

The Sun Catcher

January 2026

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2026



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Kenroppsf@gmail.com

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lschierersf@gmail.com

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COMMITTEES

ARCHITECTURAL
ELECTIONS
FINANCE
LANDSCAPE
POLICY
PRESERVATION of
RESERVE ASSET (PRAC)
SOLAR TASK FORCE
WEBSITE
WELCOME

A MESSAGE FROM TIM LARDY 2026 BOD PRESIDENT

Happy New Year Sunflower Community!

The Board and I would like to wish you all a blessed and successful New Year.

There is finally some positive news regarding the sound system. Minutes before the December Board Meeting, the replacement hardware completed installation.

The system worked well for the Board Meeting.

There will be a software update to capture some of the requirements to make operation simpler. This happened prior to the end of the year.

I would like to encourage all of you to vote in the upcoming **Community Survey**.

This survey will be used to determine community interest in improvement projects.

Those with an email address on file will receive an email to vote electronically.

For those who do not have an email address on file, you will receive a ballot in the mail.

We will also have ballots available for you in the Village Center. Please keep in mind that there is one vote per lot and you will need your AAM Account Number to vote by mail or paper ballot.

Front desk personnel can help you with the account number, if necessary.

Thank you in advance for cooperation.



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We can even meet at your house for an appointment!

E03242301



Holiday Open House

Friday, December 12, 2025 | 3-5 PM

Celebrate the season with us at Cogir! Enjoy festive music, delicious food, and joyful holiday fun for all ages.

Capture the moment with photos with Santa, craft a keepsake at our ornament decorating station, and experience the warmth and charm of our community during this special open house.

RSVP by December 10

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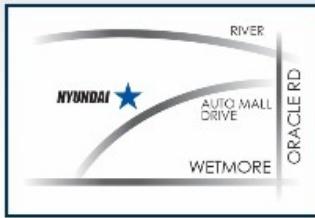
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ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

By Lisa Sak

With the New Year starting, it's a good time to check out the address on your home to make sure it is visible on both the house and on the mailbox. It's important to keep these numbers visible and readable for emergency situations.

The house numbers can easily be darkened with a black sharpie.

Mailbox numbers can be purchased at any hardware store and need to be black and 2 inches tall. If you are unable to darken the numbers on the house and they need darkening, please call the office.

Several members of the Architectural Review Committee have volunteered to assist residents with this project.

**ARC's next two meetings:
January 6th & 20th @ 9:00 a.m.—Craft Room**

POLICY COMMITTEE

By Kat Mitchell

The **Policy Committee** met for its first meeting on October 7th and voted in the following officers: **Robin Sternner** – Chairperson; **Julie Frickel** – Vice Chair; and **Billie Barron** – Secretary. These members have excellent knowledge and work experiences which are an asset to this committee and to the Community.

We will have more information coming to everyone in the February issue of the Community's Sun Catcher.

**Our next meeting will take place on
Friday, January 9th @ 9:00 a.m. in
the Conference Room at the Village Center.**

ROSEMARY FOR REMEMBRANCE

Throughout history, the fragrant herb **Rosemary** has always held a place of great esteem as the symbol of remembrance. Sprigs were scattered for loved ones as a token of loyalty and commemoration. What better promise could we give to those we hold dear than the vow that they will never be forgotten?

William Shakespeare

We have lost so many good friends and neighbors in 2025, we want to extend our special love and warmth to all those who have been touched by the death of a loved one in the past year.

We are all with you!

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Bonnie Scott

The Committee members congratulate past Finance Chair, **Larry Schierer**, for becoming a new Board member. He was a knowledgeable leader who worked well with all of us and we trust he will be valuable to the Board.

We unanimously voted in a new Chair, our liaison **Patrick Stirling**. Patrick has worked with the committee for a year and has proven his knowledge in Sunflower's financials. The Committee thanks all of those who provided applications to become **Finance Committee** members. We now have enough members.

The Committee is proud of its accomplishments for the Fiscal Year 2024-25 and below are just a few of them:

- ~ Reviewed the Audit for Tax year 2023-24 and recommended the Board approve it
- ~ Reviewed the Monthly Sunflower Financials October 1, 2024 thru September 30, 2025, and provided input regarding needed corrections
- ~ In June through August, the Committee worked with the Community Manager and the Board Treasurer preparing the 2025-26 Budget which included reviewing the PRAC and Landscape Committee budgets.
- ~ The October financial reports were reviewed in the committee's November meeting and based on Income and Expenses, the new Fiscal year has started out on a good note.

**Our next meeting will be held on Thursday,
January 15th @ 1:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.**

WELCOME COMMITTEE

By Lynn Haye

You are a "newbie" for a year.

We are having a **Welcome Party on January 30th
from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m.** for all of those people who have moved into our Sunflower Community during 2025. The party is free, and light refreshments will be served. Come meet everyone. **We will have a blast!**

RSVP to **Kristy** @ 316-204-3261 or e-mail **Lynn** @ [**h1035@aol.com**](mailto:h1035@aol.com)

**Our next Welcome Committee meeting:
Friday, January 16th
@ 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.**

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

By Charlie Barlow

Trees and Shrub Replacement Program: The Tree and Shrub replacements for 2025 have been completed. Each member of the Committee presented their 2026 recommendations for greater variety in trees and shrubs and locations. The budget for the program fiscal year 2026 is \$15,000.

Thank you to the Vintage Gardeners for installing signs around the clubhouse identifying trees and plants. We are also grateful to the residents who donated funds to have a white orchid tree (Anacacho) planted in memory of former resident **David Glicksman** on Sunflower Park Drive south of West Alamosa Place, where he lived. Residents are invited to support this program by offering donations for additional trees or shrubs. You can find information on the donation process on our website: Sunflowerliving.com, under Resident Information, Forms, Procedure and Form for Donating Trees or Plants.

Drainage Channel Repair: AAA Landscaping completed the renovation and repair of the pool drainage channel, removing old debris, relining with durable sheeting, and refilling with abundant amount of riprap rock. Great Work!

Mural Paintings: Members of the Committee have completed the painting of a mural on the walls of the trash receptable. **Thank you, Lois Croly, and all!**

Future Planning: The Committee has resolved to prepare a five-year plan that will address tree/shrub replacement, gravel replenishment, and irrigation repair and replacement. Guests are always welcome to attend meetings to offer suggestions, on the first Wednesday of each month @ 10:00 a.m.

[Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 7th
@ 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room.](#)



*Gift bags, raffle tickets at registration.
Prizes, Giveaways—'Lite Bites,' 'Veggie Platters, Muffins Coffee, Iced Tea & Water to help yourself.*

**SUNFLOWER COMMUNITY
HEALTH FAIR & HOME EXPO 2026**
(FREE TO ALL ATTENDEES)
Monday, January 26th, 2026
10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Fiesta Room

Gift bags, raffle tickets at registration.

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We hope to see you there!

PRAC~PRESERVATION OF RESERVE ASSETS

By Kreg Beck

PRAC has acquired new members
which we are thankful for
fresh ideas are always appreciated!

