

Spring 2021

DESERT MOUNTAIN C O N N E C T I O N




**DESERT
MOUNTAIN**
COMMUNITY

Photo Grand Prize Winner: D. Driver for "Owl" - in Scenery, Landscapes and Wildlife Category



Russ
Lyon

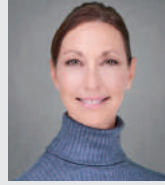
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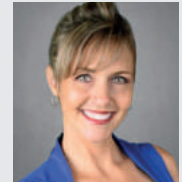
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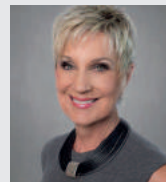
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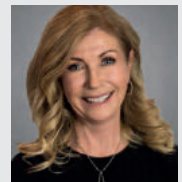
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Letter <i>by Mike Klonoski</i>	4
New Entry Identification <i>by Jim Duffey</i>	5
Executive Director's Corner <i>by Kevin Pollock</i>	6
External Affairs <i>by Kevin Frawley</i>	7
Owners Services Business Update <i>by Kevin Pollock</i>	7
Master Association Finances <i>by Mike Dings</i>	8
New Fire Station 616 Opens as 2021 Fire Season Begins <i>by Helen Hemphill and Wendy Whitman</i>	10
Growing Vegetables and Herbs in the Low Desert <i>by Wendy Whitman</i>	12
Lyle Anderson and the Early Years at Desert Mountain <i>by Ron Helm</i>	14
Mounted Archery Hits the Mark <i>by Joanne Klonoski</i>	18
Geologic Story of Desert Mountain <i>by Chad J. Kwiatkowski</i>	19
Dispatch From the Desperados <i>by Bob Borsch, Tory Gillenwater and Craig Mitchell</i>	20
The Desert Mountain Photo Contest Winners	23
Desert Mountain Home Sales Shatter Records <i>by Joanne Klonoski</i>	26
Interior Home Lighting <i>by Katherine Helm</i>	27
Are You Fit Enough For Your Age? <i>by Wendie Marlais, NCPT</i>	29
Fifteen Activities to Enjoy Outside the Gate <i>by Ron Helm</i>	30

A THANK YOU FROM THE COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING COMMITTEE CHAIR:

I thank Mike Klonoski, President of the DMMA; the Board of Directors; our Committee Members, an amazing group of creative and talented individuals; and the DMMA staff for their professionalism and continual support.

—Ron Helm

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Mike Klonoski, President
Desert Mountain Master Association



Dear Homeowner,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones in good health and good spirits.

Sadly, turning the calendar page to 2021 did not entirely solve the issues of 2020. While the pharmaceutical industry has delivered effective vaccines, frustrations and struggles continue. As the battle to overcome the COVID-19 virus continues world-wide, I pray that you and your loved ones all have access to the vaccine.

If you would allow me to be in a bit of denial about the threats of our time, I would like to share with you some positive thoughts about our community.

- Your safety and security is our number one priority
- We have been rediscovered and our home values are increasing
- We are financially secure with combined reserves of the Master Association and all villages of \$23 million

Your Board, officers and staff are committed to providing an environment of excellence that maximizes your experience here and also maximizes the value of your home. We will continue to emphasize security, strong financial management, and high levels of customer service. The newest challenge facing us is wage inflation and our ability to attract the highest quality team members. We are adjusting our pay levels aggressively in response to the market, and will continue to recruit the best and brightest to Desert Mountain.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO
EMPHASIZE SECURITY,
STRONG FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT, AND
HIGH LEVELS OF
CUSTOMER SERVICE.

Our community is at an inflection point. Almost 550 new homeowners have joined us in the last thirty-six months – Hello and Welcome! Last year saw all-time highs in sales volume, numbers of transactions and price per square foot of homes (see page 26 for our real estate report). Our trail system is a major attraction, with 20 miles of trails funded by members of our community. See page 20 for more about the trails and a link to a drone fly-over! And the Desert Mountain Club has also had a membership resurgence given their robust package of sports, social and dining amenities.

The confluence of our low density, high desert environment with its open spaces and, if one desires, the activity package offered by the Club has made us one of the premier communities in North America during these turbulent times. The Master Association is committed to do everything in its power to continue the positive and energetic direction of this community we call home.

Cordially,
Mike

NEW ENTRY IDENTIFICATION

Jim Duffey, Chair of the Safety & Security Committee
Desert Mountain Master Association



Jim Duffey, an Officer of the Master Association and Chair of the Safety and Security Committee, is a counterintelligence management and leadership expert with 30 years of experience in Intelligence and Special Operations. Mr. Duffey retired as a US Army Warrant Officer with over 23 years in the US Army Military Intelligence Corps as a credentialed Counterintelligence Agent. During his service, Mr. Duffey served multiple tours in the Middle East, Africa, and Eastern Europe. He spent his final 18 years of service assigned to and in support of Special Operations Forces. He served as the Lead investigator/Manager for numerous sensitive joint and interagency espionage investigations involving national security information and resulting in the apprehension and conviction of guilty parties.

Operation Safe and Secure Entry

PHASE I

Starting in May, we will begin scanning the driver's license of any service provider that does not have an eGo tag on their vehicle. We are doing this to:


- Encourage vendors and service providers to purchase an eGo tag to reduce the long lines and wait times at our Desert Hills gate, which are creating a traffic hazard.
- Identify and stop anyone from entering our community who does not have a legitimate reason for being here.
- Be proactive in our mission to keep Desert Mountain safe, secure and beautiful.

During the past year, the number of people moving here and building new and remodeling existing homes is at a record high, and as a result, so is the traffic at our gates. One of the primary reasons most of us live here is because we feel safe knowing that our entrances are staffed around-the-clock by trained security personnel. Lately, they are spending too much time managing traffic.

Operation Quick and Secure Entry is being implemented to encourage all vendors and service providers who visit our community frequently to purchase an eGo tag, so that our security personnel can expedite other visitors through our gates.

Jim Duffey, owns a business that specializes in physical and cyber security, and is an expert in this field. He says, "It's best to be proactive rather than reactive when it comes to safety and security. Our community has grown rapidly over the past 18 months, and we had to come up with a solution that moved service providers quickly through our gates while decreasing the time that guests of homeowners and Club Members spend waiting in line."

On March 10, we started handing out flyers to every service vehicle that came through the gate and sent letters to the companies that we had on file to inform vendors and service providers of this change. We also reduced the price of the eGo tag to \$20 per year to make it more affordable. Since January, more than 725 eGo tags have been purchased. Starting in April, we will have signs installed at the entrance gates that vendors must have valid driver's licenses for entry if they don't have an eGo tag.

continued on page 34 

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Kevin Pollock, *Executive Director*
PCAM, CAAM



As the COVID pandemic enters its second year, we are optimistic that there is light at the end of the tunnel. As vaccine availability increases, the Master Association continues to closely monitor and adapt to new developments. Our protocols with respect to virtual meetings, limited visitors to our office, proper sanitation and social distancing are still in effect. We hope, like all of you, that "normal" business will return soon. Be assured, we continue to diligently manage the Association's operations.

Congratulations to our newly elected Board Members! Master Association President Mike Klonoski was elected for a second three-year term at the last Annual Meeting. His fellow Board Members subsequently elected him as President for the 2021 term. Additionally, we welcome back Mike Dings, who served on the Board from 2016-2018, and our newest Board Member, Steve Umland.

The Officers of the Board for 2021 are as follows:

- Mike Klonoski – *President*
- Kevin Frawley – *Vice President*
- Mike Dings – *Treasurer*
- Jim Duffey – *Secretary*

Roadwork Continues

If your village received a crack fill application in 2020, you will be scheduled for a seal coat this year. We regret that this project will restrict roadway access, but regular sealcoating is an integral part of proper road maintenance. The project is scheduled to begin in May, and residents of each village will receive detailed information prior to its scheduled service. During sealcoating, parking, mail delivery and trash collection may be impacted. We will provide supervision so that work will efficiently proceed. Watch for more information as work is scheduled.

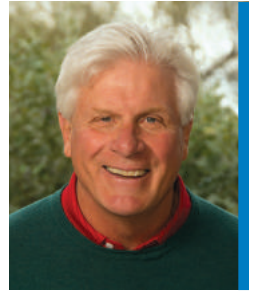
Board Directors are:

- Frank Brown
- Bill Eckholm
- Ron Helm
- Dave Ostermeyer
- Steve Umland

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY
ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS!**

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Kevin Frawley, Chair
Desert Mountain External Affairs Committee



The External Affairs Committee began its work last year in a focused effort to work more effectively with outside elected and appointed officials as well as major vendors to our Community. For example, we sponsored last Fall's Candidate Forum for the Scottsdale Mayoral election.

This year, in response to numerous complaints about inadequate cell phone coverage throughout our Community, we engaged a third-party firm late last year to drive test Desert Mountain which yielded a report and analysis confirming inadequate coverage in certain areas of DM for all three main telecom carriers. Next steps are to

determine where to locate additional towers and how to pay for them to close the gaps in coverage.

We also worked with Cox Communications in the first quarter to address its inadequate Wi-Fi coverage in the Community and persuaded them to address the problem and improve capacity faster than they had planned.

We are launching a major long-term project to study and report on our Environmental, Social and Governance status as both a community and a club. Will provide updates on that work as it progresses.

