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Photos: Nancy Roggio

#### On Our Cover:

Second grader Siena Banda, 8, graces this month's cover wearing her doctor's costume for the Halloween Spooktacular Costume Contest. Siena's mom, Erin, said Siena loves to help take care of her grandpa and wants to become a real doctor some day.

Shown in the photo on this page are (I. to r.): Aryah Brubaker, Siena Banda, sisters Allegra Banda and Chiara Banda.

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#### 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, Sunday and Holidays

#### 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 Management             | 480-622-3445 |
| Dobson Ranch Condos          |              |
| United HOA                   | 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   | 480-839-8013 |
| Lake Park Village            |              |
| Tri-City Property Management | 480-844-2224 |
| The Landings                 |              |
| Brown Community Management   | 480-339-8806 |
| Legante Paseo                |              |
| Snow Property Services       | 480-635-1133 |
| Water Works                  |              |
| Vision Community Services    | 480-759-4945 |
| Wood Creek Townhomes         |              |
| City Property Management     | 602-437-4777 |
| CITY OF MESA                 |              |
|                              |              |

| 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 **AZ Blue Stake** 602-263-1100 602-236-8888 Salt River Project

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

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# **Your Neighborhood**

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



By Allen Johnson Association President

2022 Annual Budget Approved and Terms Extended for DRAC Committee

Hello Ranchers,

Happy fall! I'm thrilled to report that our **Halloween Spooktacular** was a huge success — with over 2,500 kids and parents attending! It was lots of fun seeing everyone's creative costumes, and enjoying the in-person company of so many of you that I haven't seen in a while. I'd like to give a big shout out to our amazing Recreation team who coordinated this event; complete with bounce houses, a DJ, costume contests, multiple vendors, an outdoor movie, and of course, tons of candy. Be sure not to miss the return of our annual **Fall Festival** on November 20th at Laguna Park.

Just as pumpkin spice is back on the menu once again, the Board took steps to ensure that Dobson Ranch doesn't turn into a financial pumpkin by approving the **2022 Annual Budget**. The most notable item related to the unanimously approved budget is a modest increase in assessments. While an additional \$2.30 per month may not seem like much, it will go a long way toward ensuring the sustainability of everything we enjoy about the Ranch. This includes our 7 lakes, 60+ acres of common area, 3 recreation facilities, 4 pools, Laguna Park, tennis and pickleball courts, and much more.

Other items from the October Board meeting included adopting a formal perimeter wall painting/maintenance policy, along with the purchase of an abundance of new plants and trees to complement our newly refreshed monument signs. The investment to help preserve our outward aesthetic will help elevate the attractiveness of the entire community, which in turn bolsters property values for all Dobson Ranch homeowners.

The Board also voted unanimously to extend the terms of our **Dobson Ranch Architectural Committee** (Aka "The DRAC") members for another three years. Committee members **Nicole Lynam** (Chair), **Kate O'Hara** and **Louie Thiele** meet twice every month to review homeowners' architectural applications. We thank these committee members for the time they volunteer to help quickly assist with applications and approvals. Another important person in the architectural application approval process is our Receptionist **Carolyn Burleson** - who also happens to be our Dobson Ranch Employee of the Month! Carolyn assists the DRAC and homeowners by fast-tracking the approval of everyday items such as repainting. Many thanks, and congratulations to Carolyn for all the great work she does.

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



By Lynelle Glysson Executive Director

# Fall Festivities and Maintenance Activities

Our exciting fall festivities have begun! The Halloween Spooktacular was spectacular! Next up, we'll have our fabulous Fall Festival on Saturday, November 20 at Laguna Park. This will be a great time to come together as a community. There'll be lively music, a beer garden to quench your thirst if you're over 21, a Mexican-inspired food truck, and several fun games for the kids. Hope to see you there.

We will be adding a new community event we named the Dobson Ranch Resident 101 Orientation to our roster. The first orientation class will be held on Wednesday, November 17th at 6:30 pm in the Chica Room at La Casita Rec. Center. This session is for new residents, or existing residents who want to learn more about Dobson Ranch. Each department leader will share how they and their team service Dobson Ranch. You will learn what your assessment dollars go toward, your governing documents, special events, communication on the Ranch, and much more. Only 20 spots are available for this orientation, so please call Carolyn Burleson to reserve your spot at 480-831-8314. We will hold these Resident 101 Orientations quarterly starting in January 2022. (See details on page 3.)



As we finish up the installation of the monument signs, we will begin a refresh of the landscaping in those areas. We are looking forward to a uniform landscape design that compliments our monuments. Some areas that needed heavy watering in the past

will be landscaped with the intent to conserve water. In this way, we can balance the aesthetics of Dobson Ranch with the importance of water conservation.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Fall Festival. It is guaranteed to be a great time, and I hope you and your family plan on attending.

Let us stay #DobsonRanchStrong! Thank you for the continued support of your neighbors, Board and staff.



# Your Neighborhood

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



By Nancy Roggio Communications Manager

#### App Recap

In the September issue of Ranchers' RoundUp, I detailed three new uses we would be launching

for our Dobson Ranch App: Fillable Forms, Garage Sale Listings and a Business Directory.

Since that time, we've received move than a dozen filled-in forms from the App, had 36 residents post their Garage Sales for the Community Clean-Up event in October, and now have 20 resident-owned businesses listed in our Business Directory for you to peruse and use.

Also in October, we added a link to our website to sign up for our Weekly Executive Director's E-Blast that is sent out each Monday from Lynelle Glysson. This link can be found by going to the News page listed on the main menu of the App and clicking on the first image you see that reads "Weekly E-Blast!"

#### But wait, there's more!

I'm happy to report that we have (or will be adding shortly) another trifecta of uses for our ever-growing App.

Look for a new feature that went "live" on the App on November 1 entitled Making Memories that hallmarks fun photo albums taken at our exciting recreational events held on the Ranch. Photos from our Community Clean-Up, Blood Drive and Halloween Spooktacular events have already been posted.

Secondly, a new Tried It & Liked It? section also went "live" on November 1, where residents can post positive reviews of local businesses, services, etc., for the benefit of all residents.

Coincidentally, this new feature came about as a suggestion made by resident Scott Sepulveda, who has a stellar review for the Over Easy restaurant at Dobson and Guadalupe Roads. These new applications can be found listed on the Main Menu.

