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THE

# HIGHLANDER

Lifestyle Magazine for the MacDonald Highlands Community

SUMMER 2018

## Summer Camp Fun

At DragonRidge

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WANDERLUST: CANADA, OH CANADA!

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WINE FOR A GOOD CAUSE

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## From THE DEVELOPER

• By Rich MacDonald

Right now, we are focused on the summer season. Some of us head for cooler places, like the California coasts and mountain areas of the Western states; while some of us stay and work, usually joining the family on Thursday nights or Fridays. Not everyone adheres to this schedule, some of us just stay through the summer and take frequent long weekends with their families.

The summer season definitely impacts the club. Our population is depleted during this time of the year so, out of necessity, we have to change our hours of operation. We'll focus on pool programs and things that are fun for the family, and also create programs for the those left at home so they can pick up food while they're "batching it" during the weekdays.

While our population is lower during the summer, we plan to speed up one construction program to get as much work done with the minimum of inconvenience. Our new Dragon's Reserve program will be fully improved by the time you get this and have "sticks in the air." Soon, houses will be nearing completion and we will have a new neighborhood taking shape.

Highlander Ridge continues to build out, and by year's end will be fully covered with houses. Our new area north of Highlander Ridge continues to sell and will likely be sold out by the end of the summer. The views from these new lots are spectacular and are more than half sold out right now. Our challenge continues to be trying to create new lots. Our next 35 lot phase is being designed now.

Other news on the golf course is also exciting. We have begun our re-landscaping program along the 18th and ninth fairways. This includes re-landscaping our perimeter areas, which Pacific Links killed off and chopped down. The area will be filled in with green and lush-looking, drought-tolerant plants, which save water and look great when they grow in. Rock also plays an important part in our new design. Areas around the trees and sloping side areas will be recovered with rock that will be stained with permeon to create the dark desert varnish that makes our areas so attractive. This plan will move from fairway to fairway until it is completed.

Speaking of the golf course, I need to remind residents and golf members that the golf course is not a park. You cannot walk dogs or baby carriages on it and, in fact, the course should not be accessed even by golfers without authorization from the Pro Shop. Ideas are being evaluated by your homeowners association board on new park improvements for the children in the community. More about this later. There are many new exciting things on the menu at the club and with the new focus on server training, your dining experience will be even better!

Wishing you a great vacation season. Hope to see you at the club in between trips.

Best regards,

*Rich*

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A message from the management:



# HOA LETTER

Dear MacDonald Highlands residents,

While our area is known for its fun times, partying ways and bringing in many visitors to the area, let it be noted that short-term, vacation and transient rentals are strictly prohibited in the community. Websites such as Airbnb and VRBO make it easy to rent out your home short term for a hefty profit. While this may sound appealing, please understand that utilizing your home for short-term, vacation or transient rental purposes disrupts the quality of life in our residential neighborhood. The renters of short-term rentals have no stake in the community; thus, they disrupt the peaceful environment and create congestion, traffic, loud music during the evening hours, and trash/rubbish throughout the community.

The covenants, conditions and restrictions for the homeowners association, Article 12, Section 12.23, specifically state that "Units may be leased only in their entirety. No fraction or portion may be leased. There shall be no subleasing of Units or assignment of leases unless prior written approval is obtained from the Board of Directors. No transient tenants may be accommodated in any Unit. All leases shall be in writing and shall be for an initial term of no less than thirty (30) days, except with the prior written permission of the Board of Directors."

Please note that any lease agreement you execute with a tenant must be supplied to management within 10 days of execution of the

lease and must include a provision that the tenant will recognize and adhere to the association, and any applicable neighborhood association, rules and regulations.

The city of Henderson also restricts short-term and vacation rentals. Please refer to Section 19.5.3.I of the Henderson Development Code for further details.

If you believe a home in the community is being used as a short-term, vacation or transient rental, immediately report it to management and the city of Henderson. You will need the address of the suspected vacation rental, the date(s) you believe the home was rented to vacationers, details of how you have been impacted and what about it leads you to suspect it's a vacation rental. Examples include excessive noise, excess traffic, different people staying at the property on a frequent basis, different vehicles routinely parked at the home, etc. Please be as specific as you can so that the matter can be investigated, and a case built against the offending homeowner by the association and the city of Henderson.

Short-term, vacation and transient rentals do not adhere to the health and human safety standards that a hotel or motel would follow, and do not adhere to the standards set by the Southern Nevada Health District to control the spread of communicable disease and promote safety and sanitary living conditions. The association may impose health/safety/welfare violation fines in an amount commensurate with the severity of the infraction in accordance with state statute for these types of violations. These fines can add up quickly and cost the offending homeowner a substantial sum of money. Please note that these fines are also lien-able and foreclosable in accordance with state statute, and the association will not skip a beat in enforcing the prohibition of these types of rentals in the community.

Sincerely, *Lisa*





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## THE HIGHLANDER

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On the cover:

*Photo by David Reisman., 2017*

*DragonRidge offers swimming classes for its younger residents each summer.*



# 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR

At DragonRidge Country Club

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# DragonRidge

## MEMBER EVENTS

### JULY

- Happy Hour - Wednesdays & Fridays, 5-7 p.m. at ONYX in the DragonRidge Clubhouse
- Montrose Dining – Wednesdays & Fridays, 5-8 p.m. Reservations accepted. 702-614-4444
- Pasta/Family Night at Dragon Grille – Thursdays
- July 4 – Free fireworks spectacular – entire community invited! 7-10 p.m., live band, food trucks, games, waterslide, entertainment, bar – Fireworks go off at about 9:45 p.m.
- July 4 – Flag Day Tournament
- July 27 – Swim meet, followed by Dive-In-Movie!
- Junior Tennis/Sport Camp continues, call Coach Rick for details 702-205-8670
- Junior Golf Camps and Groups, call Mike Davis for details 702-321-7404
- Swim Lessons By appointment, call the Athletic Facility at 702-835-2037

### AUGUST

- Happy Hour - Wednesdays & Fridays, 5-7 p.m. at ONYX in the DragonRidge Clubhouse
- Montrose Dining – Wednesdays & Fridays, 5-8 p.m. Reservations accepted, 702-614-4444
- Pasta/Family Night at Dragon Grille – Thursdays
- Mind Candy Lecture Series – Thursday (TBD) (light appetizers, wine, beer)
- Aug. 1-11, Junior Tennis/Sports Camp Continues, call Coach Rick for details 702-205-8670
- Wellness Hike – TBD Call for hike location and reservation 702-407-0045
- Junior Tennis/Sport Camp continues, call Coach Rick for details 702-205-8670
- Junior Golf Camps and groups, call Mike Davis for details 702-321-7404
- Swim Lessons by appointment, call the Athletic Facility at 702-835-2037

