The Official Publication of the Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association

Ranchers

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FEB. 2023

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Commission of



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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,

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or to Dobson Ranch property.

SUB-ASSOCIATIONS

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Dobson Bay Club

United HOA

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Water Works

Lake Park Village

Dobson Glen

Ogden Management

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Brown Community Management

Snow Property Services

Wood Creek Townhomes

Vision Community Services

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Cover Photo by Nancy Roggio

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Great Ideas Led to the Founding of the D. R. Yacht Club and a Unified Community

On Our Cover:

Seven-month-old Stella, a fluffy white "Multipoo" adorned with the cutest pink bows, was accompanied by her owners Katherine Retana and Luis Mendoza at her very first Bark in the Park event at Laguna Park on January 21st!

Stella enjoyed her romp in the park with all the other pups, and even went on to win the prize for the **Ualiest Sweater.** We see lots of yummy treats purchased with her PetSmart gift card in her future.

To see lots more photos from Bark in the Park, as well as the winners of the two other contests, turn to pages 16 and 17.

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The official publication of the Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association

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 com 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 newslette

WWW.DOBSONRANCH.COM

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Non Emergency Police	480-644-2211
Councilman Heredia Office	480-644-3003
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Green Pool Issue	602-506-6616
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Ranchers' Roundup is the official publication of the Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association.

Nancy Roggio, Managing Editor/Designer

Skye Riss, Editor The articles and comments in this monthly publiation 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.



Your Neighborhood

Message From the Association President



By Nicole Lynam Association President

Looking Forward to Exciting Things Ahead

As we move into February, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the past month and look ahead to what's to come in our community.

Our new Executive Director, **Fran Pawlak**, has been busy getting acquainted with Dobson Ranch, our staff and our residents. We all know that Dobson Ranch is a big community with a lot of moving parts and I have been impressed with how quickly Fran has been able to jump into her new role. Her extensive experience plays a major role in that, and I'm excited to see what that knowledge brings to our community.

I'd like to welcome our new **Board Members** who were recently appointed. We are thrilled to have them join us in leading our community and we look forward to working together to make Dobson Ranch even better.

We are excited to announce that our **50th Anniversary** celebration events have officially started with a great turnout for **Sunday in The Park**. We have a variety of events planned throughout the year and some surprises for the traditional events you have grown to love. Our community website and App are great resources for information about events, important dates and community news. We encourage residents to check the website and App regularly for updates and important announcements.

In addition to our 50th Anniversary events, we have a number of other events planned for the coming months. The Board of Directors will soon be hosting the **44th Annual City Breakfast**. This event brings together Mesa City Officials and Dobson Ranch representatives to discuss ways in which we can collaborate to most benefit our community. March 4th is our **Spring Community Cleanup**, with opportunities to sell, shred or dump your clutter. We are also preparing for our **Annual Meeting** and **Board of Directors Election** on April 11th. Reach out if you are interested in joining the Board of Directors or volunteering on any of our Dobson Ranch Committees. Please remember to submit your vote for the Board of Directors candidates by April 11th. Watch for more details on voting coming soon.

I want to thank all residents for their continued support and participation in our community. All of you are what has made Dobson Ranch "*The best place to live!*" for the past 50 years and will continue to do so for the next 50 years.

Executive Director's Message



By Fran Pawlak, CMCA®, AMS®, PCAM® Executive Director

Communication and Education Go Hand in Hand!

Communication and education are two vital factors that contribute to an enjoyable community association experience for residents, the Board, committees, clubs, and management. At times, residents may feel a bit overwhelmed as we are all on information overload! We receive buckets full of information daily, and often do not process notices we randomly receive until we have a question that needs an immediate answer.

The Dobson Association has many communication platforms available for you to find the information you seek at the touch of a button. On any one of these platforms, you can find news relating to clubs and committees, the lakes, meetings, events, assessment payments, pool times, and so much more. Our Communications team makes sure they are putting out relevant and educational articles for our residents to learn more about association living. Here are several of the marketing channels that provide you with knowledge about all things Dobson Ranch!

Executive Director's Weekly Letter to our Residents: Once a week, we write about important updates around the Ranch, Association business, as well as share upcoming events. This letter is emailed to residents on Monday at 4:00 pm Mountain Time. If you currently do not receive this valuable resident resource, please email **Skye Riss** at *sriss*@dobsonranch.com or visit www.dobsonranchhoa.com and click on the "News" pulldown, then click on "Sign Up For Our Weekly E-blast", complete the form and hit "Sign Up!"

Dobson Ranch Website: www.dobsonranchhoa.com is a fantastic go-to resource for everything about our beautiful community. Please visit the site frequently so you are not missing a thing.

Dobson Ranch App: Our App is amazing! It has everything from upcoming events to photos, announcements and so much more. Our App is very user-friendly. Simply download from Google Play or the Apple Store and follow the directions to Request Resident Access – we will take it from there. Be on the look out for an email from us confirming your registration and temporary password to access and log in. The App is a mini version of the Dobson Ranch website in the palm of your hand.

Ranchers' RoundUp: Ranchers' RoundUp has been in print since 1973 in several different formats! Our editorial team works hard to deliver a publication that makes our community proud. We have several resident article contributors each month, so we appreciate those of you who take the time to read our monthly magazine. Stay tuned for new and wonderful updates to the magazine in March!

Facebook & Instagram: These social media platforms work hand in hand, and we post to them daily, about upcoming events, contests, and an array of pictures of our residents. Our Facebook tag is @DobsonRanchHOA and our Instagram tag is @dobsonassociation, so please follow our pages!

Whichever source you use, we encourage you to check in often, so you are always in the know!

Call for Candidates It's Time to Step Up!

We have started our call for candidates for the three **Board of Director** seats that will be filled at the April 2023 **Annual Meeting of the Members.** Each position is for a three-year term.

Serving on the Board of Directors for Dobson Ranch is a fulfilling volunteer experience. Whether you are a long-time resident or new to Dobson Ranch, serving as a Board Member allows you to help build a strong sense of community.

The Board of Directors are responsible for serving their neighbors and making sound decisions regarding finance, policy and governance. 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 is rewarding to see your input come to fruition in the quality of life at Dobson Ranch as well as sound policy and finances.

Please consider serving on the Board. Visit our website (www.dobsonranchhoa.com/call-for-candidates), fill out an application and send it to: sriss@dobsonranch.com. Article 8 of the Dobson Ranch Bylaws outlines the responsibilities and fiduciary duties of Board Members. Please read as you condsider your application. Be sure to include a bio and photo of yourself to be published in the March issue of **Ranchers' RoundUp**.



Message From the Editor



By Skye Riss

Communications Manager and Ranchers' RoundUp Editor

Sober Living Homes in Dobson Ranch

Ranchers, we understand that some of you are concerned about homes in Dobson Ranch that are sober living facilities, and we are sympathetic to your concerns. We have several within Dobson Ranch that do not cause many problems and usually go unnoticed. The facility managers are required to have written policies for limiting disruption and how to address neighbor complaints.

Community Residences and Sober Living Homes are protected under the Federal Fair Housing Act and permitted in all residential districts. The HOA does not have the authority to prohibit or restrict them in the neighborhood, as doing so may be considered a violation of the Fair Housing Act and the Americans With Disabilities Act. However, the HOA can require them to maintain the property to the same extent as we do with all the homes in our community.

Community and Sober Living Residences are subject to licensing and regulations by the State of Arizona and the City of Mesa, so they may be able to assist you if the property is a nuisance. Please contact the Mesa Police Department if you feel unsafe. There are provisions in the Arizona Revised Statutes Title 36 (ARS Sections 36-2061 to 36-2067). These residences are regulated and licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services. Contact them for more information or file a complaint if you have concerns about the facility.

Email: BSLFacilities@AzDHS.Gov Phone: (602)542-3422 Website: azdhs.gov/licensing/special Address: Bureau of Special Licensing Sober Living Homes Program 150 N. 18th Avenue, Suite 410 Phoenix, AZ 85007

The City of Mesa also has regulations and registration requirements for Community Residences (including Sober Living and Assisted Living Homes) in Section 11-31-14 of their ordinances. For more information or to file a complaint with the City of Mesa, contact their Code Compliance Department at 480-644-4273 or mesaaz.gov/residents/code-compliance.

Hopefully, this helps clarify the regulations and provides you with information on the proper contacts if the property is disruptive.

