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Valhalla Holdings, LLC www.Valhalla360.com The official publication of the Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association

La Casita Preschool Registration

This magazine is delivered to all homeowners in the Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association on a monthly basis. This magazine is also distributed to surrounding businesses and office complexes. You have received this publication because your HOA believes you take pride in your home environment and community. This magazine provides you with HOA information and home product advertising that enhances your home comfort and increases the value of your home. We are always interested in your comments or suggestions.

While efforts to ensure accuracy are executed, the publisher assumes no liability for the information contained in either editorial or advertising content. The Dobson Ranch HOA does not endorse any commercial products or information that may be advertised in the newsletter.

#### HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

#### THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION **ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

2719 S. Reyes, Mesa, AZ 85202 480-831-8314

www.dobsonranchhoa.com

#### **ADMINISTRATION HOURS**

Monday through Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Closed Saturday and Sunday

#### LA CASITA RECREATION CENTER

2719 S. Reyes, Mesa, AZ 85202 480-831-7464

#### **SARATOGA RECREATION CENTER**

2345 S. Saratoga

#### LOS ALTOS RECREATION CENTER

2524 W. Campo Alegre

Please call 911 for reporting emergencies, vandalism, suspicious activity, etc., occurring on or to Dobson Ranch property.

> **Dobson Ranch Urgent Assistance** 480-227-9062

#### SUB-ASSOCIATIONS

Dobson Bay Club	
Ogden Property Management	480-897-6161
Dobson Ranch Condos	
United Community Management	480-567-9791
Dobson Glen	
Brown Community Management	480-539-1396
Dobson Greens	
Laurie Nichols	480-839-9079
Dobson Villas	
Peterson Company	480-513-6846
Laguna Village	
Brown Community Management	480-539-1396
Lake Park Village	
Tri-City Property Management	480-844-2224
The Landings	
Brown Community Management	480-539-1396
Legante Paseo	
Snow Property Services	480-635-1133
Water Works	
Vision Community Management	480-759-4945
Wood Creek Townhomes	
City Property Management	602-437-4777

CITY OF MESA	
Police Headquarters/Info	480-644-2324
Fiesta Patrol Division	480-644-2614
Non Emergency Police	480-644-2211
Councilman Heredia Office	480-644-3003
Code Compliance	480-644-2061
Transportation (Street Lights, Potholes)	480-644-2160
Animal Control (Cruelty, Barking)	480-644-2268
Household Hazardous Materials Center	480-644-4463
Graffiti Hotline	480-644-3083

#### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

Green Pool Issue 602-506-6616 Crime Prevention/Neighborhood Watch 480-644-2539 602-263-1100 **AZ Blue Stake** 602-236-8888 Salt River Project

Ranchers' Roundup is the official publication of the Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association. Nancy Roggio, Editor - nroggio@dobsonranch.com

The articles and comments in this monthly publication are intended to inform, illustrate or provide explanation to members of the Association, and do not necessarily serve as official opinions of the Board of Directors, staff, nor its members. As such, we do not make any respresentation as to the validity or qualifications of any advertiser or contributor.



#### **Message From the Association President**



By Allen Johnson Association President

### Influence Change by Serving on the Board

Hello Ranchers,

I hope 2021 is treating you well so far.

With our annual election just around the corner, several people have asked me what it's like to serve on the Board of Directors for Dobson Ranch. My response to them is that it's been a lot of fun. Meeting new people, forming friendships with neighbors and seeing progress take shape are all very rewarding. Personally, I had little experience volunteering or even attending HOA meetings before I ran for the Board. At the time, I saw an opportunity to influence change that I felt would benefit the residents of Dobson Ranch. You granted me that opportunity, and I'm deeply thankful.

We do our best not to be like the stereotypical examples of the intrusive and arbitrary HOA leadership that you're probably familiar with in pop culture. I laughed when I saw the Geico commercial featuring "HOA Cynthia"; the overzealous HOA board member who terrorizes newcomers to the neighborhood by pointing out that their shrubs aren't board approved and their mailbox is two inches too tall. If you haven't seen the commercial search for it on YouTube. It's hilarious. Fortunately, we take a slightly more subtle approach!

In Dobson Ranch, the majority of Board members' time is spent looking forward and planning enhancements to the common areas of our community. As the Ranch's 50th birthday nears, there's plenty of updating and refreshing that needs to be done. We're very fortunate that the need for this was factored into our financial forecast well in advance. In normal times, we'd also be focusing on planning community gatherings and events. These are a ton of fun and will eventually return after the Coronavirus threat subsides.

The monthly Board and committee meetings are still being broadcast online, and can be viewed on YouTube either live or after the fact. We look forward to eventually resuming in-person meetings. When that happens, we encourage homeowners to attend. Time is always set aside at the beginning of each Board meeting for homeowner comments. Whenever possible, we try to address questions or concerns in real time. We're always happy to have new neighbors participate and learn more about what's going on in the Ranch.

This is your community. New ideas and perspective can help make us better. If you're interested, feel free to check out a Board or committee meeting. If you have time, we're always looking for committee volunteers. Check out the events calendar on the back of the *Rancher's Roundup* or on our website for meeting dates and times. We look forward to seeing you!

Thank you all and be well!

#### **Executive Director's Message**



**By Lynelle Glysson** Executive Director

#### Projects Help Keep Dobson Ranch the Best Place to Live

Dear Residents,

As we cautiously move into the new year, we have much to be hopeful for. With the vaccine for COVID-19 being distributed, there is hope that we will move past the pandemic. There are many resources for those seeking to get the vaccine. I have several links from the state and county that have useful information. Please call or email me if you would like me to pass on information. Maricopa County has set up several task force groups that focus on specific phases and what groups qualify for each phase. I was asked to participate in the task force that holds weekly webinars for Essential Workers about the vaccine. I am happy to share any information gathered during those webinars. You can contact me at Iglysson@dobsonranch.com or call 480-831-8314.

Another good thing happening on the Ranch is a partnership with Dobson High School. This partnership connects residents in need of a little help with students that need community service hours. Three residents have stepped forward to assist in this program. Once students complete their community service, in the form of yard work for those in need and other similar jobs, one of the three resident volunteers will sign off on the work. Dobson Ranch residents who may need a helping hand get the help and the students get their community service hours. And, the neighborhood keeps a neat appearance. This is the definition of a "win-win-win" situation for all of us.

We are currently working on several different projects around the Ranch. However, the pandemic has hindered some of our progress. The supply chain of materials has been disrupted. Our bollard light order for the Lake 1 lighting project has been delayed and may not arrive until June. Since these are quality fixtures that should last a long time, we need to be patient with the delay so that the job gets done right.

A project that will be underway at the time you are reading this is the remodel of the Los Altos restrooms. I am pleased that the restroom facilities will be updated, as well as all of the electrical lines at the Los Altos recreation area. We are also in the process of getting proposals for the sports courts at Los Altos and several other projects. The enhancements around the Ranch continue to help keep Dobson Ranch the best place to live!

You can keep up with these projects by watching meetings either live or recorded on YouTube. All links are on the website events calendar for all the committee and Board meetings.

Please see page 9 for an article by **Kathrine Blomquist** that tells you how you can get two free trees! These trees are approved by the DRAC to meet the Residential Guideline that requires one tree be planted in your front yard.

Until we can come together in person, let us stay #Dobson-RanchStrong while we are #HomeontheRanch! Thank you for the continued support of your neighbors, Board and staff.



#### Water Awareness



By Craig A. Wilson
Water Resources Manager

#### Walking

Earlier this year I again visited the **Gilbert Papain Water Park** for a walk along the Park's many trails. I have written about this Park a

couple of times for its shaded pathways, numerous wildlife viewing areas and the water conservation techniques employed to recycle wastewater. However, I was recently pondering where to walk when I realized Dobson Ranch has one of the premier arenas for just such an activity. The trails, well sidewalks, in Dobson Ranch are a lot nicer and a whole lot closer to Dobson Ranch. It is just a short trip to the Los Altos or the Saratoga Recreation Centers where one can find ample parking and walking paths that extend for miles. And, the view of our lakes and green parkways is much better than anything found at Phoenix's South Mountain Park.

The effort put into water conservation is not always obvious, but it is right there staring you right in the face, even if you are appropriately masked. The lakes provide unique function. They capture much of the stormwater that runs off our streets and parking lots. Not all, but a good share of the water in our lakes is provided by nature. Sometimes nature can get carried away and provide too much water causing some flooding. For the most part, that flooding dissipates rapidly.

The turf that lines the walkways along our lakes is irrigated by a very sophisticated irrigation system. Program updates are sent daily to the irrigation controllers that take into account the amount of sunlight reaching the turf, how much rain has fallen, how long ago, and many other factors. These inputs tell the controllers how to schedule the next watering period. All this coordination takes place to provide a green parkway for our viewing pleasure as one walks along our trails.

There are other subtle factors that might not just jump out. In some places grass has been removed and crushed rock used as ground covering, a covering that does not need watering. One example is the border along fences and boundary walls. A small strip of turf has been replaced with crushed rock. This way the turf can be watered and not the wall -- saving water and the wall.

Who knew we had such nice walking paths right here on Dobson Ranch? Guess what, a lot of people already know about our great walking trails. They are used day and night. I am not a fast walker and get passed all the



time by walkers and runners alike, but we always say hello and keep on truckin'. Stay safe, Ranchers!

