

# SOLERA STAR

AUGUST 2021

A Monthly Publication of  
Solera at Anthem  
Community Association, Inc.

## ESCAPE!

Gelato Bellagio **8**

Derby Daze **9**

Visit Flagstaff **10**

Escape with Alexa **11**

Beach vs. Mountain **14**

Mount Charleston **17**





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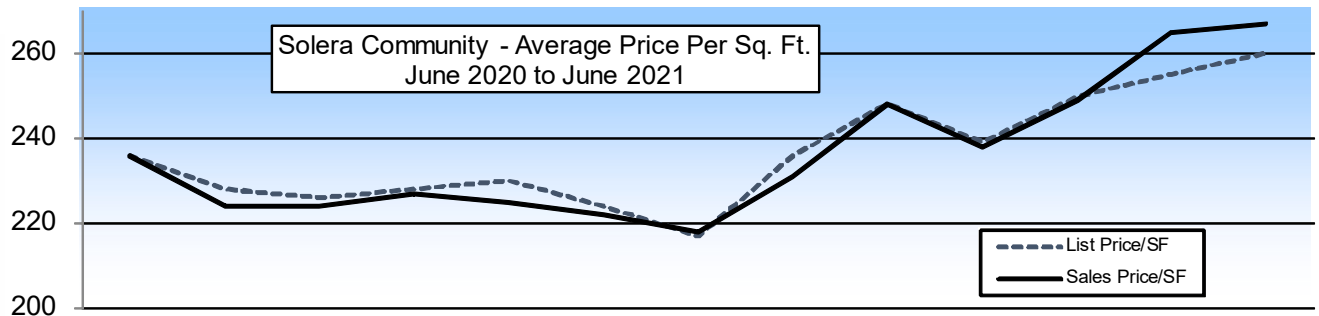
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## Solera Market Update as of July 8, 2021

**CLOSINGS:** There were 11 closings in June, similar to the 13 closings in May.

**INVENTORY:** At press time, there are only 2 homes listed for sale in Solera, and 18 homes under contract. Homes are still going under contract quickly, with an average of 8 days on the market for homes that sold in June.

**PRICE:** The average sales price per square foot in Solera continues to rise. In June it was \$267, an increase compared to the \$265 in May.



|               | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| List price/SF | 236 | 228 | 226 | 228 | 230 | 224 | 217 | 236 | 248 | 239 | 250 | 255 | 260  |
| Sale price/SF | 236 | 224 | 224 | 227 | 225 | 222 | 218 | 231 | 248 | 238 | 249 | 265 | 267  |

*\*Data herein represents Solera listings from Las Vegas REALTORS® MLS System, deemed reliable but not guaranteed.*

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# What's your ideal summer escape?



I have so many. I would say if I had my druthers, I'd like to go to England and up to Scotland to St. Andrews Golf Course. My husband was a professional golfer and played all the top courses in the U.S. We had planned to go, but it got cancelled last year."

– Jan Ritchie, *Minolta Court*



"Most of the time, I go to Mt. Charleston. I just went this morning. I go two or three times a week to hike. It's 20 or 30 degrees cooler there."

– Anthony Kwon, *Peaceful Moon*



"I don't really do a lot of travel in the summer because everyone else does. And I'm so used to not traveling that [even in retirement] I still don't. I was a paramedic and it was a time that my co-workers with children needed to be off, so I did my trips in spring and fall. Even when we went to Paris, it was in January to avoid the crowds."

– Doug McLaughlin, *Cosmic Dust*



"Anywhere but Nevada. I'm not a desert guy. I'm from Connecticut."

– Joey Roberto, *Ecliptic*



"San Diego for sure. I would live there if only I could win the lottery."

– Larry Weiss, *Crater Rock*



## 8 Six-Buck Bellagio Escape



## 9 Derby Daze



Photo credit: Discover Flagstaff

## 10 Flagstaff Is Cool All Around

### ON THE COVER

Escape is the theme for the August edition of the Solera Star. One nearby place to go to escape the heat of summer is Mount Charleston, where you can ride the chairlift at the Lee Canyon ski area.

(Photo by Larry Edsall)

# COMMUNITY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

**FirstService Residential** ..... (702) 215-8165  
**Solera at Anthem Community Association**  
 2401 Somersworth Drive  
 Henderson, Nevada 89044

**Administration Office**  
 Monday – Friday..... 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 After hours Emergency Number ..... (702) 215-8165  
 Solera Reservations Line..... (702) 207-1426

**Community Center**.....(702) 207-1407  
 Fax.....(702) 405-6211  
 Monday – Saturday..... 6 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
 Sunday ..... 6 a.m. – 7 p.m.

**For questions about your balance or for general information, call (702) 215-8165.**

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 Community Manager.....(702) 207-1414  
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 Facilities Manager ..... (702) 207-1406  
 jcannon@soleraatanthem.us

[www.soleranews.com](http://www.soleranews.com)



Assessments are due quarterly on the 1st  
 January 1 - April 1 - July 1 - October 1  
<http://Nevada.fsconnect.com/soleraatanthem.us>

## SOLERA RESIDENTS:

Solera Website : Homeowners can access the Solera Website by going to [www.soleranews.com](http://www.soleranews.com). You can access the FirstService website by logging onto <https://soleraatanthem.connectresident.com>

DEL WEBB CUSTOMER RELATIONS  
 1-800-664-3089

Following is the address for  
 Assessment Payments:  
 Solera at Anthem  
 c/o FirstService Residential  
 P.O. Box 62049  
 Newark, NJ 07101

## Board Members

**Marci Madine, President**..... marci.madine@gmail.com  
**Ken Moser, Vice President**..... chefmoser1@icloud.com  
**Ken Sawyer, Secretary**..... solerakens@gmail.com  
**Bob Waskowitz, Treasurer** ..... bdwaskowitz@yahoo.com  
**Ray Carvajal, Director** ..... soleraray@centurylink.net  
**Joe Lightowler, Director**..... jlightowler921@gmail.com  
**Frank Nobel, Director** ..... fnobel@cox.net

When emailing the above Board Members, please put “Solera” in the subject line.

