

The Sun Catcher

August 2026
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Sunflowerliving.com



CANDIDATES FOR SUNFLOWER

By Effie Skroch

The June Sun Catcher cover has a cover article, well-written, challenging comments about resident apathy. The ***Election Committee*** would like to take that one step further by paraphrasing something written in the 70's. "It takes COURAGE TO CARE, to open our mind and react with feelings and actions when it could be easier to do nothing... But people who take the risk, cast off indifference, make the discovery that: the more things you care about, the more alive you become!!"

This fall, Sunflower will have to fulfill four (4) open HOA BOD positions. Yes, four!... and ***MORE*** candidates than 4 would be the best. PLEASE consider adding your name as a candidate. ***Yes, run for the Board.*** Your involvement will make Sunflower a better community and YOU will reap the benefit of involvement.

Here's the timeline:

- ~ The ***Call for Candidates ends August 21st, 2026.*** Your action is required now.
- ~ The ***Ballot goes out to all residents October 1st, 2026.***
- ~ The ***Voting ends November 4th.***

This year, our nation is celebrating 250 years of hard work and endurance. Sunflower started out in 1997 and assumed management in 2002. That's a lot of years of voting and caring who our leaders are. Communities thrive when people get involved. The ***Election Committee*** will keep us updated through the Communicator and the Sun Catcher regarding all steps and information. The important part is that Sunflower needs candidates to lead us... **Residents like YOU.**

SUNFLOWER SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT

By Tom Swain

Many homeowners in our community understandably have questions about solar—especially around cost and reliability. Over the past few years, though, the technology has advanced dramatically, making today's systems far more efficient, durable, and affordable than earlier versions. Utility rates in Arizona continue to rise, but solar lets us lock in predictable energy costs and reduce our monthly bills from day one. With modern equipment built to last 25–30 years and backed by solid warranties, solar has become a practical, proven way to protect our community from unpredictable energy expenses.

Just as important, solar is no longer a niche technology. Thousands of homes across Marana and the greater Tucson area already rely on it every day, and the results speak for themselves: lower bills, higher property values, and cleaner energy with no lifestyle changes required. By installing a new system, our community moves toward greater energy independence and resilience - especially during high-heat months when demand spikes. This isn't about chasing a trend; it's about choosing a stable, long-term solution that benefits both your home and the community we share.

Solar Community Information Sessions are scheduled for August 5th @ 1:00 p.m., August 6th @ 5:30 p.m., and August 8th @ 9:00 a.m. These meetings will give every homeowner a clear, straightforward look at the project, the costs, and the long-term benefits so that we can make an informed decision. After the sessions, our community will schedule a vote to authorize the use of funds from the Community Improvement Fund (CIF) to support the installation of our solar system. By participating in these sessions and the vote, each of us has a direct hand in shaping a stronger, more resilient future for our neighborhood. This is an opportunity to invest in a solution that reduces costs, increases property value, and strengthens our shared community for decades to come.

2025-2026

Board of Directors

President—Tim Lardy
tim.lardysf@gmail.com

Vice President- Ken Ropp
Kenroppsf@gmail.com

Treasurer-Patrick Stirling
patrick.sfboard@gmail.com

Secretary—Kathy Mitchell
katsfboard@gmail.com

Director— Larry Schierer
lschierersf@gmail.com

Director- Stacy Shellard
Stacy.sfboard@gmail.com

Director-Tom Swain
tomsfboard@gmail.com

Community Manager
Lisa Sak

Assistant Manager
Rosie Young

Resident Coordinators
Viktoria Hair
Jamie Haire
Nickie Kaplan
Kassidy Ritza

Maintenance Staff
George Pesina, Supervisor
Gilbert Mesa
Noah Taylor

COMMITTEES

ARCHITECTURAL
ELECTIONS
FINANCE
LANDSCAPE
POLICY
PRESERVATION of
RESERVE ASSET (PRAC)
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Judy Ibrado
Realtor® ABR, SRES
(520) 301-8455
jibrado1212@gmail.com



Client Testimonial

Judy was instrumental in helping our family purchase our new home in Sunflower. She brings an extensive network of trusted contacts, valuable resources, and years of experience. Judy pays scrupulous attention to detail and was always available to answer questions or concerns.

She showed us caring dedication and we are so very grateful that Judy was on our side, guiding us on this adventure.

Thank you Judy!

Amy, Iris and Hugo
 Sunflower

RATTLESNAKE Avoidance Classes

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• June 14 • July 12 • August 9

Preregister with *Animal Experts* at:
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B02262301

Gray Eagle Landscaping

&

Handyman Service



Charlie & Jackie Gray
 Owner's

(715) 327-3717

jhgray99@yahoo.com



**NORTHWEST
FIRE DISTRICT**

LITHIUM-ION BATTERY SAFETY

CHARGING SAFETY

- Charge devices to 100% then unplug. Do not charge over night.
- Charge devices on a hard, flat, non-combustible surface.
- Use manufacturer-approved chargers only.

MICROMOBILITY DEVICES (E-BIKES, SCOOTERS, ETC.)

- Store and charge devices away from exits and egress paths.
- Keep them out of hallways and doorways to maintain safe escape routes.
- Do not leave devices charging unattended for long periods of time.

WARNING SIGNS OF BATTERY FAILURE

- Swelling, bulging, or deforming of the battery or device feels unusually hot when not in use.
- Sweet or solvent-like chemical odor coming from the device.
- If any signs appear: stop using the device, isolate it, and call 9-1-1.

PROPER DISPOSAL

- Never discard lithium-ion batteries in the trash, dumpsters or recycling bins.
- Take damaged or old batteries to a household hazardous waste facility or use www.call2recycle.org to find the closest facility to you.

**STAY AWARE, CHARGE SAFELY,
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Source: nfpa.org; usfa.fema.gov



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ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

By Lisa Sak

The Architectural Review Committee would once again like to let our Sunflower residents know about the approval process as it reviews all requests received.

First of all, the committee meets twice every month **all year**, on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month @ 9:00 a.m. in the Craft Room at the Village Center. These meetings are ALWAYS open to anyone who would like to attend and certainly to anyone who has an application pending. Everyone may take advantage of attending to learn about how applications are reviewed, discussed and approved or disapproved.

A second important item to remember is that when you're submitting your application, you should always attach as much pertinent information as possible so that the committee has full disclosure concerning your request. ***Obviously, this will help in the approval process.***

Third, since the committee meets on those Tuesday mornings, your application must be submitted no later than the Thursday morning prior to the upcoming Tuesday meeting. This time is necessary to process and move your application through the Sunflower system. Applications submitted after that Thursday morning will then wait to be heard until the next-scheduled Tuesday morning meeting.

One more reminder from your committee is to watch out for weeds that 'spring up' in front of your home, as the monsoons bring the rainy season and lots of plant growth, both wanted and unwanted to our area. ***Thank you all.***

ARC's next two August Meetings:
Tuesdays, August 4th & 18th @ 9:00 a.m. - Craft Room

POLICY COMMITTEE

By Robin Sterner

The ***Policy Committee*** was happy to welcome 2 new members in July, and now the Committee is full. However, we encourage guests to join us and share comments. Recently, we had a guest from the Veterans Club. He had a few issues regarding policy language and brought his knowledge and even solutions to the meeting. ***(Thank you, Larry!)***

We will begin reviewing and discussing Rules & Regulations in September. This other governing document is not a policy but will be "scrubbed" to correspond with updated policies. The "clean" Rules & Regs will be recommended to the Board for approval later in the fall, and posted for 30-days of community feedback.

The ***Policy Committee*** has changed from meeting the second Friday of each month to meeting the first Friday.

Please consider joining us as a guest on
August 7th @ 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room.

WELCOME COMMITTEE

By Lynn Haye

Georgia Wight moved into Sunflower on January 22nd. She is retired from Raytheon and has a son, a daughter and 3-1/2 grandchildren. ***Georgia*** enjoys crafting, painting and playing pool (not great at it!). She also enjoys growing roses and iris flowers.

Please join me in welcoming another
Sunflower "newbie."

Although we do not meet during the summer months, we do make calls. For further info, please contact
Lynn @ h1035@aol.com.

We will be meeting again in October, 2026.

Please check the calendar as the date draws closer.
We hope you have a lovely summer.

