardust - Oct. 14
1st flight: (Handicaps 6-19)
Richard VanVulkenburg (Low Gross) 67
Wayne Hendrickson and Steve Guthrie (Low Net Tie) 58
Ron Heller-59 Robert Sebo and Mike Bashaw (Tied at 62)
Steve Wolf, Burton Murray and Robert Pape (Tied at 63)
2nd flight: (Handicaps 20-27)
Everett Dorsey (Low Gross) 80 Randy Giedt (Low Net) 56
Gary McGrath-58 Jim Jarvis-60
Dave Bennett and Kevin Kopczynski (Tied at 61)
John Vignati, Jim Meier, John Mollenkamp and John Plum (Tied at 63)

Sun City Mini Golf Club
Bell Center – Oct. 14 – Par 41
Women Scr Hdc
1 Sue Collins 41 37
2 Pamela Jordan 43 42
3 Nancy FencI 48 46
4 Laura Kuchler 49 46
5 Monica Nolan 50 46
6 Cherrie Rose 47 47
7 Jean Cross 48 47
8 Linda Ferguson 50 47
9 Rose Knudsen 50 47
10 Virginia Geile 51 47
11 Jonia Howard 54 49
12 Nancy Motzer 50 50
13 Kathy Lee 54 50
14 Mary Kief 51 51
15 Gretchen Sinkula 54 51
16 Sylvia Carman 52 52
17 Anita Cox 56 52
18 Joan Souza 56 54
19 Cory Sites 59 55
20 Jan Tiazkun 57 57
21 Kathy Mcmorrow 57 57
22 Connie Boehm 62 57
23 Lois Sykora 61 58
24 Linda Ungerer 59 59

Men Scr Hdc
1 Jim Stefanov 36 36
2 Jeff West 39 39
3 Joseph Sinkula 41 41
4 Wayne Braband 42 42
5 Thomas Ritz 42 42
6 Larry Bibler 44 43
7 Ken Wolffer 44 44
8 Jim Kepler 45 45
9 Jerry Neely 46 45
10 Alan Felner 46 46
11 Milo FencI 46 46
12 Ron Bogner 48 47

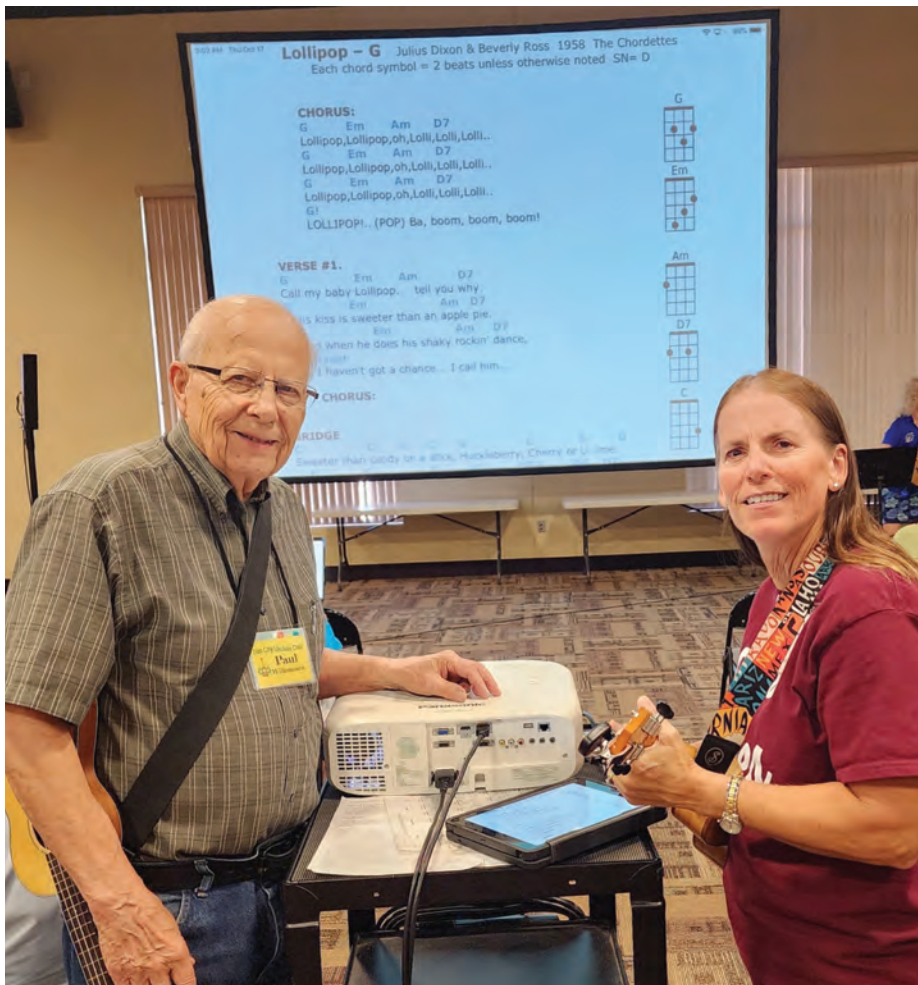
13 Jer Bear 49 47
14 Brian Ascetta 50 48
15 Manny Camilon 51 49
16 Alex Feldman 50 50
17 Kerry Carman 51 51
18 Thomas Solomom 54 51
19 Neal Dauphin 54 52
20 Raymond Braband60 57