**Please send all violation reports and/or complaints to the Management Office in writing.**

## Board Of Directors Schedule Of Future Meetings

Aug 4..... 9:30 a.m. .... BOD Executive Session..... Stardust  
 Aug 11 ..... 9:30 a.m. .... Board of Directors Meeting..... Stardust  
 Sep 1 .....9:30 a.m..... BOD Executive Session..... Stardust  
 Sep 8 .....6:30 p.m. .... Board of Directors Meeting..... Stardust

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### Publishers

Robert Fruehling & Jan Fruehling

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### Advertisers

The Solera Star is the ONLY magazine authorized by the Solera at Anthem community. It is mailed, monthly, and arrives on the 1st of every month to the 1,822 homes at of Solera at Anthem. If you would like to advertise in the Solera Star, please contact AHA! Marketing/Publishing, LLC at (928) 252-2350.

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SOUTHERN NEVADA PROPERTIES

### Hello Solera Homeowners!

The market just keeps getting more exciting! Although the inventory of homes for sale is slowly increasing, the demand continues to outpace the supply. At some point we will hit an equilibrium, but we aren't there yet. There aren't any known upcoming events that will cause the inventory to "spike" up (such as a wave of foreclosures, etc.), so prices should remain strong, even when they stabilize. Solera at Anthem is a very desirable neighborhood with great amenities and reasonable HOA dues, so it continues to be attractive to current and future retirees. If you are curious as to how much your home might sell for in the current market (or have any other real estate related questions), please call or email me today!

#### Homes listed for sale as of 07/01/2021:

| Address                  | List Price | Approx Liv Area | Model    |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------------|----------|
| 2467 Hamonah DR          | \$315,000  | 1,142           | Lewis    |
| 2556 Anani RD            | \$335,000  | 1,248           | Clark    |
| 2417 Gamma Ray PL        | \$335,000  | 1,248           | Clark    |
| 2569 Palentina ST        | \$337,000  | 1,248           | Clark    |
| 2312 Peaceful Moon ST    | \$350,000  | 1,142           | Lewis    |
| 2480 Serene Moon DR      | \$369,000  | 1,248           | Clark    |
| 2554 Starlight Valley ST | \$369,000  | 1,248           | Clark    |
| 2505 Cosmic Dust ST      | \$369,900  | 1,596           | Whitney  |
| 2453 Hamonah DR          | \$399,900  | 1,596           | Whitney  |
| 2472 Penumbra DR         | \$399,900  | 1,596           | Whitney  |
| 2568 Binary Stars ST     | \$399,990  | 1,596           | Whitney  |
| 2433 Hamonah DR          | \$410,000  | 1,596           | Whitney  |
| 2383 Hydrus AVE          | \$410,000  | 1,768           | Franklin |
| 2616 Icy Moon ST         | \$410,000  | 1,596           | Whitney  |
| 2278 Jada DR             | \$415,000  | 1,596           | Whitney  |
| 2514 Starlight Valley ST | \$449,990  | 1,768           | Franklin |
| 2568 Jada DR             | \$452,900  | 1,768           | Franklin |
| 2566 Starlight Valley ST | \$462,999  | 1,768           | Franklin |
| 2393 Amana DR            | \$499,900  | 1,596           | Whitney  |

#### Featured Home of the Month—2541 Eclipsing Stars

Upgraded Franklin floorplan with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, plantation shutters, tile on diagonal, laminate wood flooring, ceiling fans, surround sound, premium low maintenance landscaping, and so much more!

**\$460,000**



# COMMITTEE NEWS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

## PLEASE NOTE

The following Committees need volunteers:

**Buildings & Grounds**

**Communications Committee**

**Community Standards**

For more information or to apply please contact management at [smdjen@soleraatanthem.us](mailto:smdjen@soleraatanthem.us)

Residents are welcome to attend any committee meetings that are of interest, except Covenants and ARC. Meeting dates are on the Calendar page.

Please be advised that the following has been removed from the Community Standards Resolution, "(1) a calendar of events"

## ARC Committee

Henry "Hank" DeVisser  
 Ingrid Serina  
 Robert Brightwell  
 Terry Hazelbaker  
 Gregg Shiffbauer  
 Terry Phelps  
 David Chavez  
 Roger Johnson - Alternate  
 Liaison: Joe Lightowler

## Buildings & Grounds

Craig Hardy  
 Carol Hendrickson  
 Frank Tuozzo  
 Mary Schramski  
 Stephanie Mahlig  
 Tom Sweetko  
 Liaison: Bob Waskowitz

## Communications Committee

Larry Edsall  
 Diane Murphy  
 Pamela Wilson  
 Danny Mosher  
 Liaison: Frank Nobel

## Community Standards

Joseph Doll  
 Linda Freitas  
 Linda Loane  
 Joanne Esposito  
 Liaison: Ray Carvajal

## Finance Committee

Robert Waskowitz  
 Michael Papas  
 Rebecca Brooks  
 Thomas Mach  
 Charles Snyder  
 Richard Kranzler  
 Liaison: Marci Madine

## Lifestyle Committee

Pam D'Assis  
 Allen Blonder  
 John Miller  
 Debbie Waskowitz  
 Michael Cochran  
 Liaison: Ken Moser

# Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

Application for Review of proposed modifications shall be submitted to the ARC. Application for Review shall be signed by the Owner and the Contractor responsible for construction or installation or modifications.