LANDSCAPE INITIATIVES

By Charlie Barlow

A budget for fiscal year 2027 for new tree and shrub plantings has been submitted to the ***Finance Committee*** for consideration. We are working toward an allotment of \$20,000 for next spring's plantings. And because of all the leaks in the irrigation system along Sunflower Park Drive, we are also investigating replacement due to its age, last replaced in 2016/2017 with lesser quality piping, not the better PVC used in the latest replacement of the system in the wash.

In last July's ***Landscape Committee*** meeting, it was resolved that we prioritize the selection and location of new plantings before the end of the year so that we can move forward more quickly to start the actual plantings in the cooler spring before summer heat returns.

There seems to be an inordinate number of live oaks that have not survived the latest plantings over the last month. ***AAA Landscaping*** will have taken inventory of the new plantings to determine what they need to be replaced, maybe with different species.

Concerning the condition of the back lawn, ***AAA*** has informed us that after the thatching was completed, it was decided not to fertilize the back lawn at that time due to the increasing heat. The sprinklers were to be adjusted so as not to run during the hottest times of the day. A suggestion was made to let the back lawn die off during the summer to save water, but that might not be the happiest solution!

The next Landscape Committee Meeting will be on:
Wednesday, August 5th @ 10:00 a.m.
in the Conference Room.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Bonnie Scott

PRESERVATION OF RESERVE ASSETS

COMMITTEE (PRAC)

By Tom Howlin

I would like to thank the 60+ people who showed up for the Reserve Training on July 9th. There were a lot of thoughtful and intelligent questions posted after the presentation and I'd like to think that people walked away with an expanded understanding of how our reserves work and why they are so important.

The goal of **PRAC** is to offer this same training again in October to catch the snowbirds. It will probably be on a Saturday afternoon if the Fiesta Room is available; and instead of donuts and coffee, tea/lemonade and perhaps pizza will be served. So, if you attended training on the 9th, please share your thoughts with friends and neighbors and encourage them to attend the October meeting – details to follow.

Many of the questions focused on getting community concerns to the Board of Directors. Although it's become more difficult to address ad-hoc topics at a Board Meeting because of recent legal changes, there are still ways to get items on the agenda. Attendance is both educational and instructional. When I served my three terms on the Board, I loved looking out and seeing 40-50 people in the audience and got very discouraged if there were only 10-15 people in attendance.

In closing, the other way to address concerns is to run for the Board yourself. Election season is here and **we need quality candidates**. Yes, it's work - but it's also gratifying to serve the community - so please consider tossing your hat in the ring.

**Our next PRAC Meeting is Thursday, August 6th
@ 1:00 p.m. in the Fiesta Room.**

Please join us!

Introduction of 2026-2027 Budget:

The Budget Team, made up of three Board members, three **Finance Committee** members, and Community Manager **Lisa Sak** did a thorough review of Sunflower's Income and Expense Accounts. Lisa provided a copy of her Budget draft, and the Budget team adjusted a few Income and Expense items that they deemed reasonable in the Annual Assessment amount needed to keep the community functioning properly in all areas.

There were some increases in services the Budget Team could not adjust. The main area was in Contracted Services of 10 vendors which includes Janitorial, Landscape, Pool & Spa Maintenance, and Tree Pruning. All 10 vendors had price increases.

Due to the age of the irrigation systems, there have been quite a few leaks which continue to raise the cost of water bills; and with Tucson water raising the cost of water by 3.5% this year, the result was having to increase the new budget for water by \$34,000. The committee is aware that for every \$10,000 increase in expenses, the cost of assessments to each homeowner is \$10.34.

The **Budget Draft** was presented to homeowners attending the **July 21st Finance Committee Meeting**, and finance members approved the Draft to be forwarded to the Board for approval in its July 29th meeting. A copy of the Budget Draft was included in the Board Book before the July 29th meeting which gave homeowners an opportunity to review it.

Copies will be available at the Village Center desk (one per lot) and on the Sunflowerliving.com website in the Financial Report section of Resident Information the first week in August.

It is ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT that homeowners who have Automatic payments contact their financial institution to ensure the new amount is updated BEFORE the first payment is due on October 1st, 2026.

**Our Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 18th
@ 1:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.**

CHANGE TO ANNUAL ASSESSMENT—EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

By 2026 Board of Directors

The **2026/2027 Annual Budget** was approved by the Board of Directors at the monthly Board Meeting on July 29th. The Board greatly appreciates the time and effort of our **Finance Committee** in developing this year's budget. Many factors go into the development of the budget; and this year we experienced several budget positive impacts, including interest income, pool repairs and offsets from our Community Conservation Corp. Increases in insurance, supplies, electrical utilities and Continental Ranch assessments offset these positives.

This will cause a slight increase in our assessment. **Effective October 1st, 2026, the semiannual assessment will increase to \$836 (a 4.5% increase) for a total annual assessment of \$1672 per lot.** If you have an automatic payment setup for your assessment payment, please ensure you change the amount to avoid a late charge. A hard copy of the budget is available in the Village Center for your convenience.



By Bruce Schwartz

Hello to all you lovely Suncatchers out there!

As hard as it is to fathom, here we all are in the middle of July and the hot summer months fall behind us as we move forward through the monsoons - hopefully to cooler weather ahead.

The ***Veterans July Summer Picnic*** was a success. The food was delicious. Oh my gosh, those chicken breasts were enough to feed three people. No one walked away with anything less than a good time & a full belly. Thank you, ***Sharon & Bob Bender*** for all you do, as well as to all our volunteers who make our events possible. Volunteers are something we can always use.

We especially reach out to those Sunflower Veterans who have not joined us yet. *What are you waiting for??* Membership forms are at the Village Center and then you can join in on all the fun.

We honored three fallen Vets this month. There isn't one fallen Veteran that is more or less important than any of the rest. However, there is one I need to mention.

Joe Shambo had been here with the club and Sunflower since the beginning. Even more importantly, Joe was a VSO and helped, dare I count how many of us Veterans here in Sunflower and throughout the Southern Arizona area. He helped so many of us obtain the benefits we deserve and he fought for us. *Joe, you are missed and will be remembered always.*

A friendly remainder: WE are a 501 C (3). Your generous contributions are, therefore, tax deductible and greatly appreciated. Remember every last penny we raise goes to help disabled and homeless veterans in the Southern Arizona area.

And we certainly thank you for them!



CHIEF CHARLES WILLIAM (BILL) ERNST **A GRATEFUL LIFE**

Chief Charles William "Bill"

Ernst lives a life defined by curiosity, service, resilience, and gratitude. His Navy journey began in 1960, shortly after graduating high school in Buffalo, NY, when he and a friend jokingly said, "Let's join the Navy tomorrow." The next day, they did.



Bill entered the Navy as an aircraft mechanic, beginning a remarkable 24-year career in aviation. He served as an Aviation Machinist's Mate and later became a Flight Engineer, logging more than 6,000 flight hours aboard Navy transport aircraft. During the Vietnam era, he traveled the world, visiting places including Japan, the Philippines, and Hong Kong. He completed two eight-month WestPac deployments aboard the USS Yorktown and USS Bennington.

Bill proudly achieved the rank of Chief Petty Officer. He faced the challenges of military aviation—including engine failures and demanding missions—with professionalism, skill, and calm determination. He worked on numerous aircraft at stations including Willow Grove, Jacksonville, Pensacola, Memphis, and Alameda, with the C-118 being his favorite.

After retiring from the Navy in 1986, Bill continued working as an aircraft mechanic and later with the TSA, eventually settling in Tucson with his life partner, Janis. He enjoys life, his cars, and the music of the Rolling Stones.

Looking back on 85 years, Bill still considers himself fortunate. He embraces life's lessons, appreciates his experiences, and will leave behind a legacy of service, humility, adventure, and a life well lived. If you want a smile, ask him about what his mother thought of his Austin Healy.



WE THANK YOU, BILL,
FOR ALL YOUR SERVICE!

AUGUST SOCIAL CLUB

By Frances Gauthier



This month our theme is
“**Summer in the City**”.

Our dinner will be on August 15th
and we will be serving Baggin’s
sandwiches with chips, bean salad,
cookies and watermelon. You will have a choice of
a Ham, Roast Beef or Turkey sandwich and you’ll
have to specify your choice when you buy your
ticket. **Social time is 5:00 with Dinner @ 5:30 p.m.**
Our entertainment will be **Songs by Kyle**.