#### **Message From the Editor**



By Nancy Roggio
Communications Manager

#### A Special Letter to the Editor

I received the following **Letter to the Editor** on December 30, 2020. Unfortunately, it was too

late to make it in the January 2021 issue of Ranchers' RoundUp.

However, I wanted to share this poignant message from resident **Frank Mizner** with all of our readers. Here's what he had to say...

"2020 has been a very difficult year for all of us... as a nation, as a community and as individuals and families.

"Factors including the COVID pandemic, social unrest, dire economic conditions, national and state politics, even our horrible Arizona summer, have combined to cause great stress and apprehension.

"I'd like to thank the Dobson Association for all of its efforts to keep Dobson Ranch aware, involved and even entertained during these unusual circumstances.

"These efforts have included virtual painting classes and talent shows, alternative kids camps, photo contests, food trucks, drive-in movie nights, and many other special events. **Zoom** meetings have replaced in-person gatherings so Association business can continue. Staff has been readily available by phone and on-line while the office has been closed.

"Special thanks to the entire Board for its continuing efforts to maintain and update Ranch facilities, and to keep the Ranch on sound financial footing. Thanks to **Lynelle Glysson** for her cheerful and informative weekly bulletins.

"Most recently, thanks to Commodore **Chris Diamond** and all the boat owners who continued our long-time tradition by offering a beautiful lighted boat parade on December 19th. The lights and music certainly helped cheer us up during the holiday season.

"Let's all hope for a healthier, friendlier and more prosperous 2021. Together we can continue our efforts to keep Dobson Ranch 'The Best Place to Live'."

-- Frank Mizner

Frank's sentiment is very much appreciated by the Board and staff members and we certainly hope it is shared by all of our residents as well.

If you have a message or **Letter to the Editor** you'd like us to share with our readers, please email your comments to *nroggio@dobsonranch.com*. The copy deadline for the March *Ranchers' RoundUp* is February 19, 2021.

Please use the same email address above to send your reviews, comments and suggestions for future issues. We'd love to hear from you!







# BOARD CANDIDATE BIOS

#### Sam Cocchiarella



### What is your motivation for running for the Board of Directors?

I am motivated because I enjoy being a resident of the community. I have lived in Dobson Ranch for 21 years. I want to continue to help enhance our community and address barriers with solutions that would have a

positive impact on all aspects of the maintenance of our HOA.

### What activities, events, programs, and/or amenities do you enjoy at Dobson Ranch?

I enjoy the following: lakes, parks, movies in the park, yearly Easter event, fall festival, any dedications held, fall and spring Garage Sale event. I enjoy interacting with my neighbors and other residents of the community.

### As you look at the Dobson Ranch community, what specific challenges do you see facing the HOA?

The following are challenges I currently see: a community that is aging, reserve fund that needs to be fully funded, infrastructure that requires consistent maintenance, and to maintain property value.

#### **Autobiography:**

I moved to Dobson Ranch 21 years ago with my wife, son and daughter. I was a business owner for 35 years as a licensed painting contractor which included interior decorating and home improvement. I serviced individuals throughout the valley, including Dobson Ranch residents. I have a B.A. in Business Administration from ASU, part of my degree includes accounting and business management. I have volunteered in many events hosted by the Dobson Ranch HOA -- such as being a member of the budget and finance committee for six years, Halloween event as a judge of costumes, judge for the Boat Parade at Christmas, took on the roles of Santa and the Easter Bunny, and 4th of July as the role of Uncle Sam in the parade. I was employed by the DR HOA for 14 years.

#### Chris Diamond



### What is your motivation for running for the Board of Directors?

Having been on the Board for over a year now, I appreciate that I have been able to be a voice for all Dobson Ranch residents. I'm lucky to be serving and working with some really awesome people that show how much they

really care about Dobson Ranch and how with respect and teamwork we can accomplish great things for the Ranch. One of my goals is to get more residents involved with the Board and DR Committees.

### What activities, events, programs, and/or amenities do you enjoy at Dobson Ranch?

My family and I enjoy and regularly attend the events and activities on the Ranch including the Movies in the Park, Easter and Halloween events, Bark in the Park, Pancake Breakfasts, etc. And, as the head of the Yacht Club, I help coordinate the annual Holiday Lighted Boat Parade.

### As you look at the Dobson Ranch community, what specific challenges do you see facing the HOA?

I feel the biggest challenge we face currently is keeping up with the CC&R regulations in a way that's fair to all residents as well as operating and getting things back to normal during the Covid pandemic.

#### **Autobiography:**

My wife Sandra and I moved to the Ranch in 2005. We now live here with our two adopted daughters, ages 12 and 14, and two dogs. We moved here from the Los Angeles area where I worked as an IT Manager at Disney Theatrical Productions and I now own a Web Development business and T-Shirt Web Shop. I was a founding member and now Commodore of the Dobson Ranch Yacht Club. We love biking, camping, boating, traveling, and just hanging out in the pool on a hot Arizona summer day.

#### **Nicole Lynam**



### What is your motivation for running for the Board of Directors?

I am running for the Board because I love living in Dobson Ranch. Our community is so diverse and unique. I have enjoyed being involved in our community over the past several years and feel that participating on the Board may allow

me to further assist in guiding our community into remaining as "The Best Place to Live."

### What activities, events, programs, and/or amenities do you enjoy at Dobson Ranch?

Over the past several years, I have regularly attended the Board Meetings and have been a member of the Dobson Ranch Architectural Committee. I love taking my dogs to Bark in the Park, walking them around our gorgeous lake paths, or taking them on our boat. I recently decorated Christmas cookies via Zoom and watched the awesome Boat Parade. Even with the pandemic, Dobson Ranch has found amazing ways to keep activities fun and safe.

### As you look at the Dobson Ranch community, what specific challenges do you see facing the HOA?

I think our biggest strengths are also our biggest challenges. As we approach 50 years, Dobson Ranch is an aging community. That history gives us an amazing diversity, with residents of all demographics and homes of varying styles and ages. But, it also brings a need to focus on maintaining our community and not let it deteriorate with age. Whether it is upgrading our aging facilities and infrastructure, adding new community amenities, or encouraging residents to upgrade their properties, we have an obligation to ensure that our community maintains a high level of integrity.

#### **Autobiography:**

My husband, Brian, and I moved to Dobson Ranch in 2017. We are both local business owners and attempt to stay involved in improving our community. I am an ASU Alumni with a degree in Housing Development and currently sit on the City of Mesa's Board of Adjustments. When I'm not designing buildings at my architectural firm, I enjoy playing with my two dogs, reading books or learning new things. I try to always look at the positive aspects of life and motivate those around me to work hard and reach for big dreams.



### **Assessment Payment Options**

by Lisa Morse, Controller



Dear Residents,

The Finance Department would like to provide you with our 2021 assessment payment information and assessment payment options, in case you still have any remaining questions.

You may pay your annual assessment dues using either of the following options:

- Annual assessment payment of \$552.00 paid on or after the 1st day of January 2021.
- Quarterly assessment payments of \$138.00 paid on the 1st day of January, April, July, and October 2021.
   Please note: A late fee of \$15.00 will be charged quarterly if your payment is not received by the 30th day of the first month of each quarter.
- Monthly assessment payment of \$46.00 paid on the 1st day of each month.
  - Please note: Your first monthly payment for each quarter must be received by the 30th day of the first month of each quarter, to avoid the quarterly assessed late fee.

You may pay your assessments using either of the following methods:

- Setting up your payments through our online payment portal.
- Utilizing your bill pay services with your banking institution.
- 3. Mailing your check to our new P.O. Box.
- Placing your check in our dropbox near the La Casita office.

If you are making an assessment payment using our Payment Portal either by debit or credit card, checking or savings account information, you will need to set up a new account on our new payment portal at www.dobsonranch-hoa.com.

You will need the following information to make your assessment payment online located at www.dobsonranch-hoa.com. First, click on "Make a Payment" located at the top of the website. The next webpage will include the Assessment Payment Portal (the blue button) where you can set up your payments. Please click on the "Make a Payment" button and enter the following information:

- Management ID = 1194
- Association ID = 00DR
- Property/Account Number: (Located in the upper right-hand corner of your statement -- The first nine digits of your Dobson Ranch account number.)

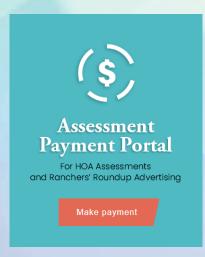
If you are paying assessments through an automatic payment using bill pay with your bank: You will need to use or change the P.O. Box address to: The Dobson Association Inc. P.O. Box 98148, Phoenix, AZ 85038-0148. If you choose to set up a payment using bill pay with your bank, your payment will be sent to CIT Bank for payment processing.

If you are sending your assessments in by check to our lockbox: You will need to send your payment to our new lockbox at: The Dobson Association Inc. at P.O. Box 98148, Phoenix, AZ 85038-0148. Checks are sent to CIT Bank for payment processing.

We understand that these are difficult times for a lot of people. If you need further assistance or if you need to make payment arrangements, please call the administration office at 480-831-8314, and our finance staff will be happy to assist you.

We sincerely thank you for your prompt assessment payments.

We wish you a safe and healthy 2021! Lisa







Make your payments through our online Payment Portal with credit or debit card, mail your check or drop off your check in the Drop Box at La Casita.