Your Neighborhood



Project Updates Around the Ranch



By Dennis Melgreen Associate Director of Facilities

Our maintenance crew has been busy updating our facilities and amenities around the Ranch. Here's a list of the latest projects and their anticipated completion dates:

1. Saratoga Restrooms

- We anticipate the final walk-through, and a punch list of any remaining issues with contractor work, to be completed in March.
- The punch list and final City of Mesa approval is planned to be completed by March.

2. Laguna Park Restrooms

- Utility and Geotechnical plans are waiting for the City of Mesa's approval.
- RFP for a utilities contractor will begin when the plans are approved.
- The completion date will be finalized with the utilities contractor.

3. Perimeter Walls

- Painting the block walls is planned to begin the first week in March along Guadalupe Road from Alma School to Price Road.
- The interior block wall project for fences that back up to common areas will begin when the perimeter wall painting is completed.

4. La Casita Pool Area

• A new shade structure was added over the entire splash pad, plus new splash pad water features, new soft splash pad surface, new pool equipment and electrical wiring, and replacing the artificial turf around the play area has been completed.

5. Corner of Dobson Road and Isabella Avenue

- Sidewalk, the boat dock, trees, a drip irrigation system, and low voltage lighting are being installed.
- The remaining plants and granite will be installed in the spring of 2023, when the weather is warmer and may incorporate any approved additions made by the 50th Anniversary Committee to the overall plan.

6. Saratoga Walkway Bollard Lighting

- Electrical plans are awaiting City of Mesa approval.
- Installation will begin upon approval.

7. La Casita Preschool

• Installation of classroom cabinets and bathroom remodeling in the La Casita Preschool has been completed.

8. Saratoga Boat Docks

• The rusty steel decking on the boat dock will be replaced with Trex decking. The Maintenance team will complete the project by May 2023.

Thank you all for your patience during these projects! They will make our Ranch an **even better place to live**, work and play!



By Skye Riss, Ranchers' RoundUp Editor

Congratulations to **Daniel** and **Susan Cekay**, the homeowners of 2525 W. Monte, for being selected as the first official Green Thumb Award of 2023! Daniel and Susan moved into their home in the fall of 2017, and the original landscaping dates to when the house was built in the late 1970s. Daniel and Susan take very good care of their yard with weekly maintenance of mowing, weeding and trimming the bushes when necessary. Their property has an olive tree, agaves, some shrubs and native plants that do well in the summer heat.

Daniel says, "We really love our home and living in Dobson Ranch, and work to maintain our property to meet Ranch standards. Our neighbors have been fantastic in the advice they give us and their constant encouragement. Everyone is friendly! The Dobson Ranch parks and walking areas are exceptional. We're proud to live here!"



If you would like your home or a neighbor's home featured in a future issue of Ranchers' RoundUp, please email sriss@dobsonranch.com.

Sour Neighborhood

FEBRUARY 2023

It's Girl Scout Cookie Time!

Your neighborhood Girl Scouts are out setting up cookie booths, walking door to door, or driving around to deliver online orders. This is my third year involved in cookie sales, so I thought I would share some answers to the frequently asked questions we get as a Troop, and provide some tips as you interact with your local Girl Scout.

Price - Eight of the 10 cookie choices are \$5.00 per box; the other two are \$6.00 per box. This has to do with the cost to make the product. When selling cookies, we often have consumers who were Girl Scouts themselves and love to tell us their stories. The girls **LOVE** hearing these stories... especially about camps and the activities you did as a Scout! However, the girls have no control over inflation or why the prices have increased since you sold them, and are confused when people exclaim how pricey

they are. ;) The cost of cookies has remained the same since 2015, and considering the price of eggs and the housing market these days... \$5.00 dollars a box is a steal!

Profits - A common misconception is that the money goes to Girl Scouts of America, and it does not. In fact, all profits stay local! Our Troop gets just over \$1.00 per box, and the rest of the proceeds go to our local Arizona Council, from which we directly benefit. It helps

maintain the campsites, pays for the Council activities and events we attend, and funds the community service projects we do that benefit our community. Having said that, if you would rather make a donation instead of buying cookies, donating to the Girl Scouts is fully tax deductible. We will take your cash donations and even have tax receipts we can print for you!

Online Sales - We live in a technologically advanced society and communication in the virtual world has increased tremendously. Digital G.S. Cookie sites are huge learning opportunities for the girls to learn about navigating websites, cyber security and online safety. The girls even set up their own website! My daughter Ella typed out her goals, what she learns from cookie sales and what she wants to do in Scouts this year on her website by herself. She even wrote her own video script! After recording, we talked about where the video would be posted and who would see it. Digital links are not allowed to be shared on large websites like *Craigslist* or social media pages like *East Valley* Sells, etc. However, posting on pages/groups of which you are a member is fine. For example, the members in the Dobson Ranch HOA group are the neighbors we would see if we walked around! When an online order is placed, my daughter is the one who puts the order together for delivery, and we either bike, golf cart or drive to deliver the order together. So, if you see a digital link on a social media page (and you are a member), support that girl and know she put a lot of work into setting it up and preparing your order!

In Person Sales - Girls also walk around their communities and sell cookies door to door. They are not supposed to go at night, and they are to be supervised by an adult (depending on age). Additionally, they may set up neighborhood booths or booths at big stores (set up by Council). For the younger ones,

> this is a great opportunity to increase their math skills. When interacting with a Daisy or Brownie in person, please try to let the girl count your order total. While it can be more time consuming, you are helping her with an important life skill! Additionally, the in person sales help the girls learn more about customer service and effective communication. Please be kind, they are not customer service professionals and are still learning how to talk (and listen) to customers.

Thank you to all our neighbors who have supported my Girl Scout Troop over the past three years. With your help, we have been able to take classes on woodworking, golf, zumba and yoga. We do lots of crafting and making cards. We've walked in parades and done a water safety and swim lesson, as well as a fire safety meeting with a fire truck visit. We've learned about Native American culture, Ukrainian egg decorating and had meetings about social and emotional wellbeing, lifelong learning, and healthy eating habits. But, the girls' favorite thing is **CAMP!** We attend as a Troop twice a year, and many of my girls attend Summer Camp as well. We are looking forward to more adventures in 2023!

Girl Scouts. If you know someone interested in Girl Scouts (grades Kindergarten -12), visit wwwgirlscoutaz.org to learn about the adventures in store for her!



Troop cookie delivery in Dobson Ranch

Troop swim lesson at Dobson Ranch

Troop 2089 at Girl Scout Camp

Troop Golf Lesson DR Golf Course Girl Scout Troop 2089



Your Neighborhood



Monthly Update from Vice Mayor Heredia

Putting in the Work and Making Goals a Reality in District 3

I'm excited to share that I have been elected as **Vice Mayor** for the City of Mesa for the next two years. I want to thank my Council colleagues for placing their trust in me. It is truly a blessing and a privilege to represent this great city. I look forward to this new role and continued work with my colleagues, staff, businesses, and residents in making Mesa even better!

On a related note, we recently held our **Council Strategic Planning Session**. We covered some of our accomplishments during 2022 and upcoming challenges faced by our city. We also shared our current and future priorities as Councilmembers. Some of my goals and priorities include to continue developing solutions regarding homelessness, transit connectivity, infill development, and improving the quality of life of our residents, among others.

As your Vice Mayor, and your elected official for District 3, I look forward to putting in the work and making these goals a reality.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact my office at **480-644-3003** or **District3@MesaAZ.gov**.





February is the Perfect Month to Show Your Home a Little TLC!

If you're thinking about painting your home this spring, remember to please put in an **Architectural Application** with the DRAC Committee. Dobson Ranch has approved paint colors for body, trim and doors. You can view these colors from Behr, Sherwin Williams, and Dunn Edwards on our website, or in the Administration Office.

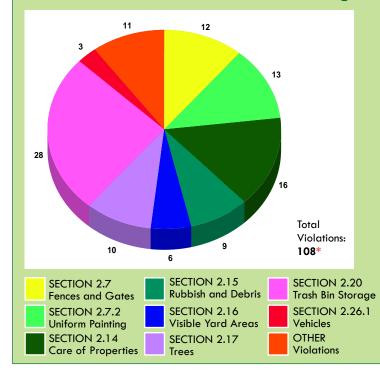
Love Is In The Ai

If you're looking to update your landscape or plant a tree, but are not sure what to plant, please refer to the **Residential Architectural Guidelines**. The appendix section gives useful information on desert-adapted landscape plants, allowable hardscapes, etc.

Spring is also a good time to do home repairs because the weather is typically mild and dry. You can find the new Residential Architectural Guidelines on the Dobson Ranch website, the Dobson Ranch App, and there are hard copies in the office as well, if needed.

