A Publication of the Sun City Mesquite Homeowners' Association

March 2022

#### ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION

Come one, come all, to the Pioneer Center to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with our fun-filled "scavenger hunt". We will be hiding a number of shamrocks along a designated path and challenge you to find and count them for an opportunity to win a Visa gift card.



You are encouraged to bring paper and pen to write down the number of shamrocks you find as you walk the designated path. Participants who find the correct number of shamrocks will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card. Participants who don't have the exact number but have a high percentage of correct sightings will be entered into a separate drawing for a \$30 gift card.

For a \$7 registration fee you can join in the fun and be treated to a sumptuous lunch of corned beef sandwiches, desert, drink and music by Mike Rye and Roger Bird.

The fun begins at 11:15 a.m. on St. Patrick's Day, Thursday, March 17, 2022.





#### **Upcoming Events**

\*\*\*March 3 and 17\*\*\*
ARC Meeting Dates

March 2 Bauman Advisory Group Lunch and Learn

March 8 Kevin Brown Virgin Valley Water District

March 11 Rumours: Fleetwood Mac Tribute Band at Tuacahn

March 17 St. Patrick's Day Lunch and Shamrock Hunt

March 18 Colson Connects Monthly Meeting with Larry Colson

March 19 Community Garage Sale

March 19 Diamondbacks vs. Rockies Baseball Game Las Vegas Ball Park

March 21 Bingo

March 23 Pie Day Sponsored by Brett Richardson

March 28 Mob Museum in Las Vegas

March 30 Ice Cream Social Sponsored by Morris Columbus Travel

\*\*\*Submittals for ARC must be received by 4 p.m. on the Friday prior to the date.

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#### A message from your Lifestyle Director Deborah Demos

What a wonderful week it has been in your beautiful community. Mask mandate is lifted, and you cannot believe how thrilled we all are. Thank you all for your patience and understanding the past two years.

Kevin Brown, manager of Virgin Valley Water District, will be here on March 8 at 2:30 p.m. to discuss rates, water pressure, quantity of water, and updates.

We are having a Community Wide Garage Sale on Saturday, March 19 from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. If you are having a garage sale, these times are to be used at your discretion. You may want to place a notice on your garage door if you are starting later or quitting earlier. Remember to place outside directional signage. All signs must be taken down by 4:00 p.m. As you are driving around, please be safe and observant of pedestrians.

We are having a Pie Day on March 23 at 3 or 3:30 p.m. Have a slice of your favorite pie and take a slice home. Only \$4 per person.

Ice Cream Social is on Wednesday, March 30 at 2 p.m. Come and enjoy an Ice Cream Sundae, and it's free.

We have tickets to Piano Guys at Tuacahn on Friday, April 15. Don't miss out on this spectacular sold out concert. Sign up today.

Our Board of Directors meeting is on Tuesday, April 19 at 1:30 p.m. Mark your calendars and stay engaged in your community.

Mother's Day celebration will be on Sunday, May 8, at 1:30 p.m. We will serve cake and punch in the lobby. No need to enroll. We appreciate our mothers who brought us into the world. Come one, come all.

"Maggie May," "Do You Think I'm Sexy," "Have I Told You Lately That I Love You" ... Do these titles sound familiar and bring back memories? We are chartering a bus to see none other than the sexy man himself, Rod Stewart, on May 18. You will not want to miss this icon at The Colosseum in Las Vegas.

#### Critter Corner: Ram tough, Ewe bet!

The Desert Bighorn Sheep (Ovid canadensis nelsoni) is not only a wilderness icon but also the state mammal of Nevada.

Desert bighorn sheep live in the deserts of the southwestern United States. Their habitat range includes dry, desert mountain ranges and foothills.

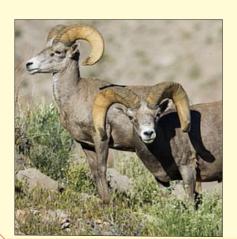


Bighorn sheep have many traits that help them survive in the harsh desert environment. Their padded split hooves let them climb steep and rocky cliffs with speed and agility. They have an excellent sense of smell, hearing and sight. With their eyes far apart, they have a wider range of vision. This allows them to see their predators, such as mountain lions and coyotes, from miles away. They have adapted to their desert home, going weeks or months without a permanent water source. Desert bighorn can quench their thirst from food (grasses, wildflowers, and cacti) and rainfall found in rocky pools and puddles.