Echo Mesa Women's Golf Club
Oct. 20 - Mutt and Jeff
Flight 1 17 - 30 Game
Veda Barganier 26.5
Val Carter 28.5
Sue Anderson 28.5
Flight 2 31 - 44
Eileen Fargher 23.0
Lori Whitley 27.0
Combo Tees
Judy Keller 27.5
Nine Holers
Joanne Honce 47.0
Charlotte Ewalt 55.0

BOWLING

Thursday AM Mixers
Oct. 15
Men Scratch Game
Richard Whitmark - 211
Dave Johnson - 191
Scratch Series
Joe Sinkula - 591
Richard Whitmark - 563
Dave Johnson - 535
Handicap Game
Joe Sinkula - 276
Ken Targosz - 251
Richard Whitmark - 243
Handicap Series
Ken Targosz - 735
Joe Sinkula - 717
Dave Johnson - 667
Women Scratch Game
Fallin Gui - 159
Moe Trgovic - 147
Sue Nichols - 146
Scratch Series
Fallin Gui - 423
Sue Nichols - 410
Joann Chavez - 392
Handicap Game
Fallin Gui - 249
Marlene Webb - 247
Moe Trgovic - 240
Handicap Series
Fallin Gui - 693
Marlene Webb - 687
Moe Trgovic - 649

MUSIC



Paul Willemssen and Patty Morris. (Submitted photo/Jim Walker)

Ukulele Club offers mentorship program

Every Thursday, Paul Willemssen and Patty Morris help keep the Sun City Ukulele Club's weekly jams humming. From keeping lyrics on screen to following the music leader through verses and choruses, these volunteers make it possible for up to 100 members to strum and sing along.

Willemssen has managed the projector for nearly the club's entire history and built its original website in 2013. Morris serves as special events

coordinator and helped develop the club's new website.

The club is hosting a mentorship program 1:30-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5 at the Fairway Recreation Center, 10600 W. Peoria Ave. The free ukulele lessons are open to all RCSC cardholders.

For more information, go to suncityukuleleclub.com or contact President Trudy Bryson at 470-276-3780 or trudybryson@cox.net.

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RCSC

Sun City Rec Centers announce board candidates

The Recreation Centers of Sun City Board of Directors and the Elections Committee announced the names of the candidates who will be on the ballot in this year's election.

The candidates include Preston Kise, Edwin Nyberg, Scott Bortness, Susanne Clark, Mike Coppock and John Fast.

Candidates are vying for four open positions on the RCSC Board of Directors this election. Three positions are for three-year terms, and the fourth position is for a two-year term. Board Members' terms that are set to expire at the end of the year include Preston Kise, Jim Rough, Mike Coppock and Steve Collins.

The top three candidates with the most votes will serve three-year terms and the fourth candidate elected will serve the two-year term. Candidates must receive a minimum of 100 votes in order to win a seat on the board. Should there not be an adequate number of eligible candidates elected, the board will appoint another member or members to complete the terms which remain

unfilled.