If you have questions regarding the new guidelines or HOA Life, I will be happy to speak with you. If, at any time, you have questions or concerns regarding code enforcement, please contact the office at 480-831-8314.

Thank you, Camille Gonzales Operations Manager



CCCR Notices for December 2022



were given in the month of December.

*Total number of violations includes 11 "Other" Violations: Architectural Alterations and Improvements, Exterior Colors, Outside Lighting, Security Cameras, Permanent Structures, Windows and Awnings, Roof Maintenance, and Storing of Vehicles.

Your Neighborhood



We received 11 entries from our seventh **Find the Fact Quiz** in January. A random drawing was held on January 23rd to select the winner of the **\$20.00 Amazon Gift Card**. The gift card for January goes to **Bonnie Selim**. Thanks for taking the time to find all the facts, Bonnie!

To enter the February **Find the Fact Quiz**, simply email all of the answers to questions 1-20 below to *sriss@dobsonranch.com* by no later than February 19, 2023. All residents (of any age) with all 20 correct answers will be put into a drawing. One winner will be randomly selected to receive a **\$20.00 Amazon Gift Card.** February's winner will be announced in the March *Ranchers' RoundUp*.

Ready, Set, GO!

- 1. What is the name of the new advertiser that builds and repairs docks?
- 2. How many pints of blood were donated by our residents at the American Red Cross Blood Drive held on January 17th?
- 3. What do the letters MVC stand for at Mesa Public Schools?
- 4. Where will paper shredding take place during our Spring Clean Up on March 4th?
- 5. How many Board of Director seats will be filled at the April Annual Meeting of the Members?
- 6. Who should you contact if you wish to join the Women's Club?

- 7. What is the status of the La Casita Preschool remodeling project?
- 8. How many cat-egories are there in which to enter in the "Fabulous Feline" Foto Contest?
- 9. What is the price of the Retirees' Club Pancake Breakfast on April 22nd?
- 10. At what event in April will there be a car show?
- 11. How much are the annual inflation-free dues for the Retirees' Club?
- 12. According to Camille Gonzales, February is the perfect month to show your home a little what?
- 13. What was the five-word phrase hidden within the December's Conservation Word Search?
- 14. Who has been named Vice Mayor of the City of Mesa?
- 15. Name one type of bird that is likely to create a hole in your saguaro?
- 16. How much rainfall did Dobson Ranch see on New Year's Day this year?
- 17. On what date will Texas Hold 'Em Poker be played in March?
- 18. What is the 2023 price per word for a classified ad in the Ranchers' RoundUp?
- 19. What is the date and time of the Board of Directors Meeting in March?
- 20. What was the median home sale price in Dobson Ranch in December 2022?

That's a wrap for February! Hope you have fun fact finding! We'll be back in March with another **Find the Fact Quiz** and another gift card to give away.

Special thanks to our residents who helped save lives by donating blood on January 17th!





Home & Garden



SERT LANDSCAPING PS & TRICKS

by Sue Hakala, Certified Volunteer Master Gardener

SAGUARO BOOT

Why do gila woodpeckers and gilded flickers create a hole in your saguaro? Researchers say that the temperature inside a saguaro can be 10 degrees cooler than the outside, and it's cooler up off the ground and away from predators. Birds are smart, they have to be to survive.

The birds choose a nest site on the upper part of a saguaro where the ribs are a bit more flexible than the tough woody ones lower down the plant. Both sexes work on the excavation. As soon as the pecking begins, the saguaro sends out an internal alarm enabling it to defend itself from the incoming bacteria and pathogens. It ramps up production of an adrenalin-like compound called dopamine. This substance surrounds the site, causing a buildup for a thick cork-like callus sealing the plant off from harm, similar to a scab on your arm after a cut.

When birds create a boot/nest site cavity in the saguaro, they tunnel in and then down. They need to allow the plant to callus over, dry out and become watertight before they move in. So, the birds may begin excavating next year's site late in the previous summer.

The woodpeckers may reuse the nest site the following year. When they abandon the cavity, elf owls, western screech owls, finches, starlings, sparrows and other birds may move in.

If a bird creates a nest hole in your saguaro, don't panic, it won't kill it, and please, don't do what someone I know did, which was to fill the hole in with concrete! The saguaro knows what to do to protect itself.

As the saguaro reaches the end of its life cycle, arms sag, the top might freeze, bacteria and pathogens set in. When it finally crashes to the ground, it isn't the end. It becomes a bonanza for microbes, fungus and insects, becoming a whole ecosystem. The saguaro boot can provide a home for desert life.

A saguaro can take a decade to be stripped of its flesh, revealing the woody skeletal structure with the boots inside. It would be about now that you might be lucky enough to see one while walking in the desert. The boot will still be there when the skeleton turns to dust. Take photos, but don't remove the boots from the desert.



Bird holes in a saguaro.



A saguaro boot in a skeleton.



Close up of a saguaro boot.

PLANTS ON THE RUN! Plant Response to Drought and Heat Stress

When the climate changes, so do the presence of plants in different areas worldwide. The fossil record has proven invaluable in tracking plants from one location to another in response to drought and heat stress, showing that plants are indeed mobile organisms. For plant species, migrating in response to environmental changes is a matter of survival.

To understand how plants may cope with environmental changes such as drought and heat stress, scientists at the University of Washington compiled geographic coordinate data for the locations of nearly 300 plant species within seven distinct regions (*including Arizona*) across western North America. Researchers compared findings to changing environmental conditions, such as drought, temperature, rain, and snowfall. The expectation was that plants would move toward cooler temperatures, but the research indicated that water was a more defining factor than temperature.

Drought is a distinctly different stressor than high temperatures on plants, and plants respond to each differently. "Some plant species are very tolerant of drought, some very intolerant, some in-between," says Professor Alex Niemiera, School of Plant and Environmental Sciences at Virginia Technical University. "Soil type will also affect drought response. Plants growing in moisture-retentive soils fare much better than those in less retentive soils." Extreme heat may eliminate plants that do not have the mechanisms to withstand even short episodes of high temperatures. To survive rather than go extinct, plants must shift their distribution, alter their annual vegetative and reproductive cycles, or acclimate or adapt to environmental changes.

Several strategies to support the current landscape plant palette during stress, including appropriate irrigation practices, fertilizer and pesticide application reduction, and minimal pruning, will prove beneficial. Surface mulches will reduce evaporation and lower soil temperatures. Planting times are more crucial during prolonged stress periods. Even though one can install landscape plants at any time during the calendar year in Arizona where the soil does not freeze, preferred times such as mid-fall and early spring result in better establishment and, in turn, longer-lived plants, reducing costs and labor. Some plants may survive and perform well, while others may not. In all likelihood, the landscape plant palette will change.

Article by Cindy Odgers.



Landscaping tips brought to you by

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THE ARIZONA LANDSCAPE







By Kathrine Blomquist, Water and Lake Management Committee Member



It's February and there's a lot of love going around Dobson Ranch in honor of the community's 50th Anniversary. In keeping with the year-long celebration, **"Happy Fiftieth Anniversary Dobson Ranch"** was the hidden 5-word phrase in December's conservation-themed Word Search. Thanks to everyone who completed the search and entered the contest!

for cattle, uses 1.5 million gallons of water per acre per year. Maybe 2023 is the year to remove your turf in favor of

River basin is for agriculture. Alfalfa, the primary food source

Invaybe 2023 is the year to remove your furt in tavor of low-water-use plants, or to utilize a pool cover, or to install a low-flow WaterSense® toilet. The time is always right to conserve if you pick what's right for you. Need more inspiration and motivation? Here is short list of conservation-themed events taking place this year:

- Congratulations to **Marie M.**, a 17-year resident that was "thrilled" to win a Smart Thermostat and other conservation-related items, compliments of our friends at SRP. Marie's name was randomly selected from all the entries. For those of you that came close to finishing, the answer key is shown here.
- As mentioned last month, the **Dobson Ranch Spring Expo** will be held on Earth Day for the first time! The event is taking place Saturday, April 22, from 8:00 to 11:00 am, in conjunction with the ever popular Retirees' Club Pancake Breakfast (yum)! The Spring Expo is held every year to make it easy and convenient for you to meet with local organizations and businesses to learn ways to conserve natural resources and save money. This year marks the 5th Anniversary of the event and, as always, it is open to all ages, complete with dancing, ladybugs, great
- CONSERVATION WORD SEARCH Ρ D Ρ R Y 0 V A т C N S F Ρ 0 S С S F Е E Х 0 L Т Т Е 0 U т В Ν E н Α S 1 A Е G 0 N Е Ρ 0 Ν Α 0 н R R Т V L Н Ρ Ε Ε т Ρ Ν т L Α Т D Ε Т R G S Т н S С Μ Α Y Μ Α N S A Α U 0 V R Α С Т Е D Е Μ A Α v v Ν B S S E К Α L M T. Α Α R Α L L Е U Ρ т D γ В G S Μ Μ Ε E Ν Ε S 0 R Ν Ν R т н 0 S G S R W S Е E С L Α Т R Y Ε S S Y S н Δ D F т R F. F S 1 E т С Е D 0 0 R Α D 0 R Α F D 0 В S Y Ν т 0 Α D Н T. R Α E Т С R S Ρ Α Ν R Т Ν G Ε Х Ρ 0 D S D Α S R Ε L L 0 R т Ν 0 С н Т R **ANSWER: HAPPY FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY DOBSON RANCH** LADYBUGS DESERT ADAPTED XERISCAPE STAGE ONE POOL COVERS SPRING EXPO SHADE TREES PHOENIX AMA TREES MATTER CITY OF MESA INCENTIVE COLORADO RIVER FARTH DAY RAIN CONSERVATION SUSTAINABLE WATER CYCLE SMART DEVICES SRP **IRRIGATION CONTROLLERS** ARID SAVINGS THERMOSTATS DAMS **RETENTION BASIN** LAKES UNLESS DROUGHT CAP
- February 24 Conservation Science Night at the Phoenix Zoo
- March 22 World Water Day
- April 22 Earth Day! Dobson Ranch Spring Expo & Pancake Breakfast
- April 28 National Arbor Day
- May 13 World Migratory Bird Day
- June 8 World Oceans Day
- July 28 World Nature Conservation Day
- August 19 National Honey Bee Day
- September 23 National Public Lands Day
- October 1 World Vegetarian Day
- November 15 America Recycles Day
- December 14 Start of the Audubon Christmas Bird Count

giveaways, and lots of fun. Mark your calendar!

The Dobson Association takes water conservation very seriously. The Spring Expo, the use of Smart Irrigation Controllers in common areas (have you seen "Rain Bird" on our utility boxes?), increased water bottle filling stations and recycling bins are a few examples of ranch-wide conservation efforts. Why not make 2023 the year for you to incorporate a low-water-use lifestyle. One way is by incorporating "Meatless Mondays," or any day of your choosing, and skip meat-centered meals. According to High Country News, 70% of all consumptive water use in the Colorado Did you find one day (or two? or all?) that resonates with you on your conservation journey? A quick search on the web, or a stop at the newly-remodeled Dobson Ranch Library, will give you more information on how to get involved and take action.

Dobson Ranch is shining bright this year, please join in the celebrations, spread the love, and do your part to save water!

#DOBSONCONSERVATION



At Our Lakes

Where Does All the Water Go?

By Joseph Trikett, Water and Lake Management Committee Chairman



The start of 2023 has been a wet one. January 1st brought us nearly an inch of rain and rain totals as of January 16th (when this article was written) measure 1.7 inches. 2022 brought parts of Mesa over 9 inches of rain. Merriam-Webster defines a desert as: arid land with usually sparse vegetation, having a warm climate and receiving less than 10" of sporadic rainfall

annually. Though some of these characteristics such as the warm climate we can relate to our landscape here, though some of which are man made, is far from sparse, and rainfall at least for the last year or two has pushed us nearly out of the desert category. That being said, where does all the rainwater go once it hits the ground?

Our lakes are technically labeled as "water shed runoffs". In simple terms, they are designed to absorb storm runoff. Dobson Ranch is built on basically an old ranch. Ranches have some characteristics of being flat, covered by dirt and vegetation. When heavy rain falls on a typical ranch, it gets absorbed into the ground (not so much when it comes to concrete and asphalt). All the water which would have normally been absorbed into the ground needs to go somewhere, that somewhere being our lakes. If you've lived here in Dobson Ranch for a few years, you may have seen some of the gutters and spillways turn into flowing torrents of water dumping into our lakes during a heavy downpour. An inch of rain over the Ranch, which has an area of nearly three square miles can raise the 80 acres of lake area by over a foot. During the monsoon season, the Ranch staff prepares for this by limiting the amount of water taken into the lake from the SRP canal. Throughout the rest of the year when flooding isn't a concern, the lakes can typically absorb any rainfall.

Nearly all the storm drains in Dobson Ranch feed directly or indirectly into the lakes. There is also a three-foot elevation change from Lake 1 to Lake 8, Lake 8 being at the lowest level. In the event of a 20-year or 100-year storm, there is a valve at Lake 8 which will release water back into the SRP canal. There is also a runoff and retention area designed into Carriage Lane Park, which is located just south of Guadalupe, and several sunken soccer fields and parks along Dobson Road and into neighboring Chandler.

Since our lakes act as drainage basins, anything and everything has the opportunity to end up in our lakes from either rain, wind or gravity. It is important for us to be mindful of what ends up in our gutters. Sprinklers should be adjusted to limit runoff. Pools and other bodies of water should be drained to the sewer clean out of the home, not into the street. Yard debris should be cleaned up and properly disposed. Trees that overhang any of the lakes should be trimmed regularly. If we all do our part, we can help conserve water and maintain our lake system for years to come.



Real Estate on the Ranch

Home Sales & Mesa Market Trends

By Nicole Lynam, Board President



Homes Sold in Dobson Ranch

December 2022:40 Homes SoldDecember 2021:80 Homes SoldNovember 2022:43 Homes SoldNovember 2021:76 Homes Sold

Median Home Sale Price in Dobson Ranch: December 2022: \$361,000

(-14.1% Growth Year-Over-Year) December 2021: \$420,500

Average Sale Price Per Square Foot in Dobson Ranch: December 2022: \$258 (+2.2% Growth Year-Over-Year)

Medium Home Sale Price in 85202:

December 2022: \$314,250 (-19.9% Growth Year-Over-Year) December 2021: \$340,000 What is the housing market like in Dobson Ranch?

In December 2022, Dobson Ranch home prices were down 14.1% compared to last year, selling for a median price of \$361K. On average, homes in Dobson Ranch sell after 58 days on the market compared to 29 days last year. There were 40 homes sold in December this year, down from 80 last year.

How hot is the Dobson Ranch housing market?

The Dobson Ranch housing market is somewhat competitive. The average sale price per square foot in Dobson Ranch is \$258, up 2.2% since last year.

Number of homes sold in Dobson Ranch in January 2023

(as of 1/23): 19. Final figures for January 2023 will be reported in the next issue of Ranchers' RoundUp.

Median Home Sa	le Price Comparison		
			\$600K
			\$500k
		\bigvee \checkmark	\$400K
	~		\$300k
2020	2021	2022	\$200k
	bson Ranch	2022	

All data as reported by **Redfin.com**

Movers and Shakers

Great Ideas Led to the Founding of the Dobson Ranch Yacht Club and a Unified Community

By Skye Riss, Communications Manager and Ranchers' RoundUp Editor



As a member of any HOA Board, it is important that decisions are made to benefit the lives of the residents. That is something for which **Chris Diamond** has always advocated. Chris has lived in Dobson Ranch for 18 years and has been an active Board Member for over three years. Chris has led a successful life working with computers, primarily in the Information Technology (*IT*) field and has worked for many large

Photo by S. Riss

companies including E! Television, DirecTV, Ernst & Young, and Disney. Chris was a founding member of the **Dobson Ranch Yacht Club** and the Holiday Lighted Boat Parade. He is also very passionate about graphic design and hosting foreign exchange students in his home with his wife, Sandra, and their daughter, Adreana. Chris has always loved living in Dobson Ranch, because of the strong sense of community.

Chris grew up in California and attended Pasadena City College to study Information Technology. But, Chris has been self-taught from working with computers since a young age. His first job in the entertainment field was working for E! Television and from there he transferred to work for DirecTV and was part of the official launch of the service. Chris then worked for the Big 6 accounting firm Ernst & Young, and eventually moved onto working with Disney Theatrical Productions, which was his favorite job of all. Since moving to Arizona, Chris started his own IT consulting and web development firm

"I worked at Disney for nine years in the Theatrical Production division as their IT Manager. I got to watch so many plays and live shows including *The Lion King* on Broadway, which I saw many times and attended the openings in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco and Sydney. I really enjoyed that job, but my wife and I had always lived in California and we wanted a change. So, we visited Arizona in 2004 to look at buying rental properties. That is when we stumbled upon these lakes in Arizona, and I was shocked that there were lakes in the desert! These lakes were a part of Dobson Ranch and we eventually bought a home in the community," Chris reminisced.