There seems to be no end to the issues that arise throughout the year, and it is good to hear everyone's opinion and come to a consensus that can then be presented to the Sunflower Board. If you have questions or suggestions, please come to one of our meetings. You may have an idea that improves our community or (bottom line) could save the community some money.

PRAC is currently looking at ways to educate the Sunflower Community on what we do, what is important to each homeowner, and how assets are reviewed and maintained. We hope to give presentations at the Village Center and may be able to make them available through **You Tube**. If there is anything in particular regarding Reserve Assets that you would like to know more about, please submit them to the Village Center suggestion box or contact our **PRAC** chairman, **Tom Howlin @** tomh4416@gmail.com.

We are excited to tackle new issues in this new year and hope that some of you would be interested in doing the same.

**Come visit our January 8th meeting in the
Fiesta Room at 1:00 p.m.**
We'd love to see you!



By Bruce Schwartz & Larry Schierer

Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays to everyone in the Sunflower Community, from everyone in the Sunflower Community Veterans Club.

We want to thank **Dan Cooke** for another excellent **Veterans Day Ceremony**. If you missed it this year, you might want to mark it on your calendar.

Music under the Stars was a huge success. Everyone is looking forward to the next one in April. Why indeed, the **Veterans Club** will be there selling those 'oh-so-yummy' burgers again.

We want to welcome our two new Board Members at-large: **Malcom Potter** and **Jim Obenauf**—Way to Go and Welcome Onboard. We are always looking for at-large Board Members.

Ticket sales dates for **Rusted Spurs** and show times are to be announced.

Reaching out to all **Sunflower Veterans** who are not members, please pick up an application at the front desk and drop it off at the next meeting on **January 7th, 2026**. **Stop missing out on all the fun!**

We are proud to announce we are now 501C (3) for all those who inquired about making tax-deductible donations. Now is the time. **Contact our treasurer, Gordon.**

For those who have not renewed memberships, now is a good time. Remember all memberships are voluntary donations. They help us pay expenses. All extra money is always passed on to worthy local Veterans' organizations serving all Veterans in the area.

For more information about us or to make donations, check out our website @ <https://www.sunflowerliving.com/veterans-club-home>.



U.S. NAVY RESERVIST WALLACE CROMWELL— A LIFE OF FAITH AND SERVICE

In 1954, while still in high school, **Wallace Cromwell** made a life-changing decision—to join the U.S. Navy Reserves. With his parents' permission, he enlisted with hopes of becoming a Navy pilot. However, due to health issues, that dream was not possible. Undeterred, **Wallace** pivoted to a new role and began training as a Navy Corpsman.

Throughout high school and college, **Wallace** dedicated his weekends to Navy Reserve training in Wichita, Kansas, and spent two weeks each year at the Great Lakes Naval Station in Illinois. During his time there, he received training on Lake Michigan, where he served as a Signalman—the sailor responsible for communicating between ships using flags. His first cruise on Lake Michigan was a rough one, as seasickness got the best of him. **Wallace** recalls surviving the trip by eating "a lot of crackers" to settle his stomach.

As his service continued, **Wallace's** aspirations evolved. He developed a strong desire to serve as a Navy Chaplain, combining his dedication to the military with his deep faith. However, Navy requirements at the time called for three years of pastoral experience in the civilian sector before he could be considered for chaplaincy. Determined to follow that path, **Wallace** pursued a degree in theology and attended seminary after completing college. Upon graduation, he was ordained and began his ministry in New York, launching a lifelong career as a pastor—a calling rooted in both his faith and his time in the Navy.

Although he never became a Navy pilot or chaplain, **Wallace Cromwell's** years of reserve service laid the foundation for a life of leadership, compassion, and devotion to others—a true reflection of his enduring commitment to serve.



**WALLACE, WE THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SERVICE!**

JANUARY POTLUCK

By Susan Sifers

Due to the fact that we were unable to obtain a sponsor for this month's **POTLUCK**, we have canceled the event for January, 2026.

Please keep an eye out for further information in the next Sun Catcher and the weekly Communicator as to the date & time of the **February POTLUCK**.

We hope to see everyone in February.

JANUARY SOCIAL CLUB

By Frances Gauthier

Come celebrate Chinese New Year with us on January 17th.

We will be serving a Chinese dinner from **Asian Spice**. Although not sticking with the theme, our entertainment will be a magician. **Social Time is 5:30 and dinner is served @ 6:00 p.m.**

Tickets are \$10 per person; and your 2026 membership dues of \$5 will also be required when you purchase your ticket.

Tickets will be on sale on Wednesday, January 7th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. if still available.

Check your weekly Communicator for updates.

On February 21st, we will be celebrating Rodeo Days with a pulled pork dinner. Our entertainment will be *Bill Ganz*.

GNO ~ GIRLS NIGHT OUT

By Lynn Haye

Happy Holidays everyone.

In January, we are going to The Live Theatre to see "The Hat Box" on January 9th @ 7:00 p.m.

The cost is \$30/pp.

Please let me know if you are going to attend. This is selling out fast, so I want to order the tickets.

You can pay me any time after January 1st. I can be reached @ 847-401-6343. Do not worry about not having a ride -- just let me know.

BACCHUS WINE

By Barbara & Kevin Webb

Exciting things are coming in 2026 for the **Bacchus Wine** group here at Sunflower. After many years of coordination by **Sandy Persels**, she has announced her retirement. New Sunflower residents **Barbara & Kevin Webb**, have agreed to lead **Bacchus Wine** with the help of other new and veteran residents to continue the momentum that **Sandy** started.

One of the first additions to the group is use of the online **e-Vite Invitation System** which will allow enhanced and easier management of the RSVPs. Attendees will be able to RSVP in a broader timeline, view who else will be attending, and be notified of themes and other details relative to the event. It also features a "what to bring" section where we can indicate preferred snacks/foods.

An email address: [**bacchuswinesunflower@gmail.com**](mailto:bacchuswinesunflower@gmail.com) has also been established which will interact with the e-Vite System. Dates and details will be announced using the monthly Sun Catcher, the weekly Communicator, and the United for Sunflower faceBook page. The group has decided to refocus the theme to wine(s) with seasonal importance, novelty, specialty, and education, complimented by finger foods that pair well, while providing a fun and social interaction venue.

January 28th will be the kick-off of our new endeavor.

Look for more info in the above-mentioned media. We cordially invite all those that previously attended **Bacchus Wine**, as well as new folks to come check us out!

NOTES FROM THE CHORALE – A FUN AND GRATIFYING YEAR

By Sue Horsfall

All eighty chairs were filled at each performance of the **Chorale's Christmas Program** on December 5th and 6th. From the entrance while singing the first piece, to the "sing-along" of the last, the audience was treated to a varied program of Christmas music through the ages.

Halfway through, **Mel** treated us to an evocative piano piece that was reminiscent of a winter wind. The appreciative audiences contributed not only to the Chorale's efforts to bulk up the **Marana Community Food Bank**, but also generously to the Chorale's ongoing music fund. We are especially grateful for the substantial donation made by the **Veterans Club**.