And, thirdly, we are hoping to be able to give all residents Keyless Access to our facilities using the App on your cell phone instead of using the HOA's FOB button. Watch for more details coming soon!

We're very excited to offer you even more reasons to experience Dobson Ranch your way, every day, everywhere!

#### App-y trails!



The first 2 images above show off the new "Memory Makers" application. The last 2 photos show a recommendation from "Tried It & Liked It?"

# **RED CROSS**

**BLOOD DRIVE** OCTOBER 12, 2021



















"Our initial numbers from the Blood Drive are nothing short of outstanding! We had a goal of collecting 20 units (pints). In the end, we were able to collect 23 whole blood units, and four Power Red. Power Red units count as two donations, so this equals eight units. Our big total was 31 units of blood! That is amazing, and there is actually a buzz around our local office about the success of the Dobson Ranch Blood Drive. We look forward to partnering with Dobson Ranch for quarterly Blood Drives beginning in January," commented Colin Williams, Blood Drive Account Manager for Arizona & New Mexico Region.





New to Dobson Ranch? Please join us on Wednesday, November 17th in the Chica Room at La Casita Rec. Center at 6:00 pm for our very first Resident 101 Orientation. This will be an informative session covering what you need to know about Dobson Ranch.

#### The class will include:

- Welcome to Dobson Ranch overview by Executive Director Lynelle Glysson.
- Communications on the Ranch overview by Nancy Roggio, Communications Manager.
- Recreation and Events briefing by Jesse Wright, Director of Recreation.
- What You Should Know About CC&Rs by Camille Gonzales, Operations Manager.
- Quarterly Assessments by Lynelle Glysson.
- Future Maintenance Projects by Dennis Melgreen, Facilities Manager.

The class is open to new residents who moved to Dobson Ranch within the last year or any resident interested in getting the most out of their Dobson Ranch experience. All attendees will receive a Welcome Packet. Light refreshments will be served. Reservations are required. Call Carolyn at 480-831-8314 to reserve your spot.

Can't make it? Resident 101 Orientations will be held quarterly in 2022.



# CAROLYN BURLESON Employee of the Month - October 2021

Carolyn Burleson has been a valued member of the Dobson Ranch staff since July of 2018. Carolyn is the hub of all that goes on in Dobson Ranch. If she doesn't know the answer, she can get you to the right person. She assists with preparing all the architectural applications that the Dobson Ranch Architectural Committee reviews. She will assist residents in getting the correct information on their application for a smooth approval process. She can help with assessment payments and reports maintenance issues. All in all, we would not operate without her. She is always willing to take on additional projects and learn new things. She is friendly and reliable and is invaluable to Dobson Ranch.



#### By Nancy Roggio

Ranchers' RoundUp Editor

November's **Green Thumb Award** goes out to **Lori** and **Doug Barrett** at 2517 W. Monterey. The home was nominated by **Frank Mizner** and truly is a spectacular lakefront property!

"This home has undergone a complete transformation in the past few years. New windows, new exterior stucco treatment, replacement of wood beams, new landscaping in front and rear, new hardscape in rear terraced yard, and new fencing. This former very dated home, hidden behind overgrown landscaping and showing its years, has become a neighborhood showpiece... beautiful from front and rear views," said Mizner.

The Barrett's chose artificial turf for water conservation and all plants were planted at least 6-feet from the house to avoid water around the foundation which attracts termites. Those are carefully chosen details all homeowners may want to consider.



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 **RoundUp**, email nroggio@dobsonranch.com.



# She Will Be Missed...



Donna Rae Tegtmeier Chapman passed away on October 16, 2021. She was born in Lincoln, Nebraska on December 23, 1945, but was a long time resident of Dobson Ranch.

Donna attended and graduated from Pius X High School and the University of Nebraska School of Journalism. In her professional life, she worked for Owens and Associates, and then became the editor of the Dobson Ranch Ranchers'

RoundUp for 25 years. Donna had a major impact on the community in which she lived and worked and was always a champion for special activities and community events for the Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association. She built and maintained many relationships through her endeavors with the RoundUp newsletter.

Donna was active in many groups and clubs, including: book club, garden club, bridge club, gourmet group, and tennis club. She fulfilled the hours and requirements of a Master Gardener and anybody that knew her could see her work firsthand in her beautiful garden. Donna loved to travel with her husband Ken and was able to visit many gardens in the U.S. and abroad.

Donna is survived by her loving husband, Kenneth Chapman, her children and her grandchildren. She will be remembered fondly by many in our community.

#### Residential Architectural Guidelines Workshops



The DRAC would like to announce that they will be holding their annual review of the **Residential Architectural Guidelines** with two workshops. This review will be held annually. The DRAC will review the guidelines to see if there are any changes that need to be reviewed or made. The first workshop will be held on **January 25**, **2022** at 5:30 pm. The second workshop will be held on **February 8**, **2022** at 6:00 pm. Both workshops will be held at the La Casita Recreation Center in the Chica Room. The DRAC meeting will immediately follow both workshops. Homeowners are welcome to attend and offer any input on revisions. The final revision will be drafted and approved by the DRAC Committee.

If you have any questions regarding the annual revision of the Residential Architectural Guidelines, please contact Code Compliance at 480-831-8314.

Thank you,

Camille Gonzales, Operations Manager



#### Monthly Update from Councilmember Heredia

#### The District 3 Toy Drive is coming!

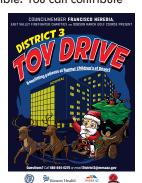
For the past 10 years, the District 3 Council Office has brightened the lives of Valley children spending the holidays in the hospital by filling the toy closet at Banner Children's at Desert (formerly Cardon Children's Medical Center) with new toys each December.

This year I have partnered with **The Dobson Association**, and several businesses in West Mesa to continue helping spread the joy to this most deserving organization. During the month of November, we will have two donation boxes inside the La Casita Rec. Center and Administrative Office. I encourage you to donate, if possible. You can contribute

new, unwrapped toys and items for children under 18. I hope I can count on you to make this year's toy drive better than ever!

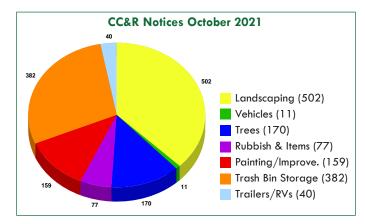
If you are not sure what items can be donated, or for any other questions or comments regarding the toy drive, please contact my office at **480-644-6275** or email District3@mesaAZ.gov.