***Tickets will be on sale on Thursday, August 6th
from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.*** Tickets are \$10
per person; and if not already paid, your 2026
membership dues of \$5 will be required when you
purchase your ticket. There is a limit of four tickets
per buyer. If you are buying tickets for someone
else, be sure to ask them which sandwich they want.

Next month, we will be going to **Li'l Abner's** for
our dinner. There are several choices available:
Pork Ribs, ½ Chicken (breast and legs), Top Sirloin
Steak or Salmon at \$35. Entrees include salad, beans
and bread. They also offer a Hamburger for \$25.
Ice tea is included but you may purchase other drinks
that evening. For this event, Social Time will be @
6:00 with Dinner @ 6:15 p.m. ***Tickets will be on
sale on Tuesday, August 18th from 10:30 a.m. to
Noon.***

ATTENTION SUNFLOWER RESIDENTS

We would like to clear up some discrepancies of
late. The HOA rule has always been that every
resident entering the Village Center must scan in
with their proximity card.

This process is required whenever you are
attending any event inside the Center, such as use
of the Fitness Center, Pool Area, All Card Games,
Art Club & Quilting Club, etc.; and especially
when attending any club event, such as Social or
Gatherings Club events including Bingo.

**Residents are required to scan in with your
proximity card at all times.**

If you are bringing in a guest for an event or game,
you must also register that guest at the front desk
with your guest pass, (even though you purchased
a ticket for your guest), so that we are able to keep
track of everyone using Sunflower’s facilities.

We appreciate your cooperation in this regard
and hope it is clear to every resident that your
proximity card is **YOUR PASS** to enter, use and
enjoy all that Sunflower has to offer!



BACCHUS WINE

By Kevin Webb

Monsoons and hot summer days are
here! To “survive” this annual weather
event, **Bacchus Wine** will have a
“**White Hot Summer Night**”
theme for August.

Dress in white and brush up on your “wine” knowledge
to help your table win the quiz.

**Join us on Wednesday, August 26th from
4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Fiesta Room.**

The e-Vite will go out on August 19th.

If you have never attended a Bacchus Wine Event
and would like an invite, send an email to:
bacchuswinesunflower@gmail.com
or text/call **Kevin Webb @ 520-240-9710**.

2026 SUNFLOWER CRAFT FAIR



***The 24th Annual Sunflower Craft and Bake Sale
will be held on November 6th and 7th from 9:00 a.m.
to 3:00 p.m., with set-up on Thursday, November 5th.***

As many vendors are gone during the summer, we
encourage you to submit your applications and payment
early (checks only). Vendors will be placed in the order
the applications are received. Applications are now
available at the front desk or on-line @
www.Sunflowerliving.com, and must be submitted by
September 6th, 2026. Any extra space will be made
available to Friends of Sunflower.

Last year’s event was full in August! The **Fitness Club**
will be coordinating this year’s event, so checks should be
made to: **Sunflower Fitness Club** and returned to the
front desk @ 9401 N. Sunflower Dr., Tucson, AZ 85743.

Bonnie Huff will again be the Vendor Coordinator
and can be reached @ Bonnies1017@aol.com
or 734-277-7730, if you have questions.

Sue Uden will be the event Manager and Coordinator.

THE FOODIES & FUN CLUB

By Kathryn Martin

PAINTING UNCORKED



OKAY it's that time again!
Painting Uncorked is back with another fun Acrylic Painting class!

WHEN: Saturday, September 12th
from 1 to 6 p.m. in the Craft Room!
COST: \$35.00

This time we'll capture the beauty of Sombbrero (Stanford) Peak at sunset. Imagine standing in the desert as the evening sky comes alive with glowing yellows, fiery oranges, soft grays, and cool blues dancing across the mountain. It's one of Arizona's magical moments—and now you can paint it!

Best of all, you'll take home your own 8 x 10 Masterpiece, framed and ready to hang, so you can enjoy that stunning Arizona sunset.

A finished sample will be on display to inspire you, and I'll be painting right along with you.

No one creates masterpieces on an empty stomach! Our amazing **Chef Kathryn** will keep everyone happily fueled with her delicious heavy snacks.

Coffee will be available or you can BYOB. If you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions, please let me know when you register.

Please bring: **A soft rag and a pencil and wear paint-friendly clothes.**

Come enjoy an afternoon filled with laughter, creativity, and good company. You'll leave with a beautiful, framed painting—and even a new favorite hobby!

If you have any questions, please feel free to call **Sharon** @ 520-971-7769.

SIGN UP: Friday, August 28th from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.



Barrio Bread

Don Guerra, will be on **HIATUS** until **the 3rd Wednesday in October @ 4:00 p.m.**

GATHERINGS CLUB

By Jan Gerson

Casino Bus Excursions: August 3rd: A few empty seats remain on the bus to Desert Diamond Casino. To sign up, email jan.gerston@gmail.com.

September 7th:

Sign up for <https://forms.gle/8St72CQDFiRVsecW8> or email jan.gerston@gmail.com. Sign-up deadline is August 24th.

TED Talk: 1:30 p.m., August 14th - Craft Room.

Watch a thought-provoking TED Talk.

Participate in a discussion moderated by **Stan Berndt** @ spberndt@msn.com.

Open Mic Night: August 20th: Calling musicians, singers, poets: sign up starting @ 5:50 p.m. for a 10-minute slot to perform at Open Mic Night, **from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Fiesta Room.** The sound system will be available. Audience members may bring snacks/beverages. Open Mic is intended to be a monthly event.
(For further info, contact: lpast@icloud.com).

Looking ahead:

- Casino Excursion, September 7th
- TED Talk and discussion, date TBA
- Open Mic Night, date TBA
- Food Truck Roundup returns
- October 29th - Ladies' Clothing Trunk Show and Watch Sale
- October 31st - Halloween Party and Potluck
- December 31st - New Year's Eve Party

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 11th @ 10:00 a.m. in the Craft Room.

CHORALE NEWS

By Beth Britton

Are you a senior and like to sing? Then you're already qualified to join the Sunflower and neighboring-area Senior Choir.

Sunflower Chorale meets on Mondays in the Fall @ 3:30 p.m., beginning August 31st in the Fiesta Room.

Come join us!

Call **Beth** @ 928-607-6204 or **Virginia** @ 480-315-0311 for questions and information.

COMMUNITY SOCIAL GATHERINGS

ATTENTION SUNFLOWER MEN

By Dennis Abrams aided by Dick Teugh

ROMEOs Lunch & Breakfast plus **OWLS** Dinner groups are restaurant clubs for Sunflower Men (only). **OWLS - (Old Widowers' Light Supper)** is a similar men's dinner club for Sunflower men, widowed or who live alone, who would enjoy a night out with the boys, always using the Glicksman Formula – no dues, individual checks & sign up at front desk to carpool to the restaurant *at least a day in advance*.

ROMEOs Breakfast – *Wednesday, August 26th* will go to **Snooze Restaurant**, carpooling @ 7:45 a.m.

ROMEOs Lunch – *Wednesday, August 12th* will go to **Big Dawg Restaurant**, carpooling @ 11:45 a.m.

OWLS Dinner - *Wednesday, August 19th* will go to **Asian Buffet**, carpooling @ 4:30 p.m.



COFFEE & FRIENDS

Summer can make us feel isolated as the heat makes it less likely that we'll see neighbors and other Sunflower residents as often. Outside walks are put on hold and pets are rushed through their paces.

Coffee and Friends is a great way to meet others who are also facing the challenges of a hot Tucson summer.

Don't miss the opportunity to casually connect with fellow residents. **Roger Daggett** of **Coldwell Banker Realty** sponsors our weekly group; and coffee/tea and fresh Safeway donuts are optional at only \$1.00 each.

Come join us and you too can say
"I went to Coffee and Friends and".

MONTHLY GAME NIGHTS

Second Friday & Fourth Tuesday

Friday, August 14th & Tuesday, August 25th
in the Fiesta Room from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Are you looking for a fun way to escape the evening blues and/or summer heat? Do you want to meet new people or have a fun evening with old friends?