The desert bighorn is best known for its head-to-head combat to determine the dominant ram to compete for the ewes. Imagine an adult male weighing 250 pounds with horns that weigh 30 pounds at a full curl, charging at another adult male with speeds up to 40 miles per hour.

The sound of the impact echoes across the dry desert. The battle can last for hours, or until one bows out. Are they hurt? No, their thick skulls and strong necks absorb the force of the blows.

Desert bighorn sheep populations have increased since the 1960s due to conservation measures including habitat preservation. In 2018, the population estimate in Nevada was 10,300 and the herd



in the Virgin River Gorge was doing fine. However, the Bureau of Land Management has listed the bighorn as sensitive to extinction.

Be mindful when in their habitat! They were here before us.

# In the Spotlight: Sue Kjellsen and Nancy Arnold

We don't have Rodgers and Hammerstein as neighbors, but the next best thing is here. Nancy Arnold and Sue Kjellsen first met in 1985 in Alaska, doing programs in the Anchorage School District and working with the Alaska Railroad creating videos. They also worked on PBS programs. They began writing melodramas together while in Alaska. They eventually got back together in Mesquite.

Sue has a B.S. in Education from the University of Kansas. She authored novels while living in Anchorage. She was the head writer for internal documentaries and public relations with the Defense Department and PBS. She has been published in national magazines. Her skills include singing and photography. Visit susankjellsenphotography.com and you can view her lifetime of work through her galleries. She is a proud grandmother.

Nancy attended Mesa College and the University of Colorado as a Theater Arts major. She is a mom, worked as Administrative Assistant and an Information Technologist. She is also a proud grandmother. As a creative artist she loves making mosaics and pottery. She enjoyed motoring around the USA with her husband in an RV. On one trip they came to Mesquite, found it beautiful and decided to settle here in Sun City.

Nancy and Sue have partnered up in the Virgin Valley Theater Group (VVTG). They were commissioned to write the first melodrama by the VVTG in 2018 and created Trouble on the Train, which was highly successful. In 2020 they began Drama at the Diner, but that could not run because of Covid. It was revamped and performed in 2021 and became a popular success.

Nancy and Sue directed Arsenic and Old Lace. They are now presenting another melodrama, Wedding Bell Blues or How the Virgin Valley Got Its Groove On. It will feature many songs from the 60's including "The Magic Touch," "Love Potion #9," "Respect" and many other classics. It's scheduled to run March 11 through 26 at the Mesquite Community Theater.



# Chicken and Corn Chowder



#### **INGREDIENTS**

6 strips bacon cut into small pieces

2 large raw chicken breasts cut into small bite-size pieces
1/2 medium onion chopped
2 sticks celery chopped
1/4 cup flour
2 cloves garlic minced
4 cups chicken broth or stock
2 cups frozen or fresh corn
1 cup heavy/whipping cream
3 large Russet potatoes peeled & diced
Dash Italian seasoning
Pinch cayenne pepper optional
Salt & pepper to taste
Scallions chopped, optional for serving

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Prep your bacon (I find kitchen shears the easiest thing to cut it up with) and add it to a large pot over medium-high heat. Cook until crispy (about 10 minutes).

Meanwhile, prep your onion, celery, chicken and potatoes.

Once the bacon is crispy, take it out of the pot and set it aside. Leave the grease in the pot (it adds a ton of flavor).

Add the onion and celery to the pot and sauté for 5 minutes.

Stir in the flour and cook for about a minute, stirring nearly constantly.

Add in the garlic, followed by the chicken broth. Give it a good stir to ensure the flour has dissolved and everything is scraped up from the bottom of the pot. Add in the chicken, corn, cream, potatoes, Italian seasoning, cayenne pepper, and 3/4 of the bacon (I save the rest for garnishing the bowls later on). Increase the heat to high and bring the soup to a boil. Once it's boiling, reduce the heat to a rapid simmer so it's gently boiling.

Cook until the potatoes are done (about 15-20 minutes). Stir every so often. The soup will get thicker the longer you cook it.

Season the soup with salt & pepper as needed. Garnish with the rest of the bacon and chopped scallions if desired.



## Business of the Month: Mesquite Opens New Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Staging Area

A piece of land located at 680 Riverside Drive, just across the Bunkerville Bridge was packed with Mesquite officials, local residents and Kokopelli ATV Club members on Thursday, January 27, 2022, for the grand opening. This gathering was a ribbon cutting of a newly designated staging area for Off Highway Vehicles.