The **Chorale** is taking a break until February 2nd, 2026 in the Fiesta Room. Members will be notified if there is an earlier rehearsal at the home of **Virginia Harmon** on January 26th.

For questions or suggestions, contact **Sue Horsfall** @ 520-425-0586 or [**swissue@gmail.com**](mailto:swissue@gmail.com).

SUNFLOWER FOODIES & FUN CLUB

By Kathryn Martin

***PLEASE SEE ROGER DAGGETT'S DISPATCH AD
INSERT-PAGE IN THIS SUNCATCHER TO GET
MORE INFORMATION ON
UPCOMING EVENTS/NEWS FROM
THE FOODIE CLUB***



COMEDY "NOSTALGIA SHOW" Friday, January 16, 2026

Come join us on Friday, January 16 in
the Fiesta Room @ 5:30 p.m. for the
"Nostalgia Show" featuring Randy

Riggle! Randy has been a seasoned veteran of the comedy scene since 1982. His combination of innovative style, quick wit, and brilliant impressions have made Randy popular with all types of audiences for years.

Randy has written for comedians including Jay Leno and Joan Rivers. This talented comedian has appeared nationally on all three major networks and has also performed at some of the top comedy clubs.

The snack bar will open at 5:30 p.m., and the show will start @ 6:00 p.m. sharp. The snack bar will open again during intermission. Seats will be on a first-come, first-served basis, with a few reserved for the volunteers.

Tickets cost \$15.00 and go on sale:

Monday, December 29th from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. ~and ~
Saturday, January 3rd from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

PIZZA PARTY

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 @ 1:00 p.m.

This event will be held at OV Pizza & Pints in Oro Valley. Cost is \$12.00, and tickets are on sale on the same dates at the Comedy Show.

THE FOODIES CLUB SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 14, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.



BARRIO BREAD SALES

By Kathryn Martin

Barrio Bread, Don Guerra, will be here
Wednesday, January 21st @ 4:00 p.m.
in the Craft Room.

So come on out and get your favorite bread!
Reminder: 2 loaves per household.



GATHERINGS CLUB

By Jan Gerson

The bus is filling up for the excursion to Desert Diamond Casino on January 5th, 2025, departing at 10:00 a.m. from the Village Center and returning by 3:00 p.m. Desert Diamond is providing transportation.

The reservation (required) deadline was December 22nd. The bus can accommodate wheelchairs/scooters with advance notice (by December 22nd). Email me @ jan.gerston@gmail.com with the word 'Casino' in the subject line to reserve your seat. Please include names and phone numbers of all persons attending.

SO WHAT'S WITH OPERA?

By Pat Haber

Opera means "work" in Italian. It's an art form that has been around since the 1700's that tells a story in song, a musical with classical singing but without dialogue. Most of the stories are from pre-existing works, from Persian Fairy Tales to Shakespeare to more contemporary stories. It has inspired modern works such as "Rent" (La Boheme) and "Miss Saigon" (Madame Butterfly). Some of the most beautiful arias have been used in movies such as "The Shawshank Redemption" (The Marriage of Figaro), "Pretty Woman" (La Traviata), "Fatal Attraction", (Madame Butterfly) and of course, the movie "Moonstruck" (La Boheme). Looney Tunes also has a cartoon, with Bugs Bunny! (What's Opera, Doc?) To read about more movies with opera arias in them, check out: <https://www.glyndebourne.com/tour/10-times-opera-store-the-scene-at-the-movies/>

So come and enjoy a taste of live operatic singing, along with some popular, familiar songs on **February 3rd @ 2:00 p.m. in the Fiesta Room!!** If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, they will be on sale on **January 13th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** or contact **Pat Haber** @ 734-546-7900 or pathaber@gmail.com.

A PIECE OF MY HEART — ACRYLIC PAINTING CLASS

By Sharon Fannin

Join us for a creative January afternoon as we paint a glowing, multicolored sky wrapped around a heart—perfect for the season of love and Valentine's Day. A finished sample will be on display to spark inspiration, and I'll be painting step-by-step on a second canvas so you can follow along with ease. And because great art needs great fuel, our very own **Kathryn Martin** will be providing delicious, hearty snacks to keep everyone energized and happy.

⌚ Date: Saturday, January 10th

⌚ Time: 1:30 to 6:00 p.m.

⌚ Place: Craft Room \$ Cost: \$35/pp

Registration: Monday, January 5th
from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

*Can't make it? No problem —
just call 520-971-7769 to reserve your spot.*

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, January 28th*, will go to *Grumpy's*, carpooling @ 7:45 a.m.

ROMEOs Lunch – *Wednesday, January 14th*, will go to *Pappoule's*, carpooling @ 11:45 a.m.

OWLS Dinner - *Wednesday, January 21st*, will go to *Ole's Mexican*, carpooling @ 4:30 p.m.

SATURDAY COFFEE KLATCH

Every Saturday morning from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Fiesta Room

Everyone is welcome to enjoy a great time meeting with neighbors & a 'Cup of Joe.' We provide coffee, but appreciate a **\$1.00 donation** to help defray costs.

Thanks to **Roger Daggett** of Coldwell Banker Realty - Foothills Office who *continues to sponsor this event*.



Second Friday & Fourth Tuesday January Game Nights

*Friday, January 9th and
Tuesday, January 27th, 2026
Fiesta Room 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.*

Are you looking for a fun way to escape the evening blues? 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.

A special thanks to **Jan Session** and **Adrienne Farrell** for hosting this monthly event.



Tuesday, January 20th from
5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Fiesta Room



Join us for a fun-filled evening of music! We have several super-star singers who enjoy entertaining the audience. However, we always look forward to new aspiring entertainers. *Could that be you?*

If so, please send your song request to **Michele @ michelebennett@me.com** by January 3rd. You can request to sing your favorite song or two, or suggest a group song. Bring your beverage of choice and snack if you like!

Thank you to **Tim and Kaye** from **Walter's Team Realty** for the new karaoke machine.



CORNHOLE

By Kevin Kirkey

Whether you're a seasoned pro or just looking for some friendly fun, grab a partner and come on down to *Cornhole!*

Join us every **Friday night** for the ultimate casual competition: **Every Friday in January from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on the Bocce Court Sidewalks.** Get ready to toss some bags and sink some shots! It's more than a game—it's a Friday night tradition!

The first Cornhole Potluck Social of 2026 will be held on January 12th from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the Fiesta Room. Sign up is required.

Contact **Kevin** @ 520-833-2236. You can also keep up-to-date on all Cornhole activity by checking the weekly Communicator.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

By Katta Mapes

Be a part of Sunflower Neighborhood Connections.

The SAFETY Networking message for this month is:

Add this number to your contact list for the **Marana Police Department** non-emergency calls:

520-682-4032.

Of course, always call 9-1-1 for emergencies.

The SOCIAL Networking message for this month is:

Invite a neighbor to join you at any of the activities offered at Sunflower.