**The Application for Review shall meet the following requirements:**

- (1). Owner's name, address, and telephone number;
- (2). Model of home;
- (3). Whether an Open Lot. (Lots that boarder natural topography areas);

### Nature of the Request.

- (1). Review and approval of an addition to an existing dwelling;
- (2). Review and approval of landscape plans;
- (3). Review and approval of concrete work;
- (4). Review and approval of walls, fences, or gates;

- (5). Review and approval of patios, patio covers, and patio screening;
- (6). Review and approval of pools and spas;
- (7). Review and approval of exterior satellite dishes, TV antennas;
- (8). Review and consideration of any which come under the jurisdiction of the ARC;
- (9). Review and consideration of variations to or deviations from the Design Guidelines;
- (10). Appeal of a "not approved" submittal or any notation of an "approved as noted" submittal;

The Owner shall submit ALL documents included in the Application for Review in duplicate.

All Applications for review shall be addressed to the ARC.

We from the ARC hope you all are Happy and Healthy!



## SOLERA ART SHOW

The Solera Fine Arts Club will display a collection of original watercolor and colored pencil art for your viewing pleasure.



**Sunday, October 3**  
**1:00 – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Stardust Ballroom**

You are cordially invited to browse the art display and visit with the artists.

All works of art are created by our club members.

Refreshments will be served.

This annual art show is always well attended and free!

Mark your calendar now to save the date.

Vote for your favorite work of art!

## Foundation Assisting Seniors

725-244-4200

Hi to all Solera

FAS will help you with our durable medical equipment and home maintenance please give us a call. Solera look for our monthly Dine out where you come eat in or take out and 15 to 20 % goes to help support the Foundation Assisting Seniors. We are looking for help with our equipment and maintenance in Solera if you want to help please call and ask for Ken Moser.

The Dine out for July 7th 11:00 am to 9pm. At Big B'S Texas BBQ at 3019 Saint Rose PKWY suite 130, Henderson NV. Come and eat Mention FAS. and we will get 20% of the check.

Look for our updates on our Second Annual Gala at the M Resort Casino call for your tickets. Mark O'toole will perform.

Durable equipment loans are available to help Solera seniors and veterans remain comfortably in their own homes. Delivery and pick-up of equipment is done by our team of volunteers and includes canes, walkers, oxygen concentrators, scooters, hospital beds, and more. A comprehensive description of the program can be found at [www.foundationassisting seniors.org](http://www.foundationassisting seniors.org).



To reserve equipment, call 725-244-4200 between 9 am and 12 noon weekdays. All equipment is maintained, cleaned, disinfected, and sanitized using MicroShield 360.

Additional services that continue to be offered are those such as filter replacement, battery replacement for CO and Smoke detectors, lubricating garage doors, and replacing overhead lights. Call 725-244-4200 to request assistant.

Our nationwide HowRU™ wellness check program makes it easy to check in on loved ones, providing piece of mind to families all over the country. A daily call is made at the time you choose. You push the number 5 on your phone to let the system know you are all right. If you do not pick up the phone, a second call is made. If this call also goes unanswered, a call is made to an emergency contact you've designated to have them check personally. To sign up for the program, visit [www.foundationassisting seniors.org](http://www.foundationassisting seniors.org) or call 725-244-4200. ✨

## The Veterans And First Responders Club

*Together, We Honor Those That Served!*

The Solera Veterans and First Responders Club meet's the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Stardust Room. We invite all members of Solera to attend and consider joining. At every meeting one lucky person gets to win a free basket full of surprises, is it your turn?

The Club just celebrated its seventh anniversary, to date the club has donated over \$13,000 to Veterans and First Responders organizations here in southern Nevada. With your support of our social events and the sale of flags, our club has helped make a difference to a number of organizations, one of our favorites has been; "Michael's Angel Paws" - "Helping Others Pawsitively Every Day". We have seen firsthand how their "Service Dog Program" has improved the lives of veterans with visible and invisible disabilities. It can take anywhere from 18-24 months to master the high standards of training.

With your help our club will be able to continue to support "Michael's Angel Paws" and our other "Community Partners" organizations, during these most "crazy times".

Need a flag? Call 702- 558- 8459

Flag kits - \$25 minimum donation

Replacement flags - \$5 minimum donation

Visit our clubs website; [SoleraVeterans.wordpress.com](http://SoleraVeterans.wordpress.com)



# Six-Buck Bellagio Escape

Story and Photos by Diane Murphy



Cafe Gelato

Got three hours and six bucks? Here's an unexpectedly cheap respite from the summer heat, considering it takes place at the Bellagio.

The Bellagio started thrilling visitors to Vegas in October 1998. When it opened, it was the "most expensive hotel ever built" according to the Las Vegas Review Journal. The price tag was a staggering \$1.6 billion. Steve Wynn's inspiration came from the town of Bellagio, Italy, well known for its elegance.