Join us for **Game Nights**. Bring your own game to share or play one from our "game library". Be sure to bring a beverage and maybe a snack.

CORNHOLE

By Kevin Kirkey



As Cornhole wraps up another fantastic year, one filled with great competition and sportsmanship, we are excited to highlight the results from our April Tournament.

Tournament Results:

- First Place: **Jeff Engstrom** and **Bob Bender**
- Second Place: **Sandy Thornton** and **Kevin Kirkey**
- Third Place: **John Newberry** and **Bob Thornton**

Congratulations to our winners and to everyone who participated in making this season a success. We truly appreciate the community spirit that makes this activity so enjoyable. Thank you to all the players, supporters, and organizers for your dedication.

*We look forward to seeing everyone **back** on the boards in September for the next season!*

KARAOKE

Tuesday, August 18th
5:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Fiesta Room



Enjoy music! We look forward to seeing you at **Karaoke** - whether you are ready to show-off your musical talent, just like to sing, or want to have fun listening to our local celebrities.

Our theme for August will be anything related to weather in celebration of the **monsoon season!** Songs can be about rain or stormy weather, etc.

Please send your song request to **Gary Engel** @ gengel9285@icloud.com by August 12th.

We have single artists, duets, and group sing-a-longs. We are taking requests from both our entertainers and our audience. Bring your own beverage - we will provide a light snack.

Thank you to **Tim and Kaye from the Walter Team** for the new karaoke machine and to **Judy Ibrado from Long Realty** for helping to sponsor our new Karafun Subscription.

SUNFLOWER TENNIS CLUB

By Dennis Page

The monsoons “officially” started back on June 15th, so what’s with all that blue sky? Well, that’s how it works in Southern Arizona! So, take advantage of the rain-free days while they last, and enjoy lively games of tennis with your friends!

And there is always good tennis on television:
The 2026 US Open will take place from Sunday, August 23rd to Sunday, September 13th, 2026, with main-draw singles matches starting August 30th.

Fun Fact:

Tennis balls were historically either black or white.

Yellow tennis balls were invented by **David Attenborough**. In 1967, when he was controller of BBC2, he had the job of introducing color TV and suggested switching from white to a fluorescent yellow tennis ball for easier visibility. The International Tennis Federation introduced yellow balls into the rules of the sport in 1972. Ironically, Wimbledon didn't make the switch until 1986 “...largely as the white balls were getting stained green on the grass, sometimes making them almost impossible to see on TV, where tennis was increasingly popular.”

Reminder:

Weekly play (Monday through Saturday) for SFTC members starts at 7:00 a.m. in August, subject to change.

For current information: please contact **Charlie Barlow** @ 360-870-6517 or amitayus60@gmail.com --or--
Susan Page @ susanpage@comcast.net.

PICKLEBALL CLUB

By Leah Freeland

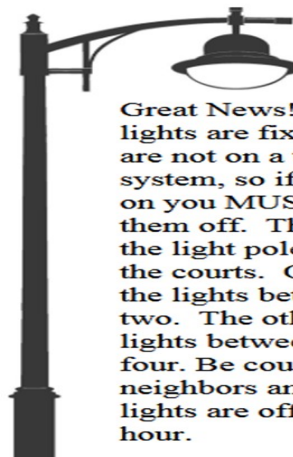
The Annual Business Meeting will be held on Friday, October 30th @ 5:00 p.m. in the Fiesta Room. The current officers are stepping down, so please consider running for an office position. The Holiday Party will be Saturday, December 12th @ 5:00 p.m. in the Fiesta Room. Please mark your calendars - more details to come regarding both gatherings closer to the event.

Play hours are open to all members during the summer months:
Monday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
~ and ~
Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

For beginners interested in learning the game, free lessons can be arranged by calling or texting **Karla Holmes** @ 208-724-4864.



By Julie Frickel



Great News! The bocce court lights are fixed! The new lights are not on a timer like the old system, so if you turn the lights on you MUST remember to turn them off. The switches are on the light poles at the north end of the courts. One switch controls the lights between courts one and two. The other one controls the lights between courts three and four. Be courteous of the nearby neighbors and make sure the lights are off at a reasonable hour.

Regular play on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday begins @ 7:30 a.m. Please arrive 10-15 minutes early. If you are interested in trying bocce, call one of the officers to schedule some personalized instruction (#s in the back).

BOWLING INFORMATION & NEWS

By Bonnie Scott

If you want to make new Sunflower Community friends and enjoy some fun for 2 hours, then come bowling with us on **Friday afternoons**. It's Open Bowling so no teams, no competition and if you cannot bowl, no problem, and no cost. We bowl all year. The cost is \$13 for 3 lines of bowling which includes funds toward the Annual Banquet. **Don Preuss** provides a weekly sheet of player bowling info.

Bowlers with outstanding scores:

Joe Beard – 209 game
Chuck Glen – 206 game
Ed O'Hara - Great New High Series 706 & High game 245(2 games of 245, 216)
Terry Johnson – 552 series & 214 game
Don Preuss – New High game 214
Bob Sergisson – 599 series with games of 150, 214 & 235
Gary Scott – New High Series 599 & New High game 222
Susan Beyers - New High Series 452 & New High game 169 (*Welcome Back Sue*)
Jody Christensen – New High Series 534 & New High game 219
Susan O'Hara – Great New High Series 593 & games of 183, 191, & 219
Bonnie Scott – New High Series 584 & games of 190, 196, & 198
Terri Shevlin - 519 Series & games of 163, 176, & 180

Please show up @ 12:10 for practice @ 12:20 & start time of 12:30 p.m. We bowl at the **PINZ Fiesta Lanes** – 501 W. River Road. Come to Lane 1 and we will collect your \$13. Refer any questions to **Terri Shevlin** @ 609-471-4347.

ROSIE'S SUNFLOWER BINGO

By Tim Walter



Someone mentioned we were competing with the baseball All Star Game. That could have been taped, but you must be present to win at BINGO! The odds were much better to win, with only 75 in attendance, but the pots were smaller.

Janet Startzel won the \$270.00 **Rosie Special**. A regular who has won occasionally, but this was her first big Rosie win! **Jennifer Cady** came for her first time and won twice! I bet she'll be back.

Another winner was the Sunflower Veterans Club. \$235.00 was donated! **Thank you, Gordon Barron**, who donated back his entire special win of \$130.00; and **Lois Sulser, Ginger Garrick, Connie Fricks, Jennifer Cady** and **Janet Startzel** who all donated as well. **Carol Taylor** also made an anonymous donation!

Next month will be the one-year anniversary of using the video board on the big screen. **Barbara Brown** runs the board for us, and makes it look easy. It is not. If you need help visualizing the games, or lose track of the numbers called, sit so you can see the TV and you will see all the options and numbers called.

As always, we are grateful for all that help to pull it off each month, especially **Dolores Johnson** who had her first hiccup in months. We couldn't have a better caller, but **Terri Shevlin** is going to pinch hit for her in August. Come support her! I'm sure she will be great.

The next couple of months will be a great time to try out your luck as the crowds are down and we have plenty of room. If you have stayed away based on the packed house, now is the time to enjoy some elbow room.

Get ready to beat the heat and join us August 11th in the Fiesta Room! Bring a jacket for your comfort if it's too cool in the room and dive into the fun as **the games kick off at 6:00 p.m.**

Don't miss out! Bring a friend, bring your luck, and let's make it a night to remember!



GAMES

BILLIARDS

General Play: Monday-Saturday except for Club times
Men's: **Tuesdays and Fridays — 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

Chix with Stix (Ladies):

Mondays and Thursdays — 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

No experience necessary

We'll Rack 'em and You Hit 'em.

LADIES 9-HOLE GOLF

By Leslyn Sisco

Ladies 9-Hole Golf will be on HIATUS for the summer, as early tee times were unavailable. We will resume in September. Please call or text **Leslyn Sisco @ 970-946-5998** for questions or concerns.

Have a great summer!

MENS 9-HOLE GOLF

By Jim Murphy

Join us for nine holes of golf at **Quarry Pines Golf Course**. **We play every Wednesday starting @ 2:00 p.m.** Come join us for a fun time! Contact **Jim Murphy @ jmurphmail@gmail.com** for further information.