#### JOIN THE BOARD!

### Call for Candidates

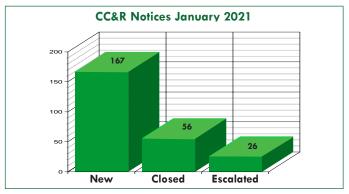
We are continuing our call for candidates for the three **Board of Director** seats that will be filled at the April 2021 **Annual Meeting of the Members.** Each position is for a 3-year term.

Serving on the Board of Directors for Dobson Ranch can be a fulfilling volunteer experience. Whether you are a long-time resident or new to Dobson Ranch, serving as a board member means you can partner with other residents in building a strong sense of community.

The Board of Directors are responsible for serving their neighbors and making sound decisions regarding finances, amenities, events, policy and governing documents. It is an endeavor that requires a time commitment of monthly meetings, committees, and executive sessions. It requires education on how homeowners' associations run and their responsibilities to the members. These members are your neighbors and every decision will impact them. It can be very rewarding to see your input come to fruition in the aesthetic qualities of Dobson Ranch as well as sound policy and finances.

If you are interested in serving on the Board, please go to the website (www.dobsonranchhoa.com/board-of-directors/-join-the-board-of-directors), fill out an application and send it to: Iglysson@dobsonranch.com. Please include a bio and photo of yourself to be included in the March issue of Ranchers' RoundUp.

#### CC&R Notices







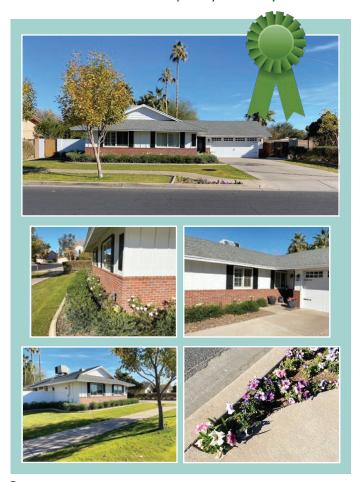
#### By Nancy Roggio

Ranchers' RoundUp Editor

Our February Green Thumb Award goes to The Zadjinski Family at 2631 S. Longmore.

Resident **Jess Earle**, who nominated the family for this honor, said, "The Zadjinskis have done a beautiful job updating their property and are always working hard to make their home shine in our community. They are great neighbors who go the extra mile to keep our community great."

Homeowners taking pride in their property like the Zadjinskis is what makes Dobson Ranch indisputably... the best place to live!



There are many impressive and well-manicured yards in Dobson Ranch that it's hard to pick just one each month. If you would like your yard or a neighbor's yard featured in a future issue of <code>RoundUp</code>, email <code>nroggio@dobsonranch.com</code>.



#### Residential Architectural Guidelines Revisions

by Camille Gonzales, Operations Manager



Dear Residents,

On January 12, 2021, the Dobson Ranch
Architectural Committee approved the revised
Residential Architectural Guidelines. The
DRAC started the review of the Guidelines
back in 2019 and held several open meetings

and workshops since then to discuss the changes. Most of the changes were to clarify the language, revise the enforcement policy, and to make sure all federal, state and city laws were in line. So, how does this affect you as a homeowner? I wanted to highlight a few of the changes that come up often when dealing with CC&R violations.

- Definitions "Visible Yard" and "Front Yard" were both clarified. A "Visible Yard" means a yard area that can be seen from the public street, the ground floor of neighboring lots, or the common areas. And a "Front Yard" means a yard extending across the full width of the lot or parcel of land between the most forward plane of the main residential structure and continuing along the front face of any wall or fence that runs from the side of the main residential structure to the property lines at each side of the lot and extending to the street curb or edge of the payement.
- Section 2.9 Vehicles 2.9.1- No mobile homes, travel trailer, tent trailer, trailer, recreational vehicle, motorhome, detached camper, boat, boat trailer, box truck, semi-truck or tractor-trailer, ATV, off-road vehicle, or race car shall be parked on any driveway, carport, front or side yards. Please refer to your subdivision's CCRs for further clarification. Many calls that come in from homeowners are regarding cars, RVs or trucks parked on the street. All streets are City streets and the HOA does not give out violations for street parking. The best way is to contact the City of Mesa's Compliance Department especially if there is a safety concern.
- Section 2.12 Visible Yard Areas Section 1.12.1- "Front Yards" shall have and maintain a minimum of one live tree (15-gallon size or larger) and two live shrubs (5-gallon size or larger) and must be permanently planted in the

ground. Any installation or modification of landscaping (other than like-kind replacement of plant material) or hardscape improvements must receive the prior written approval of the DRAC. One change that comes up often regarding violations is the planting of trees in the front yard. The new guidelines state that Front Yards shall have and maintain a minimum of one live tree (15-gallon size or larger).

- Section 2.12 Visible Yard Areas Section 2.12.2 Yard
  Areas Prohibited Uses Homeowners that wish to extend
  additional parking to the existing driveway must now make
  sure that it is constructed of the same material as the
  existing driveway and is no wider than 10 feet beyond the
  garage width. All homeowners must first be approved for
  any additional parking by the DRAC Committee before
  work can be started.
- Section 2.18 Flagpoles and Flags An added change regarding flags is: Unless otherwise prohibited by an individual subdivision's declaration, up to two banners may be flown from an approved freestanding or wall mounted flagpole, in lieu of the permitted flags, so long as such banners do not exceed the size of a permitted flag or have any offensive language or graphics, as determined in the sole discretion of the DRAC. Flags and flagpoles are another common violation, so please read the guidelines carefully before mounting or installing flags.

Again, these are just a few of the changes of the revised Residential Architectural Guidelines. Please be sure to read over them carefully. Homeowners can find the revised Residential Architectural Guidelines on the Dobson Ranch website. If there are ever any questions regarding violations or even Architectural Applications, please contact the Code Compliance department. We will be happy to assist you. The DRAC Committee put in many hours and great effort into revising the guidelines. They are also members of the Dobson Ranch community and understand that these guidelines not only affect their neighbors, but also themselves as well.

If you would like a copy of the Residential Architectural
Guidelines, please email me at cgonzales@dobsonranch.com.

The Dobson Association, Inc.

RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURAL GUIDELINES

Approved January 12, 2021



### Home & Garden

#### **Landscaping Tips**





By Arizona Landscape Contractors' Association, the Sustainable Landscape Management (SLM) and the Arizona Certified Landscape Professional (ACLP) www.ALCA.org

### The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

In nearly every arboriculture class, at some point the professor tells the students to go take pictures of The Good, The Bad and The Ugly. Literally hundreds of photos come in of The Bad and/or The Ugly but The Good are considerably fewer and there ensues lots of discussion as to what is The Good. We tend to focus so



much on what is wrong with our plants that we often forget to look for the good plants in our landscape. The plants that are thriving, that are healthy and functioning well, living a long life as they were intended. We all need to look for and become more aware of The Good plants in our landscape.

#### How do we do that?

- Learn the plants. We cannot know what a good plant looks like if we do not know the plant. Once the plant has been identified...
- Look up, read about, ask about the plant. How does it look at maturity? What problems might the plant have? How should the problems be treated?
- Share knowledge about how to maintain Good plants. What is the appropriate watering regimen, pruning practices, exposure and location in the landscape?
   Everything it takes to make and keep a plant Good.
- Share photos of Good plants so that all may know how a Good plant should look.

#### Is a plant Bad or Ugly or can it be both?

Usually, Bad is the plant that has not been maintained appropriately and may be diseased, insect infested or nutrient deficient. Ugly is the plant that is being maintained, but in such a way that does not enhance the landscape. Can we tell the difference or does it really matter? Either plant needs our help and expertise.

ALCA promotes excellence in landscape maintenance and management through our educational programs and awards competitions. By doing so, we enhance the public's perception of our association and the Green Industry.

### **Protect Your Landscape Investment!**

Article provided by:



Arizona Landscape Contractors Association • 5425 E Bell Rd. #105 Scottsdale, AZ 85254 602-626-7091 • www.ALCA.org

#### **Homeowner Improvements**

### Architectural Applications January 2021

By Carole Stabile, Member Services Coordinator

by Carole Stabile, Melliber Services Coord	illiai	OI .
21 Applications	\$1	30,061
DOBSON RANCH UNIT III		
Driveway Extension	\$	9,000
Window Replacement	\$	250
DOBSON RANCH UNIT V		
Block Wall	\$	400
DOBSON SHORES		
Window Replacement	\$	600
Paint	\$	500
Roof	\$	10,703
Driveway to Park Large Van	\$	38,000
LAGUNA SHORES AMENDED		400
Window Replacement	\$	17,400
GOLDEN PALMS ESTATES		
Paint	\$	1,500
LOS ALTOS		
Paint	\$	5,400
Driveway Pavers	\$	3,958
Landscape	\$	9,050
Entry Gate	\$	8,000
Patio Cover	\$	9,500
SARATOGA LAKES		
Paint	\$	4,700
Window Replacement	\$	9,100
KNOELL VILLA SOLANO		
Paint	\$	2,000

Home Sales

Trustee Properties: 1 – House Home Sales: 12



**REMEMBER:** Only keep your trash barrels out on designated days. Visit *mesaaz.gov* for more info and larger map.





### Two Free Trees for One Hour of Your Time!

By Kathrine Blomquist, Water Management Committee Member



Last month's **Conservation Corner** discussed the win-win of consuming sustainable seafood; it's a good dietary choice for your health and for the health of the oceans. Come March, we will have the opportunity to save water, save money and act as environmental stewards for future generations, all without leaving Dobson Ranch! Talk about another win-win.