Of course, the casual tourist can enjoy the fountains for free, but the rich, or

perhaps that should be the very rich, can actually control the dancing waters. Price tag in 2018, \$250,000. But that's not the only way to enjoy this jaw dropping property. For \$6.77, you can have a fun, air-conditioned date.

Once parked (locals park for free at the hotel for three hours, just show your driver's license upon exit), take the elevator to the casino and immediately enjoy leg one of your adventure – the beautiful Bellagio Conservatory decorated for summer. Its stunning and colorful "Eco: A Season of Earthly Awareness" features 30,000 flowers and plants plus magnificent scenic

props. Find someone happy to snap your picture in front of the gorgeous red, rising phoenix or the lounging leopard. You might offer to return the favor.

After strolling throughout the floral displays, head past the gift shop to Café Gelato. Get one cup to share – it's plenty – and ask for half and half (we had raspberry and mango sorbets – tart and delicious). Pay with two sawbucks and take your change.

With the cup and two spoons in hand, walk to the tables by the windows. Sit, chat, and savor the icy treat, the air conditioning, and the elegance.



Diane and John Murphy



# Derby Daze



With ladies in their frilly fascinators and at least one gentleman with garters on his sleeves, Solerans filled the clubhouse ballroom last month for a Night at the Races.



Ten thoroughbred horse races were shown on a big screen. Each attendee was armed with 10 tickets, each of them worth \$1 at the betting window. Payoffs in a couple of the races exceeded \$50!



But even if none of your horses won, you enjoyed a meal and the action on the screen and the enthusiasm of the crowd as everyone cheered on his or her favorite horse.



Picking the winners



Losers



# Flagstaff Is Cool All Around

*By Carol Wilhems, photo credit: Lowell Observatory*



Once home to Sinagua, Cohonina and Ancestral Pueblo peoples, the greater Flagstaff area teams with activities from the renowned Lowell Observatory to national monuments preserving Native American residential sites. At 7,000 feet elevation and surrounded by the world's largest contiguous ponderosa pine forest, Flagstaff provides nearby escape to cooler temps during the summer.

Flagstaff's historic and pedestrian-friendly downtown along old Route 66 is a quirky mix of commissioned murals painted over old brick facades, intriguing eateries and breweries, and boutique shops and galleries.

Lowell Observatory, a short distance west of downtown, offers socially distanced guided tours and premium

access for private stargazing option. Reservations required for both, with masks worn indoors at all times.

The Arboretum is a beehive of activity offering wildflower and bird walks, yoga and painting classes, even early evening concerts, as well as hour-long . docent-led garden tours through October. The Arboretum is located 4 miles south on Woody Mountain Road. The first mile is paved, the remainder unpaved Forest Service road but suitable for all vehicles.

The Museum of Northern Arizona houses more than 5 million southwestern artifacts on Fort Valley Road (Highway 180) north of town. Admission tickets can be purchased online in 2-week increments. Fully vaccinated need not mask.

Looking for great outdoor action? Flagstaff is home to the Flagstaff Urban Trail System (FUTS) encompassing around 50 miles throughout the city and on all sides of town. Hike, bike and even ride horses, with some trails wheelchair and stroller accessible.

A cherished example of crafted architecture featuring a rustic exterior of log-slab siding, volcanic stone arches and hand-split wooden shingles, the Riordan Mansion is not to be missed. Built in 1904 during Flagstaff's early lumber days, the expansive home has 40 rooms and more than 13,000 square feet of living area. The Mansion's interior is seen by guided tour only, and reservations are recommended (see AZ State Parks website).

Head northeast of downtown on Route 66 and connect with Highway 89 leads to get to Sunset Crater volcano park, and beyond that to Wupatki National Monument. Latter provides Visitor Center services and trail info to the various pueblo sites.

Heading east on I-40 for 20 minutes brings one to Walnut Canyon National Monument – an ancient cliff-dwelling community. The Island trail is 1-mile long with 25 cliff dwelling rooms visible across the canyon.

At time of writing (late June), Coconino County was in Phase 2 of reopening so no events larger than 250 attendants were allowed. Flagstaff hotels are in high demand from Grand Canyon visitors so make reservations. Also check [www.flagstaffarizona.org](http://www.flagstaffarizona.org) for potential wildfire closures.



# Escape reality at an escape room

You don't have to travel all the way to the beach or the mountains if you seek an escape. Consider one of the many escape rooms that are available in the Las Vegas Valley.

What's an escape room, you ask?

An escape room is a group puzzle-solving game in which the players find clues, solve puzzles and sometimes undertake challenges as they seek to escape from a room (or series of rooms) within a time limit.

The escape room phenomenon is believed to have started with video games but then escalated into actually physical rooms where people pay to play. Usually, escape rooms have themes, and those can range from

simulating a jail break to being spies, outer-space explorers, a locked library or even a holiday theme.

As you might expect, the top-rated escape rooms in the Las Vegas area are located on or near The Strip. According to Yelp.com, they are:

1. Escapology Escape Rooms Las Vegas, which actually is off the Strip at 2797 S. Maryland Parkway and offers a variety of rooms, including a submarine, murder mansion, art museum, the Budapest Espresso, and even one with a Scooby-Doo adventure theme.
2. Number One Escape Room, 1775 E. Tropicana, Suite 100, featuring among other things a cabin in the woods.

3. Rush To Escape, 953 E. Sahara Ave, Suite A-17, with Prison Break, Ultimate Heist and Smite Sherlock escapes.
4. The Basement - A Live Escape Room Experience, 3440 Polaris Ave., which says on its website it's part escape room, part haunted house.