OWNERS SERVICES BUSINESS UPDATE

Kevin Pollock, Executive Director
PCAM, CAAM

An increase in vaccinations and lower caseloads have allowed our Owners Services Business to start scheduling interior work. All team members will abide by recommended protocols for their and your protection. These protocols include wearing masks and gloves and physical distancing. We appreciate your understanding as we provide services in your home.

With the Desert Mountain Owner Services Business, you can make one phone call and know that all of your absentee home care and light handyman needs will be taken care of by someone you can trust. Where do you find someone to make a minor repair or replace the battery on the chirping smoke alarm

on your ceiling? Right now, you may be calling a variety of vendors to meet these home care needs, hoping their schedule corresponds with yours and wondering if services will be to your satisfaction. We provide quality, convenient, and cost-effective services at a reasonable price, and the craftsmanship will be professional. And, unlike contractors from outside of the gates who may not understand the protocols of our community, our Owner Services Business team members are part of the Master Association team.

As services are initiated, our staff will maintain consistent and regular contact with you to let you know when your work will begin, how it is coming

continued on page 35 ➤

MASTER ASSOCIATION FINANCES

Mike Dings, Treasurer
Desert Mountain Master Association



As we begin 2021, I would like to take a few minutes to tell you what a terrific financial year 2020 was for the Desert Mountain Master Association (DMMA) and the unincorporated villages in our community despite the COVID pandemic. While final audited figures will not be available until the late spring of 2021, the Master Association is expected to have excess revenue over expenses of almost \$70,000, and this is after contributing \$600,000 into our long-term reserves. This financial performance was driven primarily by a September surge in Design Review-related income. The management team also focused on efficiency and effectiveness, so the cost equation side also came in much better than plan.

All of our 19 unincorporated villages were materially on plan or in line with adjusted expectations. Several villages operated slightly above budget due to repairs and higher than anticipated water usage during some unusually warm days. All the villages are in good financial shape with sufficient funds for operating expenditures.

Despite the fact we plan to spend over \$200,000 of reserve money in 2021, mainly on road improvement capital projects, we expect to end 2021 with reserves of over \$6.3 million. This is a substantial reserve balance, but with the potential rebuilding of Desert Mountain Parkway being required sometime in the next 4-5 years, and the decrease in interest income, we believe a reserve account of this magnitude is prudent.

Preparing the Master Association budget for 2022 has already begun with the review of major vendor contract costs. During our July Board meeting, the DMMA board will first review the 2022 proposed Master Association budget. The Board will do its second review of the 2022 proposed Master Association budget at its meeting in August and the first review of the 19 unincorporated village budgets. The final vote by the DMMA Board on all budgets for the fiscal year 2022 will occur in September.

The DMMA is on track in 2021 for another successful financial year. We offer a special thank you to all the volunteer residents who donate their time to improving the community for all residents.

We are always available for comments or questions. Please do not hesitate to contact Kevin Pollock, *Executive Director*, Stephen Prall, *Community Manager*, or me, Mike Dings at mdings@desertmthoa.com.





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NEW FIRE STATION 616 OPENS AS 2021 FIRE SEASON BEGINS

Helen Hemphill and Wendy Whitman

The City of Scottsdale's Fire Department will open its newest fire station in April at 10986 E. Loving Tree Lane, off North Cave Creek Road. The station is just north of Desert Hills Drive and is part of the Department's strategic plan to consistently offer four-minute response time to the communities it serves. Currently, response time in far north Scottsdale, including Desert Mountain, is approximately eight minutes.

WE ARE THANKFUL
AND EXCITED TO MOVE
INTO THIS BEAUTIFUL
FIRE STATION.
—CAPTAIN MACK



A \$4.13 million dollar project, Fire Station 616 was funded by Scottsdale's 2015 general bond fund. The facility includes crew quarters, an OSHA certified decontamination area, safety gear storage and an apparatus bay for a fire engine and brush truck. Scottsdale Assistant Fire Chief Ryan Freeburg commented, "Our goal was to blend into the fabric of the community as a beacon of public safety for our citizens and visitors, and we think we have achieved that objective." MACO Construction completed the project.

Captain Jim Mack, a 32-year veteran of the fire service, worked at FS616's location near Sky Ranch

at Carefree since 2012 and transitioned to the new station. Fire Station 616 is staffed 24/7/365 with a fire engine and brush truck, utilizing a three-platoon system, each working 24-hour shifts. Each crew is comprised of a captain, engineer and two firefighters, who provide either paramedic or EMT services, in addition to their fire suppression capabilities.

Captain Mack stated, "We are thankful and excited to move into this beautiful fire station and continue to provide service to the citizens from a location that is better suited to improve our response times."

Backed by the Scottsdale Fire Department, the station offers community education, hazardous



materials special operations, and fire safety and prevention. This is especially important as Arizona fire season begins mid-April and runs through September.

2020's hot, dry summer fueled a number of wildfires in north Scottsdale, with overall brush/vegetation fires up 30% over 2019. What can you do to help?

- Report brush fires immediately by dialing 9-1-1.
- Trim live vegetation and trees within 5 feet of your walls and dead/down vegetation within an additional 15 feet. Fire fighters only need a pathway, not a bare swath of land between you and the Natural Area Open Space (NAOS). The city of Scottsdale prohibits grading, filling, clearing or excavating of any kind in the NAOS. Removing all plants from around your home is not necessary.
- Do remove invasive plants that provide fuel for wildfires and displace native plants. Stinknet (*Oncosiphon piluliferum*), buffel grass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*/*Pennisetum ciliare*) and fountain grass (*Cenchrus setaceus*/*Pennisetum setaceum*) are three plants included in Arizona's noxious weed list.
- Maintain your building envelope as a "clear zone," with no flammable products or flash fuels.
- Keep a rolled-up garden hose with a nozzle attached to an outside hose valve connection.
- Don't smoke in Natural Area Open Spaces (NAOS). This includes all land outside your home's building envelope.

The City of Scottsdale Fire Department offers a wildfire prevention brochure you can download. Be sure to review it with family members each spring. FS616 will host an open house for the community later this year once COVID protocols and restrictions are determined. Look for updates in the CONNECTION eBlast.



Stinknet



Buffel Grass



Fountain Grass

GROWING VEGETABLES AND HERBS IN THE LOW DESERT

Wendy Whitman

Desert Mountain HOA Landscape Committee Member and Desperado

Many of us have turned to gardening (or more gardening) during recent times. Gardening is a way to reduce stress and can save a trip to the store or ordering more items than you need for grocery pick up. With not much effort, you can have a few of your grocery staples readily available most of the year. Fresh herbs, expensive in the store, are easy to grow and many are available all year long with water and some soil nutrients. Below are a few guidelines for edible gardening in the low desert.

You don't need a lot of space – Raised beds are great, they come in many sizes and are easy to assemble, and you add the soil you like. Or you can construct a more permanent concrete and stucco raised bed. Another option is to tuck herbs and vegetables in between your existing plants inside your patio walls. Your patio plants can provide some afternoon shade in summer. Many herbs and vegetables do well in containers. Place them on a wheeled plant dolly so you can move them around for more sun or shade. If you choose to put your garden directly in the desert soil, you should create basins to hold water.

Location and irrigation – Any edible garden should be kept inside your patio walls due to our native desert landscape restrictions and the hungry javelinas. If you apply chemicals or pesticides, you will need to find a location away from that. Find a spot with morning sun and filtered afternoon sun.

Use irrigation for consistency and ease. Keep plants moist. In summer, pots may need water more than once per day. You can run a drip or a soaker $\frac{1}{4}$ inch line from your irrigation to the pots and adjust the irrigation timer. In winter and when there are the

ample rains, I shut off the irrigation for the in-ground vegetables. When watering, soak the soil until water drains from the container's bottom, wetting the entire soil mass and leaching out salts. Our city water is very hard. Consider collecting rainwater for enhancing watering needs. There are books and local organizations that have information available for our area.

Soil, mulch and fertilizer – If you have a raised bed, use your favorite outdoor soil mix and mix it in the top inch or two of your desert soil to ease the transition between nutrient rich soil and desert soil. If you are mixing edibles with your landscape plants, mix compost into the top inch or two of the soil. Top with mulch to about 3 inches or as much as possible to hold in moisture and reapply once per year. Fertilize as directed with your favorite fertilizer. I have better luck with an organic liquid fish fertilizer.

What to Grow and When

First, find your AZ US Hardiness Zone (plantmaps.com/interactive-arizona-usda-plant-zone-hardiness-map.php). I estimate mine to be 9b. Elevation varies here in Desert Mountain so best to check online for yours. The most optimal time to plant is fall or spring. However, there is something to plant almost every month of the year including Monsoon summer in July. The University of Arizona extension service (extension.arizona.edu/home-gardening) and Native Seed Search (nativeseeds.org/pages/gardening) both publish calendars that will tell you what, when and if you should plant seeds or transplants. I like to plant sunflowers from seed all summer. They love the heat and add wonderful color during the hot summer months.

GARDENING IS A WAY TO REDUCE STRESS AND CAN SAVE A TRIP TO THE STORE

Native seed varieties and the Three Sisters – Use native seed varieties when possible. They have adapted to the desert environment and can be less susceptible to pests. The crops of corn, beans, and squash are known as the Three Sisters. For centuries these three crops have been the center of Native American agriculture and food. They complement each other in the garden as well as nutritionally.

