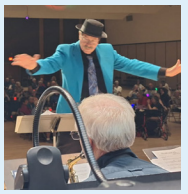
SUN CITY INDEPENDENT
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Volume 66 Issue 47
NOVEMBER 25, 2026
Sun City's Nonpartisan Newspaper

INSIDE

Rhythm Ramblers to present holiday show, dance: **24**



MCDOT announces multiple Sun City projects

By Zev Black
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Sun City Homeowners Association held its monthly Roads and Safety Meeting to discuss monthly happenings and provide updates for residents in the community.

Tom Herrmann, a public information officer for the Maricopa County Department of Transportation, said there are a number of projects scheduled for Sun City during the next six months. Most of them will be completed in the spring.

He then talked about how rain affects construction, saying a lot of people have asked MCDOT about weather-related delays.

"Obviously, we need dry streets if we're going to put slurry seal on the street," he said. "People have been very understanding that we can't work in the rain. When we have rain, we don't know when

• See **MCDOT** Page **8**



RCSC President Tom Foster mediates a discussion among the board candidates during an open forum Nov. 16. (Independent Newsmedia/Zev Black)

RCSC board election open for voting

By Zev Black
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors 2026 election is here and residents have the opportunity to make their voices heard. Six candidates are running for four open positions.

Steve Collins, Mike Coppock, Preston Kise and Jim Rough's terms are coming to an end at the end of the year.

The three candidates with the most votes will be elected to three-year terms while the fourth-highest vote getter will serve a two-year term. Each candidate must receive at least 100 votes to be elected.

Running for the seats are Scott Bortness, Sue Clark, Mike Coppock, John Fast, Preston Kise and Edwin Nyberg.

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Bortness has lived in the community for three years and is running for the board because he's concerned about the community's future.

"I think the legacy is to respect the past and represent the future," he said. "That's really what I'd like to do. I'm a businessman and I see that there could be a lot more efficiencies."

He has more than 40 years of experience in the construction industry and often travels the country for his work.

• See **RCSC** Page **6**



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NEWS IN BRIEF

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Mentor Larry Vroom teaches a ukulele class to his mentees. (Submitted/Jim Walker)

Sun City Ukulele begins mentorship program

The Sun City Ukulele Club's five-level mentorship program is underway. Designed to help players learn at their own pace, the program lets students progress as far as they want with no pressure to move beyond their comfort level.

Lessons range from the basics, like how to hold a ukulele, to chords and chord progressions. Instruction is provided by experienced club members.

No prior musical experience is required to join the club, which is open to all RCSC members and provides free mentorship lessons for all club members 1:30-2:30 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of the month at the Fairway Recreation Center, 10600 W. Peoria Ave.

Go to suncityukuleleclub.com or contact the club president, Trudy Bryson, at 470-276-3780 or trudybryson@cox.net.

Reel named Pom of the Month

Cath Reel was named "Pom of the Month" for November for her commitment to getting sponsorships for the Sun City Poms.

She also puts together volunteers for St. Mary's Food Bank and organizes cookie bakes for sponsors.

Reel is always spreading the word about the Poms with promotional materials.

Delta Kappa Gamma wraps gifts for school

Delta Kappa Gamma's Alpha Xi Chapter is looking for working or retired female educators to join the group for its meeting 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1, at All Saints of the Desert Episcopal Church, 9502 W Hutton Drive.

The group will hold its holiday gathering, assembling Christmas gifts for our Alta Loma Elementary School family.

Delta Kappa Gamma is an international organization whose purpose is to promote professional and personal growth of female educators and excellence in education. It is made up of instructional assistants, classroom teachers, librarians, art teachers, tutors, music teachers, school administrators and more.

Alpha Xi chapter provides educational scholarships, donates school supplies and snacks to Alta Loma Elementary School students and adopts a family at Christmas, providing gifts and boxes of food.

Go to alphaxi-az.weebly.com.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

November 2015:

Valley View Food Bank plans to move locations during the first week of December to 12321 N.W. Grand Ave. At the time, founder Jesse Ramirez said the group will pay less than half what it was paying in Sun City.

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RCSC

• From page 1

"We have to find other streams of revenue," he said. "There's a lot of other revenues that can happen through online, internet marketing. Now that we have a marketing team, I think that can be leveraged a lot more."

Clark has been the president of the Sun City Condo association for the past several years, and has lived in the community for 14 years. She said volunteerism is extremely important to her and, with the association closing at the end of the year, thought this was "perfect timing" for her.

She said she's going to "be there" for Sun City residents and hopes to improve communication in the community.

"I think people aren't communicating all the way around that," she said. "There's people in different camps. How can I help that? I don't know. I hope I can just try to join people in groups together."

Coppock has lived in Sun City for three years and is a current RCSC board member. He said he is re-running for the board because there are multiple projects, like Mountain View and South Golf Course, he'd like to see completed.

He said one of the most important issues involving Sun City residents is board transparency.

"Continue our work as a board to be as transparent as possible," he said. "I think the community deserves to know what's going on. Obviously, there are some things that the board has to keep in executive session, but I think there's an opportunity to improve the transparency."

He went on to say the RCSC must "continue to make Sun City attractive to the outside individuals." He said the RCSC needs to get with stakeholders to have a conversation.

"I think if we do that and keep the goal in mind of leaving Sun City better than what we found it, we'll be very successful in selling more homes," Coppock said.

Fast, who has lived in the community for 12 years, is a former RCSC board member and is again running for election. He wants to see residents be more active in the community and make their voices heard.

"I think we're at a point where we really need to look at the future and we need to draw our members in," he said. "We've just had lousy participation. I don't have an answer to that, but I have some thoughts."

There were roughly 10 residents in attendance for RCSC's November monthly meeting, though more viewed it via the YouTube livestream.

He added that RCSC is "financially stable" right now, but cannot afford to take on any debt.

When asked how the RCSC can remain financially strong five years from now, Fast said if participation doesn't increase and facilities continue to cost more money, residents might have to ask themselves "do we have too much?"

Kise has lived in the community for 12 years. He is the current RCSC secretary running for reelection because there are "still things we need to do." He wants to ensure the Mountain View and South Golf Course projects are completed.