### SEPTEMBER

- Happy Hour - Wednesdays & Fridays, 5-7 p.m. at ONYX in the DragonRidge Clubhouse
- Montrose Dining – Wednesdays & Fridays, 5-8 p.m. Reservations accepted. 702-614-4444
- Pasta/Family Night at Dragon Grille – Thursdays
- Sept. 3 – Labor Day Pool Party
- Sept. 3 – Over-seeding begins, golf course closes (ends the 28)
- Sept. 22 - DragonRidge Car Show – 10 a.m.-2 p.m., BBQ
- Sept. 25 – Yappy Hour Sunset Social at MacDonald Highlands Dog Park (beer, wine, dog treats)
- Sept. 28 – Over-seeding finishes, golf course reopens

### WEDNESDAYS

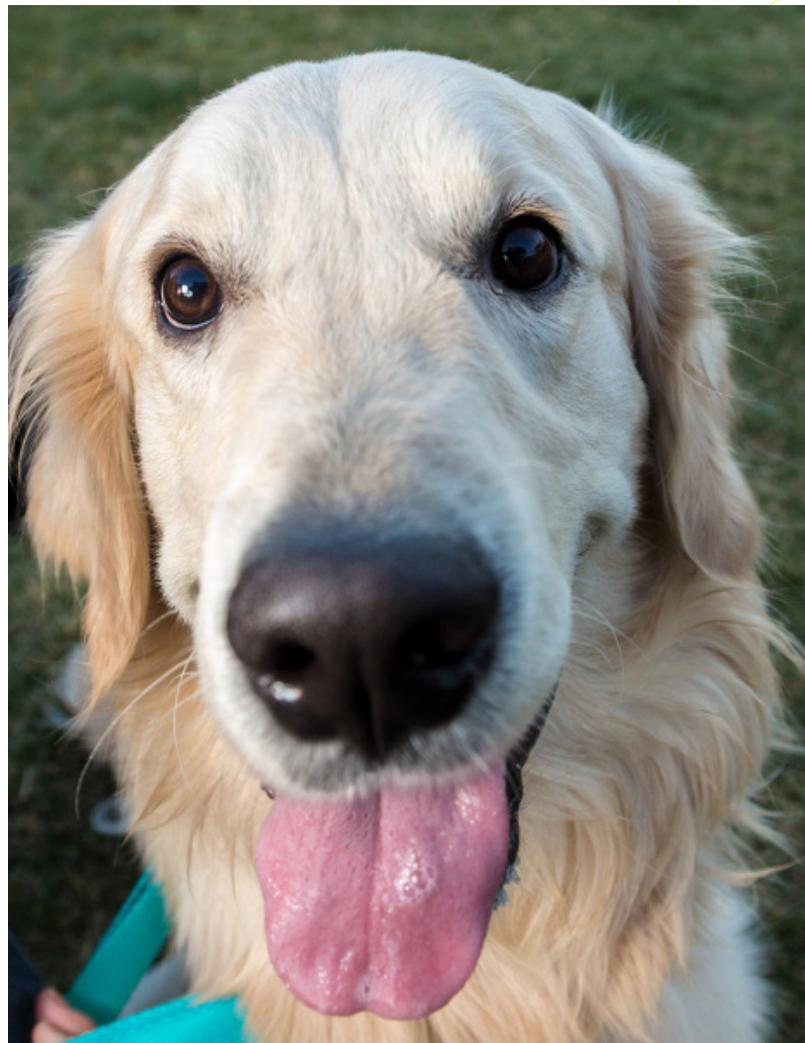
Afternoons: Hump Day Happy Hour 5-7 p.m., Onyx  
Dinner Service: 5-8 p.m., Montrose

### THURSDAYS

Mornings: Jan. 5-May 25: DRWGA Ladies Day  
DragonRidge Women's Golf Association

### FRIDAYS

Afternoons: Jan. 6-Dec. 29: Friday Golf Cash Games  
Afternoons: Happy Hour ½ Priced Drinks 5-7 p.m., Onyx  
Dinner Service: 5-8 p.m., Montrose



DragonRidge holds regular Yappy Hours at the MacDonald Highlands dog park.

David Reisman

# Mind Candy Series

## Former Navy Seals give tips on home security • By Buck Wargo

While home invasion robberies are rare, two former Navy Seals spoke to MacDonald Highlands residents about how to protect themselves and discourage criminals from targeting their homes.

The advice even applies to residents wanting to protect their homes from burglaries. It was part of the Mind Candy educational series offered at DragonRidge.

The former Navy Seals with Team 4, who go by Tim and Colton, left the service in 2015 and moved to Las Vegas and started Noir Training. They offer firearm and tactical training to help people defend themselves.

The two were the top pair in their sniper school and were deployed on three continents.

“There are evil people out there willing to do evil things to good people,” Tim told the audience. “We can do things to keep bad guys from targeting your house.”

It helps to light up dark areas of your yard so intruders can't find a place to hide in doorways or behind landscaping. Solar lights can charge all day and shine at night. Motion-activated lights and chimes are also options, as is planting cactuses and thorny bushes that make the home less attractive to intruders, Tim said.

Exterior buildings like garages or sheds should be secured because burglars can get a hammer or crowbar from it and use it to enter the home, Tim said. Posting a security sign or sign in your window saying beware of dog helps even if you don't have a dog. Leaving out water or a bone sends a message as well, he said.

If you're on vacation, have someone pick up the mail and check on the house and have timers that can turn on lights at designated times to make it appear someone is home. Intruders will be afraid to enter.

“When it comes to security, you're trying not to be low-hanging fruit,” Colton said. “Let them try to move on to the next house.”

Don't display jewelry or anything of value that can be seen from the street or through the window.

“Bad guys are opportunistic hunters, and if you are an easy prey, they will target you,” Tim said.

Strong doors, frames and locks, secure windows and alarm systems are deterrents. People can even buy inexpensive magnets to put on windows and they would sound an alarm if someone opened them, Tim said.

Many times when someone's at the door, it's best to look out the window to see who it is before opening. Utility workers and others should show an identification first, Tim said.

If someone has a story about a broken-down vehicle and wants to use the phone, keep asking them questions and try to verify so it's not someone trying to scam and get in your house for a robbery, Tim said.

“We don't want to create paranoid people, and we shouldn't tell everyone who comes to the door to leave us alone,” Tim said. “We want to be able to be hospitable when appropriate but not open our gates to anybody.”

Having a firearm can make a difference because even an 89-year-old woman can fend off a muscle-bound man with one, Tim said. Colton added that many intruders flee if they see a gun pointed at them. It can also alleviate fear of a homeowner and make them feel more confident and in control of their destiny.

“I've never found a video of someone breaking into a home with someone with a firearm, and that person just didn't bolt,” Colton said.

They also encouraged people to have at least one safe room in the house where everyone can go in case of an intruder. It's usually a master bedroom or children's bedroom that can be secured with a strong door and has a window but no other entry point. It can even have a tablet to track cameras on the interior and exterior of the home. It should have a flashlight and cellphone.

“The safe room should be considered the most important part of the house, and depending on its size there could be more than one,” Tim said.

People can tell the intruder in an authoritative voice they have a gun even if they don't and tell them they called police to encourage them to leave, Tim said.

