

LA SOLANA TOWN CRIER

ALL THE GOOD NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT

From the President, Jan Smith

Let's talk about Painting

La Solana's buildings have not had exterior maintenance or been painted for many years. Maintenance and painting of the buildings is part of maintaining the value of our condos as well as addressing safety issues. We have to make sure our buildings don't have stucco that is coming off, dry wall that needs repair, tiles that are falling off, and color that is possibly outdated.

2024 is going to bring the opportunity to look at all the above and make decisions. Your Board has begun the planning and with the including of La Solana residents will make decisions to move forward with maintenance and painting of all of our buildings.

This is going to be a very complicated project that will take disciplined process development,

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Can you spell Charcuterie?

You didn't have to spell it to be able to eat your fill at our Sept social. What a feast our La Solana summer social team put together for us on Sept 27th—a variety of cheeses, deli meats, fruits, wine, and of course, desserts. Terry Ward assisted with the beautiful table setting but she didn't do it alone.

Shout out to all the

volunteers behind these great social events: shoppers, organizers, servers, clean up crews, registrars, Board supporters, and more. It indeed takes a community to make these events happen.

*Ask not what you're going to eat at the next event,
ask how you can help.*



President con't

much planning, careful consideration of our budget, and the involvement of experts.

Please share your thoughts with the Board so the best decisions can and will be made. Please come to the Board Workshops and Meetings to stay informed.

On another note, we welcome back our winter residents. We are so happy to see you returning. It's time to enjoy the beautiful Arizona weather and all of the fun activities.

Happy Fall, *Jan Smith*

La Solana Board President.

We're getting a face lift



Check out the street view of La Solana and our new xeriscape features. We are beautifying, reducing maintenance needs and costs, saving water, and looking more like our Grand community. Over time the plants will fill in and look lush.



Remember when this was a leaky fountain between buildings 2 & 3? Now it is a beautiful, very low maintenance, visually pleasing contemplative garden flanked by two new comfortable benches.

Sometimes we have to give up the familiar to enjoy the benefits of something new.

We're looking for more dirty windows

If you have dirty windows you would like cleaned, watch for notice from the office. Patti will be heading up the window cleaning this year. When we have concrete information, she will provide info and costs.



SAVE THE DATE — October 18, 5 P.M.

Our Summer Social Committee isn't done yet. There's more pizza, salad, and ice cream in your future if you show up at the Club House. BYOB \$5. Donation.

Sign up in the Club House before October 13.

The Library and Puzzle Room at La Solana Club House

Did you know that among all of the other amenities and social activities, we have our own lending library? Here you will find soft, comfy chairs for reading, a plethora of books, fiction and non-fiction, donated by our residents, and dozens of puzzles that are sure to provide hours of entertainment. Whether you want to find that one puzzle piece, or build an entire puzzle on your own, you can do it in our library puzzle room.

Frequent puzzler Alene Feldhacker (Bldg 6) invites you to join her anytime. Maybe you'll be the one to find that one piece that she couldn't identify, or you'll complete the border. Puzzles are for everyone to join in, don't wait to be invited. Stop by and get "puzzled."



Did you know?

- Driveways at La Solana have a speed limit—15 miles per hour. Be safety conscious for yourself and others.
- There is now a passcode for the CoxWIFI in the Clubhouse and Pool Area. To access WiFi: LSC-Guest p/w: Condos252

Resident Bob Sylvester arranged for the Grand patrol to circulate through La Solana on their regular rounds. This is the volunteer Association patrol. Prior to Bob's requesting this service, the patrol did not include La Solana in their rounds. The Association adds another level of security to our community.

Bob is always looking out for La Solana. He is also responsible, along with Jan Smith and a few others, for getting Grand to recognize the need for street signs that indicate La Solana is part of Grand. Shortly there will be signs on Mountain View saying "Welcome to the Grand", and "Thank you for visiting Grand."