He is also concerned "volunteerism" is declining the community, and would like to see that rise to where it once was.

"We used to be the City of Volunteers, and fewer people are

• See RCSC Page 8



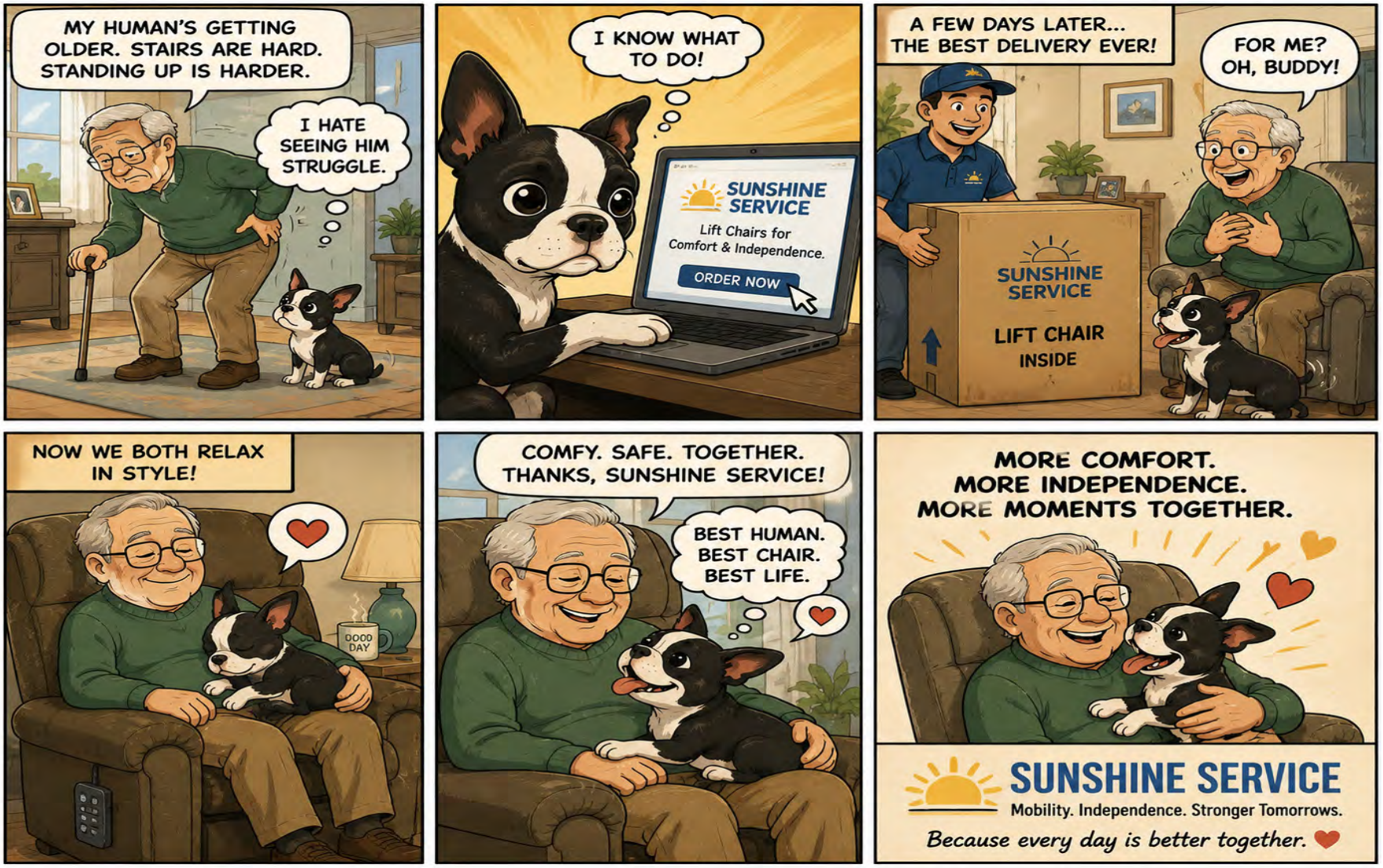
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RCSC

• From page 6

volunteering," he said. "We keep pushing and looking for people, and I think that's a difficult thing. I think that's maybe a sign of our time."

He added that, as long as homes continue to be sold at its current pace, the RCSC will remain financially strong.

Nyberg has been in the community for a year and a half. He said he is running for the board because it's "an opportunity to make a contribution."

He said one of the biggest issues facing community members is the annual fee, though doesn't know if he has a new way to help residents.

"I would want to continue to learn as much as I can about the process leading us up to this point and make sure we're on the proper road moving forward," he said.

He added the board needs to make sure it is not only looking at the annual budget, but also years in the future.

"I'm focused directly on goals," he said. "I've got the ability to take a look at how we might achieve projects that have come before us."

Online voting begins 8 a.m. Monday, Nov. 23. Residents have received an email with a link leading to the voting platform.

In-person voting is 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, at the Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd.

To read full candidate bios, go to tinyurl.com/ytv759nd.

Call 623-561-4620 or email mjohnson@suncityaz.org.

MCDOT

• From page 1

we're going to be able to start because we don't know when it's going to dry."

Roads and Safety Committee Chair Greg Bradley said MCDOT is "very good" at responding to resident calls regarding potholes, sidewalks or anything of that nature.

Sun City Fire Chief Rob Schmitz said MCDOT sends the department information when it is doing construction.

"I know if there's any kind of emergency for the fire trucks to try to get around," he said. "But sometimes it's very challenging when they're freshly slurry sealing a road. Sometimes, we just have to drive on it. We don't want to because we don't want to track or up or we don't want that stuff on our trucks either."

He added there has not been a big fire during a MCDOT project that has seriously affected the department's response time.

Both the fire department and sheriff's department are busy in Sun City.

Deputy Bill Cornwell, with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Department, said calls for service have increased, reporting 721 in October.

He also said there is a new traffic officer in Sun City. There were 56 traffic stops during the month, 26 of which resulted in a citation.

The individuals who do not receive a citation are given a warning, which goes into the system. If they get pulled over again, the officer will see that they had previously received the warning.

The next Roads and Safety Committee meeting will be 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, in the SCHOA office, 10401 W. Coggins Drive.

