

La Solana Town Crier

All the Good News That's Fit to Print

A word from our President, Jan Smith

We seem to have gotten past the cooler weather and it has been so beautiful the past few days. It's so great to see all the Snowbirds back and our community is very busy.

We need to welcome Debbie back to our office. We definitely missed her. Patti, along with Mike, did an outstanding job in Debbie's absence, but it's great to now have the office open Monday thru Friday.

Congratulations to the Social Committee. The Super Soup Supper was a hit and we had some amazing entertainment (President Lincoln attended). Thank you to everyone who worked so hard on this event.

Now let's talk about

Our great community, conceived in the spirit of good will towards all, brought forth another night to remember—Annual Soup Night.



Lois Mumford & Patti, along with their Social Committee helpers, prepare to serve up 18 different soups—everything from corn soup and Taco Dump to Hungarian Goulash. The feast began with sumptuous salads, proceeded to the soup selections, then onto bread and rolls, finishing with the piece-de-resistance, the desserts. We filled our glasses with a wine assortment, ate and slurped, then settled in for the entertainment.



80 strong and enough soup that no one left hungry. We were also enlightened and entertained by our special guests.

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cleaning up the clippings as they should be. Mike is aware of this and is working with Carescape to improve both of these areas.

The painting project is moving along and our painting consultant has scheduled painting contractors to visit our community and start the bidding process. We will be sending special emails and posting all painting updates in the mailroom and on our website.

Have you noticed how much our interior fountains have deteriorated? They are crumbling and look really bad. Gordon Kath, Harold Enslin, Roger Johnson, Bob Adams, Karen Gabelson, and I are working to come up with a solution. We have a fountain restoration company scheduled to evaluate the possibility of restoring them. Once we get that information we can proceed with a plan.

A special thanks to the LRP committee. They have completed all of the focus groups and will soon present all the goals to the Board. Thank you to all who participated. I am excited to hear all the ideas you have to make our community even more amazing. We always need to keep moving forward and listen to what ideas you have to improve La Solana.

A favorite quote of mine: "If you're lucky enough to be in Arizona in the Winter, you are luck enough." We are definitely very lucky. Enjoy every day!!!!

Jan Smith, President La Solana

**And now a word from our President—
that's President Abraham Lincoln, and
wife Mary Todd Lincoln in the disguise of
a 21st Century woman**



At La Solana, we celebrate everything. Deli anyone? Getting together in our beautiful club house is always a cause for celebration.

To be there or not, that's the question for you to answer:

Cheryl Enslin, Martha Scott, Terrie Ward, Lois Mumford



Sharon & Ole Bergen

Town Crier edited by Adrienne Kirschner

Please submit articles and ideas:
adriennekirschner314@gmail.com

We don't need casinos

We're La Solana and we couldn't be better. Did you know we have Bingo, Mahjong, Poker, Hand & Foot, Canasta, Bridge, to name a few games. We have books and puzzles, comfy couches and chairs. We have coffee and sometimes donuts and fruit. We always have popcorn and movies and social parties.

AND it's Spring Training Time. Join us for hot dogs and beans to welcome Baseball.

March 13, 5 PM Pool side.

Hugging is Good for Your Health

No moveable parts. No batteries to wear out. No periodic check ups. No energy consumption. High energy yield. Inflation proof. No monthly payments. No insurance requirements Non-taxable. Non-fattening. Non-polluting. Fully returnable. Hugging is all natural. No pesticides. No preservatives. No artificial ingredients. 100% wholesome.

**The best people, time, and places to hug:
Anyone, Anytime, Any where.**

Free Hug: Please redeem this coupon for one hug from participating human being.

News from the Grand:

- Drum roll everyone: Our new restaurant, Maple & Rye, is set to open on March 12th. They will accept reservations and will honor walk ins as well. Maple & Rye will be open from 7 AM to 8PM Sunday to Thursday and until 9PM or later on Friday and Saturday. Let's do our part and show up for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. Happy Hour anyone?
- Grand Cafe now open from 7-7 every day including Sunday. The other day I was there for coffee about 7:30. At least fifty people were there ahead of me, sitting with friends and neighbors, gabbing, eating, socializing. I didn't see a single scowl on anyone's face. Our Grand Cafe is a happy happening place—except. . .
- The ice cream machine is out for refurbishing and will be gone for nearly a week. You'll have to get your ice cream fix elsewhere until March 9th when the machine will return. (If you hold out for a week, you can reward yourself with two ice creams, the calories won't count—I promise.)
- 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. 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.
- Rumor control. There is/was a drug house operating here at Grand. Rumor has it that the owner (the dad) passed away and his son moved in. Then a second son moved in and that's when things began to happen. Windows are boarded up and we're awaiting a court order to allow CAM to go into the now vacant house and repair the windows.