There are many others, at least one of which we figure we should mention. Again, the one is off the Strip, at 5067 Arville St. (near The Orleans). It's Once Upon An Escape, which offers what are considered family style, fairytale-based, perhaps even Disney-inspired escape adventures.



## Escape the room via Alexa

*By Frank Nobel*

Many of our Solera residents have Alexa in their home. Perhaps unknown is that Alexa is able to do more than just provide the current outside temperature. How about an "escape the room" game from your easy chair? The room may be an office, jail or even a garage, to name a few. These games are all free to play and there are premium games also, like spaceship.

Your challenge begins with asking Alexa to start "escape the room." Imagine you are trapped in a room. It's up to you, or you and some family and friends, to escape using your intellect and deductive skills.

Once in the room you have chosen, you will receive directions to look right, left, up or down. You can only

look in one direction at a time. Within the chosen direction, you will be told what is in your view. For example, you may be told there is a door. At that point you will want to ask to inspect the door.

Inspecting an item is a key element to escape the room. In that inspection you will get clues to the "escape the room" puzzle. The door inspection could establish that it is locked, no real surprise, but what kind of lock? Is the door wood, metal or a specific color? Any of these types of answers may be a valuable piece of the puzzle.

There is no limit as to how many are able to play. A number of players adds to the fun and excitement. "Escape the room" can be a party type game.

At any time you can ask Alexa to pause the game. Such a pause allows discussion so everyone can determine where they are and what may be needed for resolution to escape the room.

It is suggested that "escape the room office" is easier than some of the other rooms. As a clue, once you have solved an escape the room you may be able to see a pattern that could be applied to another room.

I do not believe that I've given away any secrets to "escape the room". Hopefully I've provided enough information to peek your interest to let you and Alexa play "escape the room."



COMMUNITY CALENDAR • AUGUST 2021



| SUNDAY | MONDAY                    | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY                            | THURSDAY              | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY |
|--------|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|----------|
| 1      | 2                         | 3<br>ARC<br>9:00 am<br>Veterans and First Responders<br>6:30 pm<br>Bulk Trash Day<br> | 4<br>Exec Board<br>9:30 am           | 5                     | 6<br>Vets Workshop<br>8am<br>Communications Committee<br>9:30 am | 7        |
| 8      | 9<br>Covenants<br>10:00am | 10  | 11<br>Board of Directors<br>9:30am   | 12                    | 13<br>International Left Handers Day                             | 14       |
| 15     | 16                        | 17<br>Solera Mt. Charleston Picnic<br>(Bus leaves at 9:00am)<br>Bulk Trash Day<br>    | 18<br>Buildings & Grounds<br>9:30 am | 19<br>Bingo<br>4:00pm | 20   | 21       |
| 22     | 23                        | 24<br>Lifestyle<br>10:30 am   | 25<br>Finance<br>9:30 am             | 26                    | 27<br>High Rocktane Concert<br>6:00 - 8:00 pm                    | 28       |
| 29     | 30                        | 31<br>Bulk Trash Day<br>  |                                      |                       |  |          |

# Looking to Buy, or Sell your Home?

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**Website: [simplyvegasrealestate.com](http://simplyvegasrealestate.com)**

**Office: 1780 W Horizon Ridge Pkwy, Ste 100, Henderson, NV**



Lic# S.0182478 LLC



# The Beach is Better

By Pamela Wilson



**“Catch a wave and you’re on top of the world.”**

— *Beach Boys*

Growing up in the Midwest, the ocean beaches were a distant fantasy that evolved with the coming of the Beach Boys songs. I so wanted to be that Surfing California Girl.

“To catch a wave” or at the very least to actually see the ocean was a far distant dream. I dreamed of putting my toes in the sand, playing in the waves and tasting the sea water.

So I compensated by painting ocean scenes, listening to the splashing waves on 45 rpm records, and singing in full volume to every Beach Boys song on the top 40 and more.

I constructed a water ski on a diving board and pretended it was a surf board and hung 10 toes over the very top until my father caught me and declared it a dangerous act.

In 1985, I saw the beach and the ocean for the first time. Screaming, I ran barefoot to the sand and stood still as the waves washed over my feet. Staring out to the distant horizon line, I knew there was absolutely no way I could capture this vast never-ending ocean in a painting. It was that moment that I boosted my love for ocean beaches.

Mountains were easy to paint with just a bunch of trees, hills, trails plus some serious “I am a hiker” tattoos on foreheads and T-shirts galore. I will never understand why anyone would rather go to the mountains when they could go to the beach?

Ahhh, the ocean beach where you can view 360 degrees in every direction, watch the waves of turquoise light reaching out to an unmeasured horizon line, and listen to the pure sweet sounds of the planetary waves lapping a sandy beach or smashing into a rocky shore.

In the mountains, you will never experience the colorful red, blue, pink, yellow, and every other single hue under the sun witnessed on umbrellas and beach blankets as they dot the coastline.

You will never sunbathe with the warmth of the sun on your body and the scent of coconut Coppertone sun tan lotion.

You will never be able to smooth, pile and shape a sand castle or happily frolic in the sand sipping a pink rum drink and singing “good vibrations.”

You will not be able to snorkel or dive in the mountains nor view the beautiful sea life and listen to the relaxing sounds of your bouncing bubbles as they dance to the sound of your breath.