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Please send comments to azopinions@iniusa.org. More letters are on **yourvalley.net**.

Replacing plants this fall? Go native

Fall is the time of year when homeowners and HOAs consider replacing plants that were damaged by storms. It's also a good time for the reminder that not all plants are created equal.

Those adding plants should consider adding native shrubs like brittlebush, chuparosa or creosote, or flowers like desert globe mallow, desert marigold, desert milkweed and blackfoot daisy.

Native plants are better than non-native plants because they provide a whole ecosystem and they are adapted to the seasonal water that nature provides.

The ecosystem around native plants means that the native insects have evolved alongside these plants and use them as perfect places to lay their eggs. Then native birds who also evolved here eat the eggs or the caterpillars or feed them to their young. We all want to see more birds, and that means we need to help them feed their young.

Native plants can serve many functions. Buffelgrass, on the other hand, provides no benefits to the ecosystem.

Native plants are not easy to find, but many family-owned nurseries will have them, and if those looking for them ask other places, they will start to feel a demand for native plants and figure out how to stock them.

Some of the Maricopa County libraries have native plant seeds available in their seed libraries. To learn more, visit libguides.maricopa.edu/seed.

I recommend planting some seeds to see what will grow. Libraries have resources to help.

Joette Conger
SUN CITY

The author is an Arizona master naturalist and desert defender steward for Maricopa County Regional Parks.

Sue Clark has my vote for RCSC board

It is no secret that the Recreation Centers of Sun City Board of Directors is made up of volunteers who are not compensated for the time served.

Sue Clark is such an energetic volunteer that most of her adult life has been spent volunteering toward a better lifestyle for other people. We are fortunate to have Sue volunteer for the RCSC board, pledging from the get-go that she is here for the residents of Sun City.

I celebrate the fact that she is finally running for the RCSC board. I feel that the closure of Condominium Owners Association has lent her the motivation to run for the RCSC board. If others agree she is a "perfect fit" for the RCSC board, please vote for Sue Clark for the 2027 RCSC Board of Directors.

Kristi Svendsen
SUN CITY

Plastic won't protect ICE detainees from chemicals

Department of Homeland Security wants to imprison 1,500 people in the danger zone of a Surprise chemical facility, and ICE's answer to a toxic release appears to be plastic and a roll of duct tape.

Detainees would sit directly across the street from Rinchem's chemical storage facility in Surprise. If Rinchem has a chemical release, ICE's national detention standard tells staff to direct detainees to seal themselves inside a large interior room with plastic sheeting and duct tape.

That seems to be the only plan DHS has. Based on the draft environmental assessment from GardaWorld Federal Services, the company paid to run the facility, we have no reason to expect more than that in Surprise. The draft, released Nov. 9, never evaluates a chemical release from Rinchem.

Rinchem's federal Risk Management Plan details eight foreseeable chemical release scenarios. One estimates that a release of 20,000 pounds of anhydrous hydrogen chloride could reach 2.7 miles and over 73,000 people. The detention facility sits deep inside that zone. Hydrogen chloride is heavier than air and a severe inhalation hazard. Plastic sheeting and duct tape would not provide adequate shelter.

At the Oct. 20 City Council work session, City Manager Andrea Davis confirmed Surprise has received no emergency

• See **Opinions** Page 12



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Upcoming Events:

12/1 - Televised appearance supporting the Salvation Army's Angel Tree at Arrowhead Mall

12/3 - Holiday performance at I&J Fountains Restaurant

12/4 - Dance class and holiday celebration at the Bannner Olive Branch Senior Center

12/11 RCSC Annual holiday party in Sun City

12/12 Holiday parade in Litchfield Park

12/18 - Holiday performance at West Valley Community Center

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RAZZLE DAZZLE DANCERS

OPINIONS WITH CIVILITY

• From page 10

planning from DHS or GardaWorld. Vice Mayor Earle Greenberg said he expected an evacuation to look like staff running for their cars while leaving detainees locked inside.

This review exists because Attorney General Kris Mayes sued DHS over the facility, citing Northwest Valley Indivisible's research on Rinchem. It was supposed to address the danger that put DHS in court, but it ignored it.

DHS and GardaWorld must complete a full Environmental Impact Statement that accounts for Rinchem's release scenarios. Public comments close Dec. 9. I urge every area resident and local official to email icesustainability@ice.dhs.gov and demand one

Brent Peak
PHOENIX

Why are off-duty officers at construction sites?

Why are there off-duty law enforcement officers working at construction sites in the Valley?

I have only seen one officer controlling an intersection's traffic signals. I have seen officers in their cars either reading or on their phones. Ten years or so ago they were getting $35 an hour for this duty. That's thousands of dollars added to road construction sites throughout the state.

If they are not directing traffic, what is their duty? With cell phones everywhere it's not to report accidents, and I don't believe they run radar to stop speeding in work zones.

I am curious to know what the reasoning is to have them present and how much this adds onto the price of road construction yearly. There may well be a valid reason, but I can't think what it might be.

James Peer
SUN CITY WEST

Is it giving season or requesting season?

Everyone talks about "giving" but few talk about "responsible giving," or good stewardship as we used to call it.

For years, I gave two prominent Valley charities $20 each at Thanksgiving. I got one letter in the mail each year and sent one donation.

I never thought to question them, or ask to see a financial report. One year I made extra money, so I sent them $100 each. I entered donor hell — almost weekly letters asking for more money.

It was easy to see their letters looked alike. I felt that my entire donation was being spent for junk mail.

The old saying, "charity begins at home," rang true to me. I try to be a generous tipper when my groceries are delivered, think of my postal carrier, offer to support a local club at church and try to make my life like a character from a Charles Dickens novel, "A Christmas Carol" or "Oliver Twist."