~ Councilmember Heredia



#### CC&R Notices









# DESERT LANDSCAPING TIPS & TRICKS

## Getting a Drink from a Cactus

by Sue Hakala, Certified Volunteer Master Gardener

A great fable of desert survival is that barrel cactus and other cacti are water reservoirs. Most of us couldn't get water from a cactus if our lives depended upon it. Some have died trying.

The first problem is cutting a plant open. A pocketknife wouldn't work; a tire iron may be effective on a barrel cactus. The labor of cutting into a plant with formidable spines on a hot day would cause great water loss from sweating, not to mention probable bleeding.

Secondly, have you ever tasted cactus pulp? Cactus tissue is made to hold water, and resembles a cucumber, minus the seeds. It's not something you could scoop or wring water out of. When propagating cactus plants I used to run my tongue across the flesh (of the part I was throwing away) to taste it. It can taste very bitter, although I have never sampled a barrel cactus. One time the bitter taste had me running to the house for something to get out the awful taste that was puckering up my mouth. Some cactus flesh has toxic levels of oxalic acid and alkaloids and may be what I was experiencing. These elements in small quantities can cause vomiting and diarrhea -- not a big help when suffering from dehydration.

Besides, state laws protecting Arizona native cacti make it illegal to take or destroy them. Cutting open a barrel cactus would most likely kill it. Cacti have spines and glochids (tiny, awful, itchy spines) designed to discourage desert animals from doing the very same thing. Contrary to what you may have seen in some old western movies, you really can't scoop out water from a cactus.



Mammillaria lauii sb. subducta Here you can see what the inside flesh of a cactus looks like



**Native Barrel Cacti** 



**Ferocactus wislizeni,** a barrel cactus that is commonly seen in our desert.

**Ferocactus acanthodes,** a barrel cactus also commonly seen in our desert, illustrating the formidable spines.

All three photos were taken by **Sue Hakala**.

#### **Homeowner Improvements**

# Architectural Applications October 2021

By Carole Stabile, Member Services Coordinator

| 29 Applications  | \$ 144,992           |   |
|--|----------------------|---|
| DOBSON RANCH UNIT I<br>Block Wall<br>Widen Driveway                                    | \$                   | 9,000<br>2,000                                      |
| Paint Roof Replacement Gazebo Garage Door Block Wall                                   | \$<br>\$<br>\$       | 650<br>10,000<br>2,400<br>2,000<br>8,700            |
| DOBSON PINES<br>RV Gate  | \$                   | 2,480   |
| Paint Window Replacement Roof Replacement Replace Driveway Solar Panels RV Gate Repair | \$<br>\$<br>\$<br>\$ | 4,560<br>13,500<br>13,000<br>6,400<br>24,052<br>200 |
| LAGUNA SHORES Paint Pergola Block Wall   | \$<br>\$<br>\$       | 8,900<br>2,500<br>1,000                             |
| LAGUNA SHORES AMENDED Paint  | \$                   | 3,000   |
| LOS ALTOS<br>Solar Panels  | \$                   | 21,000  |
| REGENCY ESTATES<br>RV Gate Repair  | \$                   | 150   |
| SARATOGA LAKES Paint Gutters Window Replacement  | \$<br>\$<br>\$       | 100<br>1,200<br>4,400                               |
| GOLDEN PALM ESTATES Paint  | \$                   | 3,800   |







# **Movers and Shakers**

## Minimizing Crimes of Opportunity

By Nancy Roggio, Communications Manager and Ranchers' RoundUp Editor



We are honored to have **Amy Sailors**, Fiesta District Crime Prevention Officer with the Mesa Police Department, as our "Mover and Shaker" this month answering questions about the **Community Safety Presentation** held on October 20th at La Casita. If you missed the safety presentation, no worries. Here's a recap...

#### Q: What is your background?

AS: I grew up in the small town of Sioux City, IA. After graduating from college with a Marketing Management degree, I volunteered for Mesa PD as a Victims Assistance Counselor for 12 years, then became a paid MPD employee in 2009 as a Civilian Investigator Specialist. I've spent the last five years as a Crime Prevention Officer.

# Q: Why did you feel it was necessary to do a Community Safety Presentation at Dobson Ranch?

**As:** Lynelle Glysson reached out to me to do our yearly meeting where I can share with Dobson Ranch residents what is happening in Mesa, and, more specifically, in their own backyard.

# Q: What were the four major areas of concern you discussed during your safety presentation?

**AS:** I specifically addressed important safety tips regarding residence, vehicle, personal and community safety.

#### Q: What is the #1 deterrent for residential burglaries?

**AS:** I believe the #1 deterrent for residential burglaries is exterior lighting. At the presentation, I talked about different lighting options for the exterior of homes, as well as leaving lights on inside the residence, or having lights set on timers to come on even if you are not at home.

#### Q: What other tips do you have for home safety?

**AS:** It is important to remember to lock the door between the garage and the home, so that it provides that additional layer of security to keep a suspect out of their residence. Now that the weather is getter cooler, people will want to have the windows open, so it is important to install window locks or to put a dowel in the window or sliding door track.

# Q: When it comes to vehicle safety, what is the number one crime being reported and what would you recommend?

AS: People are **not** locking their vehicle doors and they leave valuables in plain sight for anyone to walk by and steal them. Some of the valuables that suspects steal out of vehicles are wallets/purses (with money or credit cards), keys to the residence, guns, garage door openers, and laptop computers, to name a few items. Also, items are stolen from the beds of trucks. My recommendation would be to park in the garage, if possible.

Q: What national trend is on the rise in vehicular crime?
AS: Catalytic converters have become a popular item being

# Calls for Service in Dobson Ranch January 1, 2021 to October 10, 2021

**Top Five Reasons for Calls:** 

1. Traffic Stop - 635 2. Welfare Check - 487 3. Subjects Disturbing - 345

4. Burglary Alarm - 260

5. Agency Assist - 209

stolen from vehicles today because of the precious metals inside the unit. It takes less than two minutes for a thief to steal a converter, especially in higher clearance vehicles. We ask that you report any suspicious activity or people you see around and/or under vehicles to the Mesa PD, especially in large parking lots and vehicle storage areas.