In the mountains, you won’t witness the seagulls with their effortless gliding on the lazy ocean breezes matched by the sunshine filled sky.

How would you hunt seashells or witness the unhurried setting of the distant sun as it melts into the horizon line?

Above all, how would you ever catch a wave in the mountains?



# There's Nothing Like a Mountaintop

By Larry Edsall

As if having to expose your body to the sun and to other beach goers isn't enough, there's the awful smell of the tanning lotion you have to slather on, and then there's the sand that somehow finds its way into everything, even after you leave and discover how much of it you've tracked back into your car.

Ah, a day at the beach, but watch out for the algae bloom or an infestation of stinging jellyfish, and what's that fin I see skimming along the surface?

OK, watching sunset on the beach can be a great experience, but it involves a few minutes, not all day, and if we're contemplating an escape from the triple-digit temperatures, which we are this month in the Solera Star, the obvious place to escape is to the mountains.

There's a reason why some mountains are snow-capped year around. It's because it's cooler up there than it is down here.

So why is it cooler in the mountains? We checked with Dr. Universe, resident know-it-all at Washington State University. The good doctor turned to Shelly Pressley, an environmental engineer in the WSU Laboratory for Atmospheric Research and learned about the Earth's atmosphere and gravity and the gas molecules that comprise the air we breathe.

"Maybe you've heard people say the air is thinner up in the mountains," the doctor notes, explaining that there is less air pressure as elevation increases, and "where there is less pressure and the molecules or building blocks are more spread out. When the pressure of a gas decreases, so does temperature."

So, if you want to escape the heat, you need to head to the mountains.

But there's more to mountains than cooler temperatures. There are the views,. Remember, it was looking upon the vistas she could see from Pikes Peak that Katherine Lee Bates wrote of amber waves of grain and purple mountains majesties.

It also was mountains that inspired John Denver to sing about how "the shadows from the starlight are softer than a lullaby."

Even if the weather suddenly turns too cold, the mountains may reveal things you won't find on the beach. As a child visiting grandparents in Montana, a sudden summer snow squall in a mountain pass forced us to spend some time to enjoy lunch in an amazing log-built restaurant. Years later, as an adult driving in Wyoming, a late-summer storm forced me to take shelter in a ranger station, where I was greeted with a fresh cup of coffee and a private and fascinating lesson about the Native American medicine wheel that was quickly disappearing beneath the falling snow.

Notice that in Pamela's story about the glories of the beach, the Beach Boys' song she quotes suggests you can "catch a wave and you're on top of the world."

Nice thought. But when you are cooling off and enjoying the vista from the mountain top, you truly, literally, are "on top of the world."



## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

### Chartered Clubs

**American Mah Jongg Club**.....Monday 5:30 p.m., Tuesday 1 p.m.  
Beverly Wexler 702-437-2383

**Asian Mah Jongg Club**..... Wednesday & Friday 12 p.m.  
Vickie 702-489-7922

**Bridge Club**.....Tuesday & Friday 12:30 p.m.  
Sue Linnever 203-232-5345

**Bunco Club**.....2nd Tuesday 6:30 p.m.  
Gerri Van Der Meer 973-479-9690 Sue Levine 702-837-3496

**Euchre Club**.....Monday 1 p.m.  
Gregg Schiffbauer at 702-379-1399 magregg@aol.com

**Fine Arts Club**  
**Watercolor**.....Thursday 10 a.m.  
Judy Blankenship 702-457-0550

**Colored Pencil**.....Tuesday 1 p.m.  
Faye Caracci 702 - 260-0558.

**Handcrafted Creations Club**  
**Bead Weaving**.....Thursday 1 p.m.  
Carol Runyan 702-558-7623

**Needlework**.....Friday 10 a.m.  
Maryann Bianco 702-453-2884 maryann.bianco@yahoo.com

**Stained Glass**.....Wednesdays 12:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
Nick Caracci 702-480-3609 Nick89052@yahoo.com, Bob Stahurski 702-994-3919