Scott Mitzner
SUN CITY WEST

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SUN CITY ELKS HOLD SOCCER SHOOTOUT

The Sun City Elks Lodge No. 2559 held its first soccer shoot at the Northwest Valley Family YMCA in El Mirage. Winners in each contest are eligible to advance to the next level of competition. The levels are local, district, state and regional. Winners at both the state and regional levels will have their scores sent to the national level to determine a national champion in each of the age and gender groups. (Submitted/Sandy McLemore)



SUN CITY CHURCH RAISES MONEY FOR VALLEY VIEW

Lakeview United Methodist Church recently held a Thanksgiving drive and collected money to purchase turkeys for the Valley View Food Bank. Sue Flater and Jan Heinzerling, from Lakeview's Mission and Outreach Committee, presented a check for $5,000 to Valley View Food Bank representative Jessie Ramirez Jr. (Submitted/Lynda Johnson)



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Learners participate in group discussion

In what she describes as "a simple pause for the holiday season," life coach and spiritual adviser Angela Lahman led a small group discussion for Lifelong Learners approaching the Thanksgiving, Christmas and Hanukkah season.

She said she wanted to help participants "make sense of what might be stirring in memories and find a footing before the season is really upon us."

Elders can report a certain heaviness when grief, change and expectations tug at emotional well-being.

Lahman asked learners to consider what might be expected or unresolved as the season approaches and to notice any assumptions we might have, to discern what really matters to us and to make real and specific choices in preparation

Lahman specializes in oil-based treatments and emotional support. Scents are part of memory and can be part of choosing wellness.

"Our sense of smell doesn't get processed via the cerebral cortex," she said. "Smell goes right to the limbic system and can trigger emotion."


Angela Lahman (Submitted/ Suzy Hallock-Bannigan)



SUN CITY MINI GOLF CLUB HOSTS TOURNEY

The Mini Golf Club of Sun City recently hosted its semi-annual invitational tournament. Lunch was served to the Sun City West Golf Club after a round of mini golf. This year, the tournament was held at Lake View Mini Golf Course with 83 members participating. The club's presidents thanked all who attended and the members who helped set up and take down the event. (Submitted/Wayne Braband)

SCORES

GOLF

Sun City Mini Golf Club
Lakeview - Nov. 11 - Par 42

Women Scr Hdc

1	Jacque Cross	41	39
2	Pamela Jordan	42	41
3	Sandy Nygaard	44	41
4	Cirila Braband	45	42
5	Sue Collins	44	43
6	Sue Mauch	45	43
7	Monica Nolan	47	43
8	Sharon Morrow	47	44
9	Rose Knudsen	48	44
10	Lois Sykora	48	45
11	Jane Bushor	49	46
12	Laura Kuchler	49	46
13	Gretchen Sinkula	50	46
14	Myrna Uriate	50	46
15	Audrey Rohan	51	46
16	Virginia Geile	50	47
17	Loretta Kvarnberg	50	47
18	Connie Boehm	53	47
19	Jean Cross	50	48
20	Nancy Fencl	50	48
21	Cherrie Rose	51	48
22	Anita Cox	52	48
23	Sylvia Carman	52	49
24	Mary Kief	53	49
25	Kathy O'connor	53	49
26	Cheryl Field	54	49
27	Nancy Motzer	54	49
28	Linda Corson	53	50
29	Janis Rosenberg	56	50
30	Cindy Costello	56	51
31	Kathy Mcmorrow	52	52
32	Linda Ungerer	57	53
33	Kathy Lee	58	54

Men Scr Hdc

1	Jim Stefanov	38	38
2	Wayne Braband	39	38
3	Jerry Neely	41	39
4	Thomas Ritz	41	41
5	Joseph Sinkula	42	41
6	Larry Bibler	43	42
7	Jim Kepler	43	42
8	Jeff West	43	43
9	Brian Ascetta	45	43
10	Mike Lemieux	45	43
11	Henry Halikowski	47	43
12	Milo Fencl	44	44
13	Les Redden	46	45
14	Jer Bear	47	45
15	Raymond Braband	49	45
16	Mike Starter	48	47
17	Alex Feldman	53	47
18	Ken Wolffer	50	48
19	Kerry Carman	51	48
20	Mike Field	53	48
21	Thomas Solomom	53	49
22	Manny Camilon	54	50
23	Cory Sites	55	50
24	Alan Felner	54	51
25	Ron Bogner	55	53

BOWLING

Thursday AM Mixers
Nov. 12

Men - SCratch Game
Richard Whitmark – 259
Dan Masters – 234
Mike Sommer – 233
Scratch Series
Richard Whitmark – 651
Jeff Jones – 627
Mike Sommer – 604
Handicap Game
Dan Masters – 295
Richard Whitmark – 290
Mike Sommer – 261
Handicap Series
Dan Masters – 785
Richard Whitmark – 744
Brian Sweiven – 708
Women - SCratch Game
Cindy Lucas – 194
Diana Ruzgis – 157
Sue Nichols – 157
Sparky Parker- 151
Scratch Series
Cindy Lucas – 514
Sue Nichols – 413
Joann Chavez – 398
Handicap Game
Cindy Lucas – 263
Diana Ruzgis – 242
Mo Trgovic – 239
Julie Whitmark - 239
Handicap Series
Cindy Lucas – 721
Julie Whitmark – 692
Marlene Webb - 671

GAMES

SCWCBC Tuesday Scores
Nov. 17

1 Marie Robertson 3850
2 Fran Kumar 3730
3 Bill Teegarden 3620
4 Steve Srb 3520
5 Jack Michels 3450
Small Slam(s): Susan Cange and Dennis Hemmer