Corn provides tall stalks for the beans to climb so that they are not out-competed by sprawling squash vines. Beans provide nitrogen to fertilize the soil while also stabilizing the tall corn during heavy winds. Beans are nitrogen-fixers meaning they host rhizobia (a bacteria) on their roots that can take nitrogen, a needed plant nutrient, from the air and convert it into forms that can be absorbed by plant roots. The large leaves of squash plants shade the ground which helps retain soil moisture and prevent weeds.

Finally, don't forget to collect and save your seeds from your favorite varieties to re-seed and grow more plants!

Additional Resources for Low Desert Gardening:

Arizona Native Plant Society (AZNPS) aznps.com

Terroir Seeds underwoodgardens.com

Watershed Management Group watershedmg.org

Rainwater Harvesting for Dry Lands and Beyond Vol 1 and 2 by Brad Lancaster



LYLE ANDERSON AND THE EARLY YEARS AT DESERT MOUNTAIN

Ron Helm

Damon DiOrio, CEO of the Desert Mountain Club, introduced me to Lyle Anderson, the legendary luxury golf community developer. Lyle transformed the desert of Scottsdale into a world-renowned luxury golf area with several top-ranked communities, including Desert Mountain. He is currently working on his new visions for luxury estates in Hawaii and Mexico. These new Lyle Anderson masterpieces are rare, one-of-a-kind properties that incorporate his signature integration of environmental and architectural design.

I had the honor to sit down with the man that Golf Week called, *"the man largely responsible for shaping Scottsdale into one of America's most desirable addresses."*

When Lyle was growing up in Washington, his family's 9-hole golf course in Seattle flooded, financially ruining his family. *"Our family was on Red Cross ... and struggled like everyone else during these times"*. Like so many other entrepreneurs, the deepest passions often come from childhood experiences seeking to reverse the misfortunes of our family. For Lyle, that inner passion would soon emerge.

He graduated from the University of Washington with an Electrical Engineering degree. He recalls, *"I realized that I wanted to be free and not work for another company. I would rather own my own business, even if it was a candy store."* He met the real estate professional working on a project on the Olympic Peninsula and was hired for weekend sales. Eventually, he was hired as a full-time sales manager. To Lyle, it was always about *freedom*. He says that he truly has never worked because he thoroughly enjoys what he does, although it was not always easy.



Lyle began syndicating land deals with groups of investors. *"I started to buy land for investment groups and had good success."* When the Northwest economy turned south, Lyle searched for new areas to work and fell in love with Arizona.

Desert Highlands

In 1980, *"the 800-acre Desert Highlands property was one of the first pieces I bought on my own. I just bought it as an investment: to hold it and to resell it."* But one day while playing golf with a friend, Lyle said, *"Well, wait a minute, I might do a golf course"*. Desert Highlands was far from town and people said they couldn't believe anyone would go there to live and golf at that time.

Lyle's vision in the early 1980s was based on his belief that people really didn't know what they could have. *"People wanted to be a member of a private club, they were aspiring for some privacy and the beautiful desert where homes and the golf courses were folded into the environment and not just bulldozed flat lots."* Lyle sold golf memberships with property, which allowed

residents to become equal members without the long waits that other exclusive clubs required.

Lyle's plan was to build the golf course as the marketing tool for selling Desert Highlands residential lots. Jack Nicklaus had recently begun designing golf courses, and Lyle cold-called him to help his dream become a reality. *"I told myself that if I'm going sell this dream, I'll need some help. So, I called Jack."* He signed Jack Nicklaus to design and promote the course and developed a great business and personal relationship that began in 1980. Anderson and Nicklaus went on to develop and design other prestigious golf courses in Arizona (such as Desert Mountain), New Mexico, Hawaii and Scotland.

To promote Desert Highlands real estate, Jack told Lyle, *"I got this proposal for the Skins Game in Hawaii"*. Jack, the biggest star on the professional golf tour, convinced the promoter to move the game to Desert Highlands, honoring his contract with Lyle. Once the promoter saw the course, Lyle said he loved it. Together they created the Skins Game at Desert Highlands to promote the development, which brought together Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Tom Watson. The Skins Game immediately jumped to the top of the television ratings. In Lyle's office there's a picture of Jack sinking a putt to win \$240,000 in the second year the event was held at Desert Highlands – an unheard of amount for that time. Desert Highlands was a huge success, and Lyle began looking for other properties.

Desert Mountain and the Renegade Golf Course

Lyle first visited the Desert Mountain area in the early 1980s. It had been a working cattle spread called Carefree Ranch. At that time, it was owned by Roy Andy Dye, the brother of the famous golf architect Pete Dye. Roy typically worked with his brother designing courses but occasionally took on his own projects. At the Carefree Ranch property


Roy built 18 holes in the general area of today's Renegade course. When Lyle first saw it, the course was in rough shape, with nine holes lost back to the environment. Lyle and Jack tried to keep several original holes, but they were too difficult to save in relationship to the planned development, which was originally a couple thousand acres in the area of the Renegade course.

When Lyle was at St. Andrews Golf Club for the British Open, he got the idea for having two flags at the Renegade course. *"I was literally walking through the thick crowds and saw two flags. It got into my head. Why not an easier flag and a harder flag?"* He went back to his room and designed a few holes. He had dinner with Jack that night and told him his idea. Jack jokingly said, *"I thought you were crazy, but now I know you are crazy"*.

The first day Jack and Lyle visited the proposed area of the Renegade course, Jack said, *"You know that crazy idea you had in Scotland? Did you really want to do it?"* Lyle replied, *"If you do, I want to."* Jack bought into the concept, and told Lyle, *"Let's do it. If it turns out that people like it, it's my idea. If they don't like it, it'll be your idea."* This is how good friends treat each other, and Lyle and Jack were like family. Lyle and Jack never had more fun together than designing Renegade course, which opened in 1987.

Relationship with the Great Jack Nicklaus

Jack and Lyle played the AT&T Tournament at the Monterey Peninsula for the last four years of Jack's career in front of huge galleries. It's some of his fondest memories with Jack. The first year, he recalled arriving at the airport to meet Jack. Jack grabbed Lyle's bag and took his driver and refused to give it back to him, telling him to stay on the fairway. In those four years of playing the AT&T, Lyle never used a driver. In addition, as Lyle was single at that time, Jack told Lyle, *"No carousing and no drinking"*, which Lyle happily agreed to do so he could

continued next page 

LYLE ANDERSON, *continued*

play with Jack. Lyle said *"Jack was a true professional and all business but a delight to play with"*. He recalled one hole where they both hit drives within 5 feet of each other (although from different tee boxes). They both had side hill lies in wet conditions and into the wind. Lyle (a 4-handicap at that time) said, *"Jack, do you think the gallery has any idea how hard this shot is?"* Jack looked at Lyle and said, *"Lyle, they expect me to hit the green"*, and Jack rarely disappointed his fans, hitting his shot close the pin. Lyle's 2-iron landed in a greenside sand trap.

Desert Mountain Expansion: Cochise and Geronimo Golf Courses

Lyle's second major purchase of land at Desert Mountain was several thousand acres in the area of the Cochise and Geronimo courses. Although concerned about mountain lions, Lyle explored the area to the north of the Renegade course area by foot, and thought he saw something special. Although Roy Dye told Lyle, *"You can't build a course out there,"* Lyle made the second major purchase in about 1985. After a Skins Game, Lyle and Jack flew by helicopter and landed in the general area of the now existing Cochise Geronimo Clubhouse. After briefly walking around, Jack and Lyle looked at each other and both said, *"this could be one of the greatest golf sites ever"*. The Cochise and Geronimo courses opened in 1988 and 1989, respectively.

Conservation Pioneer

Lyle also is recognized for his environmental conservation measures, which were subsequently adopted by the City of Scottsdale. He developed the technique of watering into fairways and not into the desert, creating the tight fairway concept that is now famous for desert golf, which explains why he has been called *"The Father of Desert Golf"*. He also tried to save the natural landscape and desert plants to

the extent practical. He said, *"It's far more expensive to develop that way, but look at the result."*

Anderson's successes in the north effectively allowed other developers to backfill closer to town with new private developments. And, as Anderson moved northward, the City of Scottsdale followed him, annexing land including Desert Highlands and Desert Mountain. Because of his influences on the City of Scottsdale, he was elected to their Hall of Fame in 2003.

National Recognition

Anderson's seemingly risky formula to build golf courses before homes – opposite of most other developers – continued at Desert Mountain. In the late 1980s, Anderson approached the PGA golf commissioner Dean Beman at the Phoenix Open and said, *"Dean, I would really like to do a golf tournament in spring."* Dean was concerned about having two PGA events in proximity to each other. He recommended something else, *"Lyle, you could have the best tournament on the Senior's Tour."* Lyle bought into the idea and created The Tradition (1989 to 2001), which was played on the Cochise course. It showcased target golf played on a dramatic desert landscape and served as a powerful marketing campaign for the upscale lifestyle of Desert Mountain. After its fourth year, the PGA Tour recognized the event as one of the five senior major golf championships. The Tradition promoted the whole Scottsdale area as a second-home market and a wonderful place to retire.