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# Summer camp is on

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE GOLF,  
TENNIS AND SWIMMING



*Lerae Greenough instructs students at the DragonRidge pool.*



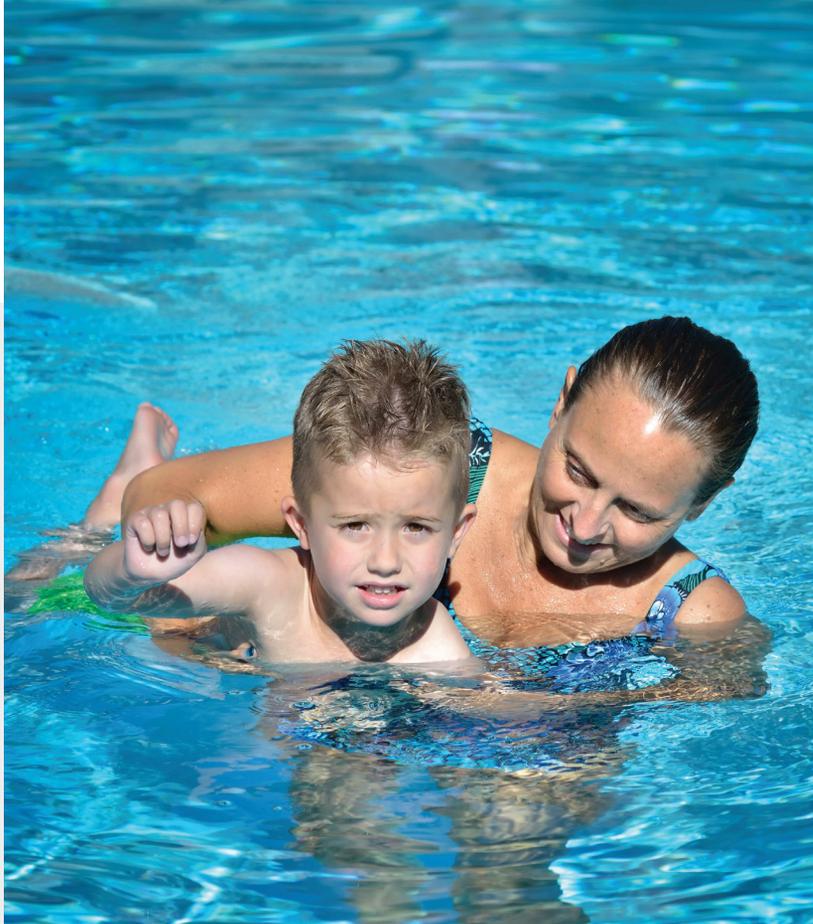
*Photos by Bill Hughes*

## SUMMER CAMP

- There's a tennis-only program – 9-11 a.m., \$25 for club members and \$30 for guests.
- Half-day program – 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., \$45 for club members and \$50 for guests. Weekly rate is \$155 for members and \$170 for guests.
- Full day – 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., \$60 for members and \$65 for guests. Weekly rate is \$205 for members and \$225 for others.

## SWIMMING LESSONS

- \$30 for 30 minutes  
& \$55 for one hour



### *Summer is better at camp* • By Buck Wargo

That's this year's motto at DragonRidge's Tennis & Sports Summer Camp that kicked off May 29 and runs through Aug. 3.

Even though summer camp is already underway, there's no locked-in fees for the summer. Parents can have their kids participate as often as they want from a partial day, full day or weekly. And it doesn't matter if you're a member of DragonRidge. You just pay more. The camp runs Monday through Friday.

Summer camp is among several of the summer activities available for kids. There's a golf program with Mike Davis; and Lerae Greenough has her swim lesson program that last through September at the pool.

- There's a tennis-only program that starts at 9 a.m. and lasts until 11 a.m., according to Rick Storozuk, junior tennis coordinator
- The half-day program lasts from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. and that includes lunch at 11 a.m. and a free swim at the pool where kids also play games.
- For kids who stay the full day, activities run from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. There's indoor and outdoor activities from soccer and basketball to fitness. The program changes daily and is based on the weather as well and how hot it is.

The two-hour tennis program includes fitness with warm-up exercises, and working on hand, eye and foot coordination. The tennis program is designed for the level of the players. There's entry level with a 36-

foot court, intermediate level with a 60-foot court and advanced level with a 78-foot court. Separate from the camp, there's even tennis lessons for kids and adults.

Storozuk, who's been running the camp for seven years, said kids do a combination of participation from once or twice a week to weekly. That's a great option because some camps require lengthy sign-ups. It gives options for parents when they leave for vacation.

"It's just a small group of kids, too, because we get a lot of repeat customers," Storozuk said. "All these kids start to know each other over the years, and that makes it great. It's not like a city program that has 300 to 500 kids. All the counselors get to know the kids on a first-time basis, and they sit down and talk to them like it's one big family."

Camp helps kids with life skills and learning how to deal with people. They also learn a new sport, leadership skills and team building. Storozuk said.

Greenough said she expects more than 50 kids to get swimming lessons this summer, which ranges from infants to teenagers. The program also includes swim meets.

"She makes it really fun," said 10-year-old Ainsley Hartsell who's resuming her swimming lessons this summer with her two siblings, Hudson and Brayden. "There's a lot of toys, and you learn quickly."

Most kids get lessons twice a week if they are younger than 5. Children older than 5 get lessons once or twice a week. Most kids learn to swim within three to five lessons of 30 minutes, Greenough said.

# Junior golfers take to the course

CAMP RUNS THROUGH AUGUST • *By Buck Wargo*



*Golf instructor Mike Davis has launched a junior golf program.*

*Photos by Tonya Harvey*

Golf is growing in popularity with kids at DragonRidge Country Club.

Mike Davis, the director of instruction at the club, has launched a junior golf program that started June 12 and will run through Aug. 18.

This is the first year Davis has had an instructional for kids that runs all summer.

It's four three-day junior camps and eight Saturday camps over the course of the summer.

The three-day camps run from 8-10 a.m., while the Saturday camps run from 9-11 a.m.

Davis said he's typically done camps in June, but there's a lot of interest in junior golf and decided to go through August this year.

"It's still early enough that it's not going to be that hot, and it's only for two hours," Davis said. "They can get through it pretty easily."

The program covers fundamentals for each skill area, as well as rules and etiquette. There will even be a few holes of competition on the

course on the last day of the three-day camps.

They will learn putting, chipping, pitching, bunker play, wedge play, iron play, hybrids and drivers. There will be some competitions.

Kids should have their own clubs, but Davis said kids who are new to the game can be supplied clubs for the camp to see if they like the sport.

Davis runs a Junior PGA League program from February to early June. DragonRidge is one of 24 teams in the valley where players compete in matches of three holes and serves as an introduction of kids to completion through a scramble format with a partner. More advanced players tend to partner and mentor those newer to the game.

There's growing interest in that DragonRidge may have two teams next year, Davis said. There were 19 kids who participated this year.

"I have the largest junior league team in the city, and they're pretty young and that interest will carry over," Davis said. "It's a real good way to get started in the game. They get to have fun and be a part of a team."

Davis said it's a great sport for kids to learn because it's a non-contact sport that you can compete without risking serious injury.