#### Q: What can we do to deter catalytic converter theft?

**AS:** Here are a few suggestions: Park in areas with plenty of light. Secure vehicles in garages or buildings whenever possible. Park so that no one can crawl under the back or side of your vehicle, if possible. Consider having your VIN number etched on the catalytic converters. Talk to your mechanic about installing a preventive theft device (cage, straps, etc.) over your catalytic converter.

# Q: When it comes to personal safety, what is the one most important thing for us to remember?

AS: Be aware of your surroundings while out on a walk, while parking or walking in a commercial parking lot, and when answering your cell phone. We all have 100 things on our mind at any given time, so it's important to remember to stay in the moment with whatever you are doing. For example, if you are parking at a grocery store, end the phone call while you are in the car and look to see what entrance you will be entering and be aware of people who are around you.

#### Q: How do suspects tend to choose their victims?

AS: This is normally based on appearance. Suspects don't want to challenge someone who might put up a fight. Therefore, we encourage people to have both hands free. Ladies do not need to be hauling around a big purse. It is much easier and safer to just carry an ID and credit card or cash. This will lower your chance of being victimized.

# Q: What can a community like Dobson Ranch do to help deter crime?

**AS:** One of the options would be to start a Neighborhood Watch group on your street, so collectively as a group you can let each other know if you see something suspicious happening in the area. We rely on the citizens to be an extra set of eyes and ears, so they can make us aware of what they are seeing in their neighborhoods.

# Q: What do you want our residents to take away from your safety presentation and this article?

**AS:** Everyone living in Dobson Ranch can do certain little things that can minimize crimes of opportunity which make it harder for suspects to be successful at whatever they are trying to do.

By educating people on simple ways to stay safer and encouraging them to call the Mesa PD non-emergency number (480-644-2211) if they see something that appears suspicious to them, we can all help reduce crime in our community.

#### Other Calls in Dobson Ranch January 1, 2021 to October 10, 2021

1. Burglary - Commercial - 23

4. Theft - Commercial - 16

2. Burglary - Residential - 17

5. Theft - Residential - 256. Theft - Vehicle - 40

3. Burglary - Vehicle - 59



## Removing Phosphorus to Restore Water Quality

By Joseph Trickett, Water Management and Lake Habitat Committee Chairman



Phosphorus is essential to all living organisms; it is involved in energy transfers, strength and expansion of plant roots and stems, photosynthesis, formation of seeds and flowers, and other important factors effecting overall plant and organism health and growth.

However, when there is too much of it in water, it can speed up eutrophication, which

is the reduction of dissolved oxygen in water bodies caused by an increase of mineral and organic nutrients. This can be a problem for lakes and small bodies of water, high phosphorus levels can cause a lake to become highly eutrophic "enriched."

A sign of this is excess algae and muck in the lake. Phosphorus gets into water in both urban and agricultural settings. Since phosphorus is an essential plant nutrient it is contained in most fertilizers. Phosphorus also has a concentration in the Earth's crust of about one gram per kilogram (compared to copper at about 0.06 grams). It is not found free in nature though, but is widely distributed in many minerals, usually as phosphates. Phosphorus tends to attach to soil particles and, thus, moves into surface-water bodies from runoff.

We have added phosphorous testing to our regular monthly water testing and analysis. Over the past several months, we have seen higher than desirable levels of phosphorus in Lake 8. To reduce the phosphorus levels in Lake 8, a phosphorus binding treatment known as **Phoslock** is scheduled to be implemented this fall.

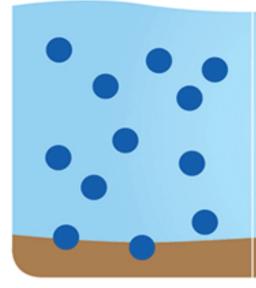
Phoslock is a patented phosphorus locking technology to restore water quality in ponds, lakes and reservoirs. Phoslock was developed by the Australian National Science Agency (CSIRO), to remove phosphorus from water bodies and restore water quality. Phoslock has been successfully used in water resource restoration programs around the world. Although Phoslock is a new technology to the United States (2010), it is rapidly emerging as the most effective phosphorus inactivation and water quality restoration solution for ponds, lakes and reservoirs. Phoslock has very low toxicity and permanently binds free reactive phosphorus as it moves through the water column and those released from the sediment bed.

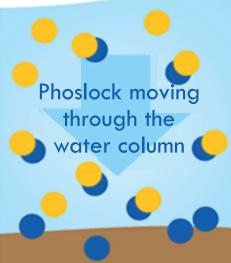
We will be closely monitoring the results of the Phoslock treatment in Lake 8 to determine if a phosphorus reducing plan will be beneficial to our community waterways.

# Before Phoslock application

# During Phoslock application

# After Phoslock application





Phoslock has bound FRP, locking it permanently







Phoslock continues to bind FRP released from sediments

Are you a Ranch fisherman? Send your photos to nroggio@dobsonranch.com. Include your name, type of fish caught and in which lake.



# Livin' and Lovin' Life at the Lakes

By Kathrine Blomquist, Water Management and Lake Habitat Committee Member



What is your favorite aspect of living in Dobson Ranch? The events? Tennis and pickleball courts? Many of the 15,000 residents agree that the most outstanding feature in the neighborhood is our lakes. Whether fishing, boating or taking the paths around them, the lakes are easy to enjoy by residents of all ages.

Let's dive in and learn about our lakes.

Dobson Ranch is the largest lake community in Mesa. Out of the 92 acres of common areas in the neighborhood, 84 acres are covered by the lakes. The eight artificial lakes detain stormwater run-off and are linked together through an intricate underground piping system. Our lakes are unique because they are filled with Salt River Project (SRP) surface water. Many of the other lakes in the Valley of the Sun are filled with reused water that has been treated, commonly referred to as reclaimed water.

Where does the water come from to fill the lakes? In school, students learn about the water cycle. Remember liquid, vapor and ice to describe the movement of Earth's water? SRP's detailed website (SRPnet.com) takes you on the journey of our lakes' water. Here's the watered-down version: Starting high in the forested mountains in northern and eastern Arizona there are 8.3 million acres of protected forestland that makes up SRP's watershed, an area of land that drains all the streams and rainfall to a common outlet. Melted snow flows down the mountains and into the Salt and Verde Rivers and then is carried to lakes in the SRP system, of which Roosevelt Lake is the largest. These lakes act as reservoirs, holding the water which SRP delivers to cities and irrigation customers using a 131-mile canal system. Gravity helps, too, just like here at home as water flows between Lakes 1 and 8.