ROSIE'S SUNFLOWER BINGO

By Tim Walter



The Christmas Spirit was alive and well at the December Bingo! Friends new and old had a great time and showed their generosity as well! **Carol Abrahamson** wanted to thank everyone for donating to Christmas Toy Drive for **“More Than a Bed”** helping foster kids enjoy their holidays. Not only was the box overflowing, at least three winners donated back a total of \$100.00 of their winnings as well!

The **Veterans Club** also benefited from the higher-than-usual pots, as over half the winners donated part of their winnings. A record \$190.00 was raised. *We live in a wonderfully generous community.*

The Rosie Special was \$345.00. Even after donating a substantial amount back, **Rick Lybarger** took home a great pot. Congratulations!



Rosie Young chose the three winners from the beautiful sweater contest! She said they all deserved winning, but we only had three prize bags; put together by **Kaye Walter**.

[Join us on **January 13th** in the Fiesta Room, for a lucky 13th-Day Bingo!](#)

Kaye will have a groovy '60s and '70s theme prepared.

Bring a jacket for your comfort; it's always hard to get that temperature just right.

[The fun kicks off officially @ **6:00 p.m.**.](#)

If you want to sit together, come early.

SUNFLOWER HEALTH & SUPPORT

By Diane Gray, RN

Hello, my name is **Diane Gray**. I live in the Sunflower Community. I am a retired RN, and have started a group to help and support our community residents, as needed. It will be designed to aid and support the general wellness of residents who may wish to ask questions or gather information about the next steps in their continuing health.

Our next meeting will be on [January 5th @ 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room](#) at the Sunflower Village Center. If you are interested in attending, please email me @ sunnytucson64@gmail.com.

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 Aileen Fundingsland

Please join us for 9 holes of golf at **Quarry Pines**. [We play every Tuesday @ 2:00 p.m.](#) Please arrive one half-hour early. Please call or text **Leslyn Sisco** @ 970-047-5998 no later than 10:00 a.m. the Monday before play.

MENS 9-HOLE GOLF

By Jim Murphy

Join us for nine holes of golf at Quarry Pines Golf Course. [Winter play is 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

Hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year's.

We are now starting our **Net Championship Play**. We play 3 different courses twice, with the winner being the person with the lowest Net Score. In February, we start the Club Championship--this is Match Play.

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

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

POP TENNIS FOR SUNFLOWER

By Gary Engel

[Pop Tennis hours will be 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. on Court 2 every Monday and Thursday.](#)

Paddles and balls are provided and stored in the tennis shed on Court 1. A group text has been set up so we know who will be playing. Come give it a try - new players are always welcome.

SUNFLOWER TENNIS CLUB

By Dennis Page

The 2025 holidays are behind us, and the 2026 holidays are just ahead. And it's now officially winter. But Southern Arizona's mild winter lets you continually enjoy the fresh air & sunshine playing tennis & pop-tennis out on the courts! Try not to brag about our weather to friends & family elsewhere in the country.

The **Walter Team of Diamondback Real Estate** was proud to have sponsored **Sunflower Tennis Club** teams participating in the Senior Olympics. Come root them on at the Reffkin Tennis Center, 50 S. Alvernon Way, **Wednesday, January 6th through Friday, January 8th**. (Call or email **Tim Walter** for details: 520-775-0222, timwalterrealestate@gmail.com) Results will appear in the February Sun Catcher.

For all you pro-tennis fans, this is the major tennis tournament schedule for January, 2026:

<i>United Cup</i>	Perth, Sydney	Australia	January 2
<i>Brisbane International</i>	Brisbane	Australia	January 5
<i>Bank of China Hong Kong Tennis Open</i>	Hong Kong	China	January 5
<i>Adelaide International</i>	Adelaide	Australia	January 12
<i>ASB Classic</i>	Auckland	New Zealand	Jan 12
<i>Australian Open</i>	Melbourne	Australia	January 18

You can watch the matches on the Tennis Channel, or stream on the Tennis Channel App and TennisTV.com.

Reminder: Weekly play (Monday through Saturday) for SFTC members now starts at 8:30 a.m.

For current tennis information:

Charlie Barlow: 360-870-6517, or email him @ amitay-us60@gmail.com -or- **Susan Page:** susancpage@comcast.net.

For current pop-tennis information:

Gary Engel: gengel9285@gmail.com -or- **Chris Schatte:** chris.schatt@gmail.com

PICKLEBALL CLUB

By Leah Freeland

Happy 2026! There were over 40 members who attended the annual holiday party in December. Great food, fun games, and lots of laughs were enjoyed by all. A special thanks to **Dann Cooke** for creating and donating pickleball wreaths for door prizes & to **Karla Holmes** for all her help to make the night a success. A big thank you to **Billy Lackey** for creating a new paddle rack to use when we have a large number of players. He donated his time, energy & funds for this - we appreciate you, **Billy!**

During these cooler months, club play time has been updated to: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. - Competitive play

Tuesday and Thursday 3:00 to -5:00 p.m. - Social play
Wednesday and Saturday 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. and Sunday 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. - Open to all members

Free lessons can be arranged by calling or texting **Karla**

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.



By Julie Frickel

It's Senior Olympics Time! The Bocce Tournaments will be @ **Sun City Oro Valley, 1656 E. Rancho Vistoso Blvd.** Men play January 19th and 20th, co-ed teams play January 21st and 22nd, and women play January 23rd and 24th. Registration begins @ 8:30 a.m., and first games begin @ 9:00 a.m. each day. Team captains have received the Sun City rules for their bocce courts, so please familiarize your teams with these rules. Teams may practice at the Sun City courts up to 4 times, with a maximum of 2 hours per practice. Team captain—contact **Jon Russell** @ jondrussell6@gmail.com to schedule a practice date and time (refer to his email for open times).

Sunflower will have 3 men's teams, 4 co-ed teams and 3 women's teams. Spectators are welcome to watch the tournament from covered picnic tables near the courts. They have a Bistro inside their Community Center for hot beverages or enjoy lunch at The Views Restaurant. ***Come support your Sunflower Bocce Teams!***

If you are interested in trying bocce, show up early on Tuesday or Thursday and an officer can help get you started. Or, call one of the officers to schedule some personalized instruction (#s in the back of the Sun Catcher). You will get 3 free days to play and see if you want to continue. After that, dues are only \$10 per year.

SUNFLOWER BOWLING INFORMATION

By Bonnie Scott

Welcome back Connie & Mary Rio & Janet Sergisson.

If you want to make new Sunflower Community friends and enjoy some fun exercise for 2 hours, then come bowling with us on **Friday afternoons**. It's Open bowling so no teams, no competition and if you cannot make a Friday, no problem, and no cost. We bowl all year so those who spend the summer away can bowl without any commitment. The cost is \$13 for three (3) lines of bowling which includes funds toward the annual Bowling Banquet in January. We do have a bowler who tracks your games and average which comes into play at the annual banquet. Prizes do include most-improved bowler for men and for women.

Bowlers recognized for outstanding bowling:

Joe Beard – 201 & 214 games and 609 series; New high game of 246 & 645 series

Bob Sergisson - 218 game and 555 series new; New high game of 227 & 597 series.