Ever since moving to Dobson Ranch, Chris and his wife have made a happy and busy life for themselves, made even busier when they adopted an adorable little 8-year-old named Adreana six years ago, and have watched her blossom into a beautiful young lady who is now 14.

One day, Chris had the idea for what is now the **Dobson Ranch** Yacht Club and brought it to the attention of some neighbors who also owned boats on the lakes. Some of his friends who helped launch the Yacht Club and the Lighted Boat Parade included Mike Rosenfeld, Manelle Williamson, Kevin McCarthy, and Wes VerWoert, who is now head of the Yacht Club. Chris was instrumental in helping grow the Yacht Club and the beloved Holiday Lighted Boat Parade (which he coordinated from 2007-2021), by creating the Yacht Club Facebook Page, setting up a website (https://dryc.us) and producing video content.

The Yacht Club does some great volunteer work for the community, including cleaning up the lakes. "A lot of our members go out on the lakes and scoop the trash out of the water, and our residents appreciate that."

Chris is also a very important member on the Board of Directors since 2019 and helps make sure that the topics, discussions and his votes benefit the entire community.

"As a Board Member, I try my best to keep everything even. If there is something that I know is good for the community, I push for it. Most importantly, I'm always mindful that the Board represents all of the residents in Dobson Ranch."

One of Chris' many passions in life is hosting foreign exchange students in his home with his wife and daughter.

"One day, my wife was looking through the paper and saw an ad asking for a home to host foreign exchange students. So, we tried it, and loved it! We have hosted many wonderful girls from different countries, including Germany, France, Finland, and currently, Italy. A lot of the girls were so talented! They could sing, dance, paint and were straight A students! We continue to keep in touch with the girls we hosted to see how they are doing. Because we have done this program for many years, the exchange company asked me to join, so I work for them part time, and I am currently managing about 18 students. My job is to help find host families and contact each family and paired student throughout the year to get a report on how everything is going."

Amid all this work that Chris is doing, he is also an active member of the American Marketing Association (*Phoenix chapter*), as well as designing and selling cool t-shirts on the side through his website *hogfishtees.com*! All of this is what makes Chris is an exemplary resident in Dobson Ranch.

Chris shared this final message in honor of Dobson Ranch's 50th Anniversary:

"We love living here. There's such a sense of community and almost everybody on our street comes together for parties and celebrations! One important message that I would like to share with everyone is to come to our Board Meetings and share your thoughts and concerns that you may have with the Board and the other residents. Dobson Ranch is the greatest place to live!"

In the Community

ESA Mesa Public Schools Virtual Campus Serves Unique Needs For Families PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

Internet access has transformed how society shops, communicates, socializes and, for some families, even how children attend school. Mesa Virtual Campus (MVC) is a free online program offered by Mesa Public Schools. The campus provides a virtual synchronous K-12 live option for students to attend school from home or anywhere there is internet access.

Catherine Beaudoin, principal at Mesa Virtual Campus, shares that Mesa's program serves a diverse community of 430 students and is different than the emergency remote learning created as a response to the pandemic.

"Last year families enrolled with us because of the COVID-19 pandemic and that's not the case this school year," Beaudoin says. "Students found success in a virtual environment and wanted to continue."

Beaudoin shares some families desire flexible remote schedules, and Mesa's program allows students to work without missing school. Some of the need includes student athletes with demanding travel schedules, children with chronic illness, or students who moved out of state and their parents prefer to keep their children at Mesa Public Schools with their friends. Virtual learning is a way that they can stay in touch with their peers and have interaction while maintaining a structured environment.

"We have a saying on our shirts that says, 'Connected by Any Distance," Beaudoin shares. "I truly feel that if you speak with our students they feel connected to our teachers and school."

Fostering student success

Students are equipped with everything from laptops, to PE equipment, books, manipulatives and art kits so that they have all the materials needed to learn. Students and families receive support to navigate technology so they can log in and access courses via their learning management system, Canvas.

Heather Gookin is a sixth grade teacher who says MVC is the online school of innovation and the future.

"We provide a K-12 community and platform like no other in the state of Arizona," Gookin says. "What sets us apart is that we have all chosen to be a part of this community. Teachers are highly qualified, classes are rigorous, students are held accountable for their learning and they are thriving because the online platform works for their needs."

Gookin shares that parents appreciate the accessibility they have to their children's teachers.

"It's as simple as parents just hopping on at the end of class and sharing that they need to get in touch with their teacher. The ease of access and responsiveness for our teachers makes a huge difference to our students."

For more information regarding Mesa Virtual Campus, please visit mpsaz.org/mvc.



Heather Gookin provides a rigorous and fun learning environment for her students.



Brittain Hall uses eGlass to capture her face and writing in the same photo to engage her 4th-graders in a math lesson.

Photo Credits: Photo of Heather Gookin by Tim Hacker/MPS. Photo of Brittain Hall by Laurie Struna/MPS.



Recreation Happenings

From the Recreation Manager's Desk



By Amanda Jensen Recreation Manager

BIG Changes in Store For You!

We have **BIG changes** coming for our events! Please keep an eye out for the new updated **Events Calendar**. We will keep you updated as things change, and events get added to the calendar.

We have a full month of events coming up in March. We are kicking off the month of March with our **Spring Clean Up** on Saturday, March 4th. We will have a dumpster at Los Altos, shredding at La Casita and Saratoga Recreation Centers, and Ranchwide Garage Sales. The dumping and garage sales will begin at 7:00 am and go until 1:00 pm. The shredding will go from 8:00 am to 11:00 am.

Don't forget to bring your family and get comfy at Laguna Park on Friday, March 10th to enjoy **Movie in the Park**. We will be showing Disney Pixar's *Lightyear* and serving hot dogs.

On March 24th, we'll be hosting **BYOB** at La Casita. We'll have prizes, dancing, live music, plus plenty of wine and beer tasting. This is a 21+ event. You'll want to dig through your closet to dress up to enter our '**70s Costume Contest**. Be sure to bring a 6-pack of beer or bottle of wine to enter the event.

We have more fun events coming your way for the rest of 2023, so keep on the look out for more 50th-themed events! We also have all of our Recreation Classes back in full swing. Check out the class pages to see what we offer and when.

Tennis Tip for February 2023



By Kwong Young Dobson Ranch Tennis Professional

We all know that the serve is the action that begins each point

Hold Your Head Up

and can be a weapon if you have a strong and well-hit delivery. In 1972, a band named **Argent** released a song called **Hold Your Head Up** and is spot on when relating it to serving performance in tennis.



When you drop your head and shoulders, you are not looking up enough and most likely will strike the ball into the net. Tennis trophies represent a figure with its head up, a relaxed and bent knee, a racket behind its body, and the tossing hand up high. This referenced trophy figure is the ideal model for posture for players to hold to serve strong.

However, many players do not always play with perfect posture. Frequently, tennis players tend to toss low and serve quickly, which won't allow them to hit the ball high enough to get maximum leverage for a powerful serve. They might be unable to get their racket back behind them to generate enough racket speed for a powerful delivery, and lastly, no follow-through.

We are all unique and have our own style for serving on the court, so I applaud you!





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, March 6, 13, 20, 27
 6232 \$40 R/\$60 NR

 Wednesday, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
 6233 \$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
 I
 Sessions: Monthly

 Monday, March 6, 13, 20, 27
 6234 \$40 R/\$60 NR

 Wednesday, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
 6235 \$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.

 9:00 am - 10:30 am
 I
 Sessions: Monthly

 Saturday, March 4, 11, 18, 25
 6231 \$40 R/\$60 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 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 | Sessions: Monthly Monday, March 6, 13, 20, 27 6236 \$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 and relaxed setting.

> Saturday | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm *March Social 3/18

*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 Happenings

FEBRUARY 2023

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	2
When:	Wednesdays	1
Where:	AM & PM Class	es Anona
	La Casita Recre	ation Center
Time:	10:00 am	Intermediate Tai Chi
	11:00 am	Beginner Tai Chi
	6:00 pm	Intermediate Tai Chi
	7:00 pm	Beginner Tai Chi
Cost:	\$3 drop in resid	dents, \$6 drop in non-residents
	\$12 resident or	nly for a 6-use punch card



leanne

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

N GH

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

YOGA FOR BEGINNERS

Instructor: When: Where: Time: Cost:

Mondays Saratoga Recreation Center 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm \$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

YOGA

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 also very helpful. You can attend yoga class with your punch card.