Although last winter was dry, the wet monsoon season in July and August helped SRP's reservoirs hold steady at 71% between the seasons. Unfortunately, this is down from 97% in 2020. Water from the reservoirs can be blended with water from the Colorado River via the Central Arizona Project (CAP) and groundwater. The Colorado River is already over allocated, as water levels have dropped more than 140 feet over the past 20 years. My family and I visited the Hoover Dam in June and seeing the "bathtub ring" first-hand really made an impression on us (see photo below on the left).

As for groundwater, we are part of the Phoenix Active Management Area (AMA), one of five areas across the state that were identified and designated by the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) in 1980 as having too heavy reliance on groundwater. The goal of ADWR is to achieve "safe-yield," where there is balance between the amount of groundwater withdrawn and the amount of natural and artificial recharge. To view our area, check out the interactive map at AZWaterBlueprint.asu.edu.

Back at home, Dobson Ranch's residential water is distributed by the City of Mesa. Have you seen the "Water System Service Charge" and "Usage Charge" on your water bill? Guess what - that is SRP-supplied water that the city treats to meet water quality standards. After it is purified, it is pumped into our homes through underground pipes.

Now, when you see overwatering like in the picture (below right), you can think of melting snow coming down from Northern Arizona and everything that is behind getting the precious water into our lakes and homes. Dobson Ranch is a community leader in water conservation, so...

Let's all go with the flow... and conserve water!





# "Water" you doing November 20?

Stop by the Water Management and Lake Habitat
Committee table at the
2021 Fall Festival at Laguna
Park to test your Dobson
Ranch water knowledge and
be entered to win great
prizes. This is your opportunity to meet with representatives from the committee and
pick up a map of our lakes.
Join your fellow residents for an afternoon of food, fun
and music the entire family
will enjoy!



#### Contest Corner

Get ready to enter our Holiday Photo Contest!

#### **WIN GREAT PRIZES & HAVE YOUR PHOTO IN RANCHERS' ROUNDUP!**



No more than
2 entries may be submitted
by the same person.

Winners to be selected on 12/14/2021 by an impartial group of HOA staff.

## PHOTO CONTEST PRIZES INCLUDE:

EDITOR'S CHOICE WINNER receives a \$50 Gift Card!
FIRST PLACE WINNER receives a \$45 Gift Card!
SECOND PLACE WINNER receives a \$30 Gift Card!
THIRD PLACE WINNER receives a \$25 Gfit Card!

\*All digital photos must be received by no later than Dec. 13, 2021 at 11:59 pm. Photos MUST be taken at Winter Wonderland or Breakfast with Santa events. Photos may be used on social media, website or RoundUp.



#### From the Recreation Director's Desk



**By Jesse Wright** Recreation Manager

I am happy to announce that our Fall Break Camp was a success. A special thank you goes out to Jessica Marlar and our Recreation Staff for working the camp and making it enjoyable for the

kids. You guys did a great job!

We had great weather during the October 9th Community Clean-Up event. A total of 31.76 tons (63,520 lbs.) of material was collected. Now that the weather is finally starting to cool off, it means the holidays are coming up fast. We have some of your favorite holiday events back again to round out this year.

Our fun and frosty Winter Wonderland is back with a twist on Saturday, December 4th. We will have kid's activities at Laguna Park from 1:30 to 3:30 pm including real snow, crafts and games. Evening activities at Saratoga Recreation Center from 6:30 to 8:30 pm will include steaming hot cocoa and cookies, carolers and our popular Lighted Boat Parade.

**Breakfast with Santa** takes place Saturday, December 11 at La Casita Recreation Center. Tickets go on sale November 8th, but space is limited. Come out and support our community.

Please note our Recreation Center Holiday Hours: Thanksgiving 11/25/21 & 11/26/21 closed. Will reopen on Saturday 11/27/21. Christmas Eve 12/24/21 and Christmas Day 12/25/21 closed, 12/26/21 open.

Stay Safe and Happy Holidays to you all!

#### **Tennis Tip for November**



**By Kwong Young**Dobson Ranch Tennis Professional

#### Using a Ball Machine

Players that use a ball machine from time to time, or on a regular basis, will tell you that they get a great workout and that it does help their stroke

production, timing and ball placement. The ball machine can wear you out though, if you let it, by sending ball feeds too quickly (interval), too fast (mph), too deep or too high. When using a ball machine, adjust the ball feed to try to carbon copy what you normally get such as heavy slice, topspin, low and high balls, etc. Then simply pace yourself and be sure not to hit balls until you get so very tired you get sloppy and your form begins to break down.



Practice good form and technique from start to finish on the court, and remember, even if you blow it, blow it looking good!







#### **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 I** Sessions: Monthly Monday, Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27 **6063 \$40 R/\$60 NR** Wednesday, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 **6064 \$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.

#### **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.

8:30 am - 10:00 am | Sessions: Monthly Saturday, Dec. 4, 11, 18 6067 \$30 R/\$45 NR

#### **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.

#### 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 1 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm \*December Social 12/18 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: 10:00 am Intermediate Tai Chi

11:00 am
6:00 pm
11:00 pm
11:00 pm
11:00 pm
11:00 pm
11:00 pm
12:00 pm
13:00 pm
14:00 pm
15:00 pm
16:00 pm
17:00 pm

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.

PLEASE NOTE: We do not allow spectators at this class.

#### **YOGA FOR BEGINNERS**

Instructor: Jeanne When: Mondays

Time: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Where: La Casita Recreation Center (after Oct. 11)
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.

PLEASE NOTE: We do not allow spectators at this class.

#### **HEALING YOGA**

Instructor: Samantha

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Where: La Casita Recreation Center

Time: 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.

PLEASE NOTE: We do not allow spectators at this class.

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

Instructor: Nancy

When: Mondays & Thursdays

(Remaining dates are: 11/15, 11/18, 11/29, 12/2, 12/6, 12/9, 12/13 &

12/16)

Time: 6:00 am - 6:45 am
Where: Laguna Park

RSVP: Contact the instructor with questions prior

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

#### THIS CLASS WILL NO LONGER BE HELD AFTER 12/16.





#### CHILDREN'S DANCE CLASSES

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

Code: 6055

When: Thursdays (November 4 - December 16)

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 tights are recommended. There will be a performance 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: 6053

When: Tuesdays (November 2 - December 14)

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: 6054

When: Thursdays (November 4 - December 16)

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.

