

Transcription of Episode 353: John MacDonnell (Board President)

SPEAKERS

Agi Kessler, John MacDonnell

Note: This transcription was computer-generated and may contain typographical errors.

John MacDonnell 00:09

Hello Sun City Shadow Hills. Big John here. Good to chat with you again for a bit. I hope everybody had a great Thanksgiving. And hope everybody is looking forward to the holidays here in December with Hanukkah and Kwanzaa, and Christmas. I look forward to going to the menorah lighting coming up here pretty soon and then seeing the Christmas holidays. So it's very exciting this time of year.

John MacDonnell 00:38

I wanted to let you know that as I look outside, we are having quite a dust storm out there. So if you are going outside, make sure that you stay in the car until you get to where you're going and get in as quickly as possible because dust is very, very bad for your lungs. And hopefully everybody will be fine with that, so.

John MacDonnell 01:00

Wanted to report that the dog park at phase one is now open again. We had renovations over there. And so anybody wanting to go to the dog park that is open for your pleasure.

John MacDonnell 01:14

Now, one of the things I want to talk about today is I think everybody knows that we're having a golf tournament on Sunday. And the golf tournament is going to benefit Animal Samaritans. So any money that we raise outside of our costs is going to go directly to Animal Samaritans. And that will help our neighborhoods with animal control and many other things that they do over there. And they are a great company, for our community. And I've used them personally and I know my special guest today is Agi Kessler and I know that Agi has used them as well. So Agi is our Chair of the golf tournament. And I've asked her here today to kind of go over where we are with the golf tournament and what we have available still. So Agi, how you doing today?

Agi Kessler 02:03

I'm fine, thank you. So grateful that you're having me come and talk a little about this very special event. You know, I'm not a golfer myself. I'm a lady putter and not really good at that. But I'm excited to participate in this event today. You know, a really great group of residents have participated and worked on this event. And we're at kind of at the deadline now.

John MacDonnell 02:35

So it looks like from what I understand in speaking with Phil vigil, who is the GM for Troon. It looks like Phil has informed us that there is actually eight spots left. Whether it be two foursomes or eight

individual golfers that want to come out. And the signups for that have been extended until drop dead time is tomorrow at 3pm.

Agi Kessler 03:04

That's true.

John MacDonnell 03:04

Tomorrow at 3pm. And I guess we still have a couple of a few spots open for the banquet to if you want to come to the banquet instead of playing golf, and just have lunch with everybody and see what's happening with the tournament and how we raised funds for the Animal Samaritans. That's a great place to come and socialize.

Agi Kessler 03:27

Yes. So we're going to have the lunch obviously, to celebrate for the golfers and give out the prizes. But also, to thank all the sponsors all the wonderful people who have decided to give us money to make this event a possibility and to raise money for Animal Samaritans.

Agi Kessler 03:50

And I just would like to mention some of the wonderful things that Animals Samaritans do. I don't know if people are aware that through Animal Samaritans, more than 10,000 dogs and cats have been given new homes. They've rescued 14,000 and more animals out of shelters. And, you know, my personal experience, which I'd really like to share is, you know, when I got my standard poodle, Lola, who's a rescue also, and she needed to be spayed. I was quoted incredibly high prices. One of them which was the lowest was \$700. Animal Samaritans spayed her for \$170. So you can see Animal Samaritan does incredible work. So come to the luncheon. There are a few tickets left, and come celebrate the great fun time that the golfers are having and come help us thank the sponsors who have donated so generously for this event.

John MacDonnell 04:57

You know, one of the things I want to tell you is it with animal Samaritans, I had an issue with my Weimaraner and I was I was concerned because he was in such pain. And I thought he broke a tooth or a jaw or so I wasn't sure what was going on because he was in such pain. But I went around to four or five of the different veterinary clinics in the in the area. And I even called my veterinary clinic that I have in Monrovia, California. And all of their appointments were two or three weeks, maybe a month out. And there was I mean, I don't know what was going to happen with my dog. And somebody said, Well, why don't you call Animal Samaritans and I call animal Samaritans for appointment. And they said, Well, we're about two weeks out as well. But we have this program, that if you call in the morning, at eight o'clock, they have 15 spots available, which is called a drop off. And if you if your animals in need of help, you can call that in the morning, first call, and they'll get you on the list. And they'll tell you what time to bring the dog in, or cat, whichever you have. And it was it was great, because I took my dog in at nine o'clock, and I dropped them off. I think there's a little extra fee, because you do a drop off and they have to have your dog in a kennel for a bit. But I was okay with that. Because I got him in. And I had my dog back at one o'clock in the afternoon. And I had medicine and I had a diagnosis and, and he got better, which was great.

Agi Kessler 06:31

Well, one other thing that I'd like to say is, you know, this is the second year that there has been this charity golf tournament in our community. And last year, the proceeds went to the high school this year to animal Samaritans. And I'm really hoping that there will be another one next year. I don't know who would be the beneficiary. But I am so grateful to be living in a community where so many people are charity minded, they volunteer for many things, some at you know, at the library, some at the hospital, all sorts of things here in our community. And this event is another really wonderful way to give back. So thank you everybody who's participating who's been part of this event, and who make it a really fun golf event for the golfers. And I'm looking forward to this event on Sunday, and possibly the event next year and the years after. We live in a great community of caring and giving and sharing. Another wonderful event. So just to recap, there are eight more spots on the golf, for golfers, and just a few more tickets left, but the deadline is tomorrow by three o'clock.

John MacDonnell 07:52

Now the other thing I wanted to mention too is if you didn't have the opportunity, you kind of missed a fun little event on Saturday, there was the golf cart parade and the tree lighting at the Montecito clubhouse. So if you haven't had a chance to go and see the Christmas tree and see the decorations around the Montecito clubhouse, the Lifestyles desk, and the Lifestyles committee really hit a home run. They had 10 people sign up for the golf cart parade. And I think they wound up with like 23 or 24 carts that were all decorated up. It was it was wonderful. The parade went down Sun City Boulevard from the Jefferson gate all the way down to the Madison gate and phase three and back to the Montecito. And it was great. A lot of people came out to see it, a lot of participants, and we had three great winners. So that was a great event.

John MacDonnell 08:55

So I think that's it for today. Looking forward to the future here at Sun City Shadow Hills. And I hope that future involves me and I will be spending a lot of time out there in the community and saying hi to everybody and please take the time to say hi back. It's a great friendly place to live. And that's why I like being here. So thank you very much to everybody in the community and I look forward to seeing you out there. Have a great Day. Bye-bye.