As customers of **SRP**, we can earn two free, desert-adapted shade trees through **SRP's Shade Tree Program**. All we need to do is attend a free online workshop to receive two 4- to 6-foot saplings. During the workshop, we will learn about the eligible trees, the best methods for planting in energy-saving locations, caring for the trees and more. All current SRP residential customers are eligible to receive the trees, as long as certain criteria are met, such as planting trees within 15 feet of exposed exterior walls and windows and not previously receiving trees for the home from a prior workshop. Find out more at **www.srpnet.com/shadetrees**.

As desert dwellers, conserving water outside the home is one of the best things we can do. Outdoor water use accounts for up to 70% of household water consumption – 70%! One way to combat this is to landscape your yard with native desert trees and shrubs. Shading your home with desert-adapted trees uses less water than turf and helps

reduce your cooling costs. Plus, trees improve air quality and lowers the Valley's heat effect. Be-leaf it, shade trees are beneficial in more ways than one.

The online workshop is **Saturday, March 6 at 10:00 am.** You will receive *Zoom* login information after your registration and verification are complete. The webinars are conducted by **Trees Matter**, a Phoenix-based 501(c)(3) environmental education nonprofit, whose mission is to inspire and promote an increased tree canopy in the Valley. Register today at <a href="http://www.rsvpbook.com/SRPWEB030621">http://www.rsvpbook.com/SRPWEB030621</a> or select the March 6 online *Zoom* webinar which can be found at <a href="https://www.srpnet.com/shadetrees">www.srpnet.com/shadetrees</a>.

To make the program extra easy for residents, your new trees will be available for pick-up on Saturday, March 27, 9:00 to 11:00 am at La Casita's parking lot (2719 S. Reyes). Deb Coy - Trees Matter volunteer, Master Gardener, and Ranch resident - will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about planting and caring for your new trees.

Join your fellow Ranch residents in the **Shade Tree Program** this March. Register today for the workshop on March 6 and enjoy convenient tree pick-up at La Casita on March 27. Your stewardship helps the community, your pocketbook and the environment for future generations. Not bad for one hour of your time!



Desert-Adapted
Shade Trees
selection includes:

- Desert Willow
- Native Mesauite
- Palo Verde
- Thornless Mesquite
- Thornless Palo Verde
- Willow Acacia

#DobsonRanchStrong

Dobson Ranch is a community leader in conservation practices, let's keep it that way in 2021 & beyond!



### **Movers and Shakers**

### **Events 2021: Thinking Outside the Box**

By Nancy Roggio, Communications Manager and Ranchers' RoundUp Editor



Jesse Wright chairs the Recreation
Committee and has been our Recreation
Manager for the past 8-1/2 years. Get to
know more about Jesse, the Recreation
Committee and the challenges he faces
daily to manage engaging events during
the pandemic in this Q&A-style interview.

#### Q: Tell us about your background.

JW: I received my Bachelor of Science

Degree in Recreation Management from the University of Wisconsin La Crosse. In my spare time, I like to cheer on Wisconsin sports teams, cook, hunt, golf, and travel with my family.

#### Q: What is your family status?

JW: I have been married to my wife, **Trisha**, for 15 years this month. We have two children, **Brinley**, who is 8, and **Brock**, who is 13, and currently live in Gilbert.

Q: Explain what it is that you do as the Recreation Manager.
JW: As the Recreation Manager, I oversee the entire Recreation
Department. This includes the La Casita Preschool, all recreational programs and events, camps, and recreation staff.

### Q: Who else is on the Recreation Committee? When does the Committee meet? What is its purpose?

JW: The Recreation Committee consists of Avé Wright - our Recreation Coordinator, Kwong Young - our Tennis Pro, Lynda Bailey — Women's Tennis League Captain, Rich Bitner — Pickleball Club Representative, Kathrine Blomquist — President of the Dobson Dolphins; Jack Armstrong - Dobson Ranch Retirees Representative, Chris Diamond — Dobson Ranch Yacht Club President, as well as Joan Long and Allen Johnson from the Board of Directors.

When in session, we meet the first Tuesday of each month, although our recent meetings have been cancelled due to COVID-19 regulations. However, we will not resume regular meetings until the Recreation Center is reopened to the public.

#### Q: What is the purpose of the Recreation Committee?

JW: The purpose of the Recreation Committee is to report the success of our programs and events, and the committee members report on how and what their specific clubs are doing.

### Q: How has the COVID-19 pandemic changed the Dobson Ranch special events in 2020?

JW: The pandemic has caused us to basically cancel all in-person events and think outside the box. We usually put on 26 in-person events per year. Starting in March of 2020, we had to restructure programs and events and postpone our popular Preschool program. Out of necessity, we were forced to develop new socially-distanced events such as our Scavenger Hunts that we did for Easter and Halloween, and Virtual Classes like painting and cookie decorating. We offered our residents Virtual Camps for Summer, Spring and Fall Break.

And, we hosted **Drive-In Movie Nights** and a tasty assortment of **Food Truck Fridays** (pre-order food events) at La Casita.

### Q: What is the biggest challenge the Recreation Committee faces today? How can it be met?

JW: The challenge is to keep the recreation programs going with the tight restrictions COVID-19 presents. We need to continuously be looking for engaging event alternatives while keeping our residents as safe as possible.

### Q: What is the one thing that you would like to see change (in relation to special events) on the Ranch?

JW: I can't wait until we can offer in-person events again and see our community gather safely.

# Q: What is your top priority on the Recreation Committee? JW: Our number one priority is to keep the clubs engaged and supply them with information about our current events.

### Q: What special events do you have planned for 2021? Which events may have to be cancelled?

JW: At this time, I cannot plan any new in person events because we do not know when the regulations are going to be lifted to get back to normal. As of now, the annual **Easter Eggstravaganza** event will be cancelled, and we are working on ideas to do something socially-distanced or virtual in its place.

#### Q: What COVID safety procedures are being enforced on the Ranch during special events? What can Ranchers do to stay safe at Dobson Ranch events?

JW: The only in-person events we are doing at this time are Bark in the Park and our Spring Community Clean-Up. We ask that our residents follow government safety guidelines.

### Q: How many different places can Ranchers find out about upcoming special events?

JW: Residents can find event information on our website Events Calendar (dobsonranchhoa.com), in the monthly Ranchers' RoundUp magazine, social media (Facebook and Instagram), on the Dobson Ranch App, or by calling the Recreation Department directly at 480-831-7494.

# Q: Would you like to have other Ranchers join the Recreation Committee? If so, what type of person would be best suited to join the committee?

JW: All residents are welcome to come to our meetings once we are able to meet in person again. We are always looking for people that are passionate about Recreation on the Ranch and have great ideas.

Interested in joining the Recreation Committee? No special skills are required other than to be passionate about special events, willing to listen and volunteer to help out for any of the events in which we participate. Please contact Lynelle Glysson at lglysson@dobsonranchhoa.com.



### Walberbird Wonderland

By Joe Trickett, Chairman of the Water and Lake Management Committee



As another mild winter rolls through southern Arizona, we get to enjoy the great weather this season has to offer. Chilly mornings and mild nights bring us near perfect days. It is no secret how great our weather is this time of year. We usually see an influx of "Snowbirds" from other

areas who are trying to escape the bitter cold. Though the car driving and traffic slowing Snowbird numbers are down this year due to the pandemic, the same cannot be said about nature's snowbirds.

Waterbirds and other migratory birds still make the journey south each winter, and one cannot blame them for making a pit stop or riding out the winter here. Wild geese, ducks, grebes, coots, egrets, rails, bitterns, shorebirds, and several fish-eating birds such as Bald Eagles, two varieties of cormorants, ospreys, and Belted Kingfishers make up a few of the species that pass through the Phoenix metropolitan area. These birds often make appearances or take up residency at many of the hundreds of urban lakes and ponds that are here.

**Arizona Fish and Game** conducts a single day census on the third Saturday of January each year. The census is conducted

by over 65 volunteers and encompasses 26 cities within the Phoenix metropolitan area. The census usually documents 40,000 to 65,000 wild waterbirds of 50-60 species wintering in this otherwise desert urban environment. In comparison to size, there is no other area in Arizona that contains such a high density and diversity of wintering waterbirds.

Though great for birding, it is important that the birds do not over congregate or overstay their welcome. Large numbers of fish-eating birds such as cormorants can have negative effects on fish stock, and their droppings also have shown to be harmful to the soil underneath the trees in which they roost. Duck and geese waste can upset the PH balance of the water and cause other issues. To help ensure that the birds move on it is important that we do not feed them, just imagine how many of the human snowbirds would stick around if we offered them free food!

Next time you enjoy a walk or bike ride around the Ranch, take a look up at the trees and shoreline around our lakes, you just might see a vacationing snowbird. If you can grab a photo of it, be sure to send it to *nroggio@dobsonranch.com* to be featured in an upcoming issue of *Ranchers RoundUp*.

# How Many Winter Snowbirds Can You Identify?











Grebe

Coot

Egret

Rail

Bittern











Shorebird

Bald Eagle

Cormoran

sprev

**Belted Kingfisher** 

How many have you seen in Dobson Ranch?