"It's an awfully good sport you can do your whole life," Davis said. "There's a lot of aspects that help you in business to get to know people and break the ice."

Davis, who also gives individual lessons, said he's gotten a lot of interest in his junior programs because of his success in graduating about 130 kids who have gone on to play in college. They tell their friends and that has led to more kids wanting to work with him, Davis said.

Kids don't have to be a member of DragonRidge and can live outside of MacDonald Highlands to participate in the golf program. He said he has about a half-dozen kids from Summerlin.

"The program is going well, and I want it to be bigger next year," Davis said.

Jean Huang's daughters, Lumina Lu, 11, participated in the Junior PGA program for her second year. Her sister, Lucinda Lu, 13, also plays and they enjoy competing against each other.

"This is so much fun for them, and they love hanging out with the kids and love to practice," Huang said. "They learn from each other and coordinate with each other."

Rob Brimmer's son, Trey, 6, has participated in the Junior PGA for two years.

"It's good for him to watch older golfers play and how they get around the course," Brimmer said.



## GOLF PROGRAM

- The three-day camps have charges of \$75 for one hour and \$135 for two-hour sessions. The charge is for the full three days.
- The one-day Saturday camps have a charge of \$25 for the one-hour session and \$45 for the two-hour sessions.



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*Wanderlust* • By Claire MacDonald



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In the last edition of *The Highlander*, I wrote about Quebec City. This is a continuation of that story about our week in Canada.

Unfortunately, our last day in Quebec City was also the last day to submit my article, so I want to mention that we discovered a great little street (which we were told about by Lenny Shwetz). We finally tracked it down and it was well worth the search.

St. James, or Rue Saint-Jean, has a European feel and is just outside the city wall. You will find delightful original shops, artisan boutiques, and specialty food shops. You also will discover clothing and souvenir shops galore. It's the perfect place to enjoy yourself while you hunt for unique finds! The neighborhood is charming, and we enjoyed wandering through the local cheese shops, delis, stores and restaurants that

cater to the locals, as well as tourists. The street isn't too long but can keep you busy for a couple of hours or more. We took a taxi to the far end of the street and walked back and forth across the street and ended up not far from our hotel.

The next morning, we boarded the Via Rail Canada train from Quebec City to Montreal. We bought business class tickets and had assigned seats. The trip took about three hours and 20 minutes. We passed through the beautiful countryside and interesting small towns. We had an attendant assigned to our car and were given a drink and snacks. Later, she came around with a choice of meals. Our four seats were across from each other, with a table in between. We played cards, enjoyed talking and just relaxing. When we arrived in Montreal, the train station was on the lower level of our hotel,

The Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel. It also shared the entrance where you entered the underground city. I will talk about that later.

The city of Montreal is on the Island of Montreal in the St. Lawrence River. About 3.4 million people call Montreal home. Montreal Island is about the size of seven Manhattan Islands put together. It is expensive to shop and live in Montreal. Their sales tax is 15 percent, and salaries are taxed 50 percent. One interesting fact I learned was that until sometime in the 1950s, real estate taxes were charged based on the inside square footage of the house. Consequently, people put their stairs on the outside of the house. Slip-and-fall accidents on the stairs during the snowy and rainy days were common. When the law was changed, the people began enclosing their stairs.

The Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel is in a fabulous location. It is on a main shopping street and is a very beautiful hotel. We stayed in one room, and the granddaughters had their own room down the hall. It worked out very well. As I mentioned, the underground city was under our hotel. It is actually 22 miles of tunnels under the city. It is very wide, with restaurants, shops and underground entrances to major buildings and shopping malls. One of the offices you could reach by tunnel, had a large ice skating rink on their first floor. When we took the tour of the underground city it was so massive that we didn't have time to see all of it. We ate in several of the restaurants, and I found a bakery that made almond croissants (which became my daily treat).

Montreal has a great number of restaurants, being second only to New York City. You can find any kind of food you want. We ate French, Italian, Asian food and crepes, as well as hot chocolate and pastries almost every afternoon. We were told by our guide that the bagels that usually win the North American bagel competition are from Montreal. Apparently, the secret is frying the bagels in water with honey. When I mentioned it to some friends here at home,



Canada is famous for its maple syrup.

Thinkstock

they were aghast. Quebec is also renowned for Camembert cheese. One of the favorite snacks in Montreal and Quebec is called Poutine (pronounced (poo tin), which is French fries, with gravy and cheese curds on top. Cheese curds are also called squeaky cheese. You also

find maple syrup for sale in almost every shop or store. Montreal produces 72 percent of the world's maple syrup, not inexpensive, but really good.

We also visited St. Helen's Island, which is mainly just a beautiful park with biking and walking trails, swimming, picnicking and a sports center where top athletes train alongside people who just want to get in shape. In the winter, there are also trails for cross-country skiers. The Mercury space capsule is housed inside a biosphere. Built for the 1976 Olympics, the D'esplanade Olympic Stadium is the largest covered amphitheater in Quebec, and with seating for 56,000 spectators in the stands and up to 60,000 when the floor is used. Overlooking the stadium is the Montreal Tower, the tallest inclined tower in the world. It is about 540 feet tall and built at a 45-degree angle. When you consider the Tower of Pisa is tilting at 5 degrees,



Old Port of Montreal.

Thinkstock

it is very impressive. The island is accessible by ferry or bridge from Montreal.

Next to St. Helen's Island and connected by a bridge is Ile Notre-Dame, where the Formula 1 Grand Prix is held. This year it was held June 8-10. The race is 70 laps around the island, with a total distance of about 190 miles. It is interesting to note that animals from Ile Notre-Dame are kept on St. Helen's Island during the practice days and the actual races.

Summer or winter, you can't go wrong visiting Quebec City and Montreal. They are different, but the same in many ways. The people are gracious and friendly, and I look forward to going back during the summer in the future.

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# Real ESTATE REPORT

## Midyear lot sales break record

• By Kristen Routh-Silberman

So far this year, 25 lots have already been sold, and 10 more lots are in escrow. That's 35! To put that in perspective, 2017 a record-breaker with 26 lots sold for the entire year. And, we are only halfway through the year.

MacDonald Highlands land is in demand. The numbers clearly show that. The Ridges has sold three lots this year. Southern Highlands has sold two. Ascaya has sold 2 lot this year.

|                       | 2018 LOTS SOLD | 2018 LOTS PENDING |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| MacDonald Highlands   | 25             | 10                |
| The Ridges            | 3              | 0                 |
| Southern Highlands CC | 2              | 0                 |
| Ascaya                | 2              | 0                 |

SOURCE: MLS and Clark county tax assessor records

With every MacDonald Highlands lot purchase, the buyer is required to purchase a DragonRidge Country Club sport/social membership. Currently, our MacDonald Highlands lot buyer is a family of two to four. So for every 25 lot sales, that translates to 50 to 100 new members and new neighbors.

When the country club membership grows, the community grows and is poised for more fun and more action. All of this has a positive impact on your MacDonald Highland home values.

Homes in MacDonald Highlands are also in demand. This year, 16 Homes have sold, there are 10 pending homes sales and the highest sale so far this year in MacDonald Highlands was \$7,750,000.