RCSC members will have the opportunity to meet the candidates and hear their stance on issues at two candidate forums. The first forum will be held 6-9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9. The second forum will be held 2-4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16, 2026. Both forums will be held in the Sundial Auditorium, 14801 N. 103rd Ave.

Candidates will be available to meet and greet attendees starting 30 minutes prior to each session and light refreshments will be offered. There will also be the opportunity to view video recordings of these sessions on the RCSC YouTube channel for those unable to attend in person.

Candidate biographies will be available at the Corporate/Board Office at the Lakeview Center, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., and in upcoming editions of the Sun City Update news. Election updates will be made on the RCSC website.

Those elected to serve on the Board will be sworn in at the Thursday, Dec. 17 board meeting.

SUN CITY NEXTGEN CLUB BRINGS THE LAUGHS

Monique Marvez, pictured, is headlining the Boomers Got Back Comedy Show for the NextGen club of Sun City 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16, at the Sundial Recreation Center. Marvez has two Showtime Specials, an HBO special and her DryBar Comedy special. Ezra Storment, 2026 winner of the Funniest Comedian in the Valley competition, is a featured performer. Several other ladies will be on the show, including NextGen's own Linda Shafer. It will be hosted by Diane Callis. Tickets are \$15; visit nextgensc.org. (Submitted photo/Monique Marvez)



GOLF

North Golf Course reopens after renovation

By Zev Black

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The North Golf Course, which had been closed for renovations since April, has officially reopened.

Earlier this year, the Recreation Centers of Sun City approved a \$2.7 million budget for the project. The renovation included raising the bunkers, adding desert landscape and removing grass to comply with the Arizona Department of Water Resources new requirements on the amount of water that can be used.

"We're trying to do our due diligence and reducing our usage by pulling out turf," Director of Golf Eddy Renio said. "We also put in some drought tolerant hybrid Bermuda called TifTuf."

The front nine holes already had

this TifTuf Bermuda grass, so adding it to the back nine made all 18 holes more uniform.

According to Renio, it costs \$50,000 per acre of grass pulled out and have desert landscape added in.

"We wanted to do it in a way where we don't just pull everything out and make someone's backyard look like a desert landscape," he said. "We want to still see some green out there."

Prior to the renovation, many members had complained about the depth and steepness of the bunkers. Not only was it too difficult to hit a ball out of the bunker, but residents also had a hard time actually walking out of it. Renio said someone once fell and broke their arm trying to leave a bunker.



Michael Wermers stands with Eddy Renio at the North Golf Course. (Independent Newsmedia/Zev Black)

"This shouldn't have to be an obstacle course for the members to come out and play," he added. "They should be able to come out here and enjoy it. Bunkers are penalty areas, but we don't want to make it so severe that the normal resident can't get out of it."

Michael Wermers, who oversaw the project, said there were many

complications throughout the process.

"Working with multiple different vendors and contractors, we all had to be on the same page," he said. "And we never are. We're never here all at the same time. That was always a difficult thing."

Renio said member feedback has been very positive. The RCSC hosted a two-day event to premiere the refurbished course.

Attendees were able to see the improvements to the course along with the updated gold shop, which Renio said was stuck in the 20th century.

The next renovation will be on the South Golf Course, which is the largest course in Sun City at over 210 acres. The RCSC is scheduling that for 2028.

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COMMUNITY

Banner CEO promotes bringing together clergy

By Jennifer Jimenez
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Banner Health is connecting with clergy and religious leaders in the community focusing on overall care of the mind, body and spirit.

Boswell Medical Center and Del E. Webb Medical Center Chief Executive Officer Stan Holm will join chaplains at Boswell, 10401 W. Thunderbird Blvd., for a clergy lunch.

Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church Pastor Ron Friesen said this networking event brings everyone together, because most of them do not know each other and that is good to connect.

"What this communicates to the clergy and religious leaders of the community is the Banner Health system itself is open to the spiritual care. They recognize we are physically, emotionally, relational and spiritual beings and the Banner system does that well," said Friesen.

He said it is also welcoming for he has a pastor to get together with the chaplains at the hospitals and is positive affirmation to know they are always there to administer to the parishioners as well.

Shepherd of the Hills Health Educator Julie Killebrew said taking part in this event helps to connect her with other organizations in the community



Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church Pastor Daniel Gómez, Julie Killebrew, MSN and Pastor Ron Friesen. (Submitted photo/Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church)

to bring them out to the church.