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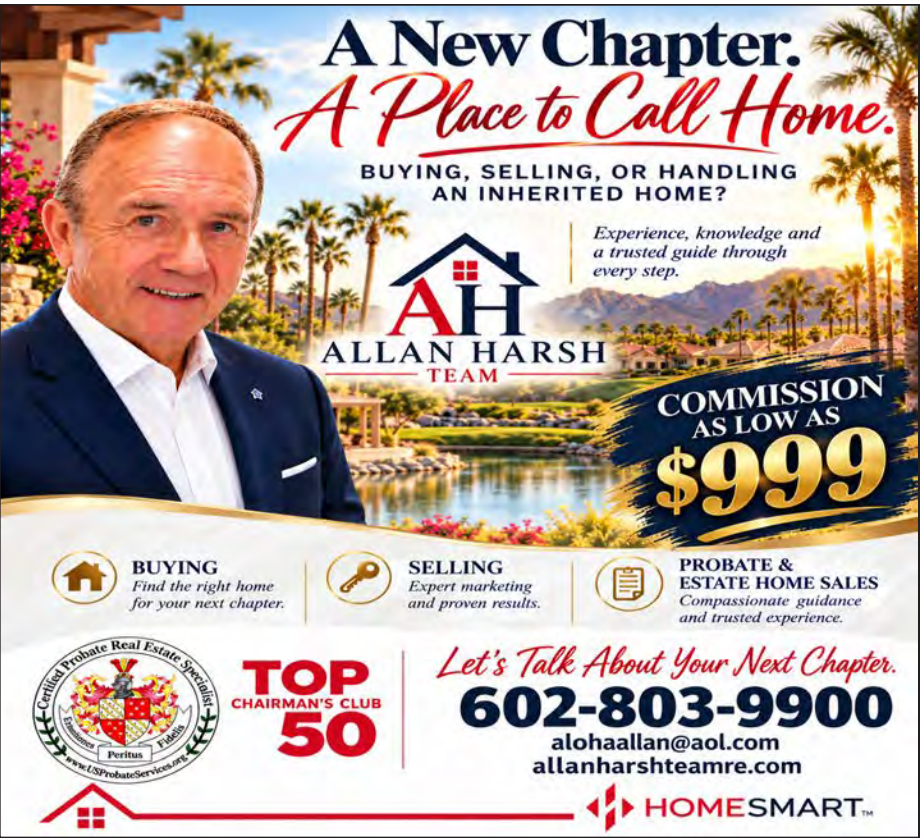
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Sun City residents peer into the past

Old letters. Faded photographs. A 1976 TV Guide. A cassette tape. Rusted license plates. Fragments of a deteriorated 16mm film.

These are just a few of the items uncovered in a recently opened time capsule placed in the base of Sun City's Liberty Bell when it was dedicated 50 years ago Nov. 15, 1976.

An overflow crowd of nearly 1,000 curious residents packed Sundial Auditorium Nov. 15, to learn what was in that time capsule and to hear the story behind the creation of the community's popular landmark.

The program was hosted by the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum and items in the time capsule — at least those that survived — were unveiled and displayed at the event. A selection of those items is the focus of a new exhibit at the museum.

The Liberty Bell was created in 1976 as a community project to celebrate the nation's 200th anniversary. Metal used to create the bell was the result of a one-day community collection drive that resulted in residents donating over 7,000 pounds of scrap metal.

The Del Webb Development Corp. shipped the metal — a collection of bikes, bed springs, bowling trophies, appliances and more — to a factory in Pennsylvania where it was sorted and melted. From there, the material went to Holland to be cast in the same mold used to create the famous 2,080-pound Philadelphia Liberty Bell.

The completed bell arrived in Sun City on July 5, 1976, and officially dedicated at Bell Recreation Center on Nov. 15, 1976. A time capsule with instructions to open in 50 years was placed in the bell's base.



Several items in the time capsule survived and remained in good condition, including a large selection of letters from residents and articles from local newspapers. (Submitted/Del Webb Sun Cities Museum)

Contents of the capsule were revealed during the ceremony at Sundial. Amazingly, most items survived intact and remained in good condition – except for metal objects, cassette tapes and Polaroid snapshots.

"The residents of 1976 and John Meeker of DEVCO created a time capsule for us — the Sun City residents of 2026! Today we get to see what survived the Arizona heat over that period," said Sun Cities Area Historical Society President Andy Kindler during his opening remarks.

"Not all of it did (survive) as you will see, but a I am happy to tell you much of it survived."

A new exhibit opened Nov 16 at the museum to showcase some of the items contained in the capsule. All items have been retrieved and painstakingly documented by the museum's staff of archivists.

The capsule was opened prior to the Nov. 15 ceremony to give

• See **Time** Page 19

Time

• From page 18

museum staff time to carefully inspect and document contents. The capsule was encased behind the plaque that sits on the base of the Liberty Bell.

Mr. Kindler and SCAHS Trustee Barb Wagers were there when Recreation Centers of Sun City Inc. staff removed the plaque.

"The first thing we noticed," said Ms. Wagers, "was there was no actual time capsule!"

Items were simply stacked in an opening behind the plaque. The museum found eight individual manilla envelopes meticulously labeled to identify its contents.

Included in the vast treasure trove of 1976 materials were magazines, street maps, Sun City promotional materials, governing documents, a poem by a local resident, films and more. A cassette recording of the 1976 dedication ceremony and Polaroid photos taken during the event were also included, most likely the last items to be squeezed into the capsule before it was sealed.

Most interesting was a large collection of letters written by Sun City residents — greetings from 1976 to their fellow residents of 2026. One of those letters was written by Doug Morris, editor at the time of the local newspaper. Excerpts from his letter were read during the ceremony.

"We are looking back on 16 years of expanding experimentation. You are reviewing 66 years of accomplished development. Our view is somewhat more limited than yours, because you are standing on our shoulders. You can see us clearly in the records; we can see you vividly in our plans and our hopes," Morris wrote in his letter.

"Del Webb built a challenge and called it Sun City. We accepted that challenge ... and we now pass it along to you. Thank you for receiving us into 2026. Thank you for making our dream a reality."

Morris at the time was editor of the Sun City Citizen, which later became the Sun City Independent. He served on the Sun City Bicentennial Committee. His letter was read during the ceremony by Bret McKeand, a past president of the museum and former editor and publisher of the Independent.

That 1976 committee was chaired by Jerry Svendsen, who served as the director of public relations in Sun City for more than 20 years.

Svendsen, now 91, was in attendance and introduced at the event. It was Svendsen who in 1976 organized the community campaign to create the Liberty Bell and who collected the contents ultimately placed in the time capsule.

"Thank you, Jerry, for being part of the leaders who built the foundation of Sun City and for having the foresight to preserve a time capsule to link the generations of the community," said Mr. Kindler.

The museum is collecting items and letters from resident to place into a new time capsule. The capsule will be replaced in the base of the Liberty Bell later this year and remained sealed until 2076.

During the ceremony, Laura Terech, executive director of the Arizona 250 Commission, presented the museum with a proclamation from Arizona Secretary of State Adrian Fontes declaring Nov. 8-15, 2026, as "Sun City Appreciation Week" in Arizona.

Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs presented a similar proclamation to the museum earlier in the month. Both proclamations are on display at the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum, 10801 W. Oakmont Drive, Sun City.

Visit delwebbsuncitiesmuseum.org.

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Sun City DAR recognizes members

Two Sun City NSDAR Agua Fria Chapter members, sisters Linda West and Tish Aliki, recently picked up plastic bags and pull tabs from retired nurse Mary Kay Campbell.

Campbell keeps a chart just outside her apartment door so other residents can see how many bags have been processed. She has sorted and folded more than 10,000 plastic bags for the nonprofit Caring Angels volunteer organization, which uses plastic bags to make crocheted sleeping mats for homeless Veterans.

The pull tabs are donated to the Arizona's Children of the American Revolution Hallie Orme Thomas Society chapter to be given to the Ronald McDonald House.

Campbell was born in Chester, New York on Memorial Day and enjoyed having a parade on her birthday. She was accepted January 5, 2022, into the NSDAR organization and became a member of the Agua Chapter.

She has an interest in genealogy. Her nephew found direct lineage to James Conklin, a New York Revolutionary War soldier, which qualified her for joining the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution organization by providing the proper documentation to the National Society.

Visit aguafria.arizonadar.org.



DAR members Linda West, Mary Kay Campbell and Tish Alicki. (Submitted/ Shirley Staggs)

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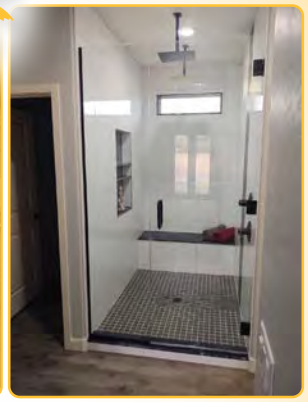
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DIRECTORS' BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Sun City Concert Band members recently celebrated the birthdays of Director Ken Jaeger and Associate Director Charles Musgrave, who share the same birthday. The band is rehearsing for its Christmas concert, "A Festival of Carols," scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in the Sundial auditorium, 14801 N. 103rd Ave. Admission is free for RCSC members and escorted guests. (Submitted/Sun City Concert Band)

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Foundation helps residents in need

By Zev Black
Independent Newsmedia

Many Sun City residents live on a fixed income and, with prices going up, are sometimes unable to pay the RCSC assessment fee.

The Sun City Foundation, a 501(c)(3) created by the Recreation Centers of Sun City, helps those who are most in need.

"It is there very specifically to help members who have outlived their resources to age in place and still partake in the amenities that they have available to them," Chris Nettesheim, foundation president, said. "And also to alleviate the stress of them not perhaps being able to pay their assessment bill."

She said people not being able to pay their bills is important to older generations.

Most of the people who need assessment assistance are bringing in less than minimum wage through Social Security. Nettesheim said one of the biggest challenges the foundation faces is that people are living longer than they used to.

"Because they are living longer, they are exhausting resources towards the end of their life," she said. "The monies that used to be available that were left as directed donations are no longer available."

To qualify, residents must have lived in Sun City for a minimum five years, be at least 67 years old, a member in good standing for at least three years, have an income not exceeding 150% of the federal poverty line and cannot have an assessment more than 60 days past due.

Current board member and past President Anita Borski said the best way for people to help the foundation is to donate money or volunteer. She added the group is also looking for grant researchers.

Nettesheim said post COVID life has been especially difficult for people.

Donations are becoming scarcer as people have to "tighten their belt."

> *"They do what little they have, they share freely. They do leave donations."*
>
> **Chris Nettesheim**
> **Foundation President**

That being said, Nettesheim said Sun City residents are some of the "most generous people in the world."

"They do what little they have, they share freely," she said. "They do leave donations. We have had members recently leave directed donations for fellow member assistance."

According to Borski, the foundation is helping 102 people. She said the foundation had been somewhat disregarded until recently.

"The last three years, we have made a concerted effort to bring it forward, make it known to the community to expand programming, to make it something the community would be proud of," she explained. "We want to really support our membership. It's not just the low income people. We want to support everyone. We want to develop things that everyone would be interested in."

Go to suncityaz.org/generic/sun-city-foundation.

MORE ONLINE
Find first responder news online at yourvalley.net.

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 888-665-3848.

NOV. 1

• Criminal damage was reported 8:50 p.m. in the 10700 block of West Santa Fe Drive.

• An assault was reported 4:59 p.m. in the 11600 block of West Peoria Avenue.

• A fire was reported 3:37 p.m. in the 12700 block of North 113th Avenue.

• An assault was reported 1:27 p.m. in the 10500 block of West Snead Drive.

• Burglary from a vehicle was reported 12:16 p.m. in the 11600 block of West Peoria Avenue.

• Trespassing was reported 2:59 p.m. in the 11100 block of Northwest US60 Grand Avenue. • A vehicle crash with no injury was reported 1:07 a.m. in the 11500 block of West Duran Avenue.

• A burglary from a vehicle was reported 12:24 a.m. in the 11300 block of North 113th Avenue.

Nov. 2

• An assault was reported 5:39 p.m. in the 15500 block of West Deanne Drive.

• Identity theft was reported 3:11 p.m. in the 13200 block of West Hyacinth Drive.

• Suspicious activity was reported 12:08 p.m. in the 12100 block of West Jessie Court.

• Identity theft was reported 10:55 a.m. in the 12000 block of West Jessie Court.

• An insurance loss was reported 8:47 a.m. in the 10800 block of West Santa Fe Drive.

Nov. 3

• Trespassing was reported 6:23 p.m. in the 11600 block of West Olive Avenue.

• A person was found 1:46 p.m. in the 12400 block of West Ginger Drive.

• A theft was reported 1:08 p.m. in the 13600 block of North Del Webb Boulevard.

• A vehicle crash with no injury was reported 12:49 p.m. in the 10100 block of West Hutton Drive.

• A fraud or con game was reported 11:28 a.m. in the 10700 block of West Hibiscus Drive.

• A vehicle crash with no injury was reported 10:56 a.m. in the 13600 block of West Camino Del Sol.

• A vehicle crash with no injury was reported 8:51 a.m. in the 13400 block of West Crown Ridge Drive.