Desert Mountain: The Early Years

Desert Mountain was officially established in 1986. Originally, it was zoned for 6,000 homes and five hotels. Lyle realized that he had to *"flow with the market"*. Lyle believed that this land was better suited as a luxury golf community. To achieve rigid

LYLE ANDERSON, *continued*



*The Skins Game at Desert Highland:
(left to right) Gary Player, Jack Nicklaus, Tom Watson, Arnold Palmer*

design guidelines that ensured each home and building materials would blend with the high Sonoran Desert, Lyle hired Taliesin-associated architects as the Master Designers. Taliesin was an architectural firm founded by Frank Lloyd Wright to carry on his architectural vision after his death in 1959. It was headquartered at Taliesin West in Scottsdale and had up to 14 principals who had all worked under Wright. Taliesin and Anderson required “*development as sensitively as we could*”, creating building envelopes and preserving at least half the lot for native desert. The Master Association still uses many of the Taliesin guidelines today, although they have evolved with time.

Originally, each lot sold came with a membership plus the adjacent lot with another membership, allowing the owner to sell the second lot with a membership later if desired. These Charter Members also had free dues until the year 2000. The original selling price of a typical lot was approximately

\$125,000. Lyle continued to use Jack for promotions because “*people wanted to meet him.*” When Jack played the opening round at the Renegade course, they had 50 sales that day.

Eventually, Anderson began building spec homes (move-in-ready homes) for sale in the early 1990s; he built approximately 600 homes in villages such as Cochise Ridge. Due to the size of the development, Anderson and Taliesin created the village concept to provide better security and to promote their own neighborhood identity.

The villages were accessed off the main “spine road”, Desert Mountain Parkway.

The Trails

Finally, I asked Lyle about our trail system. I mentioned that in 2020, there were over 26,500 hikes taken on the Desert Mountain private trails. Lyle leaned back with a smile and said, “*I think we saw the potential, but I knew it would take time. As a developer, you set a community into motion and then you have to let it go. I take my hat off to the members and what they have done with the trails.*”

When you consider the odds against developing a community the size of Desert Mountain so far removed from Scottsdale, this development must be his greatest achievement. Although there were difficulties along the way, they were solved, and our wonderful community was created. We have Lyle Anderson to thank for his great vision and perseverance.

MOUNTED ARCHERY HITS THE MARK

Joanne Klonoski

A Profile of Diana Troyk, Desert Mountain Resident

“What could be more exciting than running your horse with the wind in your hair, drawing a silent, yet strong bow and letting loose an arrow to the dead center of your target?” asks Diana Troyk, founder of Desert Warriors of the Southwest Mounted Archery club and long-time Saguaro Forest resident.

Three thousand years ago, Asian mounted warriors swept down on their enemies in stunning surprise attacks, loosing showers of arrows that scattered the few survivors. Mounted warriors with bows and arrows were one of the fiercest weapons fielded against an enemy. Additionally, archers fed their families with game shot from the back of a horse. Today the discipline is preserved throughout the world, from countries as far flung as Finland, Romania, Hungary, Mongolia, Japan, South Korea, Canada, Brazil and the U.S. Now competitors meet not for war or game hunting, but for sport.



Combining elements of talent, focus, horsemanship, strength, archery and style, mounted archery is growing fast in the U.S., helped by ambassadors such as Diana and her partner, B. J. Smith. “I started riding at the age of three, barrel-racing throughout my high school years and pursuing mountain and trail riding in later years. In 2002, a friend from Japan borrowed my horse Magic to practice Yabusame, traditional Japanese horse archery. And I thought, why not? So, at fifty-one I bought a bow (wrong kind) and taught myself to shoot (wrong way). Little did I know it would change my life.”

“In 2003, I went to my first clinic held by Lukas Novotny. He’s the one who taught me everything I know. My first competition was at the World in South Korea in 2010,” recalls Diana. “I was the only contestant from the U.S. and wore red, white and



continued on page 36 

GEOLOGIC STORY OF DESERT MOUNTAIN

Chad J. Kwiatkowski

Cave Creek resident geologist and graduate student who has frequented The Trails

The rocks of Desert Mountain tell a fascinating story of times past. They reveal that long ago the area was part of a marine basin that filled with volcanic rocks and sediment; then squished into folds by plate tectonic forces; and intruded by molten rock (magma). Much later, this area was an inland basin that accumulated stream, lake, and volcanic deposits. The rocks were subsequently sliced by faults, cracks in the earth along which rocks on either side have moved. These faults lifted the Desert Mountain area relative to the lower Basin and Range to the southwest, providing Desert Mountain residents with spectacular, extensive desert views of metropolitan Phoenix and beyond.

settle out of these flows first, followed by finer-grained materials (mud) as the energy of the current waned. The resulting sedimentary rock is called a *turbidite*, and Desert Mountain contains some of the most spectacular examples of ancient turbidites in the geologic record. See if you can spot some for yourself on your next hike!

Magma forced its way upward and into the older group of rocks three different times in the last 2 billion years (Figure 1). A pink-colored granite (1.7 Ga) can be seen at Gold Hill and the southern slopes of Continental Mountain. It has been mined for gold periodically since the late 1800s. A younger granite (1.4 Ga) forms the tan boulders on the slopes of

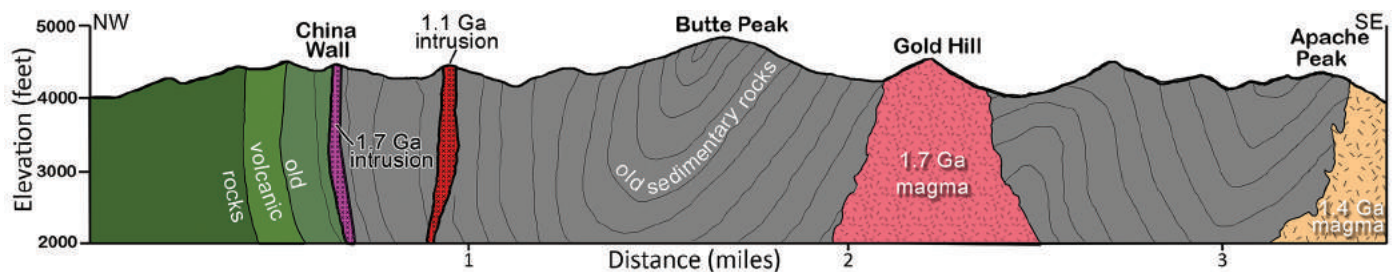


Figure 1. Cross-sectional view of Desert Mountain. Ga = billions of years ago. Digitized from Arizona Geological Survey Open-File Report 98-11.

Ancient History

Desert Mountain's rocks consist of two main groups, old and young. The old rocks are 1.7 Ga (billion years old), nearly one-third of the age of Earth! They form the high terrain of Desert Mountain and can be accessed along trails from the Ranch Trailhead. They consist of lava flows and marine sedimentary rocks that were squeezed into large folds and cooked by heat and pressure in Earth's crust (Figure 1). The sedimentary rocks were deposited in marine basins by turbulent water-sediment mixtures called *turbidity currents* (Figure 2). Larger sediment grains (sand)

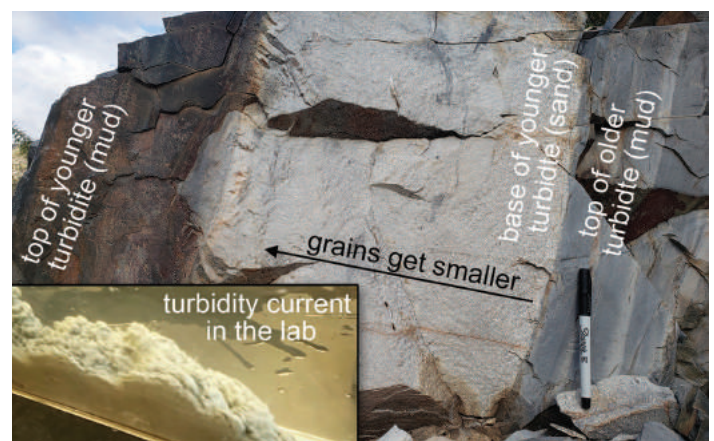


Figure 2. Turbidite in an outcrop along Grapevine Wash. Inset photo shows a turbidity current generated in a lab, courtesy of Western Washington University.

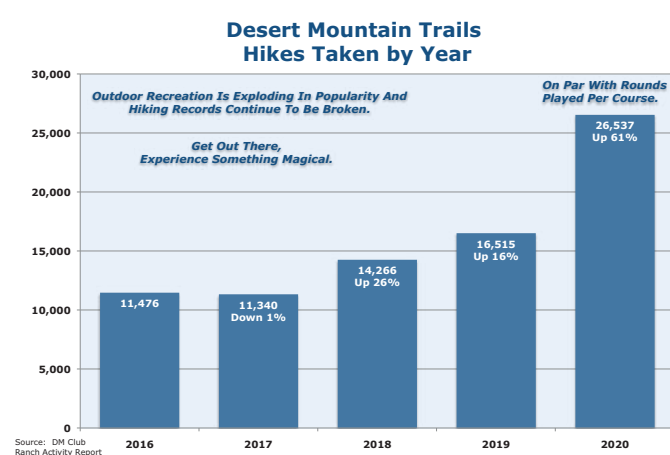
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DISPATCH FROM THE DESPERADOS

Bob Borsch, Troy Gillenwater, and Craig Mitchell
Founders of the Desert Mountain Trails and the Desperados

2020 was a record breaking year for outdoor recreation enthusiasts!

