

Sunriver Residents Shine in Local Government Roles

Not only is Sunriver one of the most sought-after areas in all of Rancho Cordova, but it's also home to some of the best and brightest in local government. We are extremely fortunate to have several neighbors among us that are instrumental in charting the course for Rancho Cordova and beyond.

At the City Council level of government is Sunriver's own Ken Cooley. Ken is currently serving as the Vice



Mayor Pro Tempore Ken Cooley

Mayor for the newly formed City of Rancho Cordova. A resident since 1985, Ken loves the Parkway lifestyle of Sunriver and the low-traffic court neighborhoods. He and his wife Sydney are actively involved with Cordova Neighborhood Church and often spend their free time

(what little there is) snow-shoeing and kayaking.

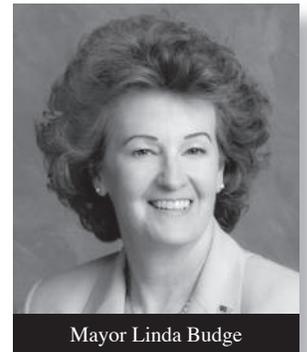
Ken's professional resume conveys a long and distinguished career, both in the private sector and public service. He is on the Executive Committee of the Rancho Cordova Weed & Seed program and played a key role in securing a grant that could provide nearly a million dollars to help clean up central Rancho Cordova neighborhoods and Folsom Boulevard.

He's also putting together a program to help renters become homeowners. Ken believes that changing rental homes to owner-occupied residences is important for improving neighborhoods city-wide. When asked what his primary goal regarding local transportation is, Ken replied, "To directly

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Rancho's New Mayor to Speak at Next SNA Meeting

The new city of Rancho Cordova already has a new Mayor at the helm -- Linda Budge. This mother of five (and grandmother of twelve!) has called Rancho Cordova her home for 35 years. Her first ventures in the public spotlight were in the early 70's, when she hosted a public television program on KVIE called "Update."



Mayor Linda Budge

Before taking on the role of Mayor, Linda served on the Cordova Recreation and Park District, CORPAC, and the Sacramento County Subdivision Review Committee. She served as President of the Cordova Community Council as well as the Rancho Cordova Chamber of Commerce, where, in 1999, she was also named Volunteer of the Year.

Linda's top priorities for the new City of Rancho Cordova are customer service, remodeling the City's residential and commercial base, expanding the economic opportunities that exist in the community, and providing housing for the thousands of people who work in Rancho Cordova's office parks.

Please join us at the next SNA Neighborhood Meeting where Mayor Budge will be our special guest of honor. ☀

**Join us at the next
 Neighborhood Meeting**

**Monday, March 22, 7:00 p.m.
 at Sun River Church, Room G-25**

Local Government (Continued from Page 1)

connect the Mather interchange to the Sunrise-Douglas intersection to get that eastbound traffic off US 50 early so motorists have fewer backups to send them streaming through Rancho neighborhoods.” He goes on to say, “Our community is at risk of being divided between old and new neighborhoods. The intra-Rancho parkway connector can play a key role in keeping our community unified and the increased traffic at 50 and Mather can help increase needed west-side economic development.”

Another Sunriver resident active in local government is Catherine (Cay) Nickerson. Cay has served on the Cordova Parks and Recreation District Board for 16 years, 15 of which she’s lived here in Sunriver. This grandmother of eleven put her degree in education to good use working for the Folsom/Cordova School District as an aide for 21 years.



Troy Konarski

The SNA’s own Troy Konarski serves on the newly formed Planning Commission for the City of Rancho Cordova. The Commission is responsible for land use planning as well as approval oversight for new development proposals. This is a critical role as Rancho

Cordova enters its era of cityhood and considers how to balance the need to preserve our natural areas while allowing for appropriate and controlled growth and progress.

With these neighbors playing such important roles in local government, all of us here in Sunriver can be proud of their achievements and grateful for their hard work and commitment to Rancho Cordova and the Sunriver community. ☀

Sunrise/Coloma Construction & Landscaping Update

By Craig Osborn, Neighborhood Enhancement Director

As you’ve surely noticed, the construction project along Sunrise has been completed! The new Sunrise improvements include upgrades to much of the pavement and curbing along Sunrise, as well as filling and landscaping the medians. Gone is the “tank trap” ditch in the median near Midas, which seemed to be a trash magnet for so many years. Our sincere thanks go to Supervisor

Don Nottoli for championing this project.

As for future work, the Coloma Road project is still moving forward, despite last year’s delay caused by a lack of bids from landscaping companies. The County issued an updated request for bids last month, with bids due right about now. Depending on the bids received, expect to see work begin on Coloma

Road by summer. You can look forward to new trees and bushes, an improved sidewalk, an underground irrigation system, and other improvements. Due to the efforts of Sunriver’s Larry Ladd, a historic almond tree, said to be the last remaining specimen from the orchards that covered this area ages ago, will be preserved.