"I find other people and groups to get the word out about their services that are beneficial to people in need," said Killebrew.

Other connections are made as well, including a church member calling to have someone to visit her mother in the hospital. Killebrew said Friesen was able to arrange for a chap-

lain to visit and that made a big difference for her and her daughter.

When Holm took the job three years ago as CEO, he brought this program of connecting clergy and spiritual leaders with Banner Health to ensure they felt welcomed. He said beyond the walls of the hospitals there is the Banner Olive Branch Senior Center and food pantry, which is just one of many spokes to connect and serve the community. As an organization, Banner Health provides more than \$1 billion each year in community benefit.

He said in leadership at Banner Health ideas to connect with the community are embraced.

"So many people when in our environment are vulnerable and many times need to make connections with mind, body and spirit," said Holm.

He said the goals of this lunch is to let spiritual leaders know they are welcome and should feel comfortable when going to see individuals from a congregation and in a way that helps those patients. The second is to learn and connect with each other and strengthen those connections between Banner Health and those individuals.

Holm said anytime there is an opportunity for community partnerships, it strengthens many sides of care.

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RAZZLE DAZZLERS ANNOUNCE FREE CLASS

The Razzle Dazzle Dancers have been enjoying many dance events together. Now, the group will begin dance classes to prepare for the upcoming holiday season's social activities and performances. The Razzle Dazzle Dancers invite interested individuals to attend a free dance class on 12:30 Friday, Nov. 6 in the Banner Olive Branch Senior Center, 13049 N. 103rd Ave. To learn more about the group, email razzledazzledancersaz@gmail.com. (Submitted photo/Deborah Wheeler)

CRAFTS

Church slates craft fair

Lakeview United Methodist Church, 10298 W. Thunderbird Blvd., is hosting a holiday community craft fair 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday and Saturday Dec. 4-5 at the church.

Sponsored by the Lakeview Women in Faith, there will be hand-crafted items, jewelry and home decor from local artisans and Lakeview members. At last year's event, there were 70 tables with items. Holiday

baked goods will also be available. In addition, breakfast and lunch items will be sold with proceeds to benefit the Lakeview Men's Group.

Vendor tables are available for \$30. Set up is 7-9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 4.

To reserve a table or for more information, contact Cyndee LaFontaine at 480-242-2782 or azcyne@msn.com or Ila Lewis at 609-706-0377 or ilita3@yahoo.com.



SUN CITY CHURCH PREPS FOR 23RD CRAFT FAIR

The Community Church of Sun City, 18401 N. 99th Ave., is hosting its 23rd annual Arts & Crafts Fair 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday Nov. 13, and Saturday, Nov. 14. Admission is free and open to the public with both indoor and outdoor shopping areas. The fair will feature over 70 vendors offering handcrafted items as well as a bake sale including gluten free and sugar free treats. Patrons can also visit the snack bar for coffee, donuts and lunch with outdoor seating. For more information, contact the church office at 623-977-4241 or admin@ccscz.org or visit ccscz.org. Pastor Brian Anderson will help serve coffee and donuts from the kitchen to patrons and vendors during the fair. (Submitted photo/Jessie Hempel)

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Surprise • January 19, 2027 • The Colonnade
Litchfield/Goodyear • February 17, 2027 • Tuscany Falls Clubhouse(Pebble Creek)
Chandler • February 23, 2027 • Sun Lakes Country Club
Peoria • March 25, 2027 • Westbrook Village
Sun City West • April 13, 2027 • SCW Foundation Center
Sun City • May 3, 2027 • Sundial Recreation Center

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DISCUSSION

Readers gather for latest book discussion

By Tom Haugsby
FAIRWAY READERS

In October, RCSC's Fairway Readers discussed "The Frozen River," by Ariel Lawhon, a work of biographical historical fiction that embellished on "A Midwife's Tale: The Life of Martha Ballard, Based on Her Diary, 1785-1812," by Laurel Thatcher Ulrich.

Sue Blechl and Glenda Meskin asked the Readers, "Have you ever kept a diary or journal?" Many had, at least sporadically. Some kept a gratitude journal. The book's central figure, Martha Ballard, kept a daily diary.