At The Ridges, 14 homes have sold, 11 homes sales pending and the highest sale in The Ridges was \$8,900,000 this year. Over in Southern Highlands Country Club, 31 homes have sold, six homes are pending and so far the highest sale Southern Highlands was \$7,250,000. Ascaya has not sold any homes this year and has no pending home sales. Those sold prices are also the highest the Las Valley has seen in five years.

|                       | 2018 HOMES SOLD | 2018 PENDING | 2018 HIGHEST PRICE |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|
| MacDonald Highlands   | 16              | 10           | \$7,750,000        |
| The Ridges            | 14              | 11           | \$8,900,000        |
| Southern Highlands CC | 31              | 6            | \$7,250,000        |
| Ascaya                | None            | None         | None               |

SOURCE: MLS and Clark county tax assessor records

Have a wonderful summer, tell all your friends about your great MacDonald Highlands luxury lifestyle on your travels and enjoy the spectacular MacDonald Highlands Fourth of July fireworks show.

All the best and happy summer!

Synergy Sotheby's International Realty at MacDonald Highlands

# GOING *smart, cool and modern*

## *Community installs solar-powered street lamps* • *By Buck Wargo*

MacDonald Highlands has installed its first group of solar-powered street lamps and plans to use the technology going forward as more homes are built.

The move will save MacDonald Highlands the expense of extending electricity to street lights and the homeowners association the expense of paying for the electricity.

The solar lights cost about \$5,000, including shipping from the Netherlands, which is about the same as traditional street lights, according to Paul Bykowski, the senior vice president of land development for MacDonald Highlands. It costs between \$2,000 and \$10,000 to extend power to poles, he said.

"It helps us both because we don't have to put the power in the ground throughout the community, and the HOA saves because they don't have to pay for power," Bykowski said. "It is nice to be able to put them where we want. If you want to put one across the street, you pour a foundation. You don't have to dig up the road to run power across the street or dig up landscaping."

There's about 100 street light posts in MacDonald Highlands and about 50 more to go. Bykowski said he's ordered about 30 more.

"More homes are being finished so I have more lights on the way at other intersections," Bykowski said. "I will have them at all the cul-de-sacs and intersections within the next couple of months."

Lights coming in the future will allow for landscape lighting to run off the streetlight battery, Bykowski said. There's even an option to put Wi-Fi repeaters on the lights, and that's what he would like to see.

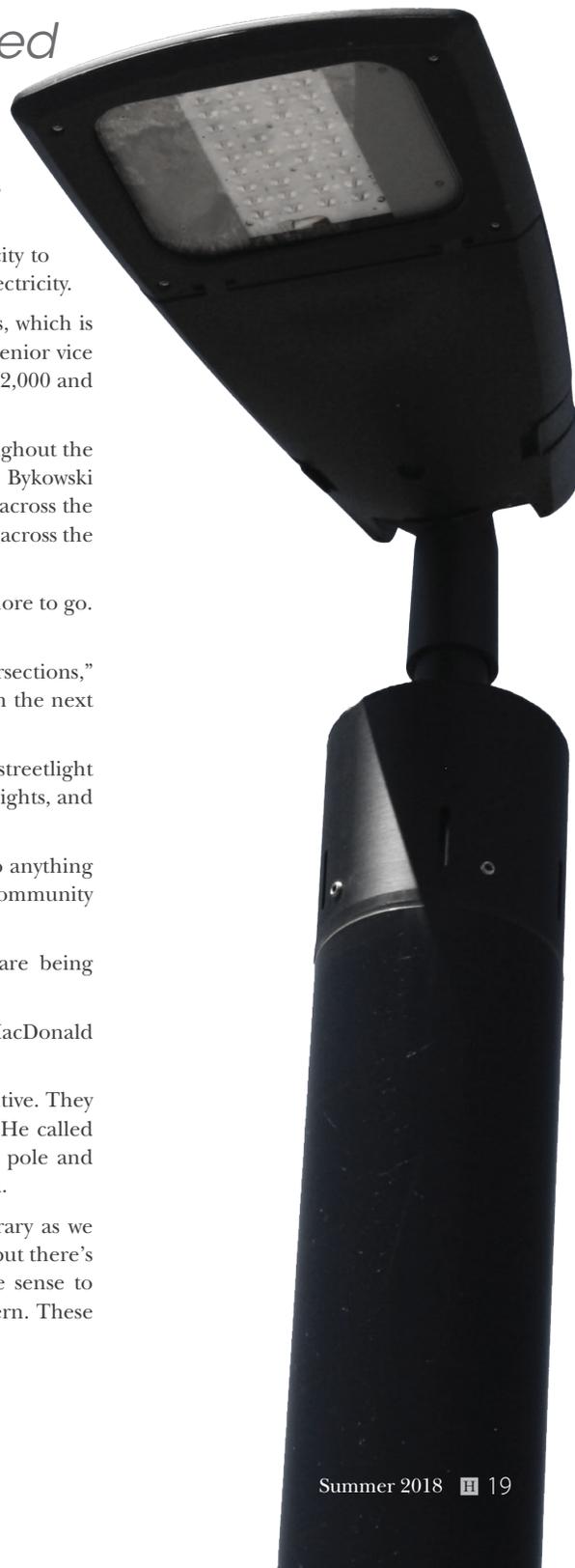
"The old street light was power running to a light bulb, and you couldn't do anything else," Bykowski said. "We have a smart community and when you are in the community you will have Wi-Fi. That's the way I want to go in the future."

The four lights were put in on MacDonald Ranch Drive where homes are being constructed as part of Highlander Ridge, Bykowski, said.

One light goes up at each intersection and at dead-ends. The number is set by MacDonald Highland's development agreement with the city of Henderson.

As for the community reception about the lights, Bykowski said it's been positive. They look "totally different" from the old lights that are "boxy old-school lights. He called them "slick" with glass-covered, round solar panels covering the light. The pole and aluminum are colored black. The head has a more modern look to it, he said.

"The community is getting a more modern feel to it and more contemporary as we finish out houses," Bykowski said. "We started pushing desert contemporary, but there's more and more because it's gotten so popular with buyers. It didn't make sense to have a more old-fashion light post out there with homes getting more modern. These definitely look cool."



# TWO NEW “VU” NEIGHBORHOODS

## opening in MacDonald Highlands

Christopher Homes expands luxury Vu brand with new and exciting evolutions of community’s popular floorplans

Christopher Homes, developer of Vu, an award-winning, luxury, attached-home neighborhood in MacDonald Highlands that debuted last fall and is currently more than half sold, announces the release of two new neighborhoods that represent exciting evolutions of the Vu brand.

Vu Estates is comprised of 19 detached all single-story homes situated on larger, estate-sized lots within an exclusive area of the community offering golf course and city light views. Vu Estates floorplans are similar to Residences 1 and 2 but larger in size, spanning 3,600 and 4,000 square feet and priced from the mid \$1 millions. The new Residence 7 plan offers 3 bedrooms, 3 ½ baths and 3-car tandem garage and the new Residence 8 plan offers 4 bedrooms, 4 ½ baths and expansive 4-car tandem garage. Both plans offer private courtyards, covered patios, 10’ tall stacking exterior glass doors and a myriad of high-end included features.