Activities Calendar-MARCH 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1 10:00am- Movie 10:00am - Mah Jongg 1:00pm- Movie	2
3	4 9:30am-Ladies & Mens Coffee 10:00am-Movie 1:00pm-Movie 1:00pm-Mah Jongg 5:00pm-Hand&Foot	5 3:30-6:00pm Poker 5:00pm-Hand&Foot 6:30pm-Bridge Environment Focus Group 6:30pm	6 10:00am-Board Workshop & Chat In the Clubhouse 10:00am - Movie 1:00pm - Movie 5:00pm-Hand&Foot	7 1:00pm - 3:30pm Hand & Foot 1:00pm-Bridge 3:00pm-Poker 5:00pm-Hand&Foot	8 10:00am - Movie 10:00am - Mah Jongg 1:00pm - Movie	
10	11 9:30am Ladies & Mens Coffee 10:00am-Movie 1:00pm-Movie 1:00pm-Mah Jongg 5:00pm-Hand&Foot	12 2:00pm-Bingo 3:00-6:00pm-Poker 5:00pm-Hand&Foot 6:30pm-Bridge	13 10:00am-Board Meeting In the Clubhouse 10 & 1 - Movie  Take Me Out To the Ball Game 5:00pm	14 1:00pm - 3:30pm Hand & Foot 1:00pm-Bridge 3:00pm-Poker 5:00pm-Hand&Foot	15 10:00am - Movie 10:00am - Mah Jongg 1:00pm - Movie	16
17	18 9:30am-Ladies & Mens Coffee 10:00am-Movie 1:00pm-Movie 1:00pm-Mah Jongg 5:00pm-Hand&Foot	19 3:00-6:00pm Poker 5:00pm-Hand&Foot 6:30pm-Bridge 	20 10:00am - Movie 1:00pm - Movie 5:00pm-Hand&Foot 7pm Chat with the Board In the Clubhouse	21 1:00pm - 3:30pm Hand & Foot 1:00pm-Bridge 3:00pm-Poker 5:00pm-Hand&Foot	22 10:00am - Movie 10:00am - Mah Jongg 1:00pm - Movie	23
24	25 9:30am-Ladies & Mens Coffee 10:00am-Movie 1:00pm-Movie 1:00-Mah Jongg 5:00pm-Hand&Foot	26 2:00pm-Bingo 3:00-6:00pm-Poker 5:00pm-Hand&Foot 6:30pm-Bridge	27 19 & 1- Movie  Happy Easter Dinner 4:00pm	28 1:00pm - 3:30pm Hand & Foot 1:00pm-Bridge 3:00pm-Poker 5:00pm-Hand&Foot	29 10:00am - Movie 10:00am - Mah Jongg 1:00pm - Movie	30

Save \$\$\$ Important APS Info

<https://www.aps.com/en/residential/home>

Save money. Find energy-efficient appliances, smart thermostats, and more. You can compare energy-efficient ratings, read product reviews, get instant rebates and special offers. Shop, compare, and save at marketplace.aps.com

Rebates available: Duct Repair and Sealing, home energy monitor, smart thermostat, water heater timer, cool control. APS assistance: <https://www.aps.com/assistance>

Energy Support Programs: monthly bill discounts, customers may qualify for 25% reduction on monthly bills; energy support with medical life threatening illness or uses medical equipment-you may qualify for 35% reduction. Check out E-3 Medical Care Program: <https://www.aps.com/medical>

APS Crisis Bill Assistance—temporary financial bind may qualify for up to \$1000 a year

Account plans: <https://www.aps.com/en/Residential/Billing-and-payment/payment-arrangement>

S24 hour Customer Service Phone Number (602)371-7171 or (800)253-9405

You can make a difference.

VOTE NOW

There are seven candidates for 4 open seats on the Grand Board of Directors

LEARN ABOUT THE CANDIDATES—THEN VOTE



VOTING STARTS

MONDAY, MARCH 4

VOTING ENDS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13
12 Noon AZ Time



- **WATCH FOR:** envelope labeled **IMPORTANT BOARD ELECTION INFORMATION**, arriving by **US Mail**, including **unique voter ID number**.
- One vote per household. There are 4 open positions. However, you **DO NOT** have to vote for 4 candidates.
- Write-in candidates are **NOT** allowed.
- Candidate names are in randomized order when voting online.
- **LOST or TOSSED?** No problem. Visit the Palm Center Membership Desk for a paper ballot.
- **3 WAYS TO VOTE:** Online, telephone, or paper ballot from the Palm Center Membership Desk.



Results will be announced in News of the Day by Monday, March 18th.