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.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

Texan Hold 'Em Tournament Style Poker (Must be 18 or older)

When: Friday, November 19
Time: 6:30 pm (arrive by 6:15 pm)
Where: La Casita Recreation Center

**Bunco** (A fast paced, yet easy game played with dice.)

When: Friday, November 12
Time: 6:30 pm (arrive by 6:15 pm)
Where: La Casita Recreation Center

#### **Bridge**

When: Mondays (Call Bette Parrish at 480-206-3514 to join.)

Time: 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm Where: La Casita Recreation Center

Cost for **Poker** and **Bunco**: Free to residents, \$5 non-residents.



GET YOUR
PUNCH CARDS
FOR RECREATION
CLASSES 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.





Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A MATTER OF BALANCE is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels.

practical strategies to manage falls.

#### YOU WILL LEARN TO:

- View falls as controllable.
- · Set goals for increasing activity.
- Make changes to reduce fall risks at home.
- Exercise to increase strength and balance.

#### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Anyone concerned about falls.
- Anyone interested in improving balance, flexibility and strength.
- Anyone who has fallen in the past.
- Anyone who has restricted activities because of falling concerns.

This program is being conducted at this location by A.T. Still University as a public service.

Classes are held once a week for 8 weeks for 2 hours each.

#### START DATE:

January 14, 2022 **DAY:** Fridays **TIME:** 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

COST:

The class is FREE!

#### LOCATION:

La Casita Recreation Center - Chica Room 2719 S. Reyes Mesa, AZ 85202

CONTACT: Jesse Wright PHONE: 480-831-7464 EMAIL: jwright@dobsonranch.com

Sign up online today using ActiveNet or call Jesse Wright at 480-831-7464!

THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION











































To see over 100 additional photos from the Halloween Spooktacular, visit our Facebook page.

# Halloween Spooktacular

Over 2,500 kids and adults came out to Laguna Park on October 15. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event extra special!

















# In the Winner's Circle

0-2 Age Group







6-8 Age Group



9-12 Age Group



Family (or Group) Winners







# FESTIVAL & BEER GARDEN\*

**SPONSORED BY TWO BROTHERS** 

**FOOD . FUN . MUSIC** 

# **201** NOV. 2021

12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

# LAGUNA PARK

2455 W. LAGUNA AZUL AVENUE

FOOD TRUCK: **DEZ BURRITO** 

BAND:

**FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!** 

\* Must be 21 or older to purchase beer.















## Breakfast Menu

**Pancakes** 

Juice

Fruit

Milk

Coffee

Pancakes prepared by the Retirees' Club

#### **Kids Activities**

**Coloring Contest Holiday Crafts** Face/Arm Painting Photos with Santa and more!

# Don't delay! Get your tickets today!

### 9:00 am & 10:00 am Seatings

Tickets are required and are on sale at the La Casita Rec. Center beginning November 8th.

#### **Pricing:**

\$5 per person, 2 years and under FREE\*

\$10 per person after November 25, 2021

\*Child must sit on parent/guardian's lap









TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT LA CASITA RECREATION CENTER 🎄 480-831-7464 🎄 DOBSONRANCHHOA.COM





#### **Dobson Ranch Republicans**

Michelle Masters, Chairperson



# Join for **FREE** by emailing:

DobsonRanchGOP@gmail.com

Did you know that conservatives comprise over a third of all Dobson Ranch HOA's registered voters? With nearly 15,000 voters, Dobson Ranch is high on the Candidates' list of places to visit and talk directly with voters like you!

Every month through October 2022, your Dobson Ranch Republican Club will host Candidates for Town Halls. So, join the club and let your voice be heard by them!

- Candidate Schedule: www.DRGOP.com/events
- Where: Native's banquet room (Dobson & Guadalupe)
- When: 1st Thursday of each Month @ 6:30pm

#### **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:

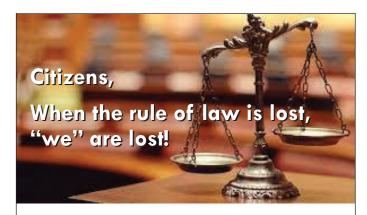
https://www.meetup.com/LD18-Dems/





#### **Dobson Ranch Independents**

By Jack Wagner, Chairman & Dobson Ranch resident since 1979



# Return of the Jedi? Nope! Return of the Citizen!

Educate

**Experience** 

**Practice** 

If you want to be informed, send me a note to explain EEP!

Send an email: golfingjack@msn.com or 70sglfr@gmail.com

THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION



# **Dobson Ranch Clubs**

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

By Kim Zeman, Club President

Welcome back to all our residents who were lucky enough to escape our summer heat! By the time you read this, we will have installed our new officers for 2022. Thank you to each one of them for volunteering to assume a leadership role to help keep our club vibrant.

**Linda** hosted our **Dinner Night Out** on Thursday, September 21 at Macayo's. Bravo once again to them for a lovely dinner for 15 of our members. We always have a wonderful time there. Looking forward to our next visit. Olé!



Tanya arranged Happy Hour on Wednesday, September 29 at Borders on Southern. Twelve of our members enjoyed tasty beverages and engaging conversation.

**Dick** had **Men's Breakfast** on Monday, October 11 at *Cracker's* & Co. for 15 of our guys. They had a nice private room and enjoyed a presentation from member **Mike Davis.** 

Mary Kay chose the *Bisbee Breakfast Club* for Ladies Lunch on Thursday, October 14. A total of 15 members made the luncheon.

We all look forward to our November activities!



In this month's **Spotlight on our Leaders**, we get to learn a little more about our Treasurer, **Carolyn Sedlak**. Carolyn joined the Retirees' Club in 2011 and was quickly recruited to assume the role of Club Treasurer — which she took on in 2012. Aside from a 2-year hiatus for a mandatory break in term, she continues on to this day. She came with the needed skills for the

position gleaned from her previous career as an accountant. Our 50/50 split-the-pot raffle at our monthly General Meetings is also one of her many responsibilities.

