

THUNDERBIRD DOWNS

Las Vegas, Nevada



It is hard to believe, but in the 1950's and 1960's Las Vegas had a thoroughbred horse racing track called the Thunderbird Downs Race Track (also known as Las Vegas Downs, and Joe W. Brown Race Track), built by Joe Smoot. The now long-defunct track originally sat behind the old Thunderbird Hotel, then the track was moved across the street to where the Westgate Las Vegas Resort and Casino, and the Las Vegas Country Club Estates (which includes the Monterey Community) are now located. Thunderbird Downs closed in 1965.

Pictures of the Thunderbird Downs Race Track were sold years ago by The Las Vegas Review-Journal on eBay, and were bought by Monterey Board member David Bonnesar. David has recently donated these pictures of Thunderbird Downs to the Monterey Homeowner Association (HOA). The pictures can now be viewed at the Monterey HOA Office (2897 Loveland Drive, Unit 3401, Las Vegas, NV 89109). All Monterey homeowners, residents, and tenants are welcome to view the pictures Monday through Fridays between 8:00AM – 5:00PM.

Monterey Homeowners Association