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

ZUMBA

Instructor: When: Where: Time: Cost:

Karen Tuesdays La Casita Recreation Center 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm \$7 drop in rate, \$30 resident only for a 5-use punch card



Zumba is a fusion of Latin and international music that incorporates a variety of dance styles such as salsa, cumbia, belly-

dance and reggaton. This class combines high energy and uplifting music to help you burn fat and tone your body. Even if you have never danced before, you will have a blast, because the routines are fun and easy to do. So what are you waiting for? Join the party and try Zumba today! Punch card expires two months from the date of purchase. Punch Cards may be punched one time for residents per class. No additional punches for guests or residents.

HEALING YOGA

Instructor: When: Where: Time: Cost:

Samantha Tuesdays and Thursdays La Casita Recreation Center 8:15 am - 9:15 am \$8 drop in, \$42 resident only for a 7-use punch card.



Healing Uoga

Hard to get up off the floor? Body having a hard time moving? Feeling every ache and pain? Come 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, not letting your worries take control over your mind. If you think your body has had 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. Punch card expires two months from your purchase date.



GET YOUR PUNCH CARDS* FOR RECREATION CLASSES AT LA CASITA REC. CENTER

* 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.

Recreation Happenings

CHILDREN'S DANCE CLASSES

FAIRYTALE DANCERS (AGES 3-5)

Class Code:	6178
When:	Thursdays (February 23rd - March 30th)
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. Con-
	tractor fee due to the instructor the first
	day of program: \$35 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)

Class Code:	6171
When:	Tuesdays (February 21st - March 28th)
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: \$35 check or cash only.

This upbeat and fun class is perfect to sample different dance styles such as jazz, ballet, modern, hip hop, and other styles. Get moving with this upbeat, fun class and discover dance! Contact Jana Moore at 480-363-9997.

INTRO TO BALLET & JAZZ (AGES 4-6)

Class Code:	6185
When:	Thursdays (February 23rd - March 30th)
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: \$35 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 to improve motor skills and creative expression. Soft-soled shoes or bare feet are recommended. 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



Texas Hold 'Em Tournament Style Poker

(Must be 18 or older) When: Friday, February 24, and March 24 Where: La Casita Recreation Center Time: 6:30 pm (arrive by 6:15 pm) Cost: Free to residents, \$5 non-residents

Poker night is a free monthly program for Dobson Ranch residents. Meet your neighbors for a friendly game.



Bunco

Friday, February 17 and March 17 When: Where: La Casita Rec. Center (Chica Room) 6:30 pm (arrive by 6:15 pm) Free to residents, \$5 non-residents

This fast-paced, yet easy game is played with dice. It's a fun social hour with other residents.

Bridge



Mondays Where: La Casita Rec. Center (Chica Room) 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm \$1.00 per player

We are actively seeking more bridge players. We play party bridge; singles and couples are welcome. Call Susan Toevs at 317-446-8641 for info on joining.

RECREATION CLASS INFORMATION

- 1. **REGISTRATION** for classes can be booked on the Association website at www.dobsonranch.com or at La Casita Recreation Center, 2719 S. Reyes, Mesa, AZ. Class fees are due during the registration process unless otherwise noted.
- 2. **QUESTIONS** on any recreation class or activity, you may contact La Casita Recreation Center desk at 480-831-7464.
- 3. **REFUNDS** The Dobson Association reserves the right to establish fees and cost minimums for all programs and to cancel those programs not having sufficient enrollment. Program refunds will be issued for:
 - a. Cancellation of class by instructor or the Dobson Association will result in a full refund.
 - b. Participants may cancel after first class or initial start date of class for a full refund.
 - c. Notification by participant prior to start date of illness or injury preventing participation during session time frame.
 - d. Discontinuance of participation due to injury or illness will be reviewed for consideration of prorated refund.
 - e. No other refunds will be given. No exceptions. Refund requests must be promptly submitted.



Going to the movies? Get your Harkins Theatres discounted tickets at the La Casita Recreation Center and SAVE!



Recreation

The Dobson Ranch "pet set" came out to Laguna Park on January 21st to enjoy another pawsome BARK IN









OUR THREE BARK IN

















UGLIEST **SWEATER** "STELLA" with Katherine Retana and Luiz Mendoza

"BO" owned by Frank Rutkowski (not shown) Congrats to our 3 BIG v











Happenings

THE PARK. To see lots more tail waggin' photos, please visit *Facebook*/DobsonRanchHOA. (Photos by Nancy Roggio)







BEST **PET OWNER** LOOKALIKE "PUGS-LEE" with Steven Bain

vinners!





MP



SUZI GLOVEI

480-941-225



RUNBUDDY BBR



Plus, the following sponsors:

AZ Basset Hound Rescue - Beagle Sponsor Snuffle Mats for Dogs - Beagle Sponsor

Recreation Happenings FEBRUARY 2023



PHOTOS FROM PARENT'S NIGHT OUT & SUNDAY IN THE PARK WILL BE FEATURED IN THE MARCH ISSUE OF RANCHERS' ROUNDUP



Movie in the Park Sunset at Laguna Park Friday, March 10th

Food
Popcorn
Refreshments!

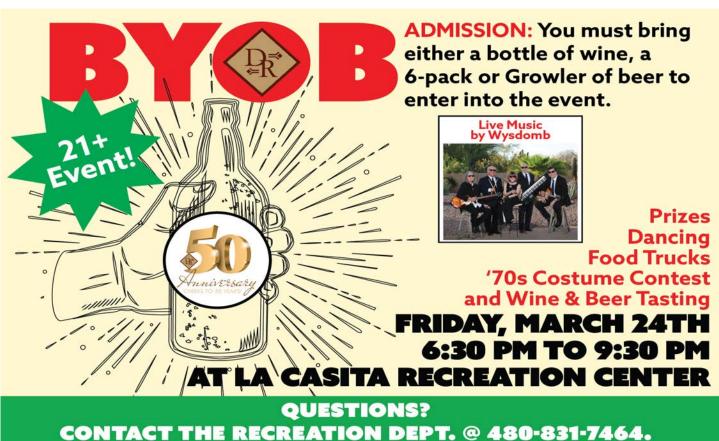


Contact Recreation Dept. with questions at 480-831-7464.

Recreation Happenings

FEBRUARY 2023





THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION

Recreation Happenings

90

50ve the

FEBRUARY 2023



Bounce Houses Questions? Call Recreation Dept. at 480-831-7464. **Dobson Ranch** Spring Expo Earth Day - Sat. April 22nd
 8:00 to 11:00 am At the La Casita Recreation Center



taster

Eggstravaganza

Saturday, April 8th

Laguna Park

Food Trucks

Easter Bunny

Egg Hunts

Games

10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Fun for the entire family! Bring your friends, too!



Sponsored by the Water and Lake Management Committee Questions? Please email drspringexpo@gmail.com

Questions? Call Administration at 480-831-8314.

Tuesday, April 11 at 3:00 pm La Casita Recreation Center

• Car Show • Food • Refreshments

Special 50th Panel & More!

111

Contest Corner

R

ME-WOW! Enter Our "Fabulous Feline" Foto Contest

Why leave all the glory to the Dobson Ranch pooches at Bark in the Park, when your pretty kitty can shine in the spotlight, too?

Contest begins February 10th and ends February 20th. **Enter today!**

- **1. Shoot:** Choose one of the 5 cat-egories shown below, then snap a pic of your furry feline friend in a creative way.
- 2. Share: Email your best digital photo by no later than February 20, 2023 at 5:00 pm to *nroggio@dobsonranch.com* along with your name, address, name of pet, and cat-egory. You may enter no more than one photo per cat-egory.
- 3. Shout: One prize will be awarded for the best photo in each of the five cat-egories. Prizes will be a \$20 Amazon Gift Card. One photo will be chosen as an "Editor's Choice" and receive a \$50 PetSmart Gift Card. Winning photos will appear in the March Ranchers' RoundUp.





Dobson Ranch Clubs

Dobson Ranch Retirees' Club

By Susan Toevs, Retirees' Club President

Happy New Year! The Retiree's kicked off the January General Meeting with a full house on January 2nd with our usual fun and merriment, with existing members renewing their membership and new members joining for the inflation-free annual dues of \$20.00.

In February, we will hear from **Donna Bates** about all the activities available for seniors at the Tempe Y. Also in February, the Mesa Fire Department will present a program on safety. Many thanks to **Karen Magnan** and **Jo LeVan** who coordinate the program and find speakers for our group.