#### From the Recreation Director's Desk



**By Jesse Wright** Recreation Manager

The DR Recreation Department welcomes you to 2021 with several special programs and events coming up in February through April. First up is the

Virtual Valentine's Cookie Decorating Class on February 13. In March, we have Spring Break Camp for students ages 6-12, which will run March 8-12 and will be held virtually. If you are looking for something for the kiddos to do when they are on break... look no further! We will be introducing some new activities and will have lots of fun throughout the week.

It's also that time of year for some spring cleaning. Join us for our Community Clean Up & Shred event on Saturday, March 13. (See ad on page 16 for more details.)

Finally, Easter is right around the corner. We have come up with some great socially-distanced activities. Our Family Easter Drive-In Movie "Hop" is scheduled for Thursday, April 1st at 7:00 pm. Reserve your spot on the Dobson Ranch App. We'll also have an Easter Photo Hunt on Monday, March 29 – Friday, April 2 for ages 13 and up. There will be an Easter picture posted on Facebook and Instagram each day taken somewhere on the Ranch. You will have to determine where it was taken and send in your guess by 7:00 pm daily to iwright@dobsonranch.com. Every day your guess is correct, your name will be entered in a drawing for a Grand Prize!

Another fun event for the holiday will be our **QR Code Easter Hunt** Friday, April 1— Sunday, April 3 by 5:00 pm for ages
0-12. There will be Easter pictures scattered around Laguna

Park and walkway. Scan each QR code with your phone and write down the answer. When you have all 10, email the answers to awright@dobsonranch.com. All participants will receive a goodie bag. And last, but certainly not least, we will have an Easter Egg Decorating Contest. Age categories are: 5-8 years, 9-12 years, 13-17 years, and 18+. First Prize: \$50 gift card. Second Prize: \$30 gift card in each age category. Send egg photos to jwright@dobsonranch.com, along with your name and age by no later than April 4 by 5:00 pm.

#### 2021 Fishing and Boating Permits Now on Sale at La Casita

Fishing Licenses and Boat Permits for 2021 have been on sale since December 1st. Prices will remain the same this year. Pricing for Fishing Licenses: Residents \$5, Non-Residents \$10 for individuals (seven years of age and older). And, for a family of up to four: Residents \$10, Non-Residents \$20. Boat Permits are \$15 for non-motorized and motorized watercrafts (lifelong permit). Stop by La Casita Recreation Center to purchase your licenses or permits. (You can drop your information/payment in the drop box or mail them to the Recreation office).





#### Tennis Tip for February: Strings and Grip



**By Kwong Young**Dobson Ranch Tennis Professional

Will your playing equipment (tennis racket) assist in your performance to determine if you will win or not?

Some of the factors may depend on who you are partnered with (in a doubles match) or merely your skill level and consistency. But, other factors that players overlook is simply their strings & grip.

After a period of time, strings will lose their playability, feel and tension which will result with the outcome of your shot making delivery. You'll need to find the correct balance of power, spin, comfort, and durability that's right for you by combining the right string at the right tension.

Another factor to consider is a worn or less tacky grip where the player has a bit of slippage when grasping and swinging the racket and will experience some racket twisting due to a worn grip. The way you hold the handle of your racket can heavily impact the way you hit a tennis ball. Whether you use the stock grip or apply overgrip tape, you need to be able to identify when the grip needs repair or customization. You can alter your tennis racket grip in two ways: you can replace the

entire grip or apply a racket overgrip on top of it.

So, periodically make sure you restring your racket and re-grip to help with better on court play.







### **DOBSON RANCH TENNIS ACADEMY**

All tennis lessons and Round Robin events are held at the La Casita Recreation Center.

All tennis sessions begin on the first of each month and run until the end of the month.

Contact the La Casita Recreation Center for more information at 480-831-7464

or visit dobsonranchhoa.com.



#### **ADULTS**

Dobson Ranch offers a full-range of programs and playing opportunities for ages 16+ and various ability levels. We focus on developing the complete player who can perform in any match situation at any level. Our tennis pro combines technical, mental and physical elements of the game to help build confidence and conditioning to ensure a positive, successful and fun experience.

#### **Adult Skills & Drills**

Geared for advanced beginners/intermediate players, this class focuses on technique and spin production on shots, as well as basic match strategies. Through structured drills, players will improve their playing consistency, build confidence, and learn how to generate more speed and power.

**7:00 pm - 8:30 pm** 1 Sessions: Monthly Monday, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 S958 \$50 R/\$75 NR Weds., March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 S959 \$50 R/\$75 NR

#### **Adult Weekday Doubles Play**

If you enjoy playing doubles, but want to improve by doing various shot selections, direction, height, speed, and court positioning, then this will be a court-wise way to help improve your doubles game.

8:30 pm - 10:00 pm | Sessions: Monthly Monday, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 5960 \$50 R/\$75 NR Weds., March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 5961 \$50 R/\$75 NR

#### **Adult Saturday Doubles**

If you enjoy playing doubles, but want to improve by doing various shot selections, direction, height, speed, and court positioning, then this will be a court-wise way to help improve your doubles game.

#### **JUNIORS**

The mission of Dobson Ranch junior tennis is to provide quality instruction in a fun and friendly atmosphere with a multilevel juniors program from the youngest beginners to sanctioned tournament players. Each tennis student's placement is based on age, experience and a challenge ladder. Classes combine energized drills, fun games, match play, and conditioning. Our goal is for students to reach a higher level of play and learn to love a sport they will play for a lifetime. Bring a friend!

#### **Junior Clinic**

This class is for junior tennis players ages 7-12 looking for an introduction to tennis. This class will introduce basic technique through fun drills and games. Learn how to serve into the correct service box, how to keep score, how to properly rotate the racquet, and how to sustain a rally. If you don't already have a racquet, our tennis pro will fit your child for the proper racquet size during the first class.

**6:00 pm - 7:00 pm** 1 Sessions: Monthly Monday, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 **5956 \$50 R/\$75 NR** 

**10:30 am - 11:30 am** I Sessions: Monthly Saturday, March 6, 13, 20, 27 **5957 \$40 R/\$60 NR** 

#### **Monthly Round Robin Social\***

This monthly social is a fantastic way to meet other tennis players in the community. Players will participate in doubles and mixed-doubles matches in a round-robin format, assorted by levels. No matter what your playing level is, come out and meet other tennis players in a fun, relaxed setting.

Saturday | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm \*March Social 3/20 FREE! Adults 16+ (Register in advance, space is limited.)

#### **PRIVATE INSTRUCTION**

Private tennis lessons are available for individual one-on-one instruction with the Dobson Ranch Tennis Professional. Please call **Kwong Young** at 480-759-2248 or kyoung@dobsonranch.com to schedule private lessons. The Dobson Ranch tennis courts are for the exclusive use of Dobson Ranch residents and the Association Tennis Professional. Other professionals are not to teach classes, lessons or clinics on our Association courts at any time. To ensure the Ranch tennis program remains viable, Dobson Ranch residents should consult the Association Tennis Pro for all tennis instruction. No outside tennis professionals are permitted on Association courts.



#### RECREATION CLASSES

The following classes are tentatively on the schedule and are subject to change. Please visit the events calendar for the most up-to-date information at www.dobsonranch.com.

#### **ADULT EXERCISE CLASSES**

TAI CHI

Instructor: Linda When: Wednesdays

Where: AM Classes & PM Classes at

La Casita Recreation Center

Time: 9:00 am Beginning Tai Chi

10:00 am Intermediate Tai Chi 6:00 pm Intermediate Tai Chi 7:00 pm Beginning Tai Chi

Cost: \$3 drop in residents, \$6 drop in non-residents

\$12 resident only for a 6-use punch card



Tai Chi is a gentle Chinese exercise system that may enhance strength and flexibility as well as reduce stress. Learning the Tai Chi form can be the beginning of a healthy, lifelong practice that can improve

the quality of life of individuals who choose to practice it.

#### YOGA FOR BEGINNERS

Instructor: Jeanne When: Mondays

Time: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Where: La Casita Recreation Center

Cost: \$8 drop in, \$42 resident only for a 7-use

punch card



Transform your mind, body and spirit! Yoga will improve your flexibility and strengthen your core muscles while banishing stress and tension. This relaxing but invigorating

class promotes inner calmness using breathing techniques, balancing postures and stretching/floor work. Modifications available to meet all levels. Bring a yoga mat. Yoga blocks, strap and blanket/towel are very helpful. You can attend either yoga class offered with your punch card. \*

#### **HEALING YOGA**

Instructor: Samantha

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Where: La Casita Recreation Center

When: 8:15 am - 9:15 am

Cost: \$8 drop in or \$42 resident only for a 7-use

punch card

Hard to get up off the floor? Body having a hard time moving? Join us for gentle, therapeutic body movement. We gently move and stretch different parts of the body to help bring new life to tired parts! Learn how to relax the mind, discovering how to relieve anxiety, bring better sleep, and not letting your worries take control over your mind. If you think your body has hat it and can't do anything anymore – think again.