Carolyn moved to the Ranch in 1978. Back then, when our recreation centers were a shadow of what they are today, she worked as a Gatekeeper/Monitor at Saratoga Rec. Center. Carolyn stays active in our Club and on the Ranch. She was instrumental in putting together our huge Club Anniversary lunch at EVIT several years ago and our Member Casino Night before that. She enjoys the HOA-sponsored Poker and Bunco nights. Carolyn manages to use up any free time she might have at the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts in her position as House Manager, where she oversees the staff and volunteer ushers, plus she volunteers herself as an usher at Gammage. My, I get tired just listing all her activities. Thank you, Carolyn, for keeping our Club money safe and our ledgers accurate!

If you would like to become a member and participate in our Retirees' Club activities, please email **Dovie Bryant** at dlbryant1@cox.net. **Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!** 

#### Demolition of Los Altos Courts is Done and 8 New Post-Tensioned Concrete Courts Are Coming Soon!

By Rich Bitner, Recreation Committee Pickleball Representative

Dobson Ranch pickleball has relocated to Saratoga's four courts until the reconstruction to create eight new courts is complete, anticipated sometime in mid-December. "Demolition" happened recently and we are awaiting the pouring of new post-tensioned concrete soon.

Our schedule at Saratoga remains the same, but please get on our email lists for updates should that change with the construction schedule or other weather-related adjustments. We are still offering our regular **Drop-In Hours** at the four courts at Saratoga on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 7:00 am, and Monday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 10:00 pm under the lights.

We will be reporting in the next issue on the outcome of our annual **Spooky Halloween Round Robin Tournament** on Saturday, October 30th.

As always, the courts remain open to association members and their guests from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm every day of the week, so drop by for some fun with family and friends to enjoy the fastest growing sport in America! Schools are now offering pickleball instruction in PE, so listen to your young ones! If there is enough interest we can start offering family-oriented instruction times, so let us know what you think.

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 provide balls for drop-in play through the generous donations of our players, and can provide loaned paddles, but please wear appropriate court shoes. 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, Practice Safe Exercise, Get a Booster & Pickle-On!





## **Dobson Ranch Clubs**

#### Women's Club

By Patty Smith, Women's Club President

November is here and so is the cooler weather.

Thank you to our Veterans for their dedication and service to the USA. **Jacque Judge** served in the Navy. We thank all of our family and friends for helping keep America safe.

Thank you to our Dobson Ranch "Witches Club" members, **Diana Axon**, **Laurie Moe**, **Donna Fox** and **Tanya Andrew**. (See 2nd photo on page 15.) We appreciate you handing out candy to all the Trick or Treaters at the Spooktacular. Thanks fo **Jesse**, **Amanda**, **Nancy** and the entire HOA staff that worked so hard putting this event together. Congratulations on a job well done!

**Bunco** in October was at **Pauline's** home. We had a wonderful time with lots of laughs. Thank you for hosting and making us all feel welcome in your beautiful home. November's Bunco was hosted by our busy lady, **Barbara Stout**. She is always happy to invite friends into her fascinating home. **Linda Marshall** will host Bunco in December. Thank you for all the good food and fun.

We met at one of our favorite places, T.C. Eggington's, for **Out to Lunch** in November. Next month, we will go to Wildberries on Friday, December 3. Chris will be sending out an email. Please let her know if you are interested in attending. On January 7th, we will be heading to Longhorn Steakhouse.

Please keep **Phyllis** in your thoughts and prayers. **Phyllis B.** is doing much better. Your thoughts and prayers are working!

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone! Take time to appreciate your family and friends (even with all the drama).

God Bless and hugs to you all!

#### **Hiking Club**

By Barbara Stout, Retirees' Hiking Club Chairperson

Hello Hikers,

We were excited to begin our first fall hike on October 27. Upcoming hikes in November and December are shown below.

|             | The Clippers Extra hikes are in Blue and are on Wednesdays and Fridays. February 5th is turn in your milage day.   |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|--|
| November 10 | Salt River Wild Horse Trail Pacers and Clippers 6.1 miles  |  |  |
| November 12 | White Tank Mountains Mesquite Canyon to Ford Canyon to Willow Canyon to Mesquite Canyon Trailhead staging area 8.4 miles   |  |  |
| November 17 | Usery Park West Pass Mountain Pacers,<br>Pass Mountain Clippers 7.5 miles  |  |  |
| November 19 | Estrella Mountains Cold Water to<br>Gasden to Butterfield 9.1 miles  |  |  |
| November 24 | Cave Creek Overton Trail Pacers,<br>Go John Clippers 5.8 miles   |  |  |
| November 26 | San Tan Mountains San Tan Rock Peak<br>Wash to San Tan to Malpais to San Tan<br>to Rock Peak Wash 8.9 miles  |  |  |
| December 1  | Usery Park Lost Sheep Trail from Visitor<br>Center to Moon Rock to Chain Fruit back<br>to Lost Sheep Pacers 3.6 miles<br>Lost Sheep Trail from Visitor Center to<br>Moon Rock Clippers 5.5 miles |  |  |

#### Just a few of the smiling faces from the Retirees' Club General Meeting held on Monday, October 4, 2021















# The Importance of Play

By Laurie Struna, Media Communications Specialist, Communications and Engagement/MPS



Photo Credits: Photo 1 - Samantha Chow, MPS Photos 2, 3 & 4 - Tim Hacker, MPS

#### The benefits of play

Parents, grandparents and caregivers play a special role in helping young learners develop literacy skills. There are a variety of ways families can engage young children in the home, helping them become lifelong learners.

According to **Trisha Pemberton**, early learning specialist at Mesa Public Schools, research shows play is an important key to early literacy. Children need to play because it activates all parts of the brain, helping them build executive function skills, and triggers curiosity or inquiry skills. Play helps children develop social, language and communication skills. It also builds confidence and makes children feel loved. By simply talking, reading or singing together, caretakers can support their child's early learning.

"Children are successful when they are engaged in doing what their brains are designed to do, which is playing," Pemberton says. "During play, children develop language skills and vocabulary. It's also when social norms and rules can be more easily taught because they make sense to children."

#### Looking for ways to support young learners?

Here are a few tips from Pemberton:

 Sing and dance together. Singing can introduce young children to new vocabulary words in a fun way.