SUNFLOWER MENS GOLF CLUB

By Gary Scott

As we enter the summer months and some sport activities require us to be outdoors, it's important to stay hydrated. For those unfamiliar with our club, we play twice a week (**Monday and Thursday**) at various courses in the area (all the way from Benson to the east to Tubac to the south and Casa Grande to the north). If you enjoy the game and are looking to make some great friends, come join us.

You can contact **Doug Culpepper @**

biker1ab@mac.com (412) 720-6248 or myself @ **gbscott70@comcast.net** (520) 406-0123.

You may visit our schedule of events on our website: **www.sunflower.golfclub.net**.

POP TENNIS

By Gary Engel

Pop Tennis starts @ 7:00 a.m. on Court 2.

We have a group of active "Poppers" playing on **Tuesday and Thursday mornings**. No experience is needed - just show up. We provide the paddles and balls. Former (and active) tennis and pickleball players have become proficient quickly. Contact **Gary Engel @ 623-221-8813** or **gengel9285@gmail.com**.

YOGA CLUB

By Leslie Parr

We have FREE YOGA CLASSES on Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 7:45 to 8:45 a.m.-Fiesta Rm

It is gentle Yoga for Seniors. **Yoga Club** members enjoy a relaxing hour at the beginning of the day. All welcome. Please bring your mat and a stretch band to each class.

Questions, call **Leslie Parr @ 520-603-8785**.

CONTACT US—E-MAIL DIRECTORY

Lisa Sak, Sunflower Community Manager: lsak@associatedasset.com

Rosie Young, Sunflower Community Assistant Manager: rmyoung@associatedasset.com

Communicator Submissions/Visual Lobby Display: Please keep notice for upcoming events happening within two weeks to 75 characters or less, and **submit Wednesday by 5:00 p.m.**

For Communicator to: lsak@associatedasset.com,
For Visual Lobby Display Changes to: kassidy.kirchgatter@associatedasset.com
Sunflower Living Website: webteam@sunflowerliving.com

FRONT DESK PERSONNEL

Viktoria Hair, Resident Services Coordinator: viktoria.hair@associatedasset.com
Jamie Haire, Resident Services Coordinator: jamie.haire@associatedasset.com
Nickie Kaplan, Resident Services Coordinator: nkaplan@associatedasset.com
Kassidy Ritza, Resident Services Coordinator: kassidy.kirchgatter@associatedasset.com

SUNFLOWER VILLAGE CENTER HOURS

**THE VILLAGE CENTER WILL NOT BE CLOSED
ANY DAY DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST.**

The Sunflower Village Center OPEN HOURS* are:
Monday thru Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Events and activities can still be scheduled until
9:00 p.m., but they must be scheduled in advance
so that staff can be scheduled for those events.

~ All current activities will remain at their
regularly-scheduled time ~

*If you have any questions, please call the
Front Desk or the Management Team.*

COMMUNICATOR

To subscribe to the **Communicator** Newsletter, go
to our website, www.Sunflowerliving.com, and scroll
down to click the "**Subscribe to Our Residents
Newsletter**" link.

Part way down the new page, you will see a
"**Subscribe Here**" link - click on it, fill out and
submit the form. You will receive a confirmation
email; please respond to it as directed.

SUNFLOWERLIVING.COM

Anyone may access information about our Sunflower
Community by going to: Sunflowerliving.com.
Sunflower residents may view categories such as
Governing Documents, Clubs, Committees, Forms, and
other information pertinent to our community.

However, in order to view recorded **BOD Meeting
Minutes, Financial Reports, Directories, Homeowner
to Homeowner Referrals** and other "protected pages,"
you must enter the password which is only available to
Sunflower residents. Please visit the Village Center
front desk so you can receive the new password.

HOMEOWNER-TO-HOMEOWNER REFERRALS

If you are well-pleased with a business you've dealt
with and would like to add them to our list, please send
an email with the following information: Name of the
Company, Type of Business, Phone Number, Owner
or Contact, and any pertinent information about your
experience to: nkaplan@associatedasset.com.

ADVERTISING IN THE SUN CATCHER

If you are looking to advertise your business in
Sunflower's Sun Catcher newsletter, via classified ad,
or multiple-sized colored advertisement, or have any
questions about fees and space available, please email
Kassidy @ kassidy.kirchgatter@associatedasset.com, or
just visit the front desk at the Village Center and any one
of the ladies can give you a pricing sheet for advertising.

SUNFLOWERLIVING WEBSITE

A place for posting upcoming club and group events has now been added to the Announcements page on the
Sunflowerliving.com website (What's New> Announcements). Clubs and groups are encouraged to send their
information to: webteam@sunflowerliving.com to be posted on that page. **Please do not send PDF files.**

The Association provides this publication for Informational Purposes Only

Sunflower does not guarantee or promote any of the products or services advertised herein and assumes
no responsibility for the statements made in this publication. Information regarding advertising rates, deadlines,
and policy information may be obtained by contacting the

Village Center Front Desk @ Phone: (520) 572-9780 • Fax: (520) 572-8724
Published monthly by Staff & Volunteers of Sunflower Community Association, Inc.

AUGUST 2026 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2 1 Mah Jongg	3 9 Mexican Train 9 Social Club Mtg 11:30 Fun Poker 12 Baskets 12:30 Mexican Train	4 9 ARC 1 Euchre 1 Ladies Bridge	5 9 Mah Jongg 10 LANDSCAPE 10 VETS Meeting 11 VETS BOD Mtg 1 Solar Townhall Mt 1 Mah Jongg 2 1 Pinochle	6 9 Quilters 9 500 Cards Game 10:30 Social Cl Ticks 10:45 Safety Alliance 1 PRAC 1 Mixed Bridge 1 Canasta 5:30 Solar Townhall	7 9 Quilters 9 POLICY 11:30 Fun Poker 1 Mah Jongg 2	1 7:30 Coffee & Friends 9 Art Club 8 Same + 9 Solar Townhall
9 1 Mah Jongg 2 Tech Help	10 9 Mexican Train 11:30 Fun Poker 12 Baskets 12:30 Mexican Train	11 10 Gatherings Cl Mtg 10 Daytime Book Cl 1 Euchre 1 Ladies Bridge 6 BINGO	12 9 Mah Jongg 11:45 ROMEOs 1 Mah Jongg 2 1 Pinochle	13 9 Quilters 9 500 Cards Game 1 Mixed Bridge 1 Canasta	14 9 Quilters 11:30 Fun Poker 1 TED Talk 6 Game Night	15 7:30 Coffee & Friends 8 Wyerd Meet & Greet 9 Art Club 5 August Social Club
16 1 Mah Jongg	17 9 Mexican Train 11:30 Fun Poker 12 Baskets 12:30 Mexican Train	18 9 ARC 10:30 Social Cl Ticks 1 Euchre 1 Ladies Bridge 1:30 FINANCE 5 Karaoke	19 9 Mah Jongg 10 Photography Club 12:30 Mah Jongg 2 1 Pinochle 4:30 OWLS	20 9 Quilters 9 500 Cards Game 1 Mixed Bridge 1 Canasta 5 Open Mic Event	21 9 Quilters 11:30 Fun Poker 1 Mah Jongg 2	22 7:30 Coffee & Friends 9 Art Club
23 1 Mah Jongg	24 9 Mexican Train 11:30 Fun Poker 12 Baskets 12:30 Mexican Train	25 11 PWC Meeting 1 Euchre 1 Ladies Bridge 2 Genealogy Mtg 6 Game Night	26 7:45 ROMEOs 9 Mah Jongg 10 BOD MTG 1 Mah Jongg 2 1 Pinochle 4:30 Bacchus Wine 4:30 Fun Poker	27 9 Quilters 9 500 Cards Game 1 Mixed Bridge 1 Canasta	28 9 Quilters 11:30 Fun Poker 1 Mah Jongg 2	29 7:30 Coffee & Friends 9 Art Club
30 1 Mah Jongg	31 9 Mexican Train 11:30 Fun Poker 12 Baskets 12:30 Mexican Train 3:30 Chorale		<u>COMMITTEE MEETINGS</u> 08/04 ARC 08/05 LANDSCAPE 08/06 PRAC 08/07 POLICY	<u>THIS MONTH</u> 08/18 ARC 08/18 FINANCE 08/26 BOD		