Faythe Mattern – New high series of 447

Mary Rio – YTD High game of 187 & series of 426

Bonnie Scott – New high game of 202 and New high series of 516

Please show up at 12:10 for practice starting at 12:20 and a 12:30 p.m. start. We bowl at the **PINZ Fiesta Lanes** – 501 W. River Road. When you arrive, come to Lanes 1-6 and someone will collect your \$13. Refer any questions to **Terri Shevlin** @ 609-471-4347.

CONTACT US—E-MAIL DIRECTORY

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

Monica Martinez, Sunflower Community Assistant Manager: MLMartinez@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.

or Communicator to: LSak@associatedasset.com.

Sunflower Living Website: webteam@sunflowerliving.com Email directly to: submittosunflower@gmail.com

FRONT DESK PERSONNEL

Nickie Kaplan, Resident Services Coordinator:

NKaplan@associatedasset.com

Rebecca Teichman, Resident Services Coordinator:

RTeichman@associatedasset.com

Rosie Young, Resident Services Coordinator:

RMYoung@associatedasset.com

SUNFLOWER VILLAGE CENTER HOURS & HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

THE VILLAGE CENTER WILL BE CLOSED ALL DAY ON JANUARY 1ST FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY.

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 **Rosie @ RMYoung@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.

JANUARY 2026 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<u>COMMITTEE MEETINGS</u> 1/06 ARC 1/07 LANDSCAPE 1/08 PRAC 1/09 POLICY 1/14 GOVERNANCE	<u>THIS MONTH</u> 1/15 FINANCE 1/16 WELCOME 1/20 ARC 1/28 BOD	1 <u>CENTER CLOSED</u> 	2 9 Quilters 11:30 Fun Poker	3 7:30 Coffee Klatch 9 Art Club 9 Foodie Fr Ticks
4 1 Mah Jongg	5 9 Painting Regist 9 Dominoes 9:30 Craft Club 10 Social Club Mtg 11:30 Fun Poker 12 Baskets 12:30 Mexican Train 1 Health & Support	6 9 ARC 1 Euchre 1 Ladies Bridge	7 9 Mah Jongg 10 LANDSCAPE 10 VETS Mtg 11:30 Soc Cl Ticks 1 Mah Jongg 2 1 Pinochle	8 9 Quilters 9 500 Cards Game 1 Mixed Bridge 1 Canasta 1 PRAC 2:15 Neigh Conns 6 Cribbage	9 9 Quilters 9 POLICY 11:30 Fun Poker 1 Mah Jongg 2 6 Game Night	10 7:30 Coffee Klatch 9 Art Club 1:30 Painting Class
11 1 Mah Jongg 2 Tech Help	12 9 Dominoes 9:30 Craft Club 11:30 Fun Poker 12 Baskets 12:30 Mexican Train 4:30 Cornhole Social	13 10 Gatherings Club 10 Daytime Book Cl 11 Opera Tickets 1 Euchre 1 Ladies Bridge 6 BINGO	14 9 Mah Jongg 10 Tech Club Mtg 10 Foodie Fr Mtg 11:45 ROMEOs 1 Mah Jongg 2 1 Pinochle 3 GOVERNANCE	15 9 Quilters 9 500 Cards Game 1 Mixed Bridge 1 Canasta 1:30 FINANCE 6 Cribbage	16 9 Quilters 11:30 Fun Poker 1 Mah Jongg 2 1 WELCOME 5:30 Foodie Fr Comedy Show	17 7:30 Coffee Klatch 9 Art Club 5:30 January Social Club
18 1 Mah Jongg	19  9 Dominoes 9:30 Craft Club 11:30 Fun Poker 12 Baskets 12:30 Mexican Train	20 8 Genealogy Membership Table 9 ARC 1 Euchre 1 Ladies Bridge 5:30 Karaoke	21 9 Mah Jongg 10 Photo Club Mtg 11 Mah Jongg 2 1 Pinochle 4 Barrio Bread 4:30 OWLS	22 9 Quilters 9 500 Cards Game 1 Mixed Bridge 1 Canasta 6 Cribbage	23 9 Quilters 10:30 Soc Cl Ticks 11:30 Fun Poker 1 Mah Jongg 2	24 7:30 Coffee Klatch 9 Art Club
25 1 Mah Jongg 2 Tech Help	26 HEALTH FAIR IN VILLAGE CENTER 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	27 10:30 PWC Mtg 1 Euchre 1 Ladies Bridge 2 Genealogy Club 6 Game Night 7 SF Readers	28 7:45 ROMEOs 9 Mah Jongg 10 BOD MTG 1 Mah Jongg 2 1 Pinochle 4:30 Fun Poker	29 9 Quilters/10 Mtg 9 500 Cards Game 1 Mixed Bridge 1 Canasta 6 Cribbage	30 9 Quilters 11:30 Fun Poker 1 Mah Jongg 2 4 Welcome Party	31 7:30 Coffee Klatch 9 Art Club 9 Foodie Fr Ticks

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
3pm Pickleball	Men's Golf 7:45 Yoga 8:30 Tennis 9 Pickleball 9 POP Tennis 9 Water Aerobics 9:30 Line Dance 1pm Chix w/Stix	8:30 Tennis 9 Pickleball 9 Stretch/Tone 10:10 Chr Yoga/Pilates 11:30 Wts/Balance 1pm Bocce 1pm Men's Billiards 2pm Ladies' 9-Hole Golf 3pm Pickleball	7:45 Yoga 8:30 Tennis 9 Pickleball 9 Water Aerobics 1pm Ping Pong 1st, 2nd, 3rd Wed 2pm Men's 9-Hole Golf	Men's Golf 8:30 Tennis 9 Pickleball 9 POP Tennis 9 Stretch/Tone 10:10 Chr Yoga/Pilates 11:30 Wts/Balance 1pm Bocce 1pm Chix w/Stix 1pm Ping Pong-4th Thurs 3pm Pickleball	7:45 Yoga 8:30 Tennis 9 Pickleball 9 Water Aerobics 10 Line Dance 12:30pm Bowling 1pm Men's Billiards 4pm Cornhole	8:30 Tennis 9 Pickleball 10 Ping Pong *Hiking Info- See Article For Details

TOPICS OF INTEREST

ARTIST GALLERY

By Nickie Kaplan

Our Artist for January is **Carolyn LaPotin** who will be exhibiting her **Fabric Art**. After moving with her husband, to Sunflower in 2006, **Carolyn** learned basic quilting and later landscape quilting with the guidance of several members of our **Sunflower Quilters**. Over the years, her interest in capturing the beauty of Arizona landscapes has taken root and grown. She hopes that you are inspired by her vision and find yourself marveling at the surrounding natural beauty in which we live.

Thank you once again to the ladies of the **Quilt Club** for their incredible displays of the quilting arts and for their **Silent Auction**, which was a great success.

Our February artist will be **Joy Rittenour**, showing all of us her displays of photography. We again look forward to seeing some wonderful things from our 2026 artists!

THE PING PONG GROUP

By Buzz Hoffmann

We play *Ping Pong* in the Fiesta Room on the **1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** We are also now playing on the **4th Thursday from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.**

Please refer to the Communicator for re-scheduled dates & times formerly on Sundays.