- Play with your young learner, whether it's drawing, make believe or another fun activity. These interactions help children develop and understand language.
- Celebrate your family history. Create beautiful interactions in the kitchen, cooking special foods and sharing a story about a cultural family tradition.
- Share a favorite memory and ask the child to share one of their favorite memories. Are there familial things that happen when a grandmother or uncle visits? How does the family engage? It's in these pieces that children develop a robust vocabulary.
- Read a favorite book together. Ask your child to select the book and have them share why it is special. Provide opportunities for young children to voice their preferences.
- Share a time as a child when it may have been challenging
  to learn something. Empower your children by encouraging
  them to ask questions. Maybe they want to know why grandpa has big ears. They aren't being disrespectful, it's their way
  of using their inquiry skills.

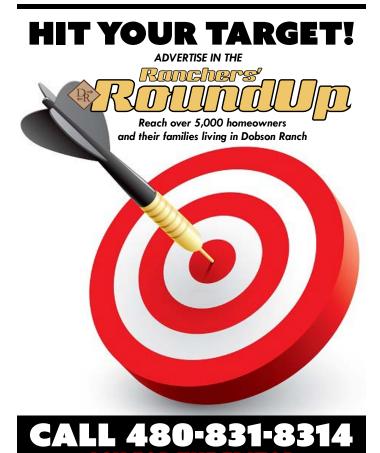


For more information about early learning please visit, *mpsaz.org/earlylearning*.









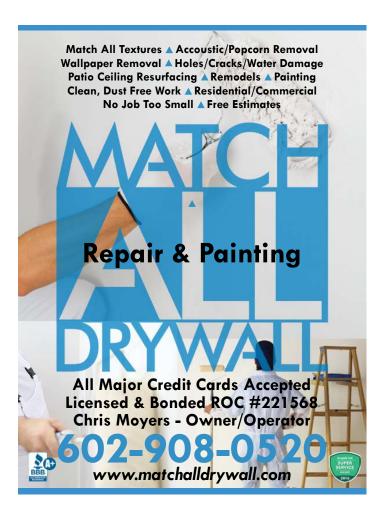






Dedicated to exceeding your expectations ... always.









#### Join the Mesa Public Schools family!

#### Perks include:

- Competitive pay
- · Excellent health, dental and vision benefits for full-time employees
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# **Classifieds**

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

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#### **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. Tax will be added to the amount due. Classified ads are limited to 40 words. Payment is due at time of ad placement. Deadline is the 10th of the month preceeding publication date.



Lake View Sunset sent in by Frank Mizner

| D.   | Call events are subject to a   | endar a  | F Even   | NOVEMBER  | R/DECEMBER 2021   |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|
| 44001040   |  |  |  | *   | CATURDAY (CUNDAY  |
| MONDAY 8   | TUESDAY 9  | WEDNESDAY 10   | THURSDAY 11  | FRIDAY 12   | SATURDAY/SUNDAY  13   |
| Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Bridge 12:30 pm Chica Room Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Chica Room   | Healing Yoga<br>8:15 am Grande Room<br>Recreation Committee Mtg.<br>5:00 pm Chica Room<br>Architectural Committee Mtg.<br>6:30 pm Chica Room | Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner<br>10:00/11:00 am Grande Rm.<br>Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner<br>6:00/7:00 pm Grande Rm.   | Healing Yoga<br>8:15 am Grande Room  | Bunco<br>6:30 pm Chica Room   | Sunday <b>14</b>  |
| Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Retirees' Board Meeting 9:00 am Grande Room Bridge 12:30 pm Chica Room Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Chica Room Budget & Finance Meeting 6:30 pm Grande Room    | Healing Yoga<br>8:15 am Grande Room  | Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner 10:00/11:00 am Grande Rm. Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner 6:00 & 7:00 pm Chica Room  Pesident 101  orientation Resident 101 Orientation 6:30 pm Chica Room | Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm Grande/Chica Rms.                                | Retirees' Game Day<br>1:00 pm Chica Room<br>Poker<br>6:30 pm Chica Room                                 | FALL FESTIVAL & BEER GARDEN 12:00 - 3:00 pm Laguna Park Sunday 21                                     |
| Bridge 12:30 pm Chica Room Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Saratoga Room  | Healing Yoga<br>8:15 am Grande Room<br>Architectural Committee Mtg.<br>6:30 pm Chica Room  | Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner<br>10:00/11:00 am Grande Rm.<br>Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner<br>6:00/7:00 pm Grande Rm.   | THANKS  CIVING  HAPPY THANKSGIVING  Office & Recreation Closed   | HAPPY BLACK FRIDAY<br>Office & Recreation Closed  | Sunday <b>28</b>  |
| Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Bridge 12:30 pm Chica Room Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Saratoga Room  | Healing Yoga<br>8:15 am Grande Room  | Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner<br>10:00/11:00 am Grande Rm.<br>Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner<br>6:00/7:00 pm Grande Rm.   | Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Retirees' Game Day 1:00 pm Chica Room Master Planning Committee 6:30 pm Grande Room | HOLIDAY PHOTO CONTEST BEGINS (Ends 12/13)   | WINTER WONDERLAND 1:30-3:30 pm Laguna Park 6:30-8:30 pm Saratoga Sunday 5                             |
| Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Retirees' General Meeting 9:00 am Grande Room Bridge 12:30 pm - Chica Room Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Grande Room Water & Lake Mgmt. Mtg. 5:30 pm Chica Room | Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Recreation Committee Mtg. 5:00 pm Chica Room  | Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner<br>10:00/11:00 am Grande Rm.<br>Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner<br>6:00/7:00 pm Grande Rm.   | Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room   | 10  | BREAKFAST WITH SANTA 9:00 & 10:00 am Seatings Grande Room (Purchase tickets prior to event) Sunday 12 |
| Fitness in the Park 6:00 am Laguna Park Bridge 12:30 pm Chica Room Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Chica Room Budget & Finance Meeting 6:30 pm Grande Room  | Healing Yoga<br>8:15 am Grande Room<br>Architectural Committee Mtg.<br>6:30 pm Chica Room  | Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner<br>10:00/11:00 am Grande Rm.<br>Tai Chi Intermed. & Beginner<br>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 Grande/Chica Rms.                                | Retirees' Game Day<br>1:00 pm Chica Room<br>Poker<br>6:30 pm Grande Room<br>Bunco<br>6:30 pm Chica Room | 18<br>Sunday 19   |