WEEKLY FITNESS ACTIVITIES

Access to Fitness Room 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. with Proximity Card Monday through Sunday

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6pm Pickleball	Men's Golf 7 Pickleball 7 Tennis 7:45 Yoga 9 Water Aerobics 9:30 Line Dance 1pm Chix w/Stix	7 Pickleball 7 Tennis 7 POP Tennis 7:30 Bocce 9 Stretch/Tone 10:30 Forever Fit Class 1pm Men's Billiards 6pm Pickleball	7 Pickleball 7 Tennis 7:45 Yoga 9 Water Aerobics 1pm Ping Pong 1st, 2nd, 3rd Wed 2pm Men's 9-Hole Golf	Men's Golf 7 Pickleball 7 Tennis 7 POP Tennis 7:30 Bocce 9 Stretch/Tone 10:30 Forever Fit Class 1pm Chix w/Stix 1pm Ping Pong-4th Thurs 6pm Pickleball	7 Pickleball 7 Tennis 7:45 Yoga 9 Water Aerobics 10 Line Dance 12:30pm Bowling 1pm Men's Billiards	7 Pickleball 7 Tennis 7:30 Bocce 9 Water Aerobic 11 Ping Pong <i>*Hiking Info- See Fall Hiking Sched For Details</i>

TOPICS OF INTEREST

ARTIST GALLERY

By Nickie Kaplan

Vince Senski will be displaying his photography on our Artist Gallery wall in August. Vince says: "**Hello Sunflower!** I'm excited to have my third Artist Gallery display of photographs here in our Sunflower community! For this display I'm sharing black & white photographs which I've taken since moving here to the southwest six years ago.

Black & white photography in my earlier years consisted of developing the film and then spending time in a darkroom creating the photographs. The science and craft of film development and printing is something I don't do anymore. The trays of chemicals and using an enlarger have been replaced with digital light sensors, megapixels, and photoshop programs.

I prefer black & white photography for its simplicity in emphasizing the subject, composition, light, texture, and emotion. I hope you are able to experience the photographs I displayed, and thank you for this opportunity to once again share my photographic perspectives with you."

We wish to extend a sincere thank you to **David Griffith** for displaying his beautiful mixed-media paintings during the month of July. Please make sure to stop by the Village Center in August to see some outstanding artistic photographs by **Vince Senski**.

Our Sunflower artists are truly outstanding!

THE PING PONG GROUP

By Buzz Hoffmann

Ping Pong has come a long way since it was first played in England by upper, middle-class Victorians on dining room tables. Rackets were lids from empty cigar boxes, balls were champagne corks, and a line of books served as the net. We use modern equipment and love to have new players join us for this great sport, one of the best for the brain. All playing levels, including beginners, are welcome for a fun time of ego-free and often aerobic ping pong.

***We play on the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesdays
and 4th Thursdays @ 1:00 p.m. in the Fiesta Room,
and also on Saturdays @ 11:00 a.m.***

GNO Girls Night Out (or Days)

By Lynn Haye

Hello to All. This is just a good-bye for the summer. Hope all of you have safe travels if you're leaving Sunflower, and stay cool if you're staying.
See you in the fall.....Lynn

SUNFLOWER HIKING GROUP

By Hope Collins

The **Sunflower Hiking Group** enjoys the Arizona desert by exploring our scenic local trails. In general, we will have hikes on Tuesdays and Fridays, from mid-October through mid-April. The hikes for each month will be listed in the Sun Catcher, and weekly hike reminders will be posted in the Communicator. Essential details and updates about hikes are sent via Google Group emails.

Occasional hikes may be offered throughout the summer months and will be communicated via Google Group email. The **Fall 2026 Hiking Schedule** will be sent out in September via Google Group.

If you would like to be added to the Google Group email list in order to be kept up to date on Hiking Group information, send an email to **Hope Collins** @ hopecollins65@gmail.com.

If you have questions about the group, or have an interest in leading future hikes, please contact **Bobby Bran** @ 520-729-8082.

SUNFLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

By Vince Senski

The **Sunflower Photography Club** is a supportive community where we can share our joy of photography, learn from each other, and grow together. Whether you're using a smartphone camera or more complex equipment, or if you're an experienced photographer or just starting out, there's a place for you in our club!

***We will meet again on Wednesday, August 19th @
10:00 a.m. in the Fiesta Room.
We'd love for you to join us!***

Please email **Vince Senski** with any questions @ vinceduluth@gmail.com.

DAYTIME BOOK CLUB

By Alice Hafner



The **Daytime Book Club** continues to meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

***Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday,
August 11th @ 10:00 a.m. in the Library.***

All Sunflower residents are welcome to attend.

ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS

ART CLUB

By Billie Barron

This is an open invitation to all Sunflower residents who desire to create/color something that stirs the imagination. No experience necessary. Work at your own pace with your own choice of medium. The only request: Bring a protective covering for the table. **Saturdays @ 9:00 a.m. - Craft Room.**

CRAFT CLUB

The end of April brought to a close the Craft Club year. Before the glue guns, scissors, paint brushes and ribbons are put away, our crafters got ready for the 4th of July by fashioning an American Flag for display on their door or wall.

An ordinary flowerpot is transformed by our creative ladies into faces painted on the pots then accessorized with earrings, false eyelashes, glasses or anything else that comes to mind. Each one is unique and distinctive.

To celebrate a very productive year, our crafters will treat themselves to a luncheon at a nearby restaurant. **The Sunflower Craft Club meets every Monday from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. from October to April but will be taking the summer months off.** Please contact **Chris Polk @ 520-820-5227** for additional details or questions.

DANCE & ENTERTAINMENT CLUB

By Karen Barta

Classes are offered year-round, twice a week:

Monday: Beginners Class 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. to go over individual steps used in most dances.

10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Beginners Learn & Dance

Friday: A little more advanced, but everyone is welcome. 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Then **11:00 a.m. to Noon - A bit more advanced.** To attend, you pay **\$5 to the Dance Club** for entire year. The fee goes to the Club for our Parties, Dances for the Community & whatever else we decide to do.

FOREVER FIT CLASS

By Virginia Landers

The Forever Fit Class with Virginia started on Tuesday, March 31st & will meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. in the Fiesta Room.

The format will follow the Weights and Balance Class. Please bring hand weights, leg weights & water. Resistance and balance exercises are essential for seniors to maintain strength & independence.

SUNFLOWER READERS (Evening)

By Jann Swanson

We will not be meeting in June, July, or August.

We will resume our meetings in September on the 4th Tuesday of each month, as usual.

Have a lovely summer!

FITNESS CLUB

By Billie Barron

Water Aerobics: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Three different CD workouts are currently in use, offering a well-balanced workout, focusing on core, upper body, balance & joints. Noodles/water weights may be used.

Stretch and Tone: Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00-10:00 a.m. This is a full-body workout (seated or standing) concentrating on building strength, flexibility, balance & diminishing risk of falling. Participants need tubing with handles, resistance band, hand weights 10" ball. Most items can be purchased online or at WalMart.

Chair Yoga/Pilates:

This class will resume when Violet Borens returns in November, 2026.

Please check upcoming Sun Catchers.

Fitness Club membership cards are required.

Violet Borens is a certified instructor conducting these classes, with the exception of Water Aerobics.

GENEALOGY SOCIETY

By Paulette Weiser

The Sunflower Genealogy Society will have an informal meeting again on **Tuesday, August 25 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.** to do family research at either the Fiesta Room, in the **FamilySearch History Center on Magee**, or split up between both. That decision will be made via email in the two weeks prior to the meeting. Members interested in attending will be able to express their opinion about which location they prefer.

The Program Committee is working on the 2027 Schedule with the goal of continuing to incorporate working sessions with informative programs. If you have a topic you would like to see covered, please contact ***Eileen Carney*** and let her know. We would love our members' input to be able to meet their genealogical needs.

We hope to go back to our traditional meetings on third Tuesdays in 2027. A room reservation request for third Tuesdays in 2027 has been submitted.

For year-round members, we look forward to seeing you at our summer work sessions. It is a good time to do research, when it is too hot to go outside and be active. Stay inside where it is ***COOL*** and get so much accomplished with the opportunity to obtain assistance from experienced genealogists. For snowbirds, if we can help long-distance with advice while you are away from Sunflower, you can contact one of our mentors, ***Kim Gunyou, Mary Dietz*** or ***Sue Cerri.***

Enjoy your summer, whether in Tucson or somewhere else cooler, we hope!