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 experienced or just starting out, there's a place for you in our club! Please email **Vince Senski** with any questions: vinceduluth@gmail.com.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, January 21st @ 10:00 a.m. in the Fiesta Room.

We'd love for you to join us!

SUNFLOWER READERS

By Marcia Olson

The Sunflower Readers will be meeting Tuesday, January 27th @ 7:00 p.m. in the Library.

We will be discussing the Bestseller by **Kristin Hannah**, "**The Women**". This historical-fiction novel about the heroic combat nurses of the Vietnam War is full of accounts of sacrifice and then heartbreak at our nation's response to their service.

NOTE: We will be voting on next year's book selections at this meeting, as well.

SUNFLOWER HIKING GROUP

By Hope Collins

In general, the **Sunflower Hiking Group** 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; the upcoming week's reminders will be posted to the weekly Communicator. The group is open to all Sunflower community residents and their guests who are fit for hiking.

Essential details and updates about hikes are sent via Google Group emails. If you plan to hike with us this season, it is recommended that you be added to the group. To do that, 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**.

JANUARY HIKES

Friday, Jan. 2 –	Tumamoc Hill, Easy, 3.0 mi.
Tuesday, Jan. 6 –	Ringtail Ridge, Moderate+, 5.5 mi.
Friday, Jan 9 –	Maeveen Beehan, Easy-, 4.0 mi.
Tuesday, Jan 13 –	Pima Canyon to Dam #2, Moderate +, 8.0 mi. OR Pima Canyon to Dam #1, Moderate, 6.4 mi.
Friday, Jan. 16 –	Jefford's Peak, Moderate, 4.2 mi.
Tuesday, Jan. 20 –	Babad Do'Ag, Moderate, 4.7 mi.
Friday, Jan 23 –	Pontotoc Ridge (Garnet Trail), Moderate, 4.1 mi.
Tuesday, Jan 27 –	Ironwood/Picture Rocks/Ringtail/ Petroglyphs, Easy, 3.5 mi.
Friday, Jan 30 –	Safford/Sombrero, Difficult, 4.0 mi. OR Gould Mine Loop, Easy, 3.3 mi.

**Most hikes meet between 6:45 and 7:45a.m. @ the Village Center- Check Google Group emails for specifics*

DAYTIME BOOK CLUB

By Jann Swanson

Greetings Book Lovers - Are you interested in attending a daytime book club where you can discuss books you have read? Then please come to this gathering on **Tuesday, January 13th @ 10:00 a.m. in the Library.**

This is an informational meeting only. No specific book will be discussed, although we'll have time to talk about books you've recently been enjoying. Rather, the goal is to learn if there might be an interest in this club continuing on a regular basis on the **second Tuesdays of each month @ 10:00 a.m.**

If there is interest, decisions will then be made at this meeting about how to move forward, including: what books should the group read, how are books chosen, does someone lead a guided discussion or should it be more flexible with everyone just stepping in and offering their thoughts on a particular book? If you have an interest and want to offer your input, *please join us.*

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 marylmercerc@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.

CRIBBAGE

We invite you to have some fun playing single or four-hand *Cribbage* on Thursdays @ 6:00 p.m. in the Craft Room. (Except on Potluck nights)

MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

By Pat Cooke

Are you a new resident at Sunflower? Do you want to learn how to play Mexican Train Dominoes?

We will be happy to teach you.

[Join us on Mondays in the Fiesta Room.](#)
[We meet twice: @ 9:00 a.m. ~and~ @ 12:30 p.m.](#)

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.



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 plastic-protective covering for the table.

We meet in the Craft Room each Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.

CRAFT CLUB

By Kathy Hummel

Happy New Year to All!

With the start of this new year, our Sunflower crafters will be trying their hand at **String Art**. String Art, pin & thread or filigraphy is characterized by an arrangement of colored thread strung between nails hammered into baseboard to form geometric patterns or representational designs such as ship's sails, sometimes with other artist materials comprising the remainder of the work. String Art has its origins in curve stitch activities invented by Mary Everest Boole at the end of the 19th Century to make mathematical concepts more accessible to children. It was popularized as a decorative craft in the late 1960s.

Please Note: We are looking for Community donations of Mosaic Tiles (ceramic/glass) & Tools for one of our spring craft projects. If you have supplies that you would like to donate to the *Craft Club*, please email **Michele Saylor @ gmdftpanel@gmail.com** and Michele will be glad to pick them up from you.

The Sunflower Craft Club meets every Monday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. from October to April.
Contact **Chris Polk** @ 520-820-5227 for details.

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. *Not sure? Just come try us out.*

WEIGHTS, STRENGTH AND BALANCE STRENGTH TRAINING

By Marlene Spencer, Certified Instructor

Tufts University research shows that a program of strength training not only improved bone density, but also reduced falls & improved arthritis symptoms. Balance, coordination, flexibility & endurance are also improved. This program is based on that research. This low-impact program is appropriate for sedentary & active people.

Classes: Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 11:30 a.m.

Please bring your own weights/ankle weights:
1# to 2#-women/2# to 3#-men/**No Punch Card Needed**

FITNESS CLUB

By Sue Uden

Water Aerobics: **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9:00-10:00 a.m.** We are using CD workouts that participants have enjoyed. There are 3 different CD's that last about 50 minutes and give a well-balanced workout focusing on the core, upper body, balance, knees, and hips. Noodles and water weights may be used.

Stretch and Tone: **Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Fiesta Room.** This is a full-body workout completed while sitting or standing, working on strength, flexibility, and balance. Participants will need a 10" ball, light hand-weights and stretch bands.

Fitness Membership Cards ARE required for ALL CLASSES.

Violet Boren, our certified instructor, began teaching classes on **November 13th**. **Stretch and Tone: 9:00-10:00 a.m.** ~and~ **Chair Yoga/Pilates: 10:10-11:10 a.m.** in the Fiesta Room, **Tuesdays and Thursdays.**

Fitness Club membership cards are required but NOT punch cards, at this time.

GENEALOGY SOCIETY

By Paulette Weiser

"Bring a Friend" is the title of our Tuesday, January 27th meeting at 2:00 p.m. in the Fiesta Room and via Zoom.

The title refers to the meeting being open to ALL Sunflower residents, members or not, as an introduction to what **SGS** can offer to anyone interested in searching for their ancestors and filling out their family tree.

SGS board members will first talk about the resources available to members including web pages with access to MyHeritage, with records from around the world; a library with a wide variety of books, magazines, maps and DVDs crammed with useful information; and experienced mentors to support your research and who have access to other subscription websites.

The January meeting is the first of a full year's schedule of programs followed by hands-on research opportunities. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or may make use of laptops of board members. After the presentation, you may begin your research, whether you are new to genealogy or continuing the research already begun. Anyone at any stage of research will have the opportunity of assistance from the official mentors as well as other members of the society.

If you have ever thought about researching your family's history, there will be no better time than NOW! You will be able to learn about resources, then go right to work using those very resources to find your ancestors from around the world.

Join us January 27th to discover your heritage!

