

Tales of Sundance

“Then and Now”

Meritage Homes Active
Adult Sales Center

Suzanne Prunty
August/September, 2010

Then: From Sidney to Buckeye

In 1877, Thomas Newt Clanton set out from Creston, Iowa, with a party of six men, three women and ten children, bound for Arizona. Clanton suffered from ongoing health problems and believed the Arizona climate would improve his condition. The travelers settled near the area that was eventually to become the Town of Buckeye. It was a good move for him as he lived in Arizona for another 49 years before his death at age 82.

Development in the Buckeye Valley received its first great boost with the construction of the Buckeye Canal. In 1884, Malin Monroe Jackson, along with Joshua L. Spain and Henry Mitchell, began building a canal. Jackson named the canal in honor of his native state of Ohio, the “Buckeye State.” Completed

in 1886, Thomas Clanton helped build 10 miles of the canal running adjacent to his homestead. In 1887, Clanton applied for a post office to be established in the new community, and in 1888, the United States Postal Service granted the request, naming the new station “Buckeye” after the canal. Thomas Clanton and his family were the first permanent Anglo residents of Buckeye. That same year, Thomas Clanton teamed with Phoenix surgeon Oscar L. Mahoney, and subdivided 60 acres of their land. A business district was established between 4th and 6th Streets on Centre Avenue. A town site was platted and Clanton named the new town Sidney, though why he chose that name remains a mystery. However, because of the significance of the canal, over time the town became known as Buckeye, and the name was



legally changed in 1910. Also in 1888, William “Bucky” O’Neil and Associates organized the Buckeye Irrigation Company, renaming the Buckeye Canal Company, and had it certified by the Territorial Secretary. Bucky O’Neil later went on to become one of the famous Rough Riders.*

*Excerpt from Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce website.

Lantana Showcase Home on 452 S 227th Court!!!! It’s going to go fast—beautifully appointed on an open wash area with a beautiful, “*and I do mean beautiful*”, sunset view. This home will be completed the first week of September and qualifies for a 3.75% financing package.

Current Pricing From:

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| Lantana | \$151,900 |
| Cholla | \$161,900 |
| Ocotillo | \$170,900 |
| Palo Verde | \$172,900 |
| Desert Sage | \$178,900 |
| Mesquite | \$187,900 |

If you know of anyone looking for a completely finished, furnished, turn-key home, we have a Verbena floor plan. This floor plan has been discontinued and is 1688 sq. ft. It’s a great buy at \$189,362 and the perfect option for someone who doesn’t want to have to furnish a home—you don’t even have to bring your hair dryer. It was our former Stay ‘n Play, so it has it all—just bring your suitcase! It comes with a new home warranty package.

NOW: Sundance Celebrity– Ms. Perri Lee

Anyone over the age of 55 has probably seen, or heard of, the movie “Pillow Talk” with Doris Day and Rock Hudson. In the 1959 movie, there is a nightclub scene that cameos a Sundance Active Adult resident, Perri Lee, who sings and plays the piano to the tune of “Roly Poly,” and “You Lied.” For those of you who might not remember the scene, you can find it on You Tube under Roly Poly Doris Day. Perri sang and played in another movie, “Dead Ringer,” with Bette Davis and Karl Malden in 1960.

Perri’s career as a recording, and performing artist began when she was working as a receptionist/secretary at the Black Local Musician’s Union in Los Angeles at age 20. She answered the phone one day and the caller asked if they would send an artist to audition as piano player for a local jazz nightclub.

Having taken piano lessons as a child with an “ear for music,” she decided to do the audition herself, and landed her first contract playing weekends with the Floyd Ray Orchestra. She continued performing throughout her life with various groups, including Count Basie, Dinah Washington, the first ‘Queen of Soul,’ and Aretha Franklin, who is the current standing ‘Queen of Soul.’

Perri, now 85, lives in Sundance Active Adult with her daughter, RonE Lee, since 2003, when RonE retired from social work and they moved here from Northern California.





My name is Suzanne Prunty and I am very excited about joining Meritage Homes as a sales associate in this beautiful community. Since February, 2010, I have met and worked with many wonderful residents and would like to thank all of you for bringing in friends and family members to the Sales Center. I'd like to introduce you to our newest residents whom I have had the pleasure of getting to know as they went through the process of purchasing, building, and moving into their dream home at Sundance Active Adult Community. I've had many current residents ask "how sales are going" so I thought you might be interested:

"Brownie" and Barb Brown closed on their new home in March. The Browns live in Wabash, IN, where Brownie is the City Treasurer. He will retire at the end of 2011, at which time they will move to Sundance full time.