While popular trailhead parking lots like Pinnacle Peak, Gateway Desert and Tom's Thumb were mired in gridlock, Desert Mountain members and residents enjoyed fresh air, solitude and a soul-satisfying sense of community on our hiking trails. Come join us, everyone is welcome! View a video of the Skull Mesa Shadow hike (https://youtu.be/c26pz_RyKS8), a favorite on The Trails. Video produced by Desert Mountain Club.



For many, our trails afforded us badly needed relief from the pandemic.

PROJECTS UNDERWAY:

Two New Trails!

Completion Summer 2021

The Desperados are pleased to announce imminent construction of two new trails within our magnificent 3,000-acre wilderness preserve. This project was funded by a family legacy donation. The Quartz Quarry and Saddlehorn stacked looped trails will be located in the northeastern quadrant of our preserve. Together, these trails will add nearly five miles to our

award-winning system. Though each trail links to the other, each has a distinct personality.

Meandering through spectacular quartz outcroppings with stunning views of the Mazatzal Wilderness, the Quartz Quarry Trail may be Desert Mountain's most tantalizing trail.

Hikers will marvel at the panoramic views from Quartz Quarry's "Grand Balcony" that give us a center stage seat to our own 3,000,000-acre Tonto National Forest wilderness theater.

Meanwhile, for trail runners and long-distance hikers, ascending Saddlehorn's "Sunrise Summit" will be like following a golden pathway to the heavens. For anyone standing on the summit, as daybreak streams across the eastern horizon and floods the sky with light, nothing will seem impossible.

Sky Register and Windbreak Completion Summer 2021

Butte Peak at 4,890' of elevation is the highest point in Desert Mountain's wilderness preserve. Frequently cold in winter and spring seasons, it is also the windiest. The current plastic bench will be replaced with a stacked stone windbreak, patterned after prehistoric Hohokam designs that will offer four to six small seating positions sheltered from the wind regardless of its direction. A built-in location for the summit register, popular with hikers, will



Butte Peak Sky Register



Mosaic Plaza Rendering Tate Studio

allow hikers to record their hike. This project was funded by a family legacy *Desperados* donation.

The Mosaic and Mosaic Plaza

Completion Summer 2021

The 100-foot-wide mosaic, Desert Mountain's community monument to the Sonoran Desert, is nearing completion. To complement the mosaic, construction of an adjacent seating and viewing plaza is now complete and available for your enjoyment. The mosaic was funded by multiple donations, while the plaza was funded by a family legacy donation.

REGIONAL PHILANTHROPY CONTINUES:

Desperados make for good neighbors beyond our gate. We support regional foundations and institutions that make our unique desert foothills location a better place. It's part of our mission. Throughout the years, using funds raised by the Trail Scouts 501c3, a fund of the Arizona Community Foundation, generous donations were made to the following:

Friends of the Tonto National Forest
Desert Foothills Mountain Biking Association
Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center
Arizona Trail Association
Wild At Heart Raptor Rescue
Cave Creek Museum
International Dark Sky Association
Friends of the Agua Fria National Monument

The Sonoran Arts League
Arizona Game and Fish
Quiet Places International
McDowell Sonoran Preserve

WHO ARE THE DESPERADOS?

Shortly after the 2011 club turnover, *Desperados* recognized the tremendous value in our community's 3,000-acre wilderness preserve. They saw the opportunity to create a fourth amenity pillar—outdoor recreation—to complement our community's championship golf, fine dining, and spa/fitness.

Ten years and 25 miles of trail later, with the support of the Desert Mountain Community and Club, we have succeeded. Today, outdoor recreation is the strategic differentiator between our community and all other north Scottsdale golf communities. Our outdoor recreation amenities and programs captivate new members' imaginations and spark enthusiasm for the healthy, active outdoor lifestyle that has become a magnet for new Club members and residents.

As the trail system nears completion, the Desert Mountain Club has created new staff positions to program and enhance Desert Mountain's outdoor recreation experience for all members and residents.

The *Desperados* are a fund of the Arizona Community Foundation, a qualified 501(c)3 charitable organization. Going forward the *Desperados* will turn its attention to assisting the Club with boots on the ground when needed. We will continue to leverage our outdoor recreation knowledge and relationships with other wilderness charitable foundations to elevate Desert Mountain's reputation as the most environmentally and socially responsible community in the region. And, most importantly, we will continue to enjoy the great outdoors by hiking, biking and exploring all this community and the great state of Arizona have to offer.

If you are interested in more information, please contact Bob Borsch, Troy Gillenwater or Craig Mitchell at: dmdesperados@gmail.com.



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PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS!

The Desert Mountain Master Association (DMMA) is proud to announce the winners of our 2021 Photo Contest. As you know, we invited all amateur photographers to submit up to three high-definition photographs in the following categories: 1) Adventure and Outdoor; 2) Family, Friends and Fun; and 3) Scenery, Landscapes and Wildlife. The subject matter was of your choosing, and we encouraged a range of moods, settings, characters and imagery. We received many photos of exceptional quality.

SCENERY, LANDSCAPES & WILDLIFE



1st-D. Driver for "Owl"



Runner up-D. Powell for "Hummingbird"



Runner up-S. Ebert for "Bobcat in Snow"

continued next page 

PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS_{, continued}

First Place was selected in each category by the Communication and Marketing Committee. The winners are (drum roll please!): S. Powell for “Snow on Golf Course” – Adventure and Outdoor; D. Driver for “Owl” – Scenery, Landscapes and Wildlife; and R. Ryan for “Wedding” – Family, Friends and Fun.

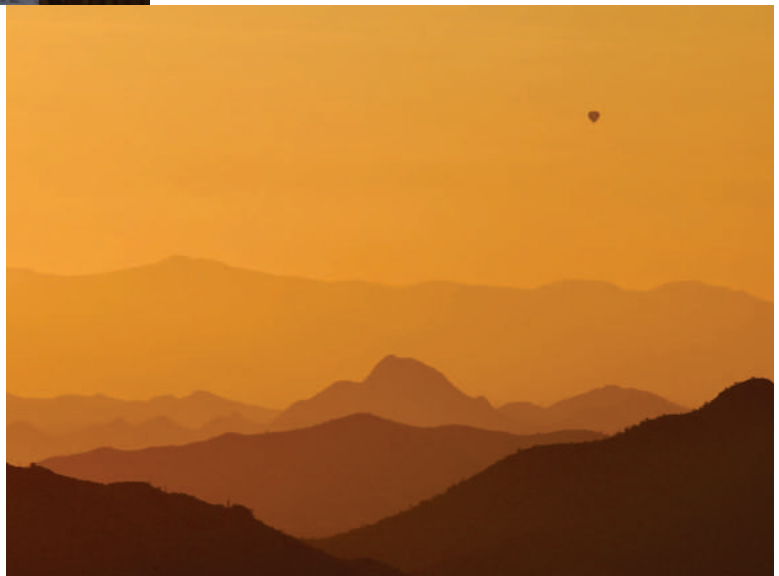
The overall Grand Prize Winner was selected by the Board of Directors; our cover photo is our overall Grand Prize Winner: D. Driver for “Owl”–Scenery, Landscapes and Wildlife.

First Place in each category has received a professionally framed 18x24 print of their photo with a commemorative plaque. The Grand Prize winner also has had their professionally framed photograph displayed in the DMMA offices. Lastly, a \$1,000 contribution was made to the charity of the Grand Prize winner’s choice.

ADVENTURE AND OUTDOOR



1st–S. Powell for “Snow on Golf Course”



Runner up–J. Gross for “Dawn with Balloon 2”

FAMILY, FRIENDS AND FUN



1st-R. Ryan for "Wedding"



Runner up-D. Dickson for "Javelina Family"

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUBMITTED
ENTRIES. WE CERTAINLY HAVE SOME TALENTED
PHOTOGRAPHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY.

DESERT MOUNTAIN HOME SALES SHATTER RECORDS

Joanne Klonoski

In a year marked by the challenges of a global pandemic, economic uncertainty, a contentious political climate, and the threat of civil unrest, it can be difficult to find something to celebrate. But it seems that a wider audience is discovering what long-time Desert Mountain residents have long known: that our community is indeed a very special place.

Record-breaking Year!

Home sales in 2020 exceeded any prior year in sales volume, number of sales and price per square foot, according to Russ Lyon Sotheby International Realty's year-end report. Over \$465 million of property changed hands last year, up 50% over 2019, itself one of the strongest years in Desert Mountain history. The average price of a custom home rose to \$431 per square foot in 2020 from \$408 in 2019, with one residence trading at an all-time high of \$1,345 per square foot (\$10.2 million sales price). And velocity is not slowing. As of mid-February 2021, thirty-one homes totaling \$83.6 million have sold, ranging from \$730,000 for a Sonoran Cottage to \$9.5 million for a 9,100 square foot home in Saguaro Forest, according to the MLS. And an additional 24 homes are under contract, including seven over \$3 million.

Safety Becomes the Most Important Factor

What has driven this increase in demand? Considerations run deeper than finding an escape from a long winter or choosing a second home for a weekend getaway. "People will put up with blizzards, with tornados, with wildfires, and with high taxes," says Troy Gillenwater, Principal at Russ Lyon

Sotheby's International Realty, "but what they will not put up with is a threat to their safety."

