

La Solana Town Crier

All the Good News That's Fit to Print

A word from our President,
Jan Smith

“Rejuvenation”What does this word mean to La Solana? Periodically large shrubs need what's called rejuvenation pruning and it involves removing branches all the way down to their base. That's right. The entire shrub is cut just above ground level. This type of extreme pruning is done to rejuvenate the health of shrubs that have become too overgrown.

Rejuvenation pruning results in a smaller plant that flowers more profusely and is easier to control with regular thinning.

I must admit I have had my blood pressure go up watching it, but Mike and Santos have assured me that it's for the health of our shrubs and we will be very happy with the results. So I will wear dark glasses and be so happy when new green growth begins to appear.

I am getting exciting news from the Long Range Planning Committee. (con't p.2)

Let's Party!!!

At La Solana, we're either planning a party, recovering from a party, or being at a party. Our Club House rocks all year long. Recently we've had a deli fest and a birthday party for everyone who has a birthday (we never ask which birthday). There's an upcoming Super Bowl Party and a Valentine's party celebrated with loaded baked potatoes. Coming are Easter dinners, soup extravaganzas, hot dog barbecues, pool parties, and whatever party our fabulous hosts want to add along the way.

There's party after party after party. Don't be square, be there!!!



Hosts: Cheryl Enslin, Martha Scott, Terrie Ward, Lois Mumford

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Committee. The focus groups have started and they are having excellent owner participation. I am excited for all the opinions and ideas from everyone to be compiled and presented to the Board as goals. Please continue to participate in the next groups and be part of setting goals for the future of La Solana.

We held an important meeting February 7th at 10am. At the special Board Workshop we discussed pine tree removal, planting of new replacement trees, and had a discussion of Phase one of our painting project which included the color selection. We will also discuss Phase Two of the project and review what comes next.

February 13th at 10am is our Annual Meeting in the ballroom at the Grand. The Annual meeting will be immediately followed by a regular Board meeting. The Board will vote on its officers for the upcoming year and a regular agenda will be decided. Please plan to attend these important meetings.

Note: This is my last newsletter as President as my term expires this month. I am running for the Board. The new board will select the President and whoever is elected will then continue the President's column.

Jan Smith, President La Solana



Deannie Price and Len Jacobson



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Comments &
questions, but no
complaints please.

News from the Grand:

- Technology is being evaluated throughout our campus. We're not only looking at upgrades but also looking forward to incorporating what's happening in the technology future. Grand aims to stay ahead of the curve in order to continue to attract new residents, maintain our home values, and provide the best opportunities for our residents to enjoy their active community. Get the free Grand app from the app store.
- Color palette schemes for painting the Cimarron center are in the works. Much of Grand needs a paint refresh, as does our own La Solana. Cimarron is long overdue.
- Grand is reexamining how we do business. Which processes are redundant, what needs a refresh or elimination, how do we provide a setting for our staff to be most productive? All of these questions will be answered during our thorough re-examination. (Might it be time for each of us to review how we run our homes & lives & finances? Just a thought.)
- Communications is key. We have a new Grand hire, Cooper, who is in charge of assuring our website and other technology sites are easy to navigate and convey the information residents seek in a logical, clear manner. If you have any issues with the Grand website, contact Cooper in the CAM offices.
- Westside Concepts (our new food and beverage provider) continues to expand. There's now food and beverage service at the Cimarron pool from Thursday through Monday every week. The Grand Cafe is open and serving from 7 AM until 5 PM daily. Did you get your Westside Concepts app? Don't forget there is a one-time \$10 gift certificate yours free when you sign up for the rewards program good at all Westside Concepts eateries. Watch for the opening of Maple & Rye (The Falls) in early March.
- Grand is staying ahead of the 2025 Arizona state water mandates. We saved millions of acres of water by not reseeding one of the golf courses and are refurbishing our plants & trees replacing with drought tolerant, native plants. The course is not as pretty, but revenues are constant and we are helping save water.
- Back to the drawing board for Long Range Plans. Rethinking and reimagining what Grand will be in the future. We know change can be difficult for some, but it is inevitable for all.
- February is Go Red for Women's month. Heart disease continues to be a leading cause of death for women. Know the signs. Know where the AED devices are—they save lives. (Where is La Solana's AED equipment?). Want to remain heart-healthy? Move, keep moving, no smoking/vaping, walking is a key as is eating carefully.

Thank you Grand Board of Directors

Finally, we asked and they answered. La Solana is officially, for everyone to see, part of Grand. Check out the new signage on Mountain View. Okay, so it did take a few years, and lots of nudging, but our new GM, Jeff Hochman, took notice. We want to say thank you. Join us in the Club House on February 23 at 10 AM when we officially say thank you to the Board for the new sign and for helping us with our color selection process. Coffee & goodies for all in attendance.

Save the date: February 23, 10 AM, Coffee & Goodies & Thank You's in the Club House

Tragedy Strikes Grand Home

Sadly, a fast spreading accidental fire destroyed a house in Grand near the softball field leaving its sole occupant dead. Although all details have not been released, we know the resident was part of our deaf community and may not have heard the fire alarm go off. This need not have happened. There is a smoke alarm that shakes the bed and can be a life saver for the hard of hearing. Contact the local fire department for details.

The life you save may be yours, or someone you love. Let's not ever repeat this tragedy.

Surprise is our city—stay informed

Aly Cline, a resident of the Grand, has long represented Grand at the Surprise City Council. We have been well served by having a Grand resident on the city council. Aly is now campaigning for Surprise mayor and promises to continue living at Grand. How Grand for us! Let's assure we continue to have representation on the Surprise City Council. Former Grand board president, Earle Greenberg, is running for Surprise City Council. Let's get his name on the ballot and then vote.

Aly Cline for Surprise Mayor

Earle Greenberg for Surprise City Council

Vote to keep our voices active in Surprise!

Social life in La Solana is great, but more awaits you in Grand, check it out:

- Mardi Gras in the Village Center. Feb 13th, 4-6 PM. Entertainment, food & drink specials.
- Grand Movie Series—free admission, free popcorn. Feb 29, 1 PM Sonoran Plaza. The movie "AIR"
- Spring arts and craft Faire: March 30, 9-2 PM. Village Center
- Grand Learning still has openings in some of the classes. Want to learn to meditate? Take better care of yourself? Rediscover President Lincoln? All there in Grand Learning. Check it out.



Did you know?

- We all pay for trash pick up. Are you the one who forgot to smash your boxes?
- TV in the clubhouse for NFL playoffs, New Year's Eve, Super Bowl, and more;
- The benches in between our buildings get dirty. Help us maintain their cleanliness by taking a cleaning cloth out and giving them a wipe down before you sit down;
- The upcoming Board meeting will host City of Surprise to discuss Code enforcement and city permits for renovations;
- Coming—new numbers and signs on our buildings, new lights in front and in pool area.