Have Questions? Contact the Grand Elections Team at grandelectionsteam@gmail.com



HOME FIRE PREPAREDNESS RESOURCES

In the wake of a recent tragedy within our community, the Surprise Fire-Medical Department is urging residents to prioritize home fire safety and preparedness. The incident involved the unfortunate loss of a community member who was deaf/hard of hearing in a house fire. While the home's smoke alarms sounded, the resident did not hear them and, therefore, did not evacuate. This heartbreaking incident has underscored the critical importance of getting safety information into the hands of our residents, especially those with functional considerations.

THE SURPRISE FIRE-MEDICAL DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING FIRE SAFETY PRACTICES:



INSTALL SMOKE ALARMS/ SPECIALIZED ALARMS

Install in every bedroom, outside of each sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Consider installing smoke alarms designed for individuals with hearing impairments. These alarms utilize strobe lights and vibrations to alert residents in case of fire. Visit the website listed below to learn about free resources.



CREATE AN EMERGENCY PLAN

Develop a household emergency plan. Account for the specific needs of all family members. Regularly practice evacuation routes and communication methods. Share this emergency plan with trusted neighbors and loved ones who could assist you or provide information to responders during an emergency. Visit the website listed below to learn about free resources.



KNOW THE RISKS & STAY INFORMED

Regularly review and update your knowledge on common fire hazards and fire safety tips to ensure the well-being of your household. Knowledge is a powerful tool in preventing and responding to emergencies. Visit the website listed below for fire safety videos in ASL.



COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Spread awareness about fire safety within your community. Sharing what you know can help keep your friends and neighbors safe too.

FOR MORE RESOURCES RELATED TO THE TOPICS ABOVE, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [SURPRISEAZ.GOV/FIRESAFETYINFO](https://surpriseaz.gov/firesafetyinfo)



623-222-5000

fire@surpriseaz.gov

surpriseaz.gov/firemedical



Closing Up Your Home

In the event you are away for an extended time, please note the following instructions.

- **Emergency contact** – make sure you have an emergency contact in case of emergencies. (Water leaks, etc.)
- Close all blinds.
- **Refrigerator/Ice Maker** – Turn off water to the ice maker so there is not a build-up of ice cubes. If the refrigerator is turned off, leave the refrigerator door partially open.
- **Dishwasher** – Close door, but **DO NOT LATCH OR LOCK IN POSITION**. Close all drains to help eliminate any sewer gases from coming back up into your home because of lack of use. Put about 1 Tablespoon vegetable oil in the dishwasher (do not latch)
- **Garbage Disposal** – After the last of the water is run, pour $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of salad oil in the disposal to keep the blades lubricated and prevent the small amount of moisture that is always present on the bottom from causing rust.
- **Washing Machine** – Shut off washer box valve in laundry room or garage area to relieve pressure to the hose.
- **Toilets** – lift lids and stretch Saran Wrap tightly over the bowl to keep the trap from drying out. Close water supply valve under tank.
- **Cover furniture**
- **Hot Water Heater** – Follow shut-down instructions in the water heater manual for proper progress of shut-down steps. (it's not necessary to drain the water heater) or you can turn your hot water heater to pilot.

- **Thermostat** – We recommend leaving your thermostat set at 85 (summer) and 55 (winter).
- **Check furnace filters** to make sure they are clean before leaving.
- **To keep moisture in the house during the very hot, dry summer** – place towels in the sinks and bathtub/shower pan and set pails of water on top of these. Pails should not be set directly on tile or carpet. **DO NOT FILL UP YOUR SINKS AND TUB WITH WATER. THIS MAY CAUSE DAMAGE.**
- **Patio furniture** – place grill and patio furniture in garage
- **Garage Door Opener** – Be sure the switch is in the OFF position.
- **Check irrigation** and water clock – change battery if it is time. Check for weeds and mitigate, if necessary.
- **Disconnect car battery.**
- **Front Hose Bib** – Shut off main house valve, which is located under the front hose bib.
- **Surprise Police also recommend** that you lock up everything and then leave by the front door to make sure it is locked.
- **If you see an open front door/garage door for one of your neighbors, contact the Surprise Police at 623-222-4000.**
- Some owners hire a house sitter to come in and flush the toilets and run the water every couple of weeks so that everything stays running smoothly.
- The Surprise Police have a Vacation Watch service available. Information can be found at 623-222-4277 or <https://surpriseaz.gov/1020/Vacation-Watch>
- Grand also has a volunteer vacation Watch service provided by C.H.A.P.S.. Information can be found at <https://livegrandaz.com/group/pages/chaps>
- **Update your contact information** at the Membership Office in case of an emergency while you are away. 623-546-7444.