**Paper Works Club**.....Monday 1 p.m.  
Linda Freitas Dfreitas89044@cox.net

**Party Bridge Club**.....Tuesday & Thursday 12:30 p.m.  
Kathleen Karstenson (702) 524-3648 or kkarstenson@gmail.com

**Pickleball Club**.....Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7 a.m.  
Linda Spacil 702-375-2336

**Poker Club**.....Monday 12 p.m./Wednesday 6 p.m./Thursday 6 p.m.  
Donna Tipps 702-430-9039

**Romeo's Solera Mens Club**..... 4th Friday 8:30 a.m. at Southpoint  
Allen Blonder 702-395-6878

**Solera Ladies Club**.....Monthly Activities  
Janice Awe 408-206-1148 or janiceawe@gmail.com

**Solera Singles Club**.....Monthly Activities  
Barbara Freeman 702-436-2987 vegasgal96@AOL.com

**Table Tennis Club**..... Monday & Wednesday...8 a.m. - Noon  
Steve Reed 309-696-5311

**Veterans & First Responders Club**..... 1st Tuesday 6:30 p.m.  
Howard Spanier howardspan@yahoo.com

### Groups

**Billiards**..... Tuesday 6 p.m.  
Please Drop By

**Book Group**.....2nd Saturday 12 p.m.  
Please Drop By

**Crafts and Stitches**..... Tuesday 9 a.m.  
Please Drop By

**Dealer's Choice Poker**.....Monday & Thursday 12 p.m./Wednesday 6 p.m.  
Stuart solera207@hotmail.com

**Rummikub**.....Sundays 1-4 p.m.  
Richard rkroegr22@yahoo.com

**Scrabble**..... Tuesday 6:30 p.m.  
Juanita 702- 897-6257

### Health & Fitness

**Aquasize**..... Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 10:00 a.m.  
Diane Fimiano Aquadiane1@aol.com

**Crystal Bowls Meditation**..... Wednesday 1:30-3:00 p.m.  
Sindi Keene 760-504-5880

**Party Time Dance**..... Noon – 1:00pm, Tuesday  
Marcia Wise wisema007@gmail.com

**Power Walkers**.....Daily 7:30 a.m.  
Cheryl Beaudry 702-823-5441

**Solera Starz Cardio Class**..... Tuesday 8:30 a.m.  
Ardena 702-263-9770, Lorie 702-487-5725

**Solera Starz Dance Aerobics**.....Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 a.m.  
Arda Reitter 702-462-6167, Carol Page 702-205-0164

**Solera Starz Line Dancing**.....Monday 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Arda Reitter 702-462-6167

**Tai Chi Clinic**..... Monday & Thursday 11:15 a.m.  
Ken Pavese 702- 407-8111

**Yoga Friends**.....Tuesday 9:00 a.m.  
Merrilee Gaines mgaines823@hotmail.com

**ZUMBA**.....Thursday 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.  
Mary Richard 702-521-2583

**HIGH ROCKTANE will be performing a concert  
on Friday, August 27th from 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
in the Stardust Ballroom.**

**Tickets are \$15 for Solera residents  
and \$18 for guests. Tickets can be  
purchased at the Clubhouse Front Desk  
beginning Friday, August 6th.**

**Hope you can join us!**

**HIGH  
ROCKTANE**





# Mount Charleston:

## Only 75 miles away and 25 degrees cooler

To the Southern Paiutes, it was Nuvagantu, meaning “where the snow is.” To residents of the Las Vegas Valley, it is Mount Charleston, where you can ski in the winter and in summer months a nearby place to escape the triple-digit temperatures.

Rising to an elevation of 11,916 feet, Mount Charleston is the tallest peak in the Spring Mountains range and the eighth highest in the state of Nevada. With its separation from other tall peaks, it is rated among the eight “most prominent” mountains in the continental United States.

Though known to native peoples as the place of snow, the name Charleston was applied in 1869 by a member of the US Army Corps of Engineers to honor of his hometown, the South Carolina seaport city.

### Did you know?


- What we commonly refer to as Mount Charleston is actually part of the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area, in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.
- Mount Charleston rises up from the Mojave Desert as a sky island that provides a forested and spring-fed haven for wildlife, including more than 25 endemic plant and animal species, as well being an alpine retreat for human visitors and a few hundred human residents.
- The Spring Mountains Visitors Gateway spans 90 acres and includes (when it’s open; it’s been closed due to the pandemic) a visitors center, education building, picnic areas, two amphitheaters, various trailheads and benches with views of Kyle Canyon and Charleston Peak.
- The Seven Stone Plaza at the Gateway honors the seven Paiute tribes that consider the mountain a sacred place.
- The Gateway also includes the first Cold War Memorial in the United States.



- “Mount Charleston” is the general reference to two separate locations, Kyle Canyon on the southern side and Lee Canyon on the northern side. Access to the mountain is from U.S. 95 via either Nevada 157 (Kyle Canyon Road) or Nevada 156 (Lee Canyon Road). Linking those two roads is Nevada 158, which offers scenic vistas from its elevated location on the east side of the mountain.
- Kyle Canyon is a larger community that includes the Mount Charleston Lodge, a popular dining spot. The original lodge was built after World War II but was burned in a fire in 1961 and was rebuilt by its owners, who also owned the Hacienda resort in Las Vegas.
- Lee Canyon is a recreation area with a ski and snowboard resort, camping, hiking trails, etc. During the summer months, the resort offers rides on its chairlifts and other activities to visitors.

**IMPORTANT NOTE** for those (especially those of a certain age) who opt to ride the chair lift in summer months:

During the winter, you ski off the lift, but in the summer the process is to run off the chair and down the hill. I tried. I failed. Fortunately there was wood-chip mulch to cushion the fall. I learned, however, that you can ask the lift attendant to stop the lift so you can walk away safely.

Ask and be safe. 



### MT. CHARLESTON PICNIC AT FOXTAIL GROUP PICNIC AREA

Tuesday, August 17th      Picnic Lunch Provided - \$30  
Bus leaves Solera at 9 AM,      Please purchase tickets at  
Returns about 3 PM      the Clubhouse Front Desk

# Mark O'Toole Event

On Sunday, June 27th Solera residents got to enjoy their first music concert in over 18 months in the Stardust Ballroom. Mark O'Toole entertained the crowd singing songs from Frank Sinatra to Barry Manilow. Mark engaged the crowd and even brought up one of our residents, Joan Soriano to sing along with him. Everyone enjoyed the music and had a great time.



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When it comes to rehabilitation after a stroke, illness or injury, Encompass Health Hospitals hold a clear advantage over skilled nursing facilities.