The Browns chose Sundance because of its convenient location to shopping, restaurants, and activities. Their daughter, son-in-law, and grand-daughter live nearby. Their home is on the 18th fairway with a beautiful view of the White Tank Mountains and their landscaping is spectacular.

Gerry and Sandy Feigel purchased a Cholla Flex inventory home in February on Devin Drive. They previously had a winter home in Mesa, but liked the Sundance Golf Course and the 55+ lifestyle. Their residence is Okotoks, Alberta, CA. Both avid golfers, Gerry retired from Canadian Pacific Railways and Sandy is a retired chemistry teacher. They are looking forward to spending more time at Sundance and getting to know their neighbors and the surrounding community.

Roger and Blanca Willis of Carlsbad, CA purchased a home site on the 14th fairway and built the Mesquite floor plan. It's a showplace! Blanca's sister and brother-in-law, Carlos and Gloria Machado are current residents. The Willis's are still living in Carlsbad, but plan to sell their home there and live here full-time. Roger is a retired management consultant and Blanca has a CA real estate license. Roger and Blanca both play golf and Roger builds and flies model airplanes. He hopes to teach a course in this at our Active Adult Club House after they get settled.

Mark and Kathy Messelt are both excited about their new home at Sundance. Last May, the newlyweds moved into a gorgeous Ocotillo on the 10th fairway. Mark is a flight attendant for US Airways and Kathy stays busy participating in many community activities. This is the second purchase of a home at Sundance for both of them. They love the community and when they married last January, it was a given that they would start their new life together in a new-build that they both could call home. "Meritage was so smart to start building an Energy Star home. The quality is wonderful and having had the older models, we see a difference. I love the big windows as they make it so bright," Kathy says.

Theresa Scicutella joined her sister, Fran Stremel, here at Sundance in May. She moved into her charming Lantana inventory home on Devin Drive from Southern California, where she lived for 21 years. Theresa is licensed in AZ and CA as a registered nurse who specializes in home health care for stroke patients. Fitness is her passion and she's a regular in the gym at the community center. When asked what she likes most about Sundance, she smiles her beautiful smile and says, "Waking up to the sunshine and thanking God for another beautiful day in paradise is what living here is all about."

Paul and Donna Kentziger purchased a beautiful Ocotillo inventory home on the 18th fairway on 226th Drive in March in partnership with Donna's brother and sister-in-law, Chuck and Candy Babiak. Paul and Donna are still working and live in Manitoba. Paul is a retired police officer and Donna is a Justice of the Peace. Chuck and Candy are from Alberta and enjoy spending as much time as possible in the AZ sunshine.

Robert and Darlene Pullen built a beautiful Palo Verde on the 18th fairway, which was completed in March. They come from Edmonton, AB, Canada and love to RV with their children, grandchildren and friends.

Paul Herrald and Shay Lynn moved into their new home, an Ocotillo Flex, on April 2, from Centennial, CO. Their home is situated on the 13th fairway with a beautiful view of the Estrella Mountains from their backyard. Paul was a telecommunications engineer and is retired from AT&T and Time Warner Telecom. Shay retired in 2008 from a 27 year career in Information Technology as a programmer and database administrator. What they enjoy most about Sundance are their friendly and welcoming neighbors. They were invited to dinner two days after moving in and have since met many Sundance residents. You may have seen them on their bicycles early in the morning and you may have met Shay at the Fourth of July BBQ when she was collecting personalized postcards to be sent to service personnel by Operation Gratitude. Paul has volunteered to be a Block Captain for their Neighborhood Watch program. Their cat, Molly, enjoys her new home because of its amazing bird watching opportunities, although when those roadrunners make faces at her through the sliding glass door she's very glad she's inside.

More Sundance Residents to follow: We have begun construction of the Mesquite floor plan on home site #1891, 225th Ct., with an estimated completion date of early November or sooner. In September, we will be breaking ground for an Ocotillo on home site #2106, which is on the 18th fairway and corner of Loma Linda Blvd. and 226th Drive. These buyers are anxious to be in by the holidays and with our 99-day guarantee build time, it's going to be a happy holiday season for them and their families.



View from Willis patio



Brown's landscaping