Concerns about safety are uppermost in the minds of buyers, confirms Dan Wolski, a seventeen-year veteran with Russ Lyon Sotheby's International Realty and agent with the Desert Mountain sales office. Desert Mountain's location in far north Scottsdale, its lack of density, and the rigorous sanitation protocols of the Master Association and the Club are a strong draw for those concerned about the spread of COVID in denser, urban areas. Added to that is our robust selection of outdoor amenities and the option of golf and fitness provided by a Club membership. The added security of our 24/7 manned entrance gates and additional gates on each village, all supported by a professional team of trained first responders, are a potent attraction for those perceiving uncertainty in the future.

"In March, the lights went off in the real estate market," recounts Wolski. "Buyers cancelled contracts, walking away from earnest money deposits, and sellers withdrew their homes from the market. Then, by Easter, Desert Mountain became THE place to be. Between our trails, the national reports of minimal COVID in Arizona, plus the golf and fitness amenities available through the Club, buyers came rushing in from California, the Pacific Northwest and a range of Midwestern states."

Demand Continues

"As demand surged, prices of homes in the \$2 million range were pushed up and some homes under \$2 million have sold over asking with multiple offers in place," continues Wolski. "Newer homes on great

continued on page 38 ➤

INTERIOR HOME LIGHTING – ELEVATE YOUR LIGHTING FIXTURES

Katherine Helm

Interior lighting is an overlooked design element. Lighting can make such a difference in the look and feel of your home.

Not Sure What Lighting Fixture to Choose?

Picking the correct light fixture can be overwhelming – What finish? What style? What size? What will work well together?

These indecisions are why so many people are living with poor lighting or inferior light fixtures – usually what the previous owner or builder installed. Home builders usually don't know the décor style of the future homebuyer so they tend to install generic, generally inexpensive fixtures to satisfy building codes with the assumption the homebuyer will switch them out for something better. Unfortunately, many buyers leave lighting “as is”.

Homeowners sometimes feel like they need to make light fixtures match the door handles, cabinet hardware, faucets. Not so – look at your lighting fixtures as another layer to your interior design. Aim

for harmony, not unity. Light fixtures shouldn't all be a matched set, but they should be complementary.

Scale, Scale, Scale

The number one question is what size fixture should be installed? General rule of thumb: add the length and width of the room in feet, then use that number in inches when selecting a fixture. For example: a 10-foot by 12-foot foyer would call for a 22-inch-wide chandelier. When in doubt scale up a bit.

Clearance

Above a table or kitchen island, a fixture should hang approximately 30 to 36 inches over the surface. Where people will walk beneath a fixture, design for at least 7 feet of clearance.

Note the Trends

Though classic fixtures that go with your home's architecture have staying power, incorporating a more current look can help your home feel updated and could help resale.

LIGHTING TIP

If you currently have Can Lights in the ceiling – change the standard bulb to a new LED bulb. A brighter bulb will instantly change the look and feel of your room.



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AMERICAN ROYAL SEDAN



ARE YOU FIT ENOUGH FOR YOUR AGE?

Wendie Marlais, NCPT

Desert Mountain Group Fitness Instructor

Every human body ages at its own pace, leaving us with vastly different abilities and limitations. How well you will function ten to twenty years into the future depends a lot on how physically active you are right now.

Resistance training can slow down the decline in muscle mass that starts after age 40. Aerobic workouts can offset the drop in lung capacity that begins as early as age 25.

Take the tests listed below to assess your biological age versus your calendar age based on strength, core function, balance and cardio endurance. If you test out older than your calendar age, pinpoint your weak areas, work on them and then test yourself again in a few weeks.

The best exercises for adults 50+ (in no particular order)

- Bodyweight & Resistance Band Training
- Cardiovascular Exercises
- Walking
- Cycling
- Swimming
- Pilates
- Yoga

Strength

Strong muscles make your life easier and boost your metabolism. Muscle cells use two to three times more calories than do fat cells. Building muscle also strengthens your bones and tones the body.

Dip Test (*place a pillow on the floor directly in front of a chair for safety*): Sit on a sturdy chair and slide your butt off, gripping the front edge of the chair with both hands. Arms should be straight – your butt is in front of the seat and your legs are extended in

Wendie Marlais, NCPT, is a third-generation Pilates teacher. Her certifications include training with Pilates Master teacher and Elder Ron Fletcher, a first-generation Pilates teacher who was schooled directly by Joseph and Clara Pilates. Wendie has taught Pilates and other group fitness classes for 20 years and has been at Desert Mountain since 2006.

wmarlais@desertmt.com



front of you. Bend elbows to 90 degrees and then press back up. Do 10-15 dips.

SCORE/BIOLOGICAL AGE

Reps:	13-15	10-12	8-9	5-7	3-4
Body Age:	20's	30's	40's	50's	60+

Core

The core is composed of the muscles from your pelvic floor, abdomen, back and hips. The core holds you upright and allows the upper and lower body to work together.

Bicycle /Criss Cross Test: Lie on your back, knees bent 90 degrees over hips (*feet in the air*). Place hands behind your head (*elbows wide – do not lace fingers*). Bring your right armpit to your left knee while fully straightening your right leg a few inches above the floor (*exhale*). Return to the center position (*inhale*)

continued on page 35 ➤

FIFTEEN ACTIVITIES TO ENJOY OUTSIDE THE GATE

Ron Helm

01 Old Town Scottsdale

Old Town Scottsdale (visitphoenix.com/things-to-do/old-town-scottsdale) is a great place for a day or night out. You will enjoy boutique shopping featuring souvenirs, jewelry and art with a Southwestern flair, or luxury shopping at one of the country's best malls. A density of bars, lounges, restaurants and clubs offer a myriad of dining and nightlife opportunities within a short distance of each other. And art fans can peruse the galleries of Main Street and visit the district's contemporary and western museums.

02 Pinnacle Peak Park

Pinnacle Peak Park (alltrails.com/trail/us/arizona/pinnacle-peak-trail) is approximately 5 miles south of Desert Mountain. It is a great place to enjoy nature without having to travel too far. There is a range of diverse activities to enjoy such as hiking the Sonoran Desert trail or, for something more adventurous—rock climbing. Take a bike ride. Relax and enjoy a picnic. The scenery is beautiful so bring your camera.

03 Arizona Canal

One of the most unique things about Scottsdale is the Arizona Canal (visitphoenix.com/learn-plan/phx-stories/canal-walks). It was built in the late 1880s to collect runoff from flood irrigation and runs through the suburbs around Phoenix. Scottsdale developed the section running through town, revitalizing the area with the Waterfront Project. It includes a pedestrian suspension bridge and a trail for walking and jogging. The canal system is about 50 miles long.

Visitors can enjoy eateries, galleries, bars, and Scottsdale Fashion Square Mall.

04 Taliesin West

Famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright's winter home in Scottsdale is more than just a work of art. Taliesin West (franklloydwright.org/taliesin-west), which overlooks Paradise Valley from the foothills of the McDowell Range, was also a seasonal campus for his school of architecture. Today, the UNESCO World Heritage Site is open to the public with the purchase of an informative tour.

05 Phoenix Zoo

Located approximately 40 miles from Desert Mountain, the Phoenix Zoo (phoenixzoo.org/visit/tours), at 125 acres, is the largest non-profit privately owned zoo in the country. There are more than 1,400 animals on display, such as African lions, Andean bears, flamingos, gray wolves, ostriches, giraffes, and otters. The zoo is divided into four main sections: the Arizona Trail, the Africa Trail, the Tropics Trail, and the Children's Trail, complete with a petting zoo. The Phoenix Zoo has focused on conservation since it first opened in 1962 and acts as a sanctuary for unwanted or endangered animals.

06 Old Adobe Mission

Located in the heart of Old Town Scottsdale, the Old Adobe Mission (oldadobemission.org) was built by Mexicans that settled the area in the early 1900s. It originated as Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church and was designed in a Spanish Colonial style. Each of the 14,000 adobe bricks used to construct

the mission was made using clay, sand, straw, silt, dung, and water. They weigh 50 pounds each, and every brick was placed by hand. The church was named a historic site in 2001 and was restored starting in 2002.

07 Saguaro Lake

Saguaro Lake (saguarolakemarina.com) is located approximately 40 miles southeast of Desert Mountain in the Tonto National Forest. It was formed when the Stewart Mountain Dam was completed in 1930 and is the last reservoir on the Salt River. This lake has more than 22 miles of shoreline to enjoy. Here, you can go sailing, boating, or kayaking. Try jet-skiing or relax for a weekend of camping and fishing. It is a great place for sightseeing, too. Grab a bite to eat at Lakeshore Restaurant for a breathtaking view of the lake, Bulldog Cliffs, and the Goldfield Mountains. Or take a ride around the lake on the Desert Belle tour boat.