Come join us for gentle recovery. You can try it lying on the floor, or even in a chair. Bring a yoga mat. You can attend either yoga class offered with your punch card. \*

#### **FITNESS IN THE PARK**

Instructor: Nancy

When: Mondays & Thursdays 6:00 am - 6:45 am\*;

Where: Laguna Park

Cost: See pricing below in orange band.
RSVP: Contact the instructor with questions prior

to class at 602-703-7822 or at nancy@magillfitness.com

Buy 5, Get 1 FREE! Residents: \$50, Non-Residents: \$75 Buy 9, Get 3 FREE! Residents: \$90, Non-Residents \$135

Your 1st class is **FREE!!!** Contact Nancy at 602-703-7822 or at nancy@magillfitness.com to reserve your first **FREE** class.

\*Your Punch Card for this class expires three months from your purchase date. Punch Cards may be punched one time for residents only per class. No additional punches for guests or residents. Punch Cards can be purchased **by appointment** at the La Casita Recreation Center.





#### CHILDREN'S DANCE CLASSES

#### **FAIRYTALE DANCERS (AGES 3-5)**

Code: 5954

When: Thursdays (February 25 - April 1)
Where: La Casita Recreation Center

Time: 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Cost: Reg. fee due at time of enrollment:

Residents \$5. Non-Residents \$10. Contractor fee due to the instructor the first day of program: \$30 check or cash only.

Children will be introduced to dance through their favorite fairytales during this positive and encouraging class. Dance can build self-esteem and improve motor skills. Watch your prince or princess shine in this fun and creative program. Children need soft-soled shoes and comfortable clothes. Ballet shoes, leotard and tiahts are recommended. There will be a perfor-



mance on the last day of class. Children must be able to work in a group setting and follow directions. For more info on this program, contact Jana Moore at 480-363-9997.

#### **DANCE SAMPLER** (AGES 5-8)

Code: 5953

When: Tuesdays (February 23 - March 30)
Where: La Casita Recreation Center

Time: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Cost: Reg. fee due at time of enrollment:

Residents \$5, Non-Residents \$10. Contractor fee due to instructor the first day of program: \$30 check or cash only.

This upbeat and fun class is perfect to sample different dance styles which will include jazz, ballet, modern, hip hop, and other styles. Get moving with this upbeat and fun class and discover dance. For more information on this program, contact Jana Moore at 480-363-9997.



#### INTRO TO BALLET & JAZZ (AGES 4-6)

Code: 5955

When: Thursdays (February 25 - April 1)
Where: Saratoga Recreation Center

Time: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Cost: Reg. fee due at time of enrollment:

Residents \$5, Non-Residents \$10. Contractor fee due to instructor the first day of program: \$30 check or cash only.

In a fun, encouraging and high energy atmosphere, your child will be shown the fundamentals of ballet and jazz, which can help improve motor skills and creative expression. Soft-soled shoes are recommended or bare feet. Children must be able to work in a group setting.



There will be a recital at the end of the session. For more information on this program, contact Jana Moore at 480-363-9997.

### GET YOUR PUNCH CARDS FOR RECREATION CLASSES BY APPOINTMENT AT LA CASITA

\* Punch cards may be punched one time for residents only per class. No additional punches for guests or residents. Punch Cards expire two months from purchase date.



All events are subject to change. Check the Events Calendar on our website for the most up-to-date info.



Adults and children ages 8+ will love this class!



### Dump It!

Ranch Clean Up: 7:00 am - 1:30 pm Los Altos Parking Lot

Residents are responsible for loading and unloading their own material. Unacceptable items include: appliances, rock, block, concrete, tile, carpet, food, animal waste, engines, all hazardous waste, pressurized tanks and gas powered vehicles.

### Shred It!

Paper Shredding: 8:00 am - 11:00 am La Casita & Saratoga Parking Lots

Drop off your boxes of paper to be shredded at either location. Paper clips and staples are OK. No plastic bags.

#### Please Note:

There will be no Garage Sales during this event.

Please follow all social distancing guidelines.





Bark in the Park BOW-WOW! What a tailwagger! Visit our Dobson Ranch HOA Facebook page to see lots more pics from the event.













Winners of the 3 Virtual Bark in the Park Contests are:



Ugly Sweater - Kim & Dillon Stuart with Eva (3 yr. old Rottweiler)



Dog Owner Lookalike Spencer Biersdorff & Cooper
(3 yr. old Cockapoo & Chihuahua mix)



Best Trick Spencer Biersdorff &
Cooper (Play dead)



# easter eggstravaganza



#### Family Drive-In Movie Night

La Casita Parking Lot

Featuring the delightful animated movie HOP.

Register on the Dobson Ranch App. Limited to one vehicle per family. Freshly-papped popcorn will be provided. Please arrive by 6:45 pm to pick your parking spot.

Social distancing guidelines apply.



#### Social Media Photo Hunt

March 29 - April 2
Ages 13 and up

A picture of an Easter photo taken somewhere on the Ranch will be posted on our Facebook & Instagram pages each day. Once you determine where it was taken, send your guess to jwright@dobsonranch.com by 7:00 pm each evening. Every correct answer will be entered in a drawing to win \$50.



#### QR Code Easter Hunt

**April 2 - April 4** Ages 0 - 12

Look for Easter pictures scattered around Laguna Park and walkway. Scan each QR code with your phone and write down the answers. When you have all 10 answers, email them to awright@dobsonranch.com by 5:00 pm on Sunday 4/4.

All participants get a goodie bay



# Egg Decorating Contest

Eggs due April 4

By 5:00 pm

Decorate an Easter Egg, take a photo of it and you could win a prize!

Age categories: 5-8, 9-12, 13-17, and 18 and up

1st Prize: \$50 in each age group. 2nd Prize: \$30 in each age group.

Send photo: jwright@dobson-ranch.com with name & age.



FEBRUARY 2021

All events are subject to change. Check the Events Calendar on our website for the most up-to-date info.



#### HERE ARE A FEW OF THE PROUD PARTICIPANTS FROM THE CLASS ON JAN. 9TH:



## La Casita Preschool Registration

Limited Space! Low ratios!

plays & programs show and tell arts & crafts science music/motion math dramatic play practical life holiday parties

Tuesday, February 17

8:00 am
(residents only)
La Casita Rec. Center

Tuesday, February 24

8:00 am
(non-residents)
La Casita Rec. Center

We learn through play! Science Math Literacy Art Sensory and more!















To Register: Place a \$50 deposit to hold your spot! Deposit will go toward your tuition fee. A one-time \$40 registration fee will also be due for new students.

Program Dates: 2021-22 School Year - August 11 - May 18 Summer Session - June 1 - July 16, 2021 Classes: Age 3 \$147 per month Tuesday/Thursday 9:00 am - Noon

> Ages 4-5 \$213 per month Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00 am - Noon

Ages 4-5 \$279 per month Monday - Thursday 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

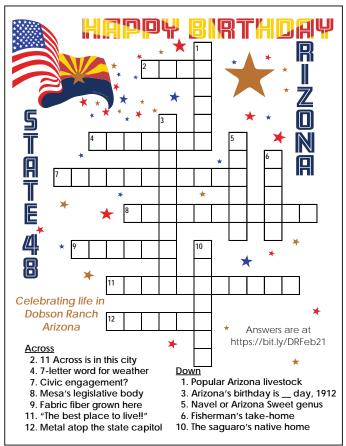
For further questions or if you would like to meet the teacher, call 480-831-7464 or email ifeltmann@dobsonranch.com.





#### **Dobson Ranch Republicans**

Michelle Masters, Chairperson



#### **Dobson Ranch Democrats & Friends Club**

By Jill Snyder, Treasurer

Please join us online for our monthly meetings to stay connected and hear from exciting speakers! We meet on the second Wednesday of each month using **Zoom.** Please visit our **Facebook** page for more information and to register for the next meeting:

https://www.facebook.com/DobsonRanchDemocrats

Thank you!

Questions? Call George Tihanyi at 480-792-6746 or Robert Doyle at 602-321-6169, or email rdoyle@canyonrecords.com

Donations are always appreciated:

https://secure.actblue.com/donate/drd20

Like us on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/DobsonRanchDemocrats/

Join our Meet-Up group:

https://www.meetup.com/LD18-Dems/





#### **Dobson Ranch Independents**

By Jack Wagner, Chairman & Dobson Ranch resident since 1979

#### "We the People" MUST get involved!



Perhaps, just perhaps, the remedy for those citizen feelings of disappointment, helplessness (nothing I can do about it), is involvement. For with that effort, comes commitment, followed by results. Where to start you ask? How about right here in our own community. Community, civic engagement, such as city council, school board meetings. First grasp the reality and

then enter substantive dialogue and debate. Coming soon, virtual, meaningful "community" halls.

"These are the times that try men's souls?" Journalism broadcast in 1776 by

If we say we can, we will! UNITE.

What's the missing letter in the puzzle above? Who said that quote? And, most importantly, what are your thoughts?

Send me a message at golfingjack@msn.com or 70sglfr@gmail.com.



### **Dobson Ranch Clubs**

#### **Dobson Ranch Retirees' Club**

By Frank Saavedra, President

The pandemic continues to dictate what we cannot do, and in that context we continually look at alternative ways of getting things done. As we mentioned last month, we were able to use online tools to initiate and manage getting Christmas gifts to needy adopted families. Our next challenge was voting for and electing officers. That is normally done in one of our monthly meetings. Since we aren't having monthly meetings, something different had to be done.