The project may also include landscaping of some or all of Sunriver’s Sunrise Boulevard frontage. However, that portion of work, if it happens, will depend on several factors which have not been finalized. Look for updates here in the *Sentinel* as well as the Sunriver e-Group. ☀

The Sunriver Sentinel is a publication of the Sunriver Neighborhood Association

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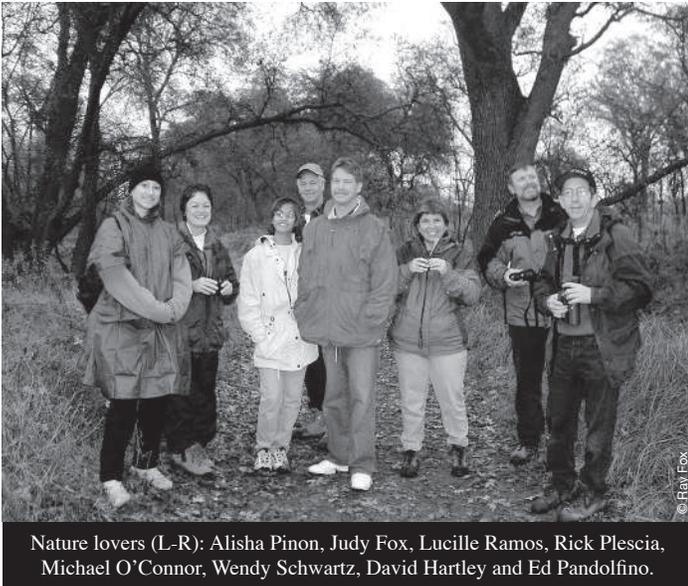
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Sunriver Nature Walk II

By Ray Fox, Communications Director

On a cold, wet December morning, a handful of adventurous Sunriver residents gathered in the park, willing to brave the elements for a stroll along the American River. It had been raining on and off since dawn and several would-be hikers peeked out their rain-streaked windows, then climbed back in bed. But a few diehard nature lovers donned their rain gear and headed for the river.



Nature lovers (L-R): Alisha Pinon, Judy Fox, Lucille Ramos, Rick Plescia, Michael O'Connor, Wendy Schwartz, David Hartley and Ed Pandolfino.

Leading the rag-tag band of hikers was naturalist Ed Pandolfino, a Sierra Foothills Audubon Society board member and experienced outdoorsman. As the group quietly made its way along the deserted riverbanks, Ed was able to identify a myriad of birds by their song and point them out. Armed with binoculars, the fledgling birders learned to recognize a long list of different birds making the American River their winter home. By the end of the hike, the list included: California quails, red-tailed hawks, great blue herons, acorn woodpeckers, California towhees, great egrets, turkey vultures, northern flickers, and many more.

To our great delight, Ed has volunteered to lead Sunriver on another expedition along the American River. If you missed the first adventure, now's your chance to see some of what you missed. Join us the morning of Saturday, March 20 for Sunriver Nature Walk II with guide Ed Pandolfino. If you'd like to attend, drop a line to rfox@sunriveronline.org to get all the details. Wear comfy shoes and bring a pair of binoculars if you have them. And keep your fingers crossed for some perfect weather on this first day of spring. ☀

Winning the War with Weeds

By Ray Fox, Communications Director

As the yellow blossoms of daffodil and forsythia bloom, they offer a reminder that now is the time to give your lawn a treatment of pre-emergent weed control. A pre-emergent prevents weed seeds lying dormant in your lawn from germinating. Timing is critical with a pre-emergent and now is the time.

An excellent choice for weed prevention is an all-natural product made of corn gluten, which prevents weeds by inhibiting the seed's ability to produce roots. The product is not hazardous to humans or other living things. Later in the season you can even apply it to your flower or vegetable garden when your plants are beyond the seedling stage, as it only prevents seeds from sprouting yet is harmless to growing plants. And best of all, kids and pets can go out and play on the lawn the moment you're done applying it!



Corn gluten pre-emergents such as Concern Weed Prevention Plus are available online as well as at finer nurseries in the area, including Capitol Nursery. ☀

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Next SNA Cleanup Scheduled

By Craig Osborn, Neighborhood Enhancement Director

The next SNA Neighborhood Cleanup will take place Saturday, March 27 from 9 to 11 a.m. This time we'll focus on the Sunriver stretch of Coloma Road. We'll meet in the side parking lot between Ralph's and Coloma at 9:00 a.m. Bring sturdy work gloves, drinking water, and a hat. Come join the fun, even if you can only stay part of the time. We need as many hands as we can get to help keep Sunriver a beautiful place to live. ☺

Sunriver Holiday Happenings a Hit!

By Jessica Ocenosak, Social Events Director



The kids are ecstatic as Santa arrives in Sunriver.

Sunriver's big three holiday events last December were quite the talk of the neighborhood. The first annual Sunriver lighting contest had our streets

so beautifully lit that many long-term residents were astonished at the unprecedented display of holiday spirit in the neighborhood.

One of the holiday highlights occurred when fire truck sirens wailed through the neighborhood heralding Santa's arrival at Sunriver Park. Santa, along with an ample supply of hot chocolate and cookies, warmed the hearts of young and old alike. Hopefully, each and every whispered wish came true.

The final event of the season was an evening of caroling at Sunriver Park. We certainly have some beautiful voices in our neighborhood, most notably the melodious Ken Cooley and Charlie Clark. Nearly 50 residents gathered to celebrate the holiday with song. Azell Gittens, who led the yuletide chorus, was awarded top honors for her winning Pit River lighting display. Thanks to everyone who participated in the events. We're already counting down the days until the next Christmas season. ☺

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Sunriver Hops into Spring!

Our next fun-filled Sunriver event will be a springtime potluck and plant swap in Sunriver Park, complete with an Easter egg hunt, jump house from Jolly B Jumps and the magic of Drew Kelly for the kids! To help get folks in shape for summer, California Family Fitness will be on hand offering body fat testing. Join us Saturday, April 3 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come with a tasty treat to share. If you've got a green thumb, bring a couple of plants to swap with your neighbors. If you'd like more information or would like to help out with this event, contact Jessica Ocenosak at jocenosak@sunriveronline.org. Volunteers and donations are always welcome.

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