Martha was the medical resource in Hollowell until an arrogant, and possibly fraudulent, Dr. Benjamin Page imposed himself by overruling Martha in crucial cases. One case is the death of Joshua Burgess, found in the thawing Kennebec River with a mysterious piece of lace as evidence, along with rope burns consistent with hanging. Martha believes that he was murdered.

Burgess was one of two men charged with raping Rebecca Foster, a confidant of Martha's. Businessman Joseph North is the other suspect. Evidence, such as DNA or other forms of forensics, was unavailable. Martha continues to work the case while delivering babies, counseling women, raising children, helping in her husband's workshop and being a bit of a matchmaker. Martha is a networker. Her network includes a secretive Black midwife called "doctor." Martha knows people, their stories, and their vulnerabilities. Her integrity gains her a level of respect for the era. Rigid gender roles and customs complicated, and oddly aided, her investigation.

Through Martha, members gained intimate insight into the realities of 18th-century life: the realities of childbirth for women, ways of living, the hardship caused by harsh weather, the flaws in the justice system and we learn about women's rights and society's expectations. These details of life were made richer by unassuming women who show their true strength and conviction when it counts. Martha presents as a strong-willed feminist fighting for the rights of largely powerless women.

The Readers, being of a certain age, know that the world is rarely starkly right or wrong, good or bad. Yet Lawhon unfortunately presents a number of men as only arrogant, ignorant, condescending, willful, vengeful, and presumptuous. One exception is Martha's husband, Ephraim, whom the Readers praised and even idolized for his caring, thoughtful, respectful, and loving partnership with Martha.

Various animals are conveniently responsive to human needs, showing deep, surprising connections and loyalty. They enter at key moments to reassure and protect. Some Readers thought these embellishments were far-fetched even as they contributed to a wider ecology of life.

Over the winter, North's rape trial nears, Whispers and prejudices mount. Martha doggedly pursues the truth. Her diary soon lands at the center of the scandal, implicating those she loves, and challenging Martha's loyalties. Sometimes justice informally skirts the law.

Fairway Readers meet again 1 p.m. Nov. 13 at the Fairway Center to discuss "Carrie Soto is Back." All RCSC cardholders are welcome.

Sun City church teaches Tai Chi

Desert Garden United Church of Christ, 18818 N. 128th Ave., is hosting two one-hour classes every Friday in its Fellowship Hall.

The first class, Tai Chi 108, is 1 p.m. The second class, Strength and Balance/Beginning Tai Chi, is 2 p.m. For more information, Deb Gomez at 206-436-9735 or deb.gomez@rocketmail.com.

Sun City church sets tea party

First Presbyterian Church of Sun City, 12225 N. 103rd Ave., will host its traditional holiday tea for women in Swain Hall 1 p.m. Saturday Dec. 5. Proceeds from the event will go to local causes, Habitat for Humanity, Valley View Food Bank and Eve's Place.

Attendees will have tea service at thematically set tables hosted by the women of the congregation.

The church's "red-tie" crew of gentlemen connected with the congregation are to provide table service. Holiday cookies will be served after the live entertainment program that follows homemade scones, savory sandwiches and black tea.

Tickets are \$20 per seat and must be reserved by Monday, Nov. 30. To reserve your seats, call the church at 623-974-3605.

"We feel so blessed that this yearly event contributes to three charitable causes that are so important in the community," organizer Debra Pruett said.

Sun City golfers set to kick off season

RCSC cardholders can join a group of women to play nine holes of golf 10 a.m. every Tuesday, November-April at Lakes East Golf

Course, 10433 W. Talisman Road. The aim of the weekly event is to interest beginner lady golfers and those interested who have never played in a league. Individuals who have never played must take lessons before joining. Get Golf Ready sessions will be held in November.

The registration meeting will be 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27, at Lakes East Golf Course. League play begins Tuesday, Nov. 3. The registration fee is \$20, including handicap fees and league expenses. To register, bring cash or a check. Those interested to not need a handicap to join as it will be established during play.

For more information, call Joyce Dudley 218-301-9877.

Sun City church to host pet contest

Lakeview United Methodist Church, 10298 W. Thunderbird Blvd., is hosting Bark-O-Treat Pet Blessing and Costume Contest 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31 in the church courtyard. Pets and their owners are invited to attend dressed for the occasion.