CARD GAMES

LADIES BRIDGE

By Brooke Murphy

Ladies Bridge is played on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Library. We are a relaxed group and play to enjoy the game and each other. Call **Brooke** @ 708-846-7555 or email: bmurphmail@gmail.com.

MIXED BRIDGE

By Mary Lynn Mercer

We have a very fun, easy-going bridge group on Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Library. Call **Mary Lynn** to sign up to play @ 614-323-2463 or marylmercer@hotmail.com.

CANASTA

Thursdays starting @ 1:00 p.m. in the Craft Room.

We play two versions: Hand & Foot and Samba. So join us to see familiar faces & meet new friends.

MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

By Pat Cooke

It's hot outside! Come inside to play Mexican Train Dominoes with us.

Join us on Mondays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Library and @ 12:30 p.m. in the Fiesta Room.

EUCHRE

Would you like to play Euchre?

We meet every Tuesday afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Craft Room.

Call **Vicky** @ 520-907-3510 for details.

We'd love to have you join us!

SUNFLOWER 500 CARD CLUB

By Bob Bender

The **500 Card Club** welcomes old and new members and we look forward to having you join us @ 9:00 a.m. Thursdays in the Library for a morning with a fun group (we have a 25 cent/pp donation which goes toward our jackpots). We are still willing to teach anyone who would like to learn the game. Call and we will set up a time to teach. Call **Bob Bender** @ 717-804-6425.

MAH JONGG

By Anne Schmidt

We will play Mah Jongg @ 9:00 a.m. in the Library & Mah Jongg 2 @ 1:00 p.m. in the Craft Room every Wednesday.

Not ready to make a commitment?

All are welcome, beginner to advanced players!

SUNDAY MAH JONGG

By Lynn Neitzke

We began playing Mah Jongg again on Sundays from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. in the Library.

Contact **Lynn** @ 520-268-7784 with questions.

PINOCHLE

By Harlan Quinn

If you like to play single-deck **Pinochle**, join us from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Library.

There is no cost, and no reservations are needed—*just show up.* We play partners and/or three-handed pinochle, depending on the number of players present. For information, call one of the contacts listed in the back of the Sun Catcher.

FUN POKER

By Jim Conley

We play Poker in the Library on Mondays from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

We also play on the 4th Wednesdays of the month @ 4:30 p.m. in the Library.

Everyone is welcome and all you need is a basic knowledge of poker. There's lots of kibitzing & teasing mixed in with some poker. We play traditional games (Hold'em, Draw, Omaha, etc.) & some variations, which add to the fun. New players often bring games they play elsewhere. The stakes are small and there are no dues, house cuts, or wild-card games.

Please join us at the Village Center on any day and we will get you started.



SUNFLOWER QUILTERS

By Carolyn LaPotin

This month, **Quilters** will continue to create the lap-size patriotic quilts that we will be donating to **Sunflower's Veterans Club** in early October. They, in turn, will donate the quilts to Veterans who are in Hospice. Our goal is to donate more than the 25 we gave last year.

We are also creating items for **Sunflower's Arts and Crafts Fair** in early November; and while we may be busy, we still have time for lots of sharing, laughter and the occasional field trip or other social outing.

We meet in the Craft Room Thursday and Friday mornings from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.; and all residents who quilt are welcome to join us.

We would love to have YOU as a part of our group.



TECHNOLOGY CLUB

By Katta Mapes

The Technology Club is now on HIATUS until the Fall of 2026.

Please make sure to keep an eye out for upcoming information as to when we will begin meeting again after that time.

Elections will have been completed and we will have new officers for our club.

We hope to see you in the Fall.

TECH HELP for Club Members: The Tech Help Sessions for members *will still be offered* on the 2nd Sunday of each month from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Craft Room from May to September.

SUNFLOWER HEALTH & SUPPORT

By Diane Gray, RN

The Sunflower Health and Wellness Class will be on HIATUS until September.

We will touch base again in August for our September Class. Please look for information at that time.

Thanks and have a great summer!

VINTAGE GARDENERS WRAP UP

A VIBRANT SEASON

By Marie Van Huis



The **Vintage Gardeners Club** recently celebrated the end of a wonderful season with a guided tour of the **Tucson Botanical Gardens**. Thirty-four members gathered to admire the stunning desert landscape, taking in the blooming cacti, vibrant succulents, and the captivating *Frida Kahlo Exhibit*. The day concluded with a lovely group lunch, offering everyone a chance to socialize.

Stay Inspired This Summer. While the club takes its **seasonal summer break**, gardening inspiration is never far away. The **Pima County Master Gardeners** host informative monthly workshops at the **Wheeler-Taft Library**. For a treasure trove of desert gardening ideas and resources, be sure to visit their website @ [Pima County Master Gardeners | UA Cooperative Extension](https://www.pima-county.com/mastergardeners/ua-cooperative-extension/).

Looking Ahead: September Membership. It's almost time to plan for next year! Early-bird membership renewals for existing members will open at the Village Center this September. Keep an eye on future columns and the **Communicator** for specific dates and times. We also look forward to welcoming new members who wish to join at that time.

Connect With Us. Do you have ideas for future programs or outings? We'd love to hear them! Please share your suggestions with our new Vice President, **Joyce Taylor** @ taylorjlp@yahoo.com.

For all other questions or comments, feel free to reach out to the club @ sfvtgardens@gmail.com.

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and restful summer!



HEALTH & SAFETY

PRIMAVERA

By Patrick Steliga



Primavera's Project Action for Veterans Program provides housing support services and temporary financial assistance to veterans & their families who are

facing eviction or homelessness. Temporary financial assistance is provided for rent/utilities, deposits, transportation & moving.

The following donations are needed for the various Primavera programs:

- ~ Men's & Women's New Underwear,
- ~ the usual hygiene items
- ~ peanut butter, rice, pasta, cereal & canned fruit & vegetables.

The donation box is located just outside of the main doors of the Village Center.

Many thanks for all of your donations.



SUNFLOWER SAFETY & HEALTH ALLIANCE

By Katta Mapes

Contact coordinators **Marcia Olson**

@ marcia7444@yahoo.com or

Diane Gray @ sunnnytucson64@gmail.com

to learn more about 'Buddies' or to join the planning committee meeting.

Your SAFETY message for this month is: Tucson's extreme heat can be dangerous, so prevention is essential. Drink water regularly, even before you feel thirsty, and limit alcohol and caffeine because they can dehydrate you. Stay indoors during the hottest hours - usually late morning to early evening - and wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothing, a wide-brimmed hat, and sunscreen when outside.

Watch for **HEAT EXHAUSTION** symptoms such as heavy sweating, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea, muscle cramps and cool, clammy skin. Move to a cooler area, rest, and drink water if these occur. **HEAT STROKE** is a medical emergency; call 911 immediately if confusion, fainting, or hot, dry skin occurs.

Your WELLNESS message for this month is: Having a Buddy who checks on you daily provides comfort and support. It reminds you that you are not alone, especially during stressful or difficult times. A brief daily check-in can give you relief knowing someone cares enough to check in on you, which can lift your mood and reduce feelings of isolation.

PARTNERS W/CHALLENGES SUPPORT GROUP

We now welcome ALL Sunflower resident caregivers, as well as their Mates who may be confronting different neurological challenges.

We maintain a confidential and casual atmosphere where we can share experiences on, or have questions about, such matters as: sources providing respite care, prescriptions, exercise regimens, therapies & anything else participants want to bring up.

We meet 4th Tuesday of every month in the Craft Room @ the Village Center from 11:00 a.m. to Noon.

SUNFLOWER NEIGHBORS

By Kristy Ashmore

Sunflower Neighbors are here to help if you need a ride to doctors, dentists or medical appointments and are unable to drive yourself.

To request a ride, send an email to:

jkashmore@comcast.net

and in the subject line, write "ride".

We need a seven-day notice to arrange for an available driver.

Please include in your email: Details of your appointment including the date/day, time and approximate length of appointment, pick up time from your home and your name, address & phone number.