Christopher Homes' second new offering is VuPointe, a luxury neighborhood comprised of 64 all single-story homes near the DragonRidge clubhouse. VuPointe includes a mix of 40 single-story paired homes and 24 single-story detached homes that range from 2,800 to 4,000 square feet and priced from \$1 millions. All homes within VuPointe are carefully situated on three single-loaded streets, meaning homes are placed only on one side of the street to ensure each home offers spectacular unimpeded views of the surrounding golf course, mountain and canyons. Specifically, VuPointe is located adjacent to holes 1, 2 and 3 of the acclaimed private, 18-hole championship DragonRidge Country Club course.

The announcement of Vu's new additions come on the heels of the community's recent recognition by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) which awarded Vu with a prestigious Gold Award for Best Architectural Design. Vu also received top honors as the country's Best Townhouse Community by Best in American Living Awards (BALA). The most awarded community in Las Vegas, Vu also received a Silver Award from Pacific Coast Builders Conference (PCBC) and will soon learn if the community takes home the Gold, adding to its already robust list of local, regional and national honors.

One of the most exciting, innovative and beautiful luxury neighborhoods in Southern Nevada, Vu opened last fall within MacDonald Highlands, a 1,200-acre hillside enclave overlooking the Las Vegas valley. Vu features distinctively unique, modern and spacious floorplans, some with penthouse options. All Vu homes, regardless of where they are located in the community, feature gorgeous contemporary architecture with floorplans designed for empty nesters, professionals and influencers seeking a highly desirable place to call home.

Every residence at Vu lives up to its name with million-dollar views engineered by careful land planning to ensure all homes offer a mix of views – from city, golf course, mountain, canyon and the glittering Las Vegas Strip. Developed by long-time Las Vegas luxury homebuilder, J. Christopher Stuhmer, founder and CEO of Christopher Homes, Vu is the company's signature contemporary neighborhood that is meeting strong demand and interest with these new offerings. In fact, demand for Vu homes has been so strong, reservations are now being taken for homes in these new neighborhoods with release dates scheduled in order of reservation priority.

"Vu offers upscale living with a modern sensibility, influenced in part by my own experiences as both a luxury homebuilder and family man turned empty-nester," said Stuhmer. "These details are evident in floorplans that make the kitchen, the heart of the home, both highly beautiful and functional; significant open space for entertaining and socializing; and self-contained guest suites ideal for visiting family and friends - all topped with jaw-dropping views."

Vu is situated behind a 24-hour manned gate, high alongside the McCullough Mountain range that creates a sense of peaceful sanctuary and unrivaled privacy. Yet its location just west of the 215 Beltway offers convenient access to the Strip, McCarran International Airport, and just about anywhere in the valley. Residents of Vu have special access to DragonRidge Country Club, which includes a 42,000-square-foot clubhouse that offers formal dining, two casual restaurants/grills and lounges and a spacious ballroom to accommodate special events. It also includes a well-appointed fitness center, swimming pool, spa and pro shop.

As part of the MacDonald Highlands community, Vu residents enjoy access to three neighborhood parks with designated play areas and picnic facilities, plus tennis, basketball and volleyball courts. Outdoor enthusiasts will appreciate five miles of residential walking trails within the community that connect to additional and more rugged McCullough Mountain trails.

Elegant appointments in each Vu home are abundant and include high-end finishes, details and products commonly found in custom homes. Vu's partnerships with best-in-class brands like Kohler, Bosch, Thermador, Sub-Zero and Wolff outfit each home with top-shelf appliances and fixtures with special focus on gourmet kitchens that are as gorgeous as they are functional. Stunning modern art that is available for purchase graces the walls of Vu's model homes via an especially unique partnership with Elena Bulatova Gallery at City Center. And a partnership with RH outfits each model with contemporary and museum-quality décor, lighting and mirrors. All Vu residences offer energy saving features, including energy efficient dual pane low E windows; multi-zone, high efficiency heating and air conditioning and energy efficient tankless water heater.

For information, visit [christopherhomes.com](http://christopherhomes.com) or call the Vu sales office direct at 702-651-1151 to make your personal appointment.



# High Water: Hallmark IN ELEVATED LIVING



*“We named it High Water because it’s high in the sky and the pool is high in the air,”*  
- Madylon Meiling

*This home at 629 Majestic Rim Drive is under construction.*

*Tonya Harvey*

## Pool is 55 feet above golf course • *By Buck Wargo*

Sitting in the rear of DragonRidge Country Club, it’s easy to look across the golf course and notice a two-story home under construction on the hillside at 629 Majestic Rim Drive.

It’s called High Water, designed by of award-winning Las Vegas architect Richard Luke and built by boutique luxury builder, Canyon Creek Custom Homes. It’s owned by Madylon and Dean Meiling, the owners of CHEMEON Surface Technology, a private specialty chemical company in Minden. She’s the CEO and he’s the chief financial officer.

The home measures 6,100 square feet and has four bedrooms, four full baths, two half baths, a theater, and an office with three glass walls. It’s expected to be completed by December.

The home offers great views of the Strip and mountains, but what makes it stand out in MacDonald Highlands is that it has an infinity pool built 55 feet above DragonRidge golf course.

The Meilings wanted to live on the main level, which is the upper level. They got that and more with the elevated pool.

“We named it High Water because it’s high in the sky and the pool is high in the air,” Madylon said. “There are phenomenal views of the Strip. You feel like you’re in a penthouse.”

The pool is 24 feet above the bottom of the grade of the lot and that required extensive retaining walls to handle the weight of the pool

and not have it topple down the hillside, said John McDonough, the owner of Canyon Creek Custom Homes, who said that work alone took six months. He said it was a complicated house to build because it’s on a hillside lot. Most pools are on the bottom floor.

“It was a lot of engineering to keep that pool in the air,” McDonough said. “The beauty of the pool is that when you are on the main floor and come out and you’re seeing the water, it looks like it disappears over that 50-foot edge that goes down to the golf course.”

Keystone block and concrete retaining walls were engineered along with the use of a Geo Grid system to carry the load of the pool and tie the retaining walls back into the hillside, McDonough said.

“This is definitely different from almost every home out there,” McDonough said. “I don’t know if there is another home that is elevated on the side of a hill like this.”

The Meilings divide their time between their homes in Lake Tahoe, their main home, and Southern Highlands. The Las Vegas home is Santa Barbara-style that was remodeled by Canyon Creek in 2015-2016 and sparked their interest in the company building them a new home.

They’re moving to MacDonald Highlands to be closer to their daughter, a professional dancer and choreographer and founder of The Stage in Henderson, and their two grandsons, Skylar and Jude.

Madylon said they chose their home site in MacDonald Highlands because of its “breathtaking” Strip views and DragonRidge. The outdoor railings are all glass and there’s no obstruction of views of the golf course, clubhouse or Strip.