Judges will award first, second and third place ribbons to the winners.

Pastor Kristin Hansen will bless both the pet and the owner for the joy they bring to each other's lives. There will also be a drive-up blessing area for pets that need to remain in the car.

This will make it possible for pets that are anxious, unable to walk easily or are simply more comfortable in the car to receive a blessing.

People without pets are welcomed too. Owners are invited to bring a picture or a memory of their alive or deceased pet for the bulletin board.

Pet supplies, food and monetary donations will be accepted and will be given to a local pet charity.

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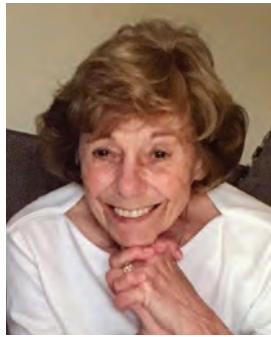
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Helene Marie Summers

Helene Marie Summers (nee Tullio), passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 20, 2026. She was surrounded by her daughter, Sharon Summers and grandchildren Ashley Wilson

and Mark Bousman.

Helene, originally from Chicago, Illinois, along with her husband Aaron Summers (deceased 2013) made their home in Albert Lea, MN, and retired to Sun City, Arizona.

She is survived by her children, Frank (and Rene) Summers, Debra Summers, and Sharon (and Keven Johnson) Summers; her sister Mary Ann Snyder; her grandchildren Matthew (and Maggie) Summers, Jennifer Summers, Mark (and TJ) Bousman, Ashley (and Josh) Wilson, Garrett (and Abby) Eichhorn and Katrina Eichhorn; her niece and nephew Jeannie (and Joseph)

Robinson and Paul Phillips; her beautiful, great-grandchildren, Raymond Summers, Blake and Lucas Wilson, and Ava and Brooklynn Bousman; her sister-in-law Linda Turner and brother-in-law Thomas Scott McAlpine; and loving cousins living throughout the country.

Known for her love for her family, generous spirit, love for her beloved Maltese over the years, and devotion to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, she will be terribly missed.

Services will be held in Chicago, Illinois in the spring, where she will join her family and husband in peaceful rest.



Marie E. Conrad

Marie E. Conrad, age 99 of Sierra Winds Retirement Community, Peoria AZ passed away peacefully on October 15th, 2026. She was born in Canton, Ohio on September 3, 1927, to John M. and Pearl

Marker.

Marie lived most of her life in Canton, where she worked as a cook for Canton Local Schools for 19 years. In later years she, with her husband Ed, managed numerous rental properties and pursued their love of antiques as dealers of Packrat's Nest Antiques. In 2003, she retired to Sun City, Arizona, near her brothers and sister.

Marie was preceded in death by her husbands, Leo E. Oster and Edward J. Conrad; stepdaughter, Nancy Conrad; stepson, Edward A. "Bud" Conrad; sister Beth and brothers Robert, James and Wilford Marker.

She is survived by her daughter, Jo Ann (Al) Bigelow; son, Rich (Lynn)

Oster; stepdaughter, Anne Conrad, her husband, Steve Hegreness; stepdaughter, Barbara Conrad; seven grandchildren, five great grandchildren; sister Dorothy (George) Schuster and many nieces and nephews.

Marie will be remembered for her love of antiques and travel, the many beautiful quilts she lovingly stitched, and memories she created with her children, grandchildren, and many friends whose lives she touched. A celebration of her life will be planned at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in her name to Wounded Warrior Project, a cause that was near and dear to her.



Mimi Michelle Ohms

Mimi Michelle Ohms passed away on May 4, 2026, following a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. She was born September 15, 1949, in Palo Alto, California. She attended Woodside High School and later graduated from Arizona State University with plans to become a teacher. Although life ultimately took her in a different direction, she built a meaningful career at the VA Hospital, where she worked for more than 30 years.

Mimi was remarkably

capable and endlessly curious, with an amazing ability to absorb information and wear many hats. Through her years at the VA, she developed an impressive knowledge of medicine, health care, and law. Family affectionately nicknamed her "Dr. Mimi" because of her understanding of medical conditions most people could barely pronounce. Her organizational skills later served her well in a second career as a property manager in Mountain View, California.