This year we have just one person who volunteered for each office. Since all officer candidates are running unopposed, voting is essentially unnecessary. All that is required to be in office this year is one vote per candidate. I can guarantee that they each get, or should I say got, my vote. The names of each officer can be found in our last *The Good Life Times* newsletter.

Many in our Club have signed up for and have taken the COVID vaccine. Like so many others in our country, we watch and hope for things to change this calendar year. We expect to one day resume meeting as a Club once again. Hopefully, that day will take place sometime this year. Until then, we will keep doing what we can, how we can.

God Bless You! Frank



Our Club's bike riders continue to have some great rides. The FREE-WHEELERS were recently riding in the Arcadia District of Phoenix. From left to right: **Kim Baker**, our bike leader **Arnie Chase**, **Frank Mizner**, **Bill Tekien**, and "hiding" behind the camera taking this picture was **Julie Stevens**.

SOCIALLY-DISTANCED LINE DANCING happens every Tuesday at 9:00 am outside on the Sunset Plaza at La Casita. Bring a lawn chair and don't forget your dancing boots!

## Mid-Winter, But Spring is in the Air... Great PB Weather with Only 1 Rain-Out

By Rich Bitner, Recreation Committee Pickleball Representative

Dobson Ranch Pickleball is alive and well, with many of our regular players scoring COVID vaccines early on. We are mostly an older group with many fitting into the guidelines for that, but we also have some players qualifying first of all in priority by virtue of their health care service, teaching credentials and essential worker status. Thank you all for your service! Let's keep masking up and socially distancing in the meantime. We will keep hand sanitizers available off the court until this is really, really over.

We continue to enjoy the clear and sometimes cold winter mornings, with good attendance on all of our drop-in play days: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 8:00 am. Also, regular evening play on Monday and Thursdays at 7:00 pm is very solid. Plus, we keep hearing there are other night time groups coming on under the lights and other small groups scattered throughout the day. To those who read this who may not be on our email list, please join us so we can maximize our opportunities for play as the Dobson Ranch HOA considers how best to resurface our courts this summer with pre-stressed concrete, and probably converting to eight dedicated pickleball courts.

Those of you who are playing regularly or reading the **RoundUp** know that the Los Altos bathrooms are now being remodeled and when done will be ADA compliant and modernized in keeping with other neighborhood venue upgrades. A

great improvement for all of us pickle players and everyone swimming, fishing, boating, walking and jogging in the area. Thanks again to the Board and staff of Dobson Ranch for all the hard work that goes into modernizing our facilities as we approach our 50th Anniversary!

We continue to welcome new resident players, but do advise checking with us before coming out to make sure our schedule has not changed. We can provide loaned paddles, but please wear appropriate attire including court shoes. Please contact Rich Bitner (rebitner@cs.com) or Frank Mizner (planner 1948 @gmail.com) for further information, to get referrals for professional instruction, and to get on our email list for announcements regarding pickleball schedules and activities. Please contact Donna Ransom at donna85202@gmail.com to get on her email list for Monday and Thursday night play.

Stay Healthy, Mask Up, Practice Safe Exercise, & Pickle-On!!





### **Dobson Ranch Clubs**

#### **Retirees' Hiking Club**

By Barbara Stout, Retirees' Hiking Club Chairperson

Hello Hikers,



Marcus Landslide Trail

March 10

Below is the new hiking schedule for the remainder of February and March. We will wear masks when we are in a group and most will drive separately to the trailhead. I will have a list of those people who would be willing to have hikers in their cars.

The Clippers "Extra" hikes are in Blue and are on Wednesdays and Fridays.

February 10 McDowell Mountains - Marcus Landslide
Trail Clippers will go to Tom's Thumb

February 17 Superstition Mountains - Dutchman Trail
from Peralta Trailhead in and out
Clippers will go to Miner's Needle

February 24 Superstition Mountains - Second Water in and out

March 3 Scottsdale Mountains - Gateway Trailhead - Gateway Loop in and out

Superstition Mountains - Dutchman Trail

from First Water Trailhead in and out

March 18 Coon Bluff Trail along the river in and out (we may see wild horses in the river)

March 24 McDowell Mountains - Brown Mountain
Trailhead - Brown Mountain Trail

March 31 Superstition Peralta Trailhead - Lost Gold-

mine Trail from Lost Goldmine East
Trailhead Clippers will go to Peralta Trail

#### Women's Club

By Patty Smith, Women's Club President

As Americans, from all different backgrounds and ideas, pray that the change of administration runs smoothy and President Biden leads **OUR** country to health and prosperity with wisdom. We should all want success and peace, compassion and kindness, and understanding and forgiveness for all. Knowledge and education will assist in our wise decisions and views. It all starts with each of **US**. God bless and protect America!

Have you been able to get your Covid vaccine or are you still on the computer trying to get an appointment? Good luck! I have a wardrobe of masks. Do you, too? It has been interesting seeing everyone's selections and personalities in theirs.

The Super Bowl has been played without the Cardinals. Was your team in it? Bills, Packers, Buccaneers or Steelers. I am cheering for two of them.

Please continue your prayers for **Phyllis Bleakley.** Have a Happy Valentine's Day and Happy President's Day.

#### Stay healthy and safe!



### A Neighbor Appreciation Salute to Doug Ressler

by Kathy Sage and the members of the Kiowa Block Watch



There is no one more community minded in our neighborhood than **Doug Ressler.** He is tireless in his efforts to better our lives with his every day contributions. As the leader of our **Kiowa Block Watch**, he organizes our meetings be it "Zoom" or breakfast at a local restaurant.

Amy Sailors, a crime prevention officer from the Fiesta District Mesa PD says, "He is super engaged with the community and what's happening in the neighborhoods. He will contact me with concerns about what he is seeing or hearing from citizens. It is refreshing to see someone who is still genuinely concerned about the welfare of others, despite all the craziness that is happening in the world. He will even stop by with treats for the officers (donuts or pizza) to show his appreciation for what they are doing on a daily basis."

When Doug is not working as a business intelligence manager or caring for his little pup, Dante, you can find him organ-

izing an Arizona Humane Society donation pick up, snapping pictures of neighborhood activities to send out via email or just emailing the group any pertinent information that he feels may benefit the neighborhood. He stays dialed in to the latest events and shares that info enthusiastically.

"When we moved into the neighborhood Doug was at our front door to welcome us with a bottle of wine and treats for our pups." "My wife and I have been Doug's neighbors for over 28 years. If you look up good neighbor in a dictionary, a photo of Doug would appear. He is our block watch captain and always takes good care of us." "Doug makes sure that all of us here on Kiowa stay informed of matters pertaining to our community. He is the linchpin that holds us all together." That is what Doug's friends and neighbors have to say about him.

We are all so thankful and grateful to have him in our lives. We just want to say, "Thank You, Doug." Here's to 2021 bringing you peace and happiness. Please keep up the great work that you do as a community activist and an animal advocate. We truly appreciate you!





# **Dobson Ranch Neighborhood Schools**Focus on the Family

By Laurie Struna, Media Communications Specialist, Communications and Engagement/MPS Photos by Samantha Chow/Mesa Public Schools

In every Mesa neighborhood, parents can find an exceptional district school. From award-winning neighborhood schools to specialized programs, Mesa Public Schools offers options for every child.

"Our legacy of educational excellence is evident in the district's promise that, 'Every student in Mesa Public Schools is known by name, served by strength and need, and graduates ready for college, career and community," shares Superintendent Andi Fourlis.

Learn more about the neighborhood schools serving the Dobson Ranch area.

#### **Crismon Elementary School**



Crismon **Elementary** is an A+ School of Excellence, engaging students in a rigorous curriculum that requires them to explain their thinking and provide

evidence to support their work. Hands-on learning opportunities such as the Garden at Crismon help students develop skills and collaborate with peers. Service learning provides opportunities for students to discover the importance of community and civic responsibility. The Xplore extended day program is also available for Crismon families. Learn more at mpsaz.org/crismon.

#### **Dobson High School**



**Dobson High** values academic, artistic and athletic interests. Students are provided the skills to meet the challenges of the 21st

Century through a robust AVID program, Project Lead the Way, engineering sciences and open academic labs before and after school. Learn more at mpsaz.org/dobson.

#### Franklin at Alma Elementary School



Franklin at Alma Elementary provides a specific educational program

conceived and developed with significant parental input. For more than 30 years, Franklin schools have provided a traditional education for students in Mesa. Students sit at individual desks in a teacher-centered classroom and follow an accelerated curriculum. Franklin schools use the research-based Spalding phonics program, and reading and behavior expectations are high. The Xplore extended day program is available. Learn more at mpsaz.org/franklinalma.

#### **Rhodes Junior High School**



**Rhodes Junior High** features Project Based Learning, which is the foundation for it's innovative "school-within-a-school" program, Rhodes to Success.

Groups of students are assigned to five teacher teams. Teachers guide students to schedule their school days to meet their individual strengths and needs. Parental feedback is positive and student discipline referrals have declined. Principal Patty Christie encourages curious community members to contact the school to learn more or visit mpsaz.org/rhodes.

#### **Washington Elementary School**



Washington **Elementary** is a back-toback A+ School of Excellence. Staff members model integrity

and respect to create a safe culture dedicated to learning and growing. With innovative reading, math and other models, Washington provides individualized support for all students to excel. The Xplore extended day program is available. Learn more at mpsaz.org/washington.