The completion of this project was a combination of hard work between the City of Mesquite, the Kokopelli ATV Club, the Virgin River Coalition Recreation Committee, and the Mesquite Athletics and Leisure Services Department

The new OHV staging area is equipped with security cameras, lighting, and the fenced in areas for trailers and trucks will be under 24-hour surveillance. In addition, there is a restroom and a wash station to clean your vehicle off after a hard day's ride out on the trails.

The Nevada Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles provides grant awards to improve OHV recreation throughout the state, and the \$21 that OHV owners pay each year to register their vehicles funds these projects. It was noted at the opening ceremony that two additional staging areas would be coming online in the near future.





# Van Gogh and Valentine's Day Lunch











# **History of Mesquite: The Old Spanish Trail**

Have you been delayed on I-15 as you drive to St. George? The alternative is highway 91 which is part of the Old Spanish Trail. Highway 91 is slower, but during bridge construction it has no delays.

To get to the Old Spanish Trail, take Hwy 91 (by Smith's) that skirts I-15 and drive through the cactus and Joshua desert, to the Shivwits Band of Paiutes Reservation, to Ivins and Santa Clara before arriving in St. George. Along the way you will see red rock mountains, canyons, and a few aban-



doned buildings. The old road was part of a more extensive trade route used by the Spaniards as early as the 1500s. By the 1830s the trade route connected Santa Fe with Los Angeles. John Fremont, with his guide Kit Carson, were hired by the U.S. to name and map the arduous 700-mile route in 1844.

Merchants from Santa Fe collected their goods and by autumn the mule train was ready to head west to Los Angeles. Laden with Navajo weavings, somewhere between 20 and 200 men, and twice as many mules, trekked the trail to market on the Pacific coast. Once there, two blankets could buy a horse, but more were needed for a mule. The trade was even as horses and mules were abundant in California and woven goods were rare. The annual trek returned to Santa Fe before the water holes dried out and desert heat became unbearable. Thousands of feet pounded the trail that became today's Highway 91.



In 2002, President George W. Bush, signed Senate Bill 1946 naming the Old Spanish Trail the fifteenth national trail in the U.S. Nowadays you can see portions of the trail, a few old buildings and a desert diorama of mules crossing the arid, cactus filled Mohave desert.

# Welcome New Residents

Daniel and Rae Stafford
Mary and Ray Winkler
A.J. Peterson
Ron and Linda Schuetz
John and Laura Pedersen
June Sturchio
Lori Sevadjian
Richard and Ali Gray
Debbie and John Harkness
Tom and Doris Dougherty
Annivor Bourne
Rick and Young Burdette
Debbie and Karen Bayens
Diana Lopez
Angela Maggioncalda and Jodie Wang

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San Diego, CA
Littleton, CO
Centerville, UT
Newark, DE
Fort Worth, TX
Payson, UT
WA
Boise, ID
UT
Rathdrum, ID
Aurora, CO
South Jordan, UT
Reno, NV



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# Gardening - Luck 'O the Irish and growing a Lucky Charm



It seems the shamrock is a universal symbol of all things Irish. And rightfully so. The word comes from the Irish seamair 'oh, meaning "young clover". St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, used the shamrock to symbolize the Holy Trinity. Today the shamrock represents spring, the season of rebirth.

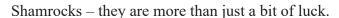
Botanically speaking, What is a Shamrock?

The word shamrock will probably bring to mind an image of a small, green three-leaf plant. In plant speak, the name shamrock does not refer to a single plant species. Plants traditionally identified as a shamrock are part of the Fabaceae or legume family. (You mean, like beans? Yes.)

In Ireland, the word shamrock is given to a small-leaved clover called Trifolium dubium, or a close relative, the larger white clover, Trifolium repens. Both of these are a common lawn weed. It was often a lazy summer afternoon that was spent looking for that elusive four-leaf clover, a naturally-occurring muta-

tion. It was pure luck finding one, as a four-leaf clover occurs once in about every 10,000 three leaf clovers.

Lucky Shamrocks are perennials grown from small bulbs that are sold as house-plants for St. Patrick's Day. The variety Oxalis, also known as American Shamrock, will produce mounds of shamrock-shaped leaves, reaching a height of 4-12 inches tall. The leaves can be a deep purple, bright green, maroon, blue or any combination of those colors. The small flowers and colorful foliage make for a beautiful houseplant. The plant will thrive in indirect sunlight and evenly moist soil. Each night the plant's leaflets fold up and reopen in sunlight the next day.