• A vehicle crash with no injury was reported 11:52 a.m. in the 13200 block of North 111th Avenue.

• A vehicle crash with injuries was reported 10:17 a.m. in the 13500 block of West Camino Del Sol.

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RAMBLERS TO PRESENT HOLIDAY SHOW, DANCE

The Rhythm Ramblers will perform holiday music in the big band style 2:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1, in the Sundial auditorium, 14801 N. 103rd Ave. All selections will be suitable for dancing. "This is one of our favorite shows," said Ramblers music director Bryan Altherr, "and we expect an even bigger crowd than usual to share the spirit of the season with us." Doors open at 2 p.m. Tables for four or more can be reserved by calling Lynn Altherr at 602-909-7586. Drinks and snacks may be brought in. Cups and ice will be provided. Event admission is $10 for RCSC cardholders and escorted guests. Rhythm Ramblers Club members get in free. Any RCSC cardholder may join the club for 2027 by paying $15 at the door. Membership includes admittance to seven performances in the coming year. Contact Rick Lamb at 602-677-8841 or ricklambphd@gmail.com. Pictured, music director Bryan Altherr puts the Rhythm Ramblers through their paces. (Submitted/Carole Mundy)

Save the Dates

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Apache Junction • January 6, 2027 • Central Arizona College

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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Kathleen Mary Heyman

Kathleen Mary Heyman of Gilford, NH and Sun City, AZ, passed away October 31, 2026.

Kathleen was born in Freeport, NY to Ethel Sonneborn Carnie and Norman Carnie. Kathy was married to James Heyman for over 60 years, mother, grandmother and special needs champion.

Kathleen was a natural born caregiver working with special needs children and young adults in Lacoria, NH and Deer Valley, AZ. She was a loyal member of the Episcopal Church.

Her loving spirit lives on through her children Nancy Rosado, Casey Heyman, and her five grandchildren.

Family and friends can attend a service to remeber Kathleen on Decemeber 6 at 10:00am at All Saints of the Desert Episcopal Church, 9502 W. Hutton Dr., Sun City, AZ 85391.

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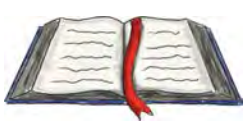
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Service Times
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TUESDAY: Mid-Week Bible Study 10:00am



YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD TO-DO LIST



CHORALE ANNOUNCES DECEMBER CONCERTS

The West Valley Chorale, directed by Ken Goodenberger, with Christine Kyhn, principal accompanist, will soon perform John Rutter's "When Icicles Hang," plus select holiday music. The first concert is 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1, at American Lutheran Church, 17200 N. Del Webb Blvd., in Sun City; the second is 7 p.m. Thursday Dec. 3, at Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church, 13658 W. Meeker Blvd., in Sun City West. Tickets are available at westvalleychoraleaz.org/reserve-tickets. The West Valley Chorale is a Surprise 501(c) nonprofit performing arts organization comprised of auditioned singers from 10 communities throughout the West Valley. (Submitted/ Laura Ager)

FARMERS MARKET

ABOUT: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursdays at Bell Recreation Center, 16820 N. 99th Ave., Sun City
INFO: The year-round farmers market features seasonal produce, herbs, flowers, baked goods, meat, seafood and other food products.
WEB: arizonacommunityfarmersmarkets.com

ALPHA XI

ABOUT: 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1, in the library at All Saints of the Desert Episcopal Church, 9502 W. Hutton Drive.
INFO: Delta Kappa Gamma chapter meeting. Holiday gathering, assembling Christmas gifts for Alta Loma Elementary School.
INFO: alphaxi-az.weebly.com.

CRAFT FAIR

ABOUT: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 4-5, at Lakeview United Methodist Church, 10298 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City.
INFO: There will be hand-crafted items, jewelry and home decor from local artisans and Lakeview members. Holiday baked goods will also be available. Breakfast and lunch items will be sold with proceeds to benefit Lakeview Men's Group.
CONTACT: Cyndee LaFontaine at 480-242-2782 or azcyne@msn.com or Ila Lewis at 609-706-0377 or ilita3@yahoo.com.

TEA PARTY

ABOUT: 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, First Presbyterian Church of Sun City, 12225 N. 103rd Ave.
INFO: Traditional holiday tea for women in Swain Hall. Proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity, Valley View Food Bank and Eve's Place. 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.
CONTACT: 623-974-3605.

SUNDAY MARKET ON ELM

ABOUT: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays, along Elm Street in front of Jet's Pizza in the Surprise City Center area.
INFO: The Sunday Market brings together local small businesses and features vendors offering handmade goods, treats, gifts and local produce.

OREGON CLUB

About: Saturday, Dec. 12, at Briarwood Country Club, 20800 N. 135th Ave., Sun City West. Check-in at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch and carols.
Info: Club member cost and menu selections for the Christmas party are grilled salmon $25 and braised beef short ribs $30. Non-member guest cost is $50. Registration and payment must be received by Friday, Dec. 4.
CONTACT: oregonclubaz.weebly.com, oregonsocialclub@gmail.com, 503-261-1475.

WOMEN'S CHORUS

ABOUT: 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, in the Sundial Auditorium, 14801 N. 103rd Ave.
INFO: Sun City Women's Chorus holiday concert. Tickets are $5. The chorus will be accompanied by Wendy Perry on the violin. Dan Hatfiel will be the percussionist.

HAVE AN EVENT?

Have something happening in or near Sun City? We welcome submissions from clubs and groups, as well as nearby nonprofits, churches and community organizations. Include the event name, date, time, location, a brief description and contact information.
Email: **jcarr@iniusa.org.**

IN EVENTS

The Surprise Independent will host a senior expo 9 a.m.-noon Jan. 19, 2027 at The Colonnade, 19116 N. Colonnade Way, Surprise. Individuals wishing to participate may reach out to the sales team.
Email: **azads@iniusa.org**

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD TO-DO LIST



CRAFT FAIR

ABOUT: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 30, at the Colonnade, 19116 N. Colonnade Way.
INFO: This craft fair will feature local artists and crafters showcasing one-of-a-kind creations.
CONTACT: Krystal.Flippo@sunhealth.org.