Bob is also alternate Neighborhood Rep for La Solana. *Thank you Bob for all you do.*

Let's Welcome Debbie Ciliberti to La Solana

Debbie Ciliberti will be sharing the la Solana office with our own Patti. Debbie brings 12 years of experience in the office at Corte Bella to our community. Following a very brief retirement, Debbie decided she loved people and working in the office way too much to give it up. After interviewing more than a dozen candidates, Debbie was our first choice and we are happy to have her. Debbie and her long-time beau live in Sun City West, so a long commute won't keep her away. Stop by the office and say hello.



Don't shoot the messenger - Me

Grand HOA annual dues will be going up 4% for a total of \$72, the equivalent of \$6 a month.

News from the Grand

- Food and beverage updates: Compass is no longer our Food and Beverage vendor. A final offer is currently under consideration for a proprietor for The Falls (which will be renamed and branded by the new vendor—an experienced restaurateur.) Watch for the reopening in the next 60 days or less.
- The soft serve ice cream machine will be closed down for approximately 2 weeks while it is undergoing a thorough cleaning and the new personnel are trained to operate and maintain it. *You can get an ice cream fix at the October 18 social in the La Solana club house.*
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) More environmental safety revisions such as improved lighting, maintaining of trees and shrubs to assure they cannot hide predators. In the planning stages, a video you can access for ideas about home environment safety. The HOA Board is responding to residents' concerns in a responsible manner.
- Grand Credits. Use your Grand login to add credits to your accounts. These credits can be used at the fitness center, activity center, golf courses, golf snack bars. With credits on file you won't need to carry your credit card to take a class at the fitness center or purchase tickets through the activity desk.
- Budget process is in the works and we are looking good. No assessments, within budget, continuing to realize savings through reduced water usage.
- Golf Courses now only allow 2 golf carts per group of golfers. Please buddy up to save wear and tear on our greens, and time for play.
- The Grand Election Team is holding an open house on 11/8 for all those who are considering volunteering for governance positions at Grand. 3:30-5:30 Palm Center. RSVP to Volunteer Central.
- Holiday Decorations are encouraged 2 weeks prior to the holiday with removal 5 days post-holiday.
- Lots of opportunities to lend your expertise to our great community. Check out Volunteer Central to see what you can do. Research clearly shows that volunteering, doing something for others, improves your health and your happiness. Don't miss out. The perfect volunteer vehicle is waiting for you.

City of Surprise

There's a lot happening in our city which has grown to 165,000 residents, up from 25,000 in 2002.

- Our own City Councilwoman, Aly Cline, will be running for City Mayor in 2024 as our current mayor is retiring. If you would like to see her name on the ballot, come by my place (unit 3312) and sign the petition to have her name added. We are collecting 1000 signatures.
- Bond measure coming up for a vote on Nov 7. The bond is badly needed to reduce traffic congestion by completing and widening some existing east-west corridors (Waddell, Happy Valley Road, Cactus, etc) to relieve traffic on Bell. In addition the bond will support the building of a new fire station, the construction of an additional police substation, and the acquisition of land for future fire station and public safety facilities.
- Did you know that the vast majority of 911 calls resulting in deployment of fire engines and ambulances are for medical reasons, not for fires. Our community benefits greatly by having active and adequate fire stations. When you cast your ballot, vote yes for the bond measure on Nov 7. **NO TAX RATE INCREASE EXPECTED.**
- Sundays in the Park. Oct 15, 3-7 PM. RnB Tastings and Children's Entrepreneur Market
 - Nov 5, Thaddeus Rose (great local band for listening and dancing) and PS I Love AZ Arts & Craft Market
 - Nov 11, 10 a.m. Veterans Day Parade on Bullard Avenue
- TaiChi - Surprise Library on Bullard. Every Tuesday 9:15 - 10:15 FREE. New comers to Tai Chi are always welcomed. Join at least two La Solana residents each week.