NEW DRIVERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

(If interested, contact **Kristy Ashmore**

jkashmore@comcast.net)



SUNFLOWER VILLAGE CENTER HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. SUNDAY from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

We will remain open for evening events as they are scheduled in advance.

Pool & Fitness Proximity access is available from 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

For access, **you MUST enter Village Center with your Proximity Card WHEN OPEN.**

If Village Center is closed, please use the after-hours front entrance gate.

SPECIAL INTEREST CLUBS AND THEIR CONTACTS

"500" CARD PLAYERS

Bob Bender 717-804-6425

ART CLUB

Billie Barron 520-334-7508

BACCHUS WINE

Kevin Webb 520-240-9710

BASKET-WEAVING WIZARDS

Karen Donahue 520-572-2250

BILLIARDS-LADIES

"CHIX WITH STIX"

Phyllis Bowcott 520-237-6573

BOCCE

Julie Frickel 406-461-0718

Kevin Uden 928-231-2488

Marcia Ceciliot 916-316-0123

BOWLING

Terri Shevlin 609-471-4347

BRIDGE: LADIES

Brooke Murphy 708-846-7555

BRIDGE: MIXED

Mary Lynn Mercer 614-323-2463

CANASTA

Barbara Bernardi 781-521-6225

CHORALE

Beth Britton 928-607-6204

COFFEE & FRIENDS

Roger Daggett 520-241-1032

CORNHOLE

Kevin Kirkey 520-833-2236

CRAFT CLUB

Chris Polk 520-336-6011

DAYTIME BOOK CLUB

Alice Hafner 520-403-6194

DOMINOES

Pat Cooke 520-616-8082

EUCHRE

Vicky Beard 520-907-3510

FITNESS CLUB

Billie Barron 520-334-7508

FOODIES & FUN

Kathryn Martin 940-783-1037

FOREVER FITNESS

Virginia Landers 520-800-9005

FUN POKER

Jim Conley 520-308-9798

GAME NIGHTS

Bob Wilson 480-720-5509

GATHERINGS CLUB

Jan Gerston, Sec 979-571-3640

GENEALOGY

Paulette Weiser 419-308-0237

GOLF - MEN

Doug Culpepper 412-720-6248

Gary Scott 520-406-0123

HEALTH & SAFETY ALLIANCE

(Formerly Neighborhood Connects)

Marcia Olson 520-850-9566

marcia7444@yahoo.com

HIKING CLUB

Hope Collins 815-540-3666

Bobby Bran 520-729-8082

KARAOKE

Marcia Ceciliot 916-316-0123

Rick Lybarger 509-690-1991

LINE DANCE/ENTERTAINMENT

Karen Barta 586-292-6177

MAH JONGG

Anne Schmidt 520-572-4033

Lynn Neitzke 520-268-7784

NINE-HOLE GOLF - MENS

Jim "Murph" Murphy 708-846-7556

NINE-HOLE GOLF - LADIES

Leslyn Sisco 970-946-5998

PARTNERS WITH CHALLENGES

SUPPORT GROUP (PWC)

PATRIOT'S PANTRY

Dann Cooke 520-404-4178

PHOTOGRAPY CLUB

Vince Senski vinceduluth@gmail.com

PICKLEBALL

Rick Lybarger 509-690-1991

Terri Shevlin 609-471-4347

PING PONG

Buzz Hoffmann 520-404-3065

PINOCHLE

Harlan Quinn 520-225-7375

POP TENNIS

Gary Engel 623-221-8813

PRIMAVERA FOUNDATION

Patrick Steliga 262-422-8791

QUILTERS CLUB

Carolyn La Potin 520-780-4937

ROMEOs/OWLS

Dick Teugh 520-579-5826

Dennis Abrams 970-231-3459

SOCIAL CLUB

Bette Sumner 520-572-2094

STRENGTH AND BALANCE

Marlene Spencer 520-572-2554

SUNFLOWER NEIGHBORS

VOLUNTEER TRANSPORTATION

Seven days in advance please

Kristy Ashmore jkashmore@comcast.net

SUNFLOWER READERS (Evening)

Tina Smith 520-343-3999

Jann Swanson 520-579-7578

TECHNOLOGY CLUB

Dennis Linde dennielinde53@gmail.com

Burleson Smith burleson.smith@verizon.net

TENNIS CLUB

Charlie Barlow 360-870-6517

Susan Page 520-742-1373

VETERANS

Sharon Bender 717-818-5505

Larry Schierer 520-975-1164

VINTAGE GARDENERS

Lois Croly 520-369-1524

Marie Van Huis 520-572-0045

WELCOME COMMITTEE

Lynn Haye 847-401-6343

YOGA

Leslie Parr 520-603-8785

Revised August, 2026

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PLUMBER—If you have plumbing projects or problems call A. Plumber! I've been plumbing here since the beginning! **Adam 520-401-3495**

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SUNFLOWER MISSION STATEMENT, CORE VALUES & VISION

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Mission of Sunflower, an active adult community of 967 homes, is to be good stewards of common property & funds, and to offer residents a variety of opportunities to enrich their physical, cultural & social well being.

CORE VALUES:

- Maintain beautiful physical appearance of community
 - * Support a harmonious community
 - * Respect differences of all in the community
- Nurture an environment that allows the enrichment of the lives of all in the community
 - * Ensure the financial integrity of the association
- Recognize & address changing needs of community

VISION: To be a community meeting needs of current/future residents.

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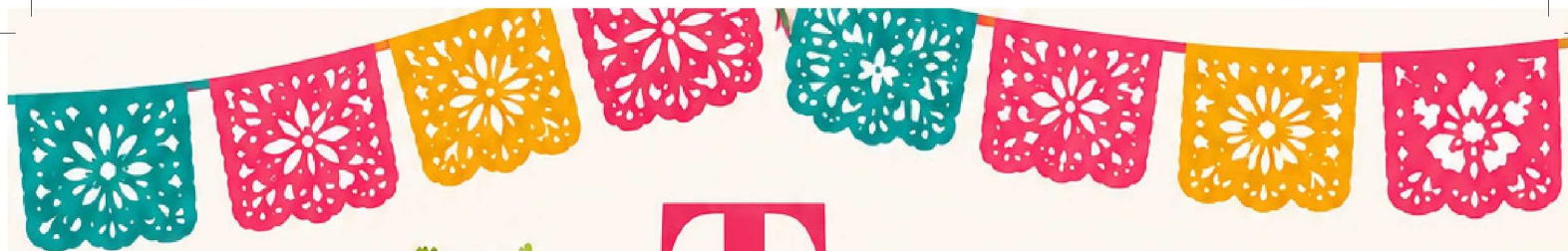
Use caution with propane stoves or grills. Never leave them unattended.

Secure trailer safety chains so they do not drag on the road. One spark can start a fire.

(520) 887-1010
www.nwfdaz.gov

Source: fs.usda.gov, nfpa.org, blm.gov





Tacos & Talk: Reverse Mortgage Q&A

Join us for tacos, refreshments, conversation,
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11:00 AM – 12:30 PM



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- ✓ How a reverse mortgage works
- ✓ Accessing your home's equity
- ✓ Options for aging in place
- ✓ Common myths and misconceptions
- ✓ Open Q&A session



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brweathers.az@gmail.com



Market Update

July 2025-June 2026

Floor Plan	Sq. Ft.	Avg \$ in Past Yr.	Highest \$	Lowest \$	Avg DOM
Kachina	1,972	\$419,483	\$465,000	\$380,000	50
Lantana	1,770	\$402,400	\$447,000	\$365,000	102
San Carlos	1,380	\$346,250	\$378,000	\$325,000	68
San Gabriel	1,760	\$408,583	\$439,000	\$345,000	148
San Marcos	1,551	\$358,200	\$405,000	\$285,000	69
Santa Rita	1,598	\$340,000	\$340,000	\$340,000	35
Sedona	1,484	\$334,750	\$350,000	\$321,500	133
Sierra	1,296	\$307,500	\$340,000	\$250,000	92
Sunrise	1,114	\$301,125	\$340,000	\$270,000	77

*Per MLSSA closed statistics for the Sunflower Subdivision July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026.

The Walter Team

Tim 520.775.0222/Tim@TheWalterTeam.com
Kaye 303.551.4989/Kaye@TheWalterTeam.com



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