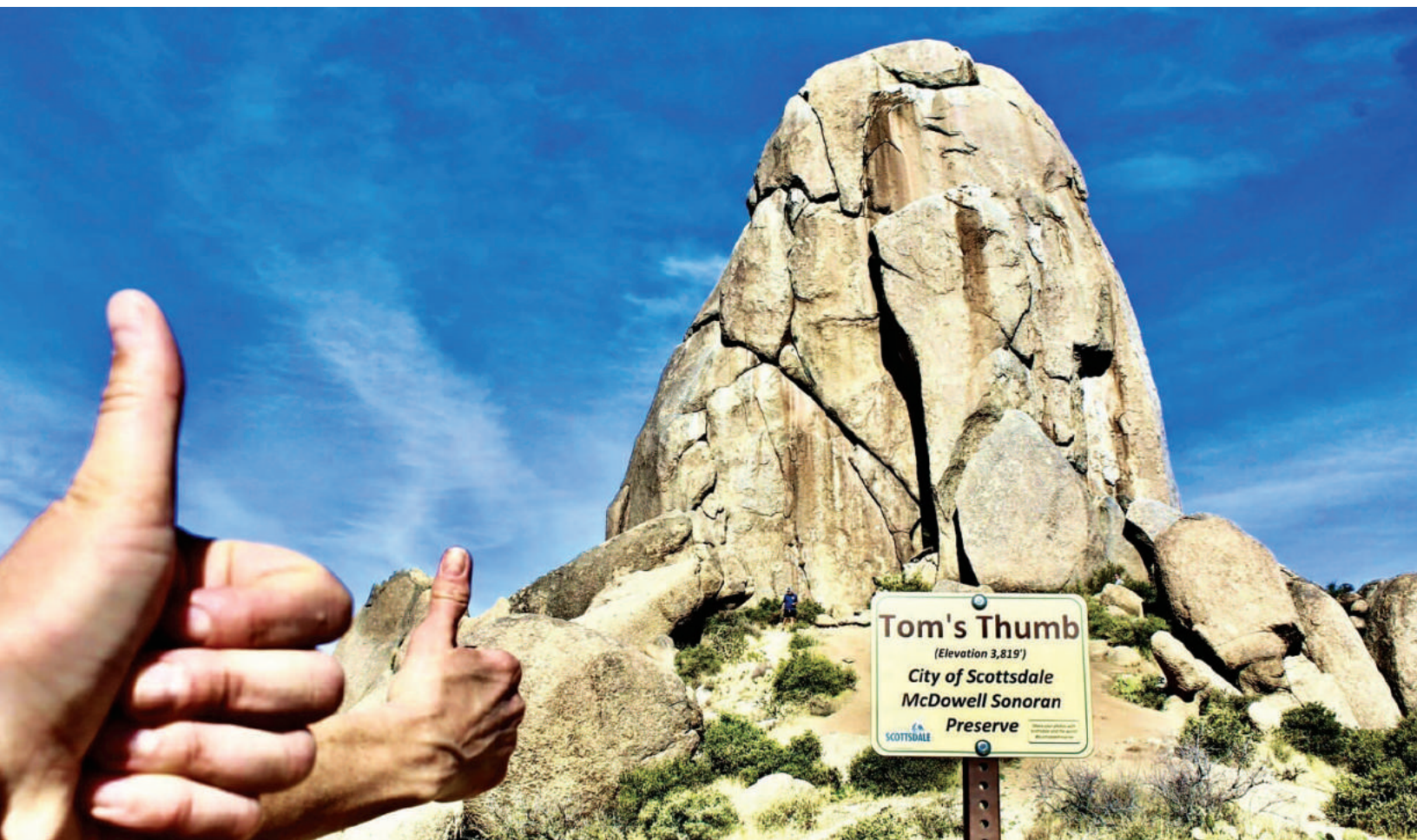
08 Tom's Thumb Trail

Located about 20 miles south of Desert Mountain, the approximately 5-mile Tom's Thumb hike (alltrails.com/trail/us/arizona/toms-thumb-trail) is moderately challenging but returns the favor with some stunning views. The gravelly path ascends at a steady incline, gaining almost 1,400 feet in elevation to the rock formation that gives the trail its name. A shaded area near the trailhead has restrooms and informational kiosks, perfect for road trippers, but there is a good chance you won't be the only one getting a workout.

09 OdySea Aquarium

The Odysea Aquarium (odyseaaquarium.com), one of the largest in the Southwestern United States, combines amusement park-style attractions with engaging aquatic exhibits to better connect visitors with nature. Get up close and personal with marine

continued next page ➤



FIFTEEN ACTIVITIES TO ENJOY, *continued*

life at touch exhibits, then find seats at the theater or the world's only revolving aquarium.

10 Apache Trail

The Apache Trail (americansouthwest.net/arizona/apache_trail) is a 120-mile circle route through the Superstition Mountains. It was named the Apache Trail after the Native Americans who used this trail to migrate through the Superstition Mountains for over 1,000 years. The current Apache Trail links Apache Junction with Theodore Roosevelt Lake, through the Superstition Mountains and the Tonto National Forest. Today, much of the Apache Trail is paved, and the section east of Apache Junction is known officially as State Route 88.

Prior to the completion of the Superstition Freeway in 1992, the Apache Junction portion of the Apache Trail was part of US Highway 60, which was rerouted to the Superstition Freeway once it was completed. The Trail winds steeply through 40 miles of rugged desert mountains, past deep reservoir lakes like Canyon Lake and Apache Lake. The narrow, winding road is unpaved from just east of the town of Tortilla Flat to Roosevelt Dam; there are steep cliff drops and little in the way of safety barriers. The trail requires caution when driving and it is not recommended for large RVs, SUVs, or caravans. Some large RV rental companies in the US do not allow their vehicles to be taken on this route.

11 Bartlett Lake

Bartlett Lake (bartlettlake.com), a reservoir that was formed by the damming of the Verde River, is downstream and to the south of Horseshoe Reservoir. Constructed in 1936 to 1939 by the Salt River Project, the Bartlett Dam and reservoir were named for Bill Bartlett, a government surveyor.

Bartlett Lake Marina has a boatable surface area of 2,815 acres. Outdoor enthusiasts frequent Bartlett Lake for a variety of recreational opportunities, including shoreline camping in Arizona's natural desert terrain. While in this part of the Tonto National Forest, visitors may see mule deer, bald eagles, javelina, coyotes, and many indigenous desert plants, including the majestic saguaro, mesquite trees, and blooming ocotillo. Also enjoy hiking, boating, water skiing, fishing and much more. Bartlett Lake is located approximately 15 miles from Desert Mountain.

12 Arizona Balloon Safaris

Located in Cave Creek, Arizona Balloon Safaris (arizonaballoonssafaris.com) offers hot air ballooning over the majestic Sonoran Desert. They have been rated by Fodor's Travel as one of the top 10 hot air balloon rides in the US. Make it a memory of a lifetime!

13 Salt River Rafting

Salt River Rafting (raftingsaltriver.com) offers the chance to raft one of Arizona's hidden gem – the stunning 2,000-foot-deep Salt River Canyon. Whether you are looking to escape for a day or are





visiting Arizona, their trip options provide a thrilling and fun outing for all types! Choose between Class II-III family friendly raft trips or Class IV intermediate wilderness adventures. Raft trips range from 1 to 5 days and are ideal for families, friends, groups, experienced or inexperienced whitewater rafters. The Salt River provides the only whitewater rafting near Phoenix and Tuscon. The season runs from March through May so make your plans now and do not miss the great water this Spring!

14 Goldfield Ghost Town

Located approximately 1½ hours from Desert Mountain, explore the many shops and historic buildings of Goldfield Ghost Town (goldfieldghosttown.com). Tour the historic Mammoth Gold Mine and visit the Goldfield Museum. Pan for gold then take a ride on Arizona's only narrow-gauge train. You'll also get to witness an old west gun fight performed by the famous Goldfield Gunfighters! Back in the 1890's Goldfield boasted three saloons, a boarding house, general store, blacksmith shop, brewery, meat market and a

schoolhouse. Just when it looked like the town would outgrow Mesa, the vein faulted; the ore disappeared; and the town failed. Spend a fun filled day, rich in wild west history!

15 Lost Dutchman State Park

Named after the fabled lost gold mine, Lost Dutchman State Park (azstateparks.com/lost-dutchman) is located at the base of the Superstition Mountains, 60 miles southeast of Desert Mountain. Several trails lead from the park into the Superstition Mountain Wilderness and surrounding Tonto National Forest. Take a stroll along the Native Plant Trail or hike the challenging Siphon Draw Trail to the top of the Flatiron. Depending on the year's rainfall, you might be treated to a carpet of desert wildflowers in the spring, but there is plenty of beautiful desert plants to see year-round. Enjoy a weekend of camping and experience native wildlife including mule deer, coyote, javelina and jackrabbit. A 4-mile mountain bike loop trail has opened at the park – this is a great way to enjoy the park's beauty while experiencing the famed Superstition Mountains!

NEW ENTRY IDENTIFICATION, *continued*

PHASE II

On Monday, July 12, we will start Phase II, where all vehicle drivers—not just vendors and service providers—will be required to show their driver's licenses if they don't have an eGo tag. Even if your guest's name is on the Gate Access list, they will be required to show their driver's licenses to get through the gates. We have had instances where visitors falsely provided the name of someone they know is on a homeowner's list, and those imposters entered our community because their identifications weren't checked.

Please let your friends and family know about this new entrance requirement when you invite them to visit. We will send you a reminder in June.