NORTH DAKOTA CLUB

ABOUT: 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Beardsley Rec Center, 12755 W. Beardsley Road.
INFO: Holiday gathering with a sandwich buffet plus games and other activities. Bring beverages.
CONTACT: 701-527-5827.



CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

ABOUT: 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Desert Garden United Church of Christ, 18818 N. 128th Ave.
INFO: "The Glory of Christmas." This musical will be performed by the Desert Garden Chancel Choir and Orchestra, conducted by Dennis Marsollier.
WEB: desertgardenucc.org.



(Submitted/ProMusica Arizona)

PROMUSICA CONCERTS

ABOUT: 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at All Saints Lutheran Church, 15649 N. Seventh St., Phoenix; and 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 21, at American Lutheran Church, 17200 N. Del Webb Blvd., Sun City.
INFO: ProMusica Arizona Chorale & Orchestra will present "Heart of Christmas," featuring carols and holiday music.
CONTACT: PMAZ.org, 623-920-1194.

Desert Garden Church Christmas Cantata
"The Glory of Christmas" by Lloyd Larson

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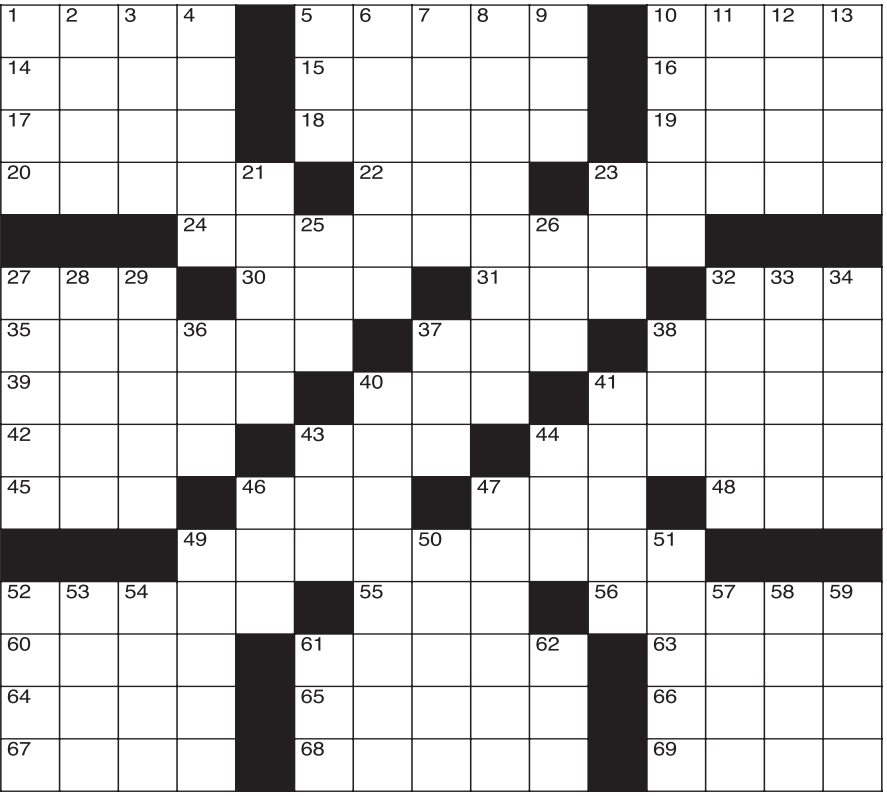
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Perceive a sound
5. Pretends to be
10. Type of guitar
14. Actor Idris
15. A citizen of Iran
16. Creative
17. Keep under control
18. Weight unit for precious stones
19. You better call him
20. Fanatical
22. Male cat
23. Jewish spiritual leader
24. One who takes risks
27. A way to nail
30. Cool!
31. Progressive policy supporter
32. "Losing My Religion" rockers
35. Step-shaped recess
37. Round globular seed
38. Somewhat
39. Butterhead lettuces
40. Color at the end of the spectrum
41. Lines where fabrics are sewn together
42. Dodgers great Hershiser
43. Floor covering
44. Traveled aimlessly
45. Rocker Stewart
46. Body art
47. Congressman (abbr.)
48. No seats available
49. Categorizes
52. Iraq-Syria border town
55. Ballplayer's tool
56. Type of sword
60. Baseball team
61. Upper bracts of grass
63. Italian seaport
64. Ancient city in Syria
65. Shoelace tube
66. U. of Miami mascot is one
67. South American nation
68. "Nebraska" director Alexander
69. Upper body part

CLUES DOWN

1. German courtesy title
2. Ancient Greek City
3. Skin care manufacturer
4. A long-legged frog
5. Photo
6. Delivered a speech
7. Lute in northern Indian music
8. Decorated
9. Take a seat
10. Bottom layer
11. Type of horse
12. Ticket part
13. Defunct currency of Guinea
21. Challenges
23. Popular BBQ food
25. Subway rodent
26. By way of
27. Shady garden alcove
28. City in Egypt
29. __ and flowed
32. Large quantities of paper
33. Eurasian wheat
34. Act incorrectly
36. Layer of water right above sediment (abbr.)
37. Al Bundy's wife
38. Ocean
40. Large, round root
41. Sound units
43. Knock
44. Soak in water
46. Hot drink
47. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
49. Rumanian city
50. Come back from being down
51. Vaccine developer
52. Canadian law enforcers
53. Wings
54. "Perry Mason" actor Raymond
57. Small fry
58. __ Clapton, musician
59. Gamble
61. Semi-liquid food
62. Consumed food

See **Solution** Page **30**

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

PUZZLE ON PAGE 29

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C	L	U	B		P	A	L	E	A		B	A	R	I
M	A	R	I		A	G	L	E	T		I	B	I	S
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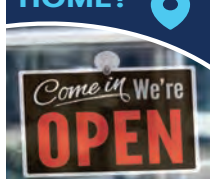
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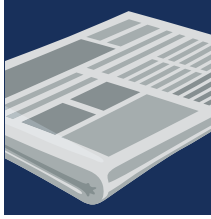
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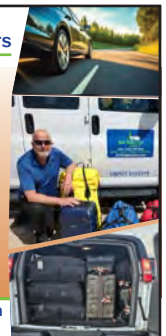


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