The Ranchers' RoundUp is a full COLOR magazine and is the official publication of the Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association. It is published on (or around) the 10th of every month and is mailed to approximately 5,000 homes in the community. Beginning January 1, 2021, the deadline to advertise is the 10th of the month prior to publication (date may change due to holidays). The Ranchers' RoundUp magazine may also be viewed online at www.dobsonranchhoa.com.

DISPLAY AD SIZE	WIDTH/HEIGHT	1 MO. TRIAL	3-MO. CONTRACT	6-MO. CONTRACT	12-MO. CONTRACT
1/16 PAGE	1.75"W x 2.375"H	\$61.72*	\$168.32/qtr. \$56.11/mo.*	\$306.09/6 mo. \$51.02/mo.*	\$550.83/12 mo. \$45.90/mo.*
1/8 PAGE	3.5"W x 2.375"H	\$95.37*	\$260.11/qtr. \$86.70/mo.*	\$489.60/6 mo. \$81.60/mo.*	\$918.09/12 mo. \$76.51/mo.*
1/4 PAGE	3.5"W x4.75"H	\$168.30*	\$459.00/qtr. \$153.00/mo.*	\$887.40/6 mo. \$147.90/mo.*	\$1713.60/12 mo. \$142.80/mo.*
1/2 PAGE	7"W x 4.75"H	\$302.94*	\$826.21/qtr. \$275.40/mo.*	\$1621.81/6 mo. \$270.30/mo.*	\$3182.40/12 mo. \$265.20/mo.*

\* Tax rate increased from 1.75% to 2.0% beginning October 2020. Tax included in all ad pricing.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING: Display advertising is offered in 1-month (1x TRIAL ONLY), 3-month, 6-month, and 12-month contracts, with the minimum being a 1-month trial. Contracts must be paid in full at time of ad placement unless other arrangements have been made with the Editor. Prompt payments are the responsibility of the advertiser. Payments may be made online at dobson-ranchhoa.com (3% processing fee applies), by mail or in person. Non-payment or payments received after the 10th of the month will result in cancellation of ad and a \$20.00 late fee. Over the phone payments cannot be accepted. The deadline is the 10th of the month prior to publication, no exceptions. Submit camera ready ads in .pdf or .jpg format to nroggio@dobson-ranch.com.

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### Dave Ellsworth 480-360-JUNK (5865)

I'm a 6th grade Mesa teacher working my 2nd job.

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#### **Beverage Bottles, Jugs and Cans**

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E.g.- Water bottles, milk jugs, soda bottles, soda cans, beer bottles, wine bottles, juice bottles, etc.



#### **Metal Food Cans** Empty, Clean and Dry

E.g.- Vegetable, canned fruit, tuna, pet food, tomato sauce, soup, etc.



#### **Corrugated Cardboard**

Remove All Packaging

HOW TO TELL IF IT IS CORRUGATED: Tear a small piece. If you see a flat top and bottom layer with a wavy middle layer, it is accepted.



#### **Paper**

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### **All Other Items NOT Accepted**

When In Doubt, Keep It Out.

For recycling information, visit **mesarecycles.org** 



- PAPERBOARD BOXES (cake mix, cereal, tissue, detergent, soda case, cracker, frozen food packaging, etc.)
- PLASTIC & PAPER CUPS
  MILK, JUICE & ICE CREAM PAPER CARTONS

 NON-BEVERAGE PLASTIC OR GLASS BOTTLES, JUGS, JARS & CONTAINERS (laundry, shampoo, household cleaners, yogurt, margarine, jelly, salad dressing, mustard & ketchup bottles, fresh berry containers, other food and non-food products, etc.)



### **Classifieds**

To place a Display or Classified Ad, call Nancy at 480-831-8314 or email nroggio@dobsonranch.com.

#### **GOODS AND SERVICES**

DUMPING DAVE — Junk removal, I HAUL IT ALL. 480-360-JUNK (5865).

HOUSEKEEPING – 20+ years experience. Call Olga. 480-626-1063.

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DON'S SEWING MACHINE REPAIR – At Vaccuum Repair & Sales, 2659 W. Baseline Road, Mesa (SE corner of Baseline & the 101). 928-240-4256 (Dobson Ranch resident).

#### HANDYMAN

#### THOMAS HANDYMAN SOLUTIONS -

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#### **HOME IMPROVEMENTS**

#### INFINITY PROPERTY SERVICES, LLC -

General contractor specializing in Dobson Ranch home remodels, kitchens, bathrooms, painting, HVAC, electrical, plumbing, insurance claims, repairs, and more! We are your one stop shop for all your home improvement needs. Free Estimates. Licensed. Bonded. Insured. ROC #228281 480-999-1385.

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#### ENGLISH BUILDING COMPANY LLC -

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LANDSCAPING – AZ LANDSCAPE SERVICES Complete lawn and landscape maintenance, yard clean-up, sprinkler repair, tree trimming, lawn dethatching, winter lawns, hauling, etc. Dobson Ranch resident. Smartscape certified and insured. Free estimate. Call 480-200-9598. azlandscapeservices.com.

LAWN SERVICE AND WEED CONTROL – starting at \$60 per month. Front yard only - starting at \$30 per month. Reliable lawn service with a company you can trust. ROC #281191. Owner is a D. Ranch homeowner. 480-586-8445. www.kjelandscape.com.

SPRINKLER REPAIR — Working in Dobson Ranch since 1981. Scarecrow Sprinkler Repair. Frank 602-690-4767. Not a licensed contractor.

#### POOL SERVICE

POOL SERVICE & REPAIR — Weekly service. Sand change. Green pools. Kool Deck Repair. Tile Cleaning. Call José. 480-232-7692.

#### AT YOUR SERVICE

At Your Service ads are published FREE for Dobson Ranch teens.

HIGH SCHOOLER LOOKING TO PET SIT FOR YOU – Willing to pet sit any animals. Call or text Michael at 602-582-0730.

HOUSE SITTING & YARD WORK – My name is Michael. I'm 16 and can house sit, maintain your pool and do light yard work. Call 602-312-0283.

JR. HIGH SCHOOL TWINS WILL DO YARD WORK – Call or text Shane or Cody 480-757-4282.

HI, MY NAME IS EMMA – I'm a 17 year old responsible H.S. student living in Dobson Ranch. I'm available to babysit, house sit or dog sit. 5 years experience. Babysitter/CPR certified. Reasonable rates and I have my own transportation. 480-489-5439.

#### **CLASSIFIED AD COSTS & DEADLINE**

All business and non-resident classified advertising is \$1.00 per word. Cost for residents' non-business classified advertising is \$0.50 per word.

Applicable tax will be added to the amount due. Classified ads are limited to 40 words.

Payment is due at time of ad placement. Contracts are not required for classified advertising.

The new Classified Ad deadline is the 10th of the month prior to publication date. No exceptions.



What a great turnout for January's Bark in the Park!

D <sub>5</sub>	Cale	endar a	f Even	ts	2021 /MAR 2021	
\\$I\	All events are subject to a				2021/MAR. 2021	
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY/SUNDAY	
8 8	9	10	11	12	13	
Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Grande Room	Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Architectural Committee Mtg. 6:30 pm (virtual)	Tai Chi Beginner & Intermed. 9:00 & 10:00 am Grande Rm. Tai Chi Intermediate & Beg. 6:00 & 7:00 pm Grande Rm.	Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room		COOKIE DECORATING CLASS 11:00 am (virtual) Sunday 14	
15 Fitness in the Park	16	17	18	19	20	
6:00 am Laguna Park  PRESIDENTS DATE  La Casita Rec. Center  & Office CLOSED	Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Budget and Finance Meeting 6:30 pm (virtual)	Tai Chi Beginner & Intermed. 9:00 & 10:00 am Grande Rm. Tai Chi Intermediate & Beg. 6:00 & 7:00 pm Grande Rm.	Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm (virtual)		Sunday <b>21</b>	
22	23	24	25	26	27	
Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Grande Room	Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Architectural Committee Mtg. 6:30 pm (virtual)	Tai Chi Beginner & Intermed. 9:00 & 10:00 am Grande Rm. Tai Chi Intermediate & Beg. 6:00 & 7:00 pm Grande Rm.	Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room		Sunday <b>28</b>	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Grande Room Water & Lake Management Committee Meeting 5:30 pm (virtual)	Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room	Tai Chi Beginner & Intermed. 9:00 & 10:00 am Grande Rm. Tai Chi Intermediate & Beg. 6:00 & 7:00 pm Grande Rm.	Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Master Planning Committee 7:00 pm (virtual)		Sunday <b>7</b>	
8	9	10	11	12	13	
Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Grande Room	Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Architectural Committee Mtg. 6:30 pm (virtual)	Tai Chi Beginner & Intermed. 9:00 & 10:00 am Grande Rm. Tai Chi Intermediate & Beg. 6:00 & 7:00 pm Grande Rm.	Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room		CLEAN UP COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP 7:00 cm - 1:30 pm	
	VIRTUAL SPRING BREAK CAMP					
	Sunday 14					
15	16	17	18	19	20	
Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Grande Room Budget and Finance Meeting 6:30 pm (virtual)	Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room	Tai Chi Beginner & Intermed. 9:00 & 10:00 am Grande Rm. Tai Chi Intermediate & Beg. 6:00 & 7:00 pm Grande Rm.	Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm (virtual)		Sunday <b>21</b>	
	l		I	<u> </u>		