

LA SOLANA TOWN CRIER

All the good news that's fit to print

President's Column

Join me as we wish our HOA Board President, Jan Smith, a full and speedy recovery.

From the Editor

Dear Neighbors, without your input the Town Crier can't happen. I loved publishing the May edition with all its newsy tidbits and photos submitted by residents. That's what makes the Town Crier a successful publication. Without your input all I can do is publish the news from our monthly Neighborhood Rep meetings.

The Neighborhood Reps will be on hiatus until September, and so will I be. **You** determine if we return to the News Paper format in the fall or just post out the monthly Neighborhood Rep reports.

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Big Shout Out to Carol Crawford

Thank you Carol for all of your efforts to keep the Town Crier alive and relevant. The only newsy tip I received this month came from Carol with news about the new Water Yoga Aerobics weekly class that was scheduled to begin on Friday, June 6 at 9:30.

Neighborhood Reps

When Del Webb conceived the plan for his Sun Cities, he envisioned large developments of Senior Citizens, in affordable housing, with focus on community and volunteerism. He set aside large parcels for churches, synagogues, and activity centers. To combat residents being "lost in the masses" he also designated neighborhoods. Each neighborhood would have its own Welcome Wagon, modeled after the Welcome Wagon programs that were in effect across the nation in the 50's and 60's. The Welcome Wagon Volunteers greeted new residents, usually with some samples in a gift bag or basket, provided local resources, and answered questions.

The Grand 9700 housing units are divided into 47 neighborhoods. La Solana is designated as a distinct neighborhood. We are distinct in many ways. First, we are the only condos in The Grand. Most residents didn't know that La Solana is a neighborhood, not a separate entity like The Colonnade. Due to the relentless energy of our Board and several residents, CAM finally acknowledged La Solana officially. We have street signs on Mountain View welcoming visitors and residents to The Grand. We have ads in our Life Style Magazine featuring La Solana. We are touted on the Grand website as part of our internal and external marketing programs. (See page 34 of June Life Styles magazine.)

And we have our own Neighborhood Rep. Currently serving as your rep, I am responsible for sharing monthly news from The Grand. (Con't page 2)

Neighborhood rep (con't from page 1)

What constitutes our neighborhood? Certainly, it's the physical boundaries, the 252 units, and our Club House. Our residents are owners, snowbirds and full time, long and short term renters—some of whom return the same months every year. They are all our neighbors. (Note: if you are an owner, please pass the Town Crier along to your tenants if they are not already on the office list.)

Due to the uniqueness of La Solana, the only neighborhood with a separate club house, communal swimming pool, and full time maintenance and office staff, your neighborhood rep is able to gather community news and share it monthly in our Town Crier distributed from our office. Our newsletter can be as unique as we are. Your input helps that to happen.

Alternate Neighborhood Rep Needed

Neighborhood rep meetings are regularly scheduled the first Friday of every month, 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM in the Sonoran Plaza ballroom. I usually attend, but sometimes I am out of town. Please consider volunteering as alternate rep attending the monthly meeting if I am unable to attend. I will still do the newsletter so your participation would be limited to the meetings. I think you will find them very informative. Interested? Contact the office or me directly.

The Grand is Big and Grand

It's easy to spend 24/7 at La Solana: Great neighbors, beautiful clubhouse, swimming pool and spa, lots of activities. There's even more beyond our invisible gates. The Grand Fitness centers operate 7 days a week. June 23 is the kickoff to a summer fitness program—Level Up. See the June Life Style magazine for details and discounts.

Want to expand your knowledge about anything? You might just find the class you want at Grand Learning. Each month there is a listing of available classes (pages 36-40). There's even more classes offered in the Fall and Winter. Classes do fill up so stay current. My husband and I enjoy a weekly movie class—free. This series features classic movie Biographies which included "The World's Fastest Indian" about a motorcycle race, it's rider, and the speed record he has held since 1967!

There are Clubs and Interest Groups galore. I challenge you to read through the Club and Interest Group pages (41-59). It's nigh impossible to not find a Club or Group that peaks your interest. All are open to anyone in Grand, owners and residents with an activity card. I belong to several Clubs and Interest Groups, my social calendar is kept pretty full. Life is pretty Grand at The Grand.

The City of Surprise is Awesome

Check out the District 2 News in Life Styles Magazine page 60. There's a Grandkids Corner on page 61 with lots of ideas for places to take your visiting Grandkids before you send them on their way.

The City of Surprise operates a WeRide Program and has a Senior Resource Center. Go to the [surprise.gov](https://www.surprise.gov) for more information and services. On the main page check out all there is to offer under Residents.

Did you know that the City Fire Department will send folks out to Change, or even install, your smoke detectors? A Fireman told me, when he was changing my smoke detector batteries, that it is easier for the Fire Department to change the batteries than triage you and transport you to the hospital when you fall off the ladder. Makes sense to me.

Long Range Plan—Summarized

(Abbreviated). Long Range Plan Mission Statement: Develop comprehensive goals which support the core values of our unique community: (1) to support the inviting features of La Solana, safety-conscious utilization of the property. (2) positive community spirit, social interaction, governing independences (3) fiscal security achieved through focused planning and prioritization.

High Priority Projects: Safety & Security (1) Neighborhood Watch Group (needs a leader), (2) develop an Emergency Response Plan, (3) permanent Safety Committee, (4) accommodations for the disabled re safety and security, (5) improve interior and exterior lighting. Socialization (1) Activities Director, (2) newcomers welcoming & orientation program, (3) enhance communication. Use of Space: (1) improved vehicle parking, (2) fountain renovation, (3) pool area enhancements.

For detailed information regarding La Solana Long Range Plan consult the full document available in the office or on our website.

Thank you from all of us to all of you who continue to work towards making La Solana one Grand place to live.

Remember: The Town Crier is your paper. Without you the paper will be nothing but a notice. Send your articles and photos, tidbits and tips: Have a great summer. Next publication in September unless I have so much news and so many photos I can't wait.

Adrienne, Editor