Later in life, Mimi moved to Sun City, Arizona. After seeing the recreation center pool for the first time, she enthusiastically declared, "Flipper has found a new home." Anyone who knew Mimi

understood exactly what she meant. Swimming was more than exercise to her—it was a passion that brought her fitness, friendship, and joy. If there is such a thing as coming back in another life, many would agree that Mimi would return as a dolphin.

Mimi was a woman of Christian faith and attended Grace Bible Church, where she sang in the choir. She loved a wide variety of music, from traditional hymns to heavy metal. She also loved Hawaii, chocolate, shoes, Mexican food, shopping, art festivals, and absolutely anything in leopard print.

Mimi's sense of humor was one of her defining qualities. Her mischievous sense of humor, and ability to find the absurd in

everyday life brought joy to those around her. She loved her family deeply and was a devoted aunt to her niece and nephew. When they were children, she took great pleasure in giving gifts that were hilarious and occasionally outrageous.

In 2023, Mimi began her battle with pancreatic cancer. Throughout her illness, she carried herself with grace, dignity, and remarkable strength. Even during the most difficult moments, she found ways to bring humor and light to those around her.

Mimi was preceded in death by her parents, Ivan and Lorraine Ohms; her brother, Paul Ohms; and her fearless feline companions, Francis and Nacho.

She is survived by her sister-in-law, Sandi Ohms; her niece, Cassie Ohms; her nephew, Jason Ohms; her longtime dear friend, Lynn McNerney; and her beloved cat, Smokey.

Mimi leaves behind memories filled with laughter. Many of us find comfort imagining Mimi reunited with her loved ones, sharing laughter once again. While we will miss her deeply, we take comfort in knowing that Flipper finally found her way home.

The Ohms family will hold a private memorial service in Palo Alto, California.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mimi's memory to Sun Cities 4 Paws Rescue, one of her favorite charities.



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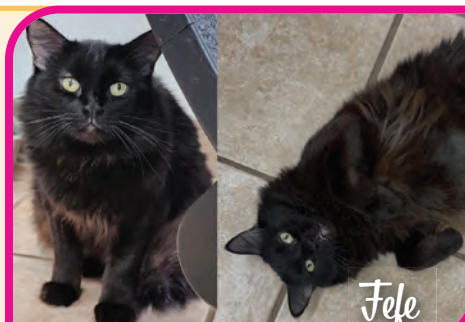
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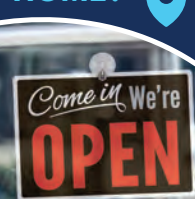
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Civility Checklist

*How to engage in respectful, honest
& civil dialogue about public issues*

- ☐ **Take the high road.** Respond to the topic — not the person. Refrain from demonizing others for their opinions. Assume those you disagree with are, like you, genuinely interested in improving the community.
- ☐ **Be respectful.** Bullying, public humiliation, insults, name-calling, harassment, and threats directed at another person — or that person's race, gender, religion, ethnicity, etc. — have no place in civil discussions. Find ways to respectfully disagree without questioning someone's character or motives.
- ☐ **Be truthful.** Base your opinions/arguments on facts. Value honesty. Make only accurate statements when making your point and avoid exaggeration and stereotypes. When appropriate, cite your sources of information that others may question.
- ☐ **Don't misrepresent.** Always identify your opinions as opinions (not stating opinions as facts). Never misrepresent the views of others or falsely claim your opinions represent someone else. If quoting the words of others, identify and credit the source.
- ☐ **Listen & learn.** It's both polite and respectful to listen to those we disagree with (as well as those we support) and be genuine in our attempts to understand their point of view. Expand your mind by thoughtfully seeking out views that don't agree with your own.
- ☐ **Look for common ground.** When disagreeing with others, look for even small areas of agreement — which can be the gateway to working together for the greater good.
- ☐ **Respect privacy.** Keep private things private — whether it involves your own information or those with whom you disagree. Revealing private information about someone else is rude, unethical, potentially harmful and, in many cases, illegal.
- ☐ **Set a good example.** Practice civil behavior online as well as in public and in your interaction with others. Encourage others to practice these civil behaviors. And it's OK to challenge disrespectful behavior — but be courteous, respectful and helpful in your approach.

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