“I wanted a very contemporary and sustainable home and open floor

plan with indoor and outdoor living,” Madylon said. “I was looking inside and outside and the flow through the house. It goes straight out to the Strip from the front door. It’s very open.”

Even though that’s what she wanted, Madylon said it has taken a little adjustment on her part in going forward on building on the lot and the design of the home. She had some reservations.

“I never had a house this high,” she said. “When I first came in, I wasn’t sure. I was afraid of heights, and this is really high. When you walk to the edge it is.”

The main focus in its construction was that it be easy to maintain and sustainable with reduced energy consumption, and McDonough is known for his sustainable building products and materials, Madylon said.

They also wanted their next home to be a celebration of art, and will feature visual art, a sculpture in the front yard, and modern desert landscape. Madylon is the founder of Classical Tahoe, a three-week music festival in Lake Tahoe, now in its seventh season, which brings in classical musicians for 11 concerts.

Madylon said McDonough helped them choose the lot, home design, Loewen windows and doors, special insulation of ceilings, walls, floors and other features that will protect the home against the desert winds, torrential rain and summer heat.

McDonough said that as a contemporary home it has clean lines with straight edges. They will use metal on the pop outs to highlight them.

“There’s a lot of interesting stone,” McDonough said. “We have 4-foot-tall-by-10-foot wide slabs of stone that go on one wall all the way

through the house. It will look neat from the street like the wall goes through the house and dissects the house in the middle.”

There’s also a lot of glass in the home. There’s a freestanding entryway that’s cantilevered. The front door and office are linear and match



*An artist's rendering shows what the home under construction at Majestic Rim Drive will look like when it is completed.*

each other, which McDonough said creates a “neat look in itself. The office is like a fishbowl. One looks down the stairs and the other two are looking to the front of the house.”

McDonough said this is the third home he’s built in MacDonald Highlands.

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Photos By Tonya Harvey



DragonRidge Country Club hosted the eighth annual Biddin' for Bottles wine tasting fundraiser auction.

# Wine for a good cause

## DRAGONRIDGE HOSTS BIDDIN' FOR BOTTLES

• By Buck Wargo

DragonRidge Country Club again played host for this year's eighth annual Biddin' for Bottles wine tasting fundraiser auction to support Leadership Henderson and a valley charity.

This year's recipient was the Children's Heart Foundation. It will receive about 25 percent of the approximately \$80,000 raised.

Kelly Green, director of Leadership Henderson, and her husband, James Green, are DragonRidge members and part of the committee that hosts it.

This the third year DragonRidge has hosted the wine tasting event that has grown steadily and has needed more space, Kelly Green said. The club is the perfect size going forward, she said.

"We needed the space but we don't want to grow so much because we want people to know each other in the room and not be so crowded you can't get a drink," Green said. "We want to keep it at 300, and it's a beautiful space for that. DragonRidge has been amazing as our host sponsor."

The couple live just outside the gates of MacDonald Highlands, but have been DragonRidge members for four years.

"We just fell in love with the DragonRidge community," James Green said.

Funds raised during the event go to the Henderson Chamber of Commerce foundation, which helps raise money to support the Leadership Henderson program and offers scholarships to it. It costs \$2,500 a year.

The program is an eight-month course devoted to educating and empowering civic-minded professionals with a goal of building and maintaining a strong network of effective community leaders, Kelly Green said.

Through panel presentations by community leaders and experts, simulations, plus hands-on experiences, participants learn about current issues pertaining to local economy, government, social services, health, gaming, business and education that affect the residents and businesses of Henderson, she said.

The Children's Heart Foundation serves children with heart defects and their families in Nevada as the kids are undergoing surgeries and treatment. The foundation provides assistance with lodging, flights,



*Biddin' for bottles wine tasting fundraiser supports Leadership Henderson.*



*About 300 people attended this year's Biddin' for Bottles wine tasting fundraiser, which supported the Children's Heart Foundation.*

gas, groceries, rent and utilities. It also provides camps and other activities. It serves about 700 to 800 families a year and has a budget that ranges between \$600,000 and \$700,000 a year.

"Kids often have multiple surgeries and are in the hospital for weeks or months and that takes a huge financial and emotional toll on families," said Kelley McClellan, the foundation's executive director.

That work couldn't be done without corporate support, personal donations and events like the ones held by Leadership Henderson, McClellan said.

The event is made up of bottles of wine in which the taster doesn't know the type or brand. People taste it and bid on it.

"We get a lot of people who say they don't like pinot, and they taste it and pinot ends up being their favorite," Kelly Green said.

There's even an auction with concert tickets, helicopter rides, spas and other attractions.

Wines are donated and typically run less than \$50 a bottle. There's a VIP section where bottles worth several hundred dollars are not blind but are auctioned at higher price points.

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# Pest Control

Tips on keeping insects, rodents out of your home

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When it comes to insects, the perimeter of the house can be key to prevention and management. Whether a species nests outdoors and comes in to forage or prefers to nest right in the house, the perimeter offers you opportunities to stop pests in their tracks. Pests come into a house for several reasons: food, water, harborage or overwintering. You can eliminate the conducive conditions that make your house appealing. Begin by inspecting the home to identify areas where structural modifications and other control measures can make a difference.

In short, look for moisture, food sources, possible entry points and conditions conducive to harborage.

- Keep trees, shrubs and other vegetation trimmed so that they do not touch the house.
- Remove potential nesting sites: Stacked lumber, bricks, stones, leaf litter and brush should be cleared.
- Replace worn weather-stripping.
- Repair leaky pipes and address other areas of excessive moisture.
- Be diligent in sanitation measures throughout the house – regularly cleaning counters, floors and other surfaces.
- Store pantry and pet foods in sealed containers.
- Take the trash out often, and keep trash cans away from the house.
- Clean up frequently after pets in the yard.



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## RODENT INSPECTION

As with any pest inspection, you need a strong flashlight to look into dark areas where rodent evidence more often than not tends to be found. Rodents fortunately have little control over their urination or defecation. Droppings and urine stains tend to be heaviest where the rodents spend more of their time. A concentrated area with 30 or 40 droppings tells us control tools need to be located here first, rather than another area where three or four droppings might be present. The size and shape of droppings will tell the professional if they're dealing with rats or mice, but droppings can be confused with other sources if care is not taken. Where the droppings are found can sometimes give a clue to the dropping source. Other signs of rodent presence are grease marks. The fur of rats and mice are oily and deposits of grease marks are often left in runways and trails frequently used.

# Community SPOTLIGHT

*Jackson family celebrates 30 years.  
Plans national reality show • By Buck Wargo*

For Monica and Delano Jackson, it was love at first sound.

The Emmy-winning Fox 5 morning anchor and her husband, who's retired from the Air Force and does food catering for athletes and celebrities at their residences, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in May. They are regulars at DragonRidge Country Club where they have been members for about eight years.

Delano manages Monica's career, and they both hope to embark on the next phase of their life by working on her own national talk and reality show that would be based in Las Vegas.

The two Detroit natives met as teenagers. She was 15, and he was 17. But it wasn't your traditional boy-meets-girl setting.