We have had some turnovers in our committees. Thanks to Marilyn Krouse and Shirley McCoy for handling Ladies Lunch last year. Mary Kay Yoder has agreed to become the new chairperson to find delicious places to go Out to Lunch. David McCoy is turning over Men's Breakfast to Greg Castagna.

Arnie Chase has celebrated his 80th birthday, and will now share our biking activities leadership with **Kim Zeman**. Arnie has been our fearless peddler for many years. Many of our riders are now using e-bikes! A huge, heartfelt thanks to each and every person who has volunteered to help keep our Club interesting and vital over the years.

Our weather is now warming up and our outdoor activities are in full swing. Hiking, biking and walking groups are out and about. Our popular Pitch In Picnics, under the leadership of **Susie Payne**, are back and will meet at a variety of parks.

Just a reminder, the Dobson Ranch Retirees' Club membership is open to any Ranch resident over 55. If interested in any of our activities, please come try us out. You may visit three times prior to committing to paying dues. Our monthly lunch meeting is on the first Monday of the month at La Casita Recreation Center. Coffee and conversation begins at 9:30 am, and our business meeting begins at 10:00 am. Hope to see you!



Happy Dobson Ranch Retirees at the December Happy Hour.



Free Wheelers ride on January 3rd. This was Arnie Chase's "retirement" ride as leader of the Tuesday rides.







Dobson Ranch Clubs

Women's Club

By Patty Smith, Women's Club President

2023 has been a very busy year already. Arizona has been "the State" to visit and party including the Barrett Jackson Car Show, the WM Golf Tournament and the Rocky 'n Roll Marathon. Oh, and the Super Bowl! I wonder if our local Perry High School (*Gilbert*) quarterback **Brock Purdy** helped bring the San Francisco 49ers to the game?



Out to Lunch changed venues last month to La Familia Restaurant. The lunch was delicious. What a great menu!

The Taste of Peru was yummy. The staff was good, too. It is located in the SW corner of Alma School and Guadalupe. March will find us choosing an Irish restaurant. Don't forget to wear green. Stay tuned!

Bunco for January was hosted by **Donna**. Thank you for sharing your home and we had an enjoyable time. We wore our favorite football team shirts or jerseys. March **Bunco** will be hosted by **Miss Mike**. Mardi Gras is the theme.

For our **Community Service Project**, we brought non-perishable food and clothing for the MCC Student Food and Clothing Pantry. Many students live out of their cars, or students do not have enough money for food. If you wish to help, please contact me.

Happy Super Bowl, Happy Valentine's Day and Happy Presidents' Day!

LADIES - ARE YOU INTERESTED IN FREE LINE DANCING?

We meet every Tuesday at 9:30 to 11:00 am in the Grande Room at La Casita. We dance to various music, not just Country Western. It is mostly an exercise class. Bring your own water for our break! Please email **Barbara Stout** (stoutgeo@gmail.com), so she can add you to her email list.

Pickleball 2023 Is Off To a Great Start!

By Rich Bitner, Recreation Committee Pickleball Representative

We are celebrating the New Year, as usual, by playing a lot of pickleball. Great attendance for morning sessions, and we have used all eight courts a few times, especially during weekend drop in or on the holidays when folks are off work. Night time attendance is probably even stronger, as us retirees do realize some people have day jobs and kids to attend to, so it is nice to be able to play under the lights.

We had a few rainouts recently, but we want to remind everyone there are other places and times you can drop-in and play, and some are indoors.

Until the heat comes back again, we will continue to play "drop-in" pickleball at 8:00 am Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, and Monday and Thursday nights at 6:30 pm. We are normally wrapped up in about two-and-a-half hours. Also, please remember our eight new dedicated pickleball courts at Los Altos are available to residents and their guests every day between 6:00 am and 10:00 pm, and if you would

Retirees' Hiking Club

By Barbara Stout, Retirees' Hiking Club Chairperson

Please join our hiking group each Wednesday. We meet at La Casita at 8:00 am sharp each week. Please send your email address to me at *stoutgeo@gmail.com*, so I can add you to the email list. I send out an email on the Sunday before the upcoming hike on Wednesday. I also provide a history of the hiking area in the email.



Snowbirds Gretchen

and Dave

Happy trails! Barb

February 15	McDowell Mountains - Brown Mountain Trailhead - Brown Mountain Trail
February 17	TBA on Wednesday before
February 22	Superstition Mountains Second Water - In and out
February 24	TBA on Wednesday before
March 1	Superstition Mountains - Dutchman Trail from First Water Trailhead - Superstitions in and out
March 3	TBA on Wednesday before
March 8	Superstition Peralta Trailhead - Lost Gold- mine Trail from Lost Goldmine East Trailhead and Peralta Trail for Clippers
March 10	TBA on Wednesday before
March 15	Picket Post (near Superior) - Pacers around mountain; Clippers to the top.
March 17	TBA on Wednesday before

like a reservation, they are available on the Dobson Ranch App.

However, reservations are not available during "drop-in" hours. These are the times when all residents of any skill level are invited to join in the fun. "Drop-in play" is "first come, first served". Everyone plays one game to 11 and comes off the court to be replaced by those who are waiting to play next. This is a time when experienced players will play with newer players, and beginners will be taken under the wing by more experienced players to provide an introduction to the game and get them started. It is, in short, a mixer!

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 and make sure you are hydrating, stretching and warming up as needed.

Contact **Rich Bitner** (*rebitner*@cs.com) or **Frank Mizner** (*planner1948@gmail.com*) for further information. Please contact **Donna Ransom** (*donna85202@gmail.com*) to get on her email list for Monday and Thursday night play.

PICKLE-ON!

Dobson Ranch Clubs



Interested in joining one (or more) of the many Clubs on the Ranch? Here's who you need to contact.

RETIREES' CLUB

The Retirees' Club gets involved in several fundraising activities throughout the year, and has many activities for members to enjoy such as Dinner Night Out, Happy Hour, Movie Day, Bicycle Riding, Line Dancing, monthly General Meetings, and more. **Contact: Susan Toevs**, President at *suzila@aol.com*.

RETIREES' HIKING CLUB

Hikes are planned to such places at Salt River, White Tank Mountains, Usery Park, Estrella Mountains, Cave Creek, San Tan Mountains, and more. There are two hiking levels: **The Pacers** (shorter hikes) and **The Clippers** (longer hikes). **Contact: Barbara Stout**, Chairperson at stoutgeo@gmail.com.

DOBSON RANCH PICKLEBALL

Dobson's eight courts at Los Altos Recreation Center are available to residents and their guests anytime between 7:00 am to 10:00 pm daily, so come out for some fun with family and friends to enjoy the fastest growing sport in America. **Contact: Rich Bitner** at *rebitner*@cs.com or **Frank Mizner**, Pickleball Commissioner at *planner1948@gmail.com*.

DOBSON RANCH WOMEN'S CLUB

There are many activities in which the Women's Club members participate: Bunko, Out to Lunch, Out to Dinner, and more. Fundraising activities have provided scholarships to High School graduates living in Dobson Ranch.

Contact: Patty Smith, President at smiths1975@cox.net.

DOBSON RANCH MOM'S CLUB

Contact: Andrea Hogan, Chairperson by email at andreabaranyk@yahoo.com. Watch for more details to come.

DOBSON RANCH SMALL BUSINESS CLUB

The Small Business Club will provide a coordinated effort to support our resident-owned businesses, provide networking opportunities for business owners and residents, and help strengthen community bonds and support for our neighbors. **Contact: Nikki Ausdemore** by phone at 480-628-6730 or by email at nikki@orangeblossombookkeepingaz.com.

DOBSON RANCH TENNIS CLUB

The ladies doubles tennis team competes in the Valley of the Sun league, playing home matches on the La Casita Recreation Center tennis courts.

Contact: Lynda Bailey, Chairperson by email at *lbcarpediem13@gmail.com*.

DOBSON RANCH YACHT CLUB

This club is responsible for the annual Lighted Boat Parade and other boat-related activities throughout the year. **Contact: Wes Ver Woert**, Chairman at WesV56@gmail.com.

DOBSON RANCH DEMOCRATS & FRIENDS CLUB

The Club meets on the second Wednesday of every month (2/8, 3/8, 4/12, etc.) from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the Grande Room. Come listen to special guest speakers on current issues, City of Mesa government, and learn how to get involved in grassroots organizing. Visit their Facebook page to register for the next meeting at www.facebook.com/DobsonRanchDemocrats. Contact: George Thihanyi at 480-792-6746 or email Kerry Lengel at kerrylengel@gmail.com.