SUNFLOWER QUILTERS

By Carolyn LaPotin

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! By the time you read this, our treasured Giraffe Quilt, the Christmas tree wall hanging, the one-of-a-kind sport/travel bag plus many more handmade treasures will be happily enjoying their new homes. Thank you to all who participated in our first-ever auction, as well as those who made selections from our artist-wall offerings. Your purchases will help us purchase fabric, batting, and other supplies that we use to make quilts for various local charities.

The New Year will be filled with challenges, classes, quilting sessions, shop-hops, retreats and a great deal of laughter and fun. If you sew and want to learn to quilt or if you are an expert with much knowledge and experience to share (or anywhere in between), you are invited to join *Sunflower Quilters*.

We meet in the Craft Room at the Center Thursday and Friday mornings beginning @ 9:00 a.m.

TECHNOLOGY CLUB

By Katta Mapes

January 14th @ 10:00 a.m. - Member Meeting in the Fiesta Room

TECH TALK:

Let's Travel the World Without Leaving Home

Join **Bob Bender** and **Dennis Walthall** as they explore the transformative power of virtual reality (VR) in personal entertainment. This engaging talk highlights how VR immerses users in captivating experiences, fosters creativity, and enhances social connections. Discover the future of entertainment where imagination knows no bounds.

Key Takeaways:

- VR offers unparalleled immersion, creating lifelike environments for users.
- It acts as a tool for creativity, enabling innovative storytelling and experiences.
- VR fosters social interaction, connecting people in shared virtual spaces.

** Remember, you can see past meetings on You Tube – just search for *Sunflower Tech Club* on You Tube

VINTAGE GARDENERS CLUB

By Marie Van Huis



We celebrated the season at our annual holiday luncheon. Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of our members and the community, we collected bags and boxes of personal and toiletry items for Sister Jose's Women's Shelter. Your kindness will make a real difference this winter!

Looking back on a busy 2025, we enjoyed meetings with inspiring guest speakers, including experts from The Nature Conservancy and Pima Master Gardeners. We were proud to use some of the profits from our Home Garden Tour to purchase trees and shrubs to replace those damaged by recent windstorms.

Upcoming Events:

Field Trip: Our first outing of 2026 is on Monday, January 12th @ 2:00 p.m. for a Tour & Tasting at the nearby Old Pueblo Cellars Winery. Tickets are \$22.50. Purchase them at the Village Center on **December 30th from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.**), or contact *Lois Croly* afterward.

February 9: "Heat-Proofing Your Garden for the Summer."

March 9: "Nature in Our Neighborhood." Also, tickets will be sold for the Tucson Botanical Garden Guided Tour & Lunch on April 13th.

Call for Volunteers: As some of our dedicated officers complete tenures of up to five and ten years, we are actively searching for new volunteers. This is an earnest appeal to the community: Please step up and consider joining the board or helping in any capacity. Your energy is vital to the club's continued success!

For more information, see our webpage @ sunflower-vtgardeners.com or email sfvtgardens@gmail.com.

*"In winter, nature teaches us the art of patience
And the beauty of stillness."*



HEALTH & SAFETY



PRIMAVERA

By Patrick Steliga

“I wanted my daughter, *Leilani*, to grow up with a stable life, with stable housing. My aunt told me about the **Primavera Foundation**. Although I had five years to save for a down

payment on my first house, I am proud to say that I reached my goal in just two years. I no longer felt like I was all on my own. For the first time, my daughter and I have our own place. We have stability.” – *Alexia*

Fall/Winter items needed: Men’s & Women’s new underwear in all sizes; hygiene items (soap, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, dental items etc.; coats, jackets, hoodies; blankets; gloves; winter hats; pants & sweat pants; children’s slippers.

Small acts of kindness can have a great cumulative effect. The donation box is located just outside of the main doors of the Village Center.

Thanks for all of your help during this past year.

CANCER SURVIVOR GROUP

By Jan Keogh

The **Sunflower Women’s Breast Cancer Group** extends an invitation to women in Sunflower who are currently being treated or who were formerly treated for any type of cancer to come join us. While our treatments may be different, our feelings and emotions are the same.

Our support group has been meeting for 20 years, and we are a wonderful sisterhood of cancer survivors.

We meet the second Wednesday of each month in our homes from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Please call **Jan Keogh** @ 520-579-1018 to learn our next meeting place.

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, and anything else participants want to bring up.

We meet 4th Tuesday of every month in the Craft Room @ the Village Center from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

MINNESOTANS – SAVE THE DATE!

By Michele Saylor

The 2026 Minnesota Event will be held on Saturday, February 28th, 2026 @ 1:00 p.m. in the Fiesta Room

This event is for Sunflower residents who are have ties to or grew up in the Land of 10,000 Lakes. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to connect with others, have some fun, and enjoy some tasty food!

More details will be posted in the February issue of the Sun Catcher as well as the weekly Communicator. Ticket sales will be held in February.

SUNFLOWER NEIGHBORS

By Katta Mapes

Sunflower Neighbors is a group of volunteers who donate time and transportation to other Sunflower residents. Rides are provided to doctors, dentists, and other medical appointments. This service is intended to be a resource of last resort for those who are unable to drive or are having a procedure where driving oneself would be unsafe.

To request a ride, send a message to this email address: Katta.Mapes@gmail.com. In the subject line write “ride”. We need a seven-day notice to arrange for an available driver.

In your email, write the details with your appointment including the day, time and approximate length, the location of your appointment, plus your name, address and phone number.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

By Lisa Sak

When walking/jogging or biking around the community in the evening or early morning, please make yourself visible to others by wearing light-colored clothing, having a reflective item or carrying a light.

It’s been brought to our attention that it is very dark out there and drivers may not be able to see walkers or bikers.

***No one wants an accident.
Thank you for your cooperation.
Stay safe out there!***



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

Joe Malone 520-572-4697

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

CANCER SURVIVORS

Jan Keogh 520-579-1018

CHORALE

Sue Horsfall 520-425-0586

CORNHOLE

Kevin Kirkey 520-833-2236

CRAFT CLUB

Chris Polk 520-820-5227

CRIBBAGE

Kirk Andrews 401-419-5570

DOMINOES

Pat Cooke 520-616-8082

EUCHRE

Vicky Beard 520-907-3510

FITNESS CLUB

Billie Barron 520-334-7508

FOODIE FRIENDS

Kathryn Martin 940-783-1037

FUN POKER

Jim Conley 520-308-9798

GAME NIGHTS

Jan Session 520-429-6079

Adrienne Farrell 520-345-3563

GATHERINGS CLUB

(formerly Activities 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

HIKING CLUB

Hope Collins 815-540-3666

Bobby Bran 520-729-8082

KARAOKE

Ron Gagne 520-400-7042

LINE DANCE/ENTERTAINMENT

Karen Barta 586-292-6177

MAH JONGG

Anne Schmidt 520-572-4033

Lynn Neitzke 520-268-7784

NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

(formerly Block Watch)

Katta Mapes 520-304-4812 (talk/text)

Katta.mapes@gmail.com

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

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Vince Senski viceduluth@gmail.com

PICKLEBALL

Rick Lybarger 509-690-1991

Terri Shevlin 609-471-4347

PING PONG

Buzz Hoffmann 520-572-4258

PINOCHLE

Harlan Quinn 520-225-7375

POP TENNIS

Chris Schatte

231-715-6490

Gary Engel

623-221-8813

POTLUCK CLUB

Susan Sifers

540-538-6502

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

Katta Mapes Katta.Mapes@gmail.com

SUNFLOWER READERS

Marcia Olson

520-850-9566

Jann Swanson

520-579-7578

TECHNOLOGY CLUB

Katta Mapes

520-304-4812 (talk/text)

Katta.Mapes@gmail.com

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

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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 and funds and to offer our residents a variety of opportunities to enrich their physical, cultural and social well being.