Monica grew up in a strict household raised by a single mom, went to parochial school and wasn't allowed to date. Her life was "church, home and school."

Delano went to public school, and she only met him when her best friend played cupid. But it could only be a phone relationship.

"I feel in love with her voice over the telephone," Delano said. "Every night we were talking for hours."

"He was my first and only boyfriend," Monica said.

Delano turned 50 last November and Monica will turn 49 in June.

Delano was in the ROTC in high school and after he got out decided to embark on a four-year career in the military to help cover his college tuition. He enlisted in the Air Force, and that ultimately led him to Las Vegas in late September 2001. He closed out his 21-year career at Nellis Air Force Base in April 2008 after achieving the rank of master sergeant. He retired as a technical sergeant. The Air Force career didn't start as expected. He put in for an assignment as close as possible to Detroit but he wound up in South Korea. A year later when he returned home, he was assigned to Utah.

Monica was in her first year at Wayne State University to embark on what she hoped was a career in broadcast television.

They decided she would stay in Detroit, but got married by a justice of the peace right before he left, without telling anyone in each other's family at the time. After she completed her first year in school, she transferred to Weber State in Ogden where she eventually completed her degree.

Delano, who was a mechanic on fighter jets, got orders to the Middle East during the Gulf War and was in Qatar in 1991 when Iraq was firing scud missiles at the nation.

When Delano returned home, he got a chance to pursue a career in the military he wanted to work in recruiting and that eventually led the couple back to Michigan.

Monica said breaking into the industry wasn't easy when they returned to Detroit.



*DragonRidge club members Monica and Delano Jackson celebrate 30 years together.*

*Tonya Harvey*

She worked in hospital registration and weekend gigs on radio before she got a city of Detroit cable television job.

That gained her attention and led to her working as a radio traffic reporter and part of a morning program called the "Breakfast Jam."

"That put her on the map in the city, and she was on billboards all over town and doing concerts and special events," Delano said.

That led to working as traffic reporter at Fox Channel 2 in Detroit and then ABC Channel 7.

Delano, meanwhile, who had earned a degree in business marketing, was asked to take a new position in Las Vegas where he would be a liaison between recruiters and the Air Force Thunderbirds demonstration squadron as part of a new initiative to boost recruiting through events and advertising.

When he wasn't working, he worked as Monica's manager to land her to a television gig in Las Vegas. She was working in North Carolina and would travel back and forth to be with Delano, before she landed a position in 2004 with Fox 5 as a morning traffic reporter. Less than a year later, she was in the anchor desk. She's wakes up at 3 a.m. and is at work at 5. She goes on the air from 7 to 10 a.m., including the final hour that's entertainment-oriented.

As for Delano, he's been cooking for about 30 years and thought about opening a restaurant after retiring from the Air Force. Instead, he decided to focus his attention on managing Monica's career while still doing some catering.

Monica said she's wanted to be a broadcaster since she was 13. Both are excited about future prospects of having her own show that airs nationally.

"We're working on that project right now," said Delano who didn't want to go into detail, except that it would be based in a studio on the Las Vegas Strip. "We created a concept that has not been done by anyone."

Monica said this is "perfect timing with the energy" in Las Vegas emanating from the success of the Golden Knights and the pending arrival of the Raiders. Hulu, Netflix and others are looking for programming, she said.

"I have been in this business for 34 years and have built a brand," Monica said. "I have a following, and it's time to do something bigger and more tailored to me and my personality. The ground is fertile for something out of Las Vegas. This is the Entertainment Capital of the World."

# Living ON THE GREENS

*DragonRidge Country Club members hit the links during these last several months. Both the men's and the women's groups had packed tournaments this spring.*





# Springtime fun

*Springtime brought a lot of activities to MacDonald Highlands: Mother's Day brunch and the Easter celebration, to name just a few. The brunch featured great food and crafts for the kids. At the annual Easter festival, kids got to enjoy a petting zoo, bounce house and face-painting.*



*If you have photos you would like published on our COMMUNITY PHOTOS page, send them to [lcollier@reviewjournal.com](mailto:lcollier@reviewjournal.com)*

# Numbers TO REMEMBER

## MacDonald Highlands Real Estate Office

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## General Manager - Larry Wright

702-835-8581, LWright@DragonRidgeCC.com

## Membership Director - Cory Strzalka

702-835-8155, CStrzalka@DragonRidgeCC.com

## Activities & Communications Director - Charlotte Evans

702-835-8152, CEvans@DragonRidgeCC.com

## Director of Golf - Chris Vossekuil

702-835-8153, CVossekuil@DragonRidgeCC.com

## Tennis & Athletic Director - RJ Tessier

702-407-0045, RTessier@DragonRidgeCC.com

## Tennis and Athletic Assistant Director - Angela Meslem

702-407-0045, AMeslem@DragonRidgeCC.com

## Tennis Director - Adolph Huddleston

702-407-0045, AHuddleston@DragonRidgeCC.com

## Catering Sales Manager - Brandi Montano

702.835.8582, bmontano@dragonridgecc.com

## Bar & Beverage Manager - Charlie Alaimo

702-835-8141, CAlaimo@DragonRidgeCC.com

## Executive Chef - Eric Castillo

702-835-8142, ECastillo@DragonRidgeCC.com

## Executive Sous Chef - Tyler Wakuta

702-835-8142, twakuta@dragonridgecc.com

## Superintendent - Rick Friedemann

702-263-6457, RFriedemann@DragonRidgeCC.com

## Reception Desk Direct

702-835-8140, Reception@DragonRidgeCC.com

## Golf Shop - 702-835-8144

## Dragon Grille - 702-816-4348

## Onyx Bar & Lounge - 702-835-8151

## Snack Bar - 702-835-8150

## HOURS - SUMMER 2018

Clubhouse (Closed Mondays)

*DragonGrille:* Tuesday – Sunday: 6 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Wednesday – Saturdays: 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

*Onyx Bar:* Wednesday & Friday: 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

*Montrose Dining:* Wednesday & Friday: 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

*Tee Times:* Tuesday – Sunday: begin at 6:30 a.m.

*Pro Shop:* Tuesday – Sunday: 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

## Tennis & Athletic Center

Monday – Friday: 5:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday – Sunday: 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

## Tennis Court Hours

Monday – Sunday 5:00 a.m. - 10 p.m.

## Child Care Hours (with 24 hour notice)

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday: 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

## Utilities

Henderson Utilities - 702-267-5900

NV Energy - 877-860-6020

Cable (Cox) - 702-966-2290

## Medical Services

Emergency - 911

St. Rose Medical Services - 702-564-2622

## Henderson City

City of Henderson - 702-267-2323

Animal Control - 702-267-4970

Parks and Recreation - 702-267-4000

Chamber of Commerce - 702-565-8951

## Other

Clark County Sheriff - 702-828-3231

U.S. Postal Service (89012) - 702-837-1624

## BOARD MEMBERS

*Paul Bykowski* ..... President

*Rich MacDonald* ..... Vice President

*Gene Raper* ..... Treasurer

*Martin Wilner* ..... Secretary

*Nancy Storey* ..... Director

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