FAQs

1. Will you be checking the driver's licenses of everyone in the car or truck or just the driver?
Just the driver.
2. Is there any change if I have an eGo tag on my vehicle? *No—you will enter and exit the way you do today.*
3. What happens if the driver does not have a valid driver's license? *He/she will not be allowed to enter the property. The only exception will be for residents or Club Members who will be asked to an alternative form of identification.*
4. How long does it take to get an eGo tag? *It usually takes 10 to 20 minutes. You have to fill out a one-page form, pay the fee and then the security personnel will place the tag on your vehicle. We will have extra staff to help with the anticipated increase in volume.*
5. Can I apply for an eGo at both gates? *No, only the Desert Hills (service) gate.*
6. What forms of payment are accepted? *Credit cards, debit cards and checks.*
7. You said you would be scanning the driver's licenses. What are you going to do with that information? *We will store the license electronically, and then it will be deleted. We will NOT SHARE this information with anyone unless required by law.*
8. What if my car is being repaired and I have a rental car that doesn't have an eGo tag? *We are working on a solution where we will provide you with a temporary, time-limited eGo tag, so you won't have to show your driver's license every time you come through the gate.*
9. Are you implementing the same policy at Seven? *Driver's licenses are already being checked for visitors and service providers entering Seven, and it is a common practice in other guard-gated communities.*
10. Will you accept a driver's license from Mexico? *Of course, we accept any valid driver's license.*
11. What if I am driving a car without an eGo tag and my driver's license was lost or stolen? *In those rare situations, Security will ask you to provide an alternative form of identification.*
12. Does this apply to Club Members who don't live at Desert Mountain? *Yes, the Club will be notifying those Members.*
13. Who should I call if I have questions? *We have set up a Hotline to answer your questions on this new program.*

The number is: **480-635-5680.**

OWNERS SERVICES BUSINESS UPDATE,

continued

along, and when it is completed. Once finished, you can count on our friendly and courteous staff to follow up with you to evaluate that the work was completed competently and professionally. Detailed invoices for all jobs and services contracted through the Owner Services Business will be issued through the Desert Mountain Homeowners Association as soon as they are completed.

A description of the many services provided through the Desert Mountain Owner Services Business can be found on our website. To learn more about our services and how they can be tailored to meet your specific needs, please feel free to contact the Desert Mountain Owner Services Business at 480-635-5610.

ARE YOU FIT ENOUGH . . . , *continued*

without lowering the head and shoulders and repeat on the left side. One repetition equals twisting on both sides. Do 15-20 reps.

SCORE/BIOLOGICAL AGE

Reps:	17-20	13-16	10-12	8-9	5-7
Body Age:	20's	30's	40's	50's	60+

Balance

Balance is essential to keep you independent and mobile.

One-Leg Balance Test: Stand near a wall or chair (*if needed for support*). Balance on your right foot while lifting the left foot off the floor. Time yourself by counting slowly with your eyes closed. Repeat on the other side. You will end up with two scores and one side may be better than the other. Work harder to improve the weaker side to improve stability.

SCORE/BIOLOGICAL AGE

Seconds:	16-20	14-15	12-13	10-11	8-9
Body Age:	20's	30's	40's	50's	60+

Cardiovascular Endurance

Cardio fitness is associated with maintaining a healthy weight and heart. When your cardiovascular

system is fit, blood carries oxygen to your muscles as you need it.

Step Test: Using a timer, step-up and down on a step or curb for 3 minutes. Stop and count your pulse for 15 seconds by placing 2 fingers (*not your thumb*) on the inside of your wrist. Multiply by 4 to find your beats per minute (BPM).

SCORE/BIOLOGICAL AGE

BPM:	105-107	108-110	111-113	114-116	117+
Body Age:	20's	30's	40's	50's	60+

Check your scores and use the following to work on your weaknesses.

- **STRENGTH:** Add weightlifting or resistance band training and Pilates or yoga.
- **CORE:** Core-building activities include Pilates, yoga, dance and martial arts.
- **BALANCE:** Balance on one foot while brushing your teeth. Yoga, hiking and dancing can also improve your balance.
- **CARDIO:** Incorporate exercises into our daily routine that increase your heart rate such as aerobics, cycling, interval training and brisk walking.

MOUNTED ARCHERY HITS THE MARK, *continued*

blue to represent the States. I won a bronze medal; then won again that year at the first U.S. Mounted Archery Competition in Oregon. I've been fortunate to travel to compete in South Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Poland and Brazil. At 65, I won an individual silver and two team golds at the first-ever World Martial Arts Masterships in South Korea. I've made so many friends around the world and even got to be in a movie, 'The Secrets of Genghis Kahn,' filmed by the History Channel. I'm humbled and so happy to have had these opportunities."



In 2010, Diana founded Desert Warriors of the Southwest, a mounted archery club affiliated with the Mounted Archery Association of the Americas. Located about 40 minutes southeast of Desert Mountain, DWSW's top instructors Diana and B. J. offer classes, a state-of-the-art training course and a wide variety of targets for aspiring mounted archers. "This is something that anyone ages 8 to 90 can try with any breed of horse," explains Diana. Desert Warriors has hosted one international and two national competitions and is scheduled to host a third this November. "Costumes are very common among competitors, which adds more delight to this sport. Most wear them to represent horse archery in their countries. In North America, our tradition hails from the Native American tribes. I'm not Indian, so I researched and found Cynthia Parker, a blue-eyed white woman captured by Comanches, who were the Lords of the Plains. She married a chief and had a son, Quanah Parker, who was the most revered Comanche in American history." Diana made her own outfit from leather and beads. "This way," she explains, "I could honor the Comanche but not portray myself as one of them." Now Diana dresses as an Amazon because, as she says, "Women horse archers are all Amazon warriors."

Diana is known for pursuing this sport continuously in the U.S. for over twenty years, longer than any other woman. She now shares her passion with her daughter Erin, who also teaches at her school. For more information about Desert Warriors of the Southwest, and mounted archery in general, visit sw-mountedarchery.com.

GEOLOGIC STORY OF DESERT MOUNTAIN, *continued*

Apache Peak and extends east to Bartlett Lake, south to Tom's Thumb and Pinnacle Peak, and southwest to Black Mountain. It has large, rectangular feldspar crystals up to 4 inches long, which suggest that it formed deep in the Earth's crust. This granite is known for its dramatic spheroidal boulder formations, which formed in the relatively recent geologic past as groundwater passed along cracks in the granite, weathering it away at the corners and edges, producing somewhat spherical shapes. Yet another intrusion of magma forms the China Wall near Bronco Butte. This intrusion formed as a sheet of magma injected between pre-existing rock layers that were later folded and tilted to a steep orientation (Figure 1). The intrusion is more resistant to erosion than the surrounding layers, so it now stands out above its surroundings.

Not-So-Ancient History

The younger group of rocks can be seen at Lone Mountain, namesake for the Village of Lone Mountain. These rocks span from 30 to 13 million years old. From oldest to youngest, they consist of conglomerate deposited by streams, basaltic lava flows and volcanic ash-rich lakebeds, and overlying basaltic lava flows. They are similar to the layers exposed on the slopes of Skull and New River mesas. The layers were sliced and offset by faults in the last 13 million years, which tilted them ~20° to the southwest. Shortly after, another faulting event created the Carefree Basin, a bathtub-shaped depression that trends northwest to southeast from Elephant Mountain to Browns Ranch. Up to 1,000 feet of sediment shed from adjacent mountains were deposited in the basin. These basin-fill deposits are a crucial source of groundwater for the Town of



Figure 3. Recently discovered fault near the Ranch Trailhead. Inset shows close of the polished and scratched fault surface.

Carefree. Unfortunately for the Town of Cave Creek, the rocks on their side of the basin do not yield significant quantities of groundwater.

Recent fieldwork has revealed a previously unmapped fault near the Ranch Trailhead. The fault surface was polished smooth by intense friction during fault movement and contains scratch marks that reveal the direction of fault movement to be vertical, similar to streaks left on a block of cheese after grating it. The fault is likely continuous with one mapped ½ a mile to the south, which branches off from a major fault on the southern slope of Continental Mountain. Although the recently discovered fault probably hasn't moved and made earthquakes for several million years, it still shows that there are many discoveries yet to be made in Desert Mountain!

Visit my geosite to learn more about me, geology, and how to contact me: geochad.com.

DESERT MOUNTAIN HOME SALES, *continued*

lots can command big pricing. The \$3 million to \$5 million tier is a lot stronger. And \$10 million is now attainable for the right property.” Supply has also tightened. As of mid-February, there are sixty-one homes offered for sale on the MLS (excluding Seven), far below the 150-plus in a “normal” year. List prices today top out at \$16.5 million, with four homes listed at approximately \$10 million. Lots for sale are similarly impacted: instead of the usual 80-120 lots for sale, only 24 are listed as of this writing.

Evolving Trends

Several agents report shifts in the types of properties preferred by buyers as a direct result of the pandemic. There is renewed interest in larger homes, which has benefited some houses built during the first decade of the millennium. As working from home has become de rigueur, buyers are seeking not one but two home offices. And home gyms and media rooms/home theatres are viewed as necessary

alternatives to more public settings. Expanded guest areas have become more desirable as families gather for longer stays. And second-home buyers seek extra square footage as their week-long stays are extended by several months. Existing homeowners have seen their plans change as well. More residents are staying throughout the year rather than leaving for the hotter months. And plans to down-size or relocate are on hold as the those factors influencing new buyers become equally more important to current owners.

“At the end of the day, value is really unquantifiable,” concludes Wolski. “It’s not the price per square foot, it’s not historic trends, it’s not about statistical analyses. It’s about finding a home you love, in the right place, where you and your family can enjoy security and a fantastic lifestyle. It’s not just about the right view or a fabulous master suite. Those things are important, sure, but it’s the other, more ephemeral things – security, peace of mind, a healthy lifestyle – that truly create value for each of us.”





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