CORE VALUES:

The Core Values of Sunflower are:

- Maintain the beautiful physical appearance of the 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.

LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT JANUARY

By Nickie Kaplan

January is most known for marking the start of the New Year, symbolizing fresh starts, resolutions, and new beginnings, named for the Roman god **Janus** who looks to past and future; it also features major U.S. holidays like **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**, plus awareness months for glaucoma, cold weather, and post-holiday sales, and historical events like the **Emancipation Proclamation**.

Key symbols also include the **Full Wolf Moon**, the color white, and winter imagery like birch trees, reflecting deep winter and resilience. The color for January is primarily associated with its birthstone, **'the Garnet.'** While red is classic, you'll also find gorgeous green garnets (like Tsavorite) and fiery orange ones (Mandarin garnet), making it a versatile gem for the start of the year.

People born in January have strong personalities and natural leadership qualities. They bring a special mix of strengths to the world. So, if you're born in January or lucky to have someone in your life who is, enjoy the special magic that comes with this birth month

"January is for dreamers—the ones who believe anything is possible in the year ahead."

"Let this January be the beginning of all that you hope for."

"The best time for new beginnings is now—January is the perfect reminder."

"January reminds us that we have 12 new chapters to fill."

Plan Ahead To Save Lives

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Fire is fast. You could have less than 2 minutes to get out safely once the smoke alarm sounds.

Start the year by creating and practicing your home fire escape plan to keep you and your loved ones safe.

Make a home fire escape plan. Draw a map of each level of the home. Show all the doors and windows.

Practice the plan with everyone in your household, including visitors.

Teach your children how to escape on their own in case you cannot help them.

Choose an outside meeting place in front of your home, and ensure everyone knows where it is.



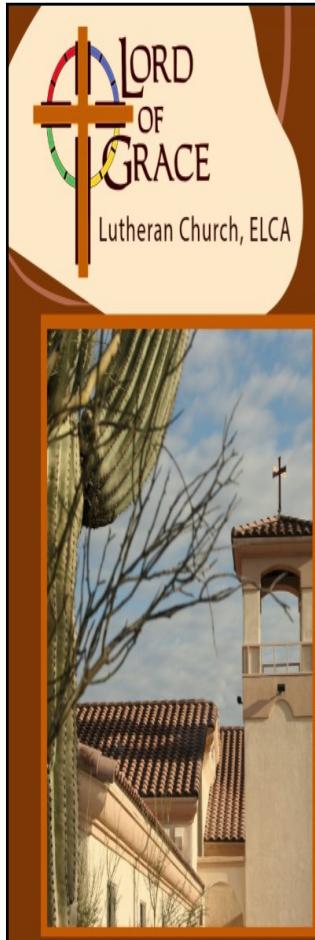
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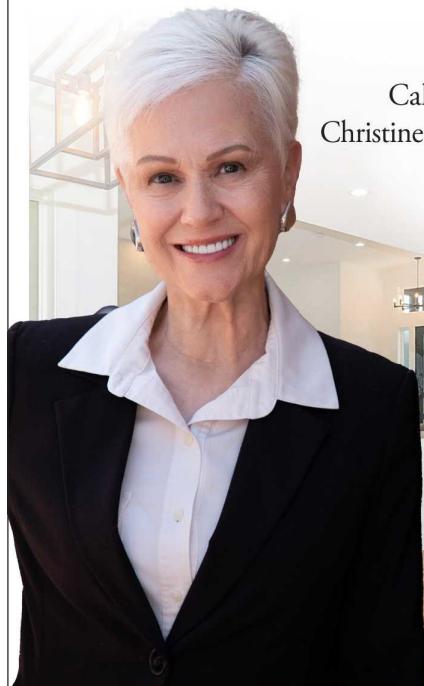
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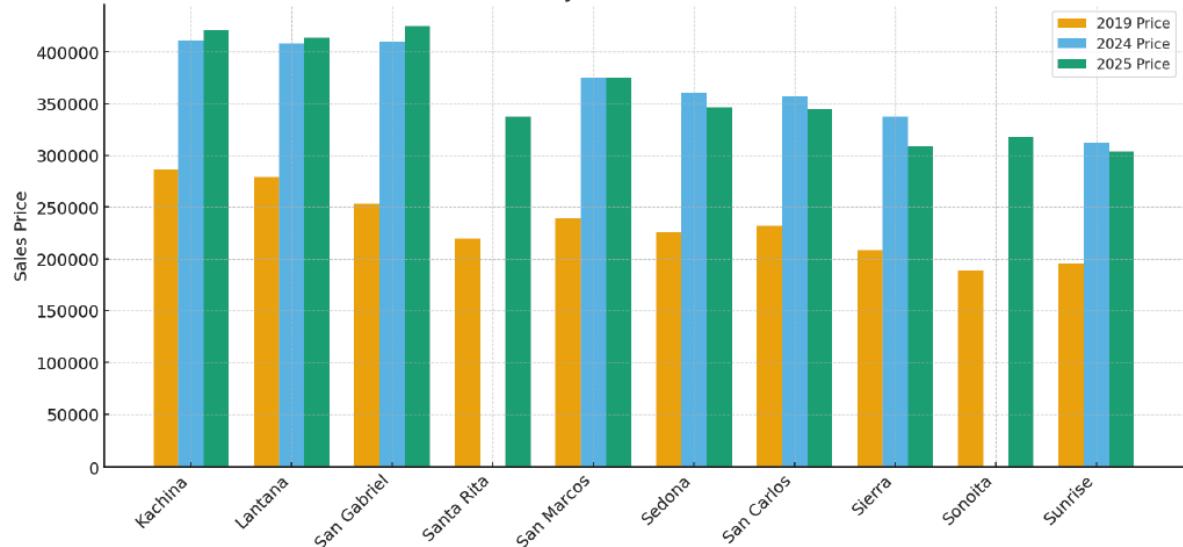
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Market Update

Sunflower Community – Sales Prices (2019, 2024, 2025)



In 2024, the median price was \$360,000 and 27 days on market.

In 2025, the median price was \$350,000 and 43 days on market

National Association of REALTORS predicts a 4% price increase and 14% volume increase in 2026

The Walter Team

Tim 520.775.0222/Tim@TheWalterTeam.com

Kaye 303.551.4989/Kaye@TheWalterTeam.com



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