### What Sets Us Apart

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at Encompass Health Hospitals – and not at the average skilled nursing facilities:

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- Multidisciplinary, collaborative team approach
- Specialty nursing training
- Leading-edge rehabilitation expertise
- Weekly team conference
- Exceptionally trained therapists
- State-of-the-art therapy gyms and rehabilitation technology



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**Encompass Health Desert Canyon Hospital** 9175 W. Oquendo Road • Las Vegas, NV 89148 • 702 795-5820  
**Encompass Health Hospital of Henderson** 10301 Jeffreys Avenue • Henderson, NV 89052 • 702 939-9422  
**Encompass Health Hospital of Las Vegas** 1250 S. Valley View Boulevard • Las Vegas, NV 89102 • 702 259-3590

[Encompasshealth.com](http://Encompasshealth.com)

\* Encompass Health provides access to independent private practice physicians, specializing in physical medicine and rehabilitation.



**Jim Marrs**

Realtor

Lic. # S.0065194

**702-354-3479**

[jim@jamesmarrs.com](mailto:jim@jamesmarrs.com)



**Laura Au-Yeung**

Realtor, ABR<sup>®</sup> SRES<sup>®</sup>

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 www.handymanoflasvegas.com Lic. #s: 50937, 55184,58126,77867

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**The Deadline for ads is the 5th of the month prior to publication.**

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**PLEASE NOTE: If you would like to advertise in the Solera Star contact Bob Fruehling at 928-252-2350 or bob@aha-marketing.com**

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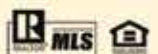
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## SOLERA MARKET REPORT

Homes Currently Available

| Model    | Address      | SqFt  | List      |
|----------|--------------|-------|-----------|
| Whitney  | 2501 Nashira | 1,596 | \$400,000 |
| Franklin | 2406 Jada    | 1,768 | \$470,000 |

Homes Under Contract

| Model    | Address               | SqFt  | List      |
|----------|-----------------------|-------|-----------|
| Lewis    | 2467 Hamonah          | 1,142 | \$315,000 |
| Lewis    | 2312 Peaceful Moon    | 1,142 | \$350,000 |
| Clark    | 2480 Serene Moon      | 1,248 | \$369,000 |
| Clark    | 2556 Anani RD         | 1,248 | \$335,000 |
| Clark    | 2417 Gamma Ray        | 1,248 | \$335,000 |
| Clark    | 2569 Palentina ST     | 1,248 | \$337,000 |
| Fremont  | 2592 Binary Stars     | 1,425 | \$374,900 |
| Whitney  | 2472 Penumbra         | 1,596 | \$399,900 |
| Whitney  | 2433 Hamonah          | 1,596 | \$410,000 |
| Whitney  | 2278 Jada DR          | 1,596 | \$415,000 |
| Whitney  | 2505 Cosmic Dust      | 1,596 | \$369,900 |
| Whitney  | 2568 Binary Stars     | 1,596 | \$399,990 |
| Whitney  | 2616 Icy Moon ST      | 1,596 | \$410,000 |
| Whitney  | 2393 Amana DR         | 1,596 | \$499,900 |
| Franklin | 2514 Starlight Valley | 1,768 | \$449,990 |
| Franklin | 2566 Starlight Valley | 1,768 | \$462,999 |
| Franklin | 2383 Hydrus AVE       | 1,768 | \$410,000 |
| Franklin | 2568 Jada DR          | 1,768 | \$452,900 |

Homes Sold in the Last 60 Days

| Model     | Address               | SqFt  | Sold      | DOM |
|-----------|-----------------------|-------|-----------|-----|
| Lewis     | 2357 Celestial Moon   | 1,142 | \$336,000 | 3   |
| Lewis     | 2513 Jade Sky ST      | 1,142 | \$335,000 | 8   |
| Lewis     | 2514 Darda ST         | 1,142 | \$342,000 | 4   |
| Lewis     | 2540 Serene Moon      | 1,142 | \$320,000 | 3   |
| Lewis     | 2427 Andromeda        | 1,142 | \$300,000 | 17  |
| Lewis     | 2348 Celestial Moon   | 1,142 | \$360,000 | 3   |
| Lewis     | 2456 Ashen Light      | 1,142 | \$306,000 | 3   |
| Clark     | 2504 Nashira ST       | 1,248 | \$334,900 | 11  |
| Clark     | 2505 Chasma DR        | 1,248 | \$329,900 | 7   |
| Clark     | 2554 Starlight Valley | 1,248 | \$372,000 | 8   |
| Clark     | 2575 Red Planet ST    | 1,248 | \$322,000 | 3   |
| Fremont   | 2528 Binary Stars     | 1,425 | \$325,000 | 4   |
| Jefferson | 2644 Solar Corona     | 1,520 | \$390,000 | 2   |
| Whitney   | 2349 Hydrus           | 1,596 | \$470,000 | 16  |
| Whitney   | 2732 Solar Flare      | 1,596 | \$480,000 | 34  |
| Whitney   | 2472 Penumbra DR      | 1,596 | \$356,000 | 6   |
| Whitney   | 2597 Solera Sky DR    | 1,596 | \$467,810 | 7   |
| Whitney   | 2453 Hamonah DR       | 1,596 | \$399,900 | 11  |
| Whitney   | 2500 Nashira ST       | 1,596 | \$377,000 | 4   |
| Franklin  | 2317 Cordelia ST      | 1,768 | \$430,000 | 5   |
| Franklin  | 2613 Darda ST         | 1,768 | \$440,000 | 4   |
| Franklin  | 2470 Hamonah DR       | 1,768 | \$445,000 | 2   |
| Franklin  | 2468 Comet Cloud      | 1,768 | \$468,000 | 10  |
| Franklin  | 2415 Santeria Star    | 1,768 | \$425,000 | 10  |