DOBSON RANCH REPUBLICANS CLUB

Monthly meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at Native Grill (*Dobson & Guadalupe Roads*). Doors open at 6:30 pm and program begins at 7:00 pm. Join the Republicans Club and let your voice be heard.

Contact: Michelle Masters, Chairperson by email at DobsonRanchGOP@gmail.com.

DOBSON RANCH INDEPENDENTS CLUB

This Club meets virtually to explore other political options. **Contact: Jack Wagner**, Chairman at *golfingjack@msn.com*.

THINKING ABOUT STARTING YOUR OWN CLUB?

Contact **Amanda Jensen**, Recreation Manager, for complete details at *ajensen@dobsonranch.com*.



Dobson Ranch will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2023. The **50th Anniversary Special Edition** of **Ranchers' RoundUp** will be published in September 2023 and take the place of our normal September issue. Make sure you reserve your advertising spot early, because space will be limited. The 50th Anniversary Special Edition will include stories and history about what makes Dobson Ranch so special. It will be read by all in the community of over 18,000+ residents and will be a collector's item that will be cherished for years to come. Because of the longevity of this Special Edition, the ad costs for the month of September alone will increase by 20% and the new prices are reflected below in the gold column.

The **Ranchers' RoundUp** is a full **COLOR** magazine and is the official publication of the Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association. It is published on (or before) the 10th of every month and is mailed to approximately 5,000 homes in the community. The deadline to advertise is the 10th of the month prior to publication. For the Special Edition, the deadline to submit your ad and payment is Friday, June 9, 2023. The **Ranchers' RoundUp** magazine may also be viewed online at www.dobsonranchhoa.com. Contact Skye Riss at sriss@dobsonranch.com to place an ad.

THE A	THE AD SIZES/COSTS FOR JANUARY 2023 - DECEMBER 2023 ARE AS FOLLOWS:					
DISPLAY AD SIZE	WIDTH/HEIGHT	SEPTEMBER 50th SPECIAL EDITION	3-MO. CONTRACT Pricing excludes September	6-MO. CONTRACT Pricing excludes September	12-MO. CONTRACT Pricing excludes September, but includes January 2024 as the 12th month	
1/16 PAGE	1.75"W x 2.375"H	\$78.00*	\$195.00 total* \$65.00/mo.* <mark>\$185.00</mark> **	\$356.00 total* \$59.00/mo.* \$339.00**	\$634.00 total* \$53.00/mo.* <mark>\$605.00</mark> **	
1/8 PAGE	3.5"W x 2.375"H	\$120.00*	\$300.00 total* \$100.00/mo.* \$286.00**	\$568.00 total* \$95.00/mo.* \$539.00**	\$1,056.00 total* \$88.00/mo.* \$1,010.00**	
1/4 PAGE	3.5"W x 4.75"H	\$210.00*	\$528.00 total* \$176.00/mo.* \$506.00**	\$1,025.00 total* \$171.00/mo.* \$979.00**	\$1,980.00 total* \$165.00/mo.* \$1,887.00 **	
1/2 PAGE	7"W x 4.75"H	\$382.00*	\$957.00 total* \$319.00/mo.* \$910.00**	\$1,868.00 total* \$311.00/mo.* \$1,788.00 **	\$3,670.00 total* \$306.00/mo.* <mark>\$3,498.00</mark> **	

*Includes Tax **Price if paid in full Call for Full Page Pricing

PLEASE NOTE: All advertising contracts that were signed in 2022 and that extend into 2023 will not see a price increase until ad contract is renewed in 2023.



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Dobson Ranch Resident

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Realtordannyr@gmail.com

Hablo Español



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- 🗹 Franklin traditional schools
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Call Skye at 480-831-8314 or email sriss@dobsonranch.com to place an ad. Dobson Ranch HOA does not endorse any of our advertisers.

GOODS AND SERVICES

CARLSON HAULING – Call us first to remove your junk. D. Ranch homeowner for 42 years. 480-695-6361. Free bids.

DAVE'S JUNK REMOVAL & DUMPING – We haul it all! I'm a 6th grade Mesa teacher working my second job. 480-360-JUNK (5865).

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AL – Call or text today and get your junk hauled away! Maxx 480-758-0274. *azstronghauling.com*.

CURB NUMBERS \$13 – Gates & fences painted. Bill 480-560-5463.

JUNK REMOVAL – Junk hauled away. Good prices! Small loads. Dump it to your yard! 1 to 5 tons: sand, gravel, soils, mulch. Call or text to José at 480-330-7265. Not a licensed contractor.

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DOUG DO LIST – Handyman service. 30 years of experience in home maintenance and repair. 20-year Dobson Ranch resident. Call or text 480-276-1842. Not a licensed contractor.

HANDYMAN SERVICES – Painting, electrical, plumbing, lighting, Honey-Do Lists welcome. Call Chris 480-980-2442. Not a licensed contractor.

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

PALMS & TREES USA – Landscaping services. 40 years of experience. Free estimates. Lawn maintenance, clean-ups, hauling, tree trimming and removal, sprinkler repair and installation, and removal and installation of rock. Licensed, bonded and insured. ROC #214910. Call or text 480-897-3610.

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IN-HOME PET CARE & HOUSE SITTING -15-year Dobson Ranch resident with references. Experienced with dogs, cats and lizards. I would love to care for your fur babies duing your time away. Text or call Kristen 480-298-6964.

POPPY PET SERVICE – Poop scoop, litter box changes, habitat maintenance including: cages and aquariums. Property cleanups. 20-year Dobson Ranch resident. Insured. Free estimates. 480-200-9598.

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CLASSIFIED AD COSTS FOR 2023

Classified pricing for a **business ad** is **\$1.25 a word**, +2% tax, per month. Pricing for a **personal ad** for a Ranch resident is \$0.75 a word, +2% tax, per month.



"Prince Jamison" loved the Run Buddy Mobile treadmill at Bark in the Park.

A R A	All events are subject to cl	Endur a hange. Visit the Events Cal	endar at dobsonranchhoa.	FEB. 2 com for updated info.	2023 / MAR. 2023
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY/SUNDAY
13 Bridge 12:30 pm Chica Room Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Chica Room Water and Lake Mgm. Committee Meeting 5:30 pm Grande Room	14 VALENTINE'S DAY Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Line Dancing 9:30 am Grande Room DRAC Meeting 5:30 pm Grande Room Zumba	15 Tai Chi 10:00 am Inter. Grande Rm. 11:00 am Begin. Grande Rm. 6:00 pm Inter. Grande Rm. 7:00 pm Begin. Grande Rm.	16 Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room	17 Retirees' Game Day 1:00 pm Grande Room A Matter of Balance Class 1:00 pm Chica Room Table Tennis 4:00 pm Grande Room Bunco (200 Cline D	Sunday '
	6:30 pm Chica Room			6:30 pm Chica Room	
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6 Retirees' General Meeting 9:30 am Grande Room Bridge 12:30 pm Chica Room Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Chica Room	7 Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Line Dancing 9:30 am Grande Room Dance Sampler 5:30 pm Chica Room Zumba 6:30 pm Chica Room	8 Tai Chi 10:00 am Inter. Grande Rm. 11:00 am Begin. Grande Rm. 6:00 pm Inter. Chica Rm. 7:00 pm Begin. Chica Rm. Democrats & Friends Mtg. 6:30 pm Grande Room	9 Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Fairytale Dancers 4:30 pm Chica Room Intro to Ballet & Jazz 5:30 pm Chica Room Small Business Club Mtg. 7:00 pm Grande Room	10 A Matter of Balance Class 1:00 pm Chica Room Table Tennis 4:00 pm Chica Room Movie in the Park Sunset at Laguna Park MOVIE IN THE PARK 6:30 pm (sunset) Laguna Park	Sunday -
13 Bridge 12:30 pm Chica Room Yoga for Beginners 5:30 pm Chica Room Water and Lake Mgmt. Committee Meeting 5:30 pm Grande Room	14 Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Line Dancing 9:30 am Chica Room DRAC Meeting 5:30 pm Grande Room Zumba 6:30 pm Chica Room	15 Tai Chi 10:00 am Inter. Grande Rm. 11:00 am Begin. Grande Rm. 6:00 pm Inter. Grande Rm. 7:00 pm Begin. Grande Rm.	16 Healing Yoga 8:15 am Grande Room Fairytale Dancers 4:30 pm Chica Room Intro to Ballet & Jazz 5:30 pm Chica Room	17 Retirees' Game Day 1:00 pm Chica Room Table Tennis 4:00 pm Grande Room Bunco 6:30 pm Chica Room Poker 6:30 pm Grande Room	1 Sunday 1
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