# Conestoga Golf Club and 1880 Grille

# 1880 Grille

Remember we are now open daily from 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Our new menu is a hit, please try our new Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner offerings, plus our weekly Mexican special.

Don't forget to mention that you are a Sun City resident to get a discount on your food items.

Reservations can be made at the 1880 Grille or by phone at (702) 346-4461.

# Conestoga Golf Club

Remember we are back to "normal" tee times beginning at 7 a.m. Please book your SCM resident rate tee time online at conestogagolf.com or call the golf shop at 702-346-4292. The fairways are in excellent condition, so come and enjoy some great fun with family and friends.

Once again, thank you for your support while we are making great things happen at the Conestoga.

## Sun City Clubs: Bridge

The Bridge Club at Sun City Mesquite (SCM) was one of the first. They have lessons and play different types of bridge. An important aspect of this club is to treat all people kindly. As an aging population in SCM, this consideration is paramount. If interested, you can stop by and inquire at the Pioneer Center. Or, you can call Ken Womer at 702-346-0550.

According to Wikipedia:

"Contract bridge, or simply bridge, is a trick-taking card game using a standard 52-card deck. In its basic format, it is played by four players in two competing partnerships, with partners sitting opposite each other around a table."

This club welcomes all different levels of players including recreational, never played before and experienced. They play for fun and also duplicate bridge. Duplicate groups are more competitive. Scores for the different types of bridge played are kept on a bulletin board. These scores are kept track of for a trophy at the end of the year.

The SCM bridge club is not sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League.

Some fun facts about the history of the SCM bridge club. The club was started around 2007 and was all about playing bridge. Mac Homan and Terry Swanson were the original instigators, starting out playing in homes. Their houses were some of the first 150 homes in SCM.

For more information about this club: Call Loie Yester at 330-936-4383 or Ken Womer 702-346-0550.



# **Festivals and Events**

#### **Mesquite Fine Arts Center**

March 1 Noon – "Night Photography and the Milky Way." Brown Bag Cultural Series lecture. Alex Chamberlain, photographer and university professor. www.mesquitefineartscenter.com

#### **Mesquite Senior Games**

March 4-31 Mesquite Senior Games events throughout March. Check website for events and registration. www.mes quiteseniorgames.org

#### **Virgin Valley Theater Group**

March 11-26 "Wedding Bell Blues, or How the Virgin Valley Got Its Groove On." An original musical melodrama by two Sun City Mesquite residents (see 'In the Spotlight' in this edition). Check website for dates, times and tickets. www.vvtgnv.com

#### **Crossroads of the West Gun Show**

March 12-13 All day. Dixie Convention Center, St. George. www.crossroadsgunshows.com

#### **College of Southern Nevada**

March 21 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Novel and Memoir Writing Class. Until April 7. See "Events Calendar" at Chamber web site: www.mesquitenvchamber.com www.csn.edu/locations/mesquite-center



#### Colson's Corner

One of the many concerns from homeowners is the foul odor "sewage smell" when the Conestoga Golf Course is watered. John Schippert of the Pulte Group, and president of the HOA board, has said this is not an HOA problem. Larry Brookhart, a resident of Sun City, has contacted officials of Clark County Division of Air Quality. Section 43 of the Air Quality Regulations pertains to Odors in the Ambient Air, for which an online complaint mechanism exists. The portal is at https://aqms.clarkcountynv.gov/#!/home/landing The Air Quality office needs to document and verify complaints before a citation can be issued. When the smell comes back, report it to the Clark County Division of Air Quality.

I remind all homeowners to attend as many of the committee meetings as you can, to understand how things work here at Sun City.

- Finance Committee meets at 9 a.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.
- Landscape Committee meets at 8 a.m. on the 2nd Monday of the month.

All meetings are at the Pioneer Center.

This for the residents in the new construction areas. Any resident that observes violations to public safety laws, traffic, and such, you are to call the Mesquite Police Department at 702-346-6911.

For is all other issues, loud music, other job site behavior, parking: Report your concerns at 800-664-3089 or email to lvwc@pulte.com If you can, take a picture!



# **2022 Board of Directors Meetings**

Tuesday, April 19 at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 19 at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 18 at 5 p.m.

Annual Homeowner Meeting Wednesday, November 16 1:30 p.m.

\*Dates are subject to change

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Board of Directors: President - John Schippert Treasurer - Lauren Van Tussenbroek Director - Larry Colson

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- Wills
- Power of Attorney for Financial
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- Trust Amendments

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