NOVEMBER 2023 Ranchers'

17

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The Official Publication of the Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association

185



Page 6 Please read!

NEW Clubs Spread Pages 15 & 16

Halloween Spooktacular Photos Pages 17 & 18

& More to Read!

# HOST YOUR HOLIDAY EVENTS

AT DOBSON RANCH GOLF CLUB

## PERFECT SPACE TO HOST:

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In a galaxy far, far away, lived Philip, Adrienne, August and Maggie Altobello who all had a supernova time at the 2023 Halloween Spooktacular! Their mission was to steal the show at the costume contest and they succeeded along with many other families and contestants. We hope everyone had the best time at the Halloween Spooktacular and we will see you again in the next lightyear. May the force be with you!!

Photo by Skye Riss

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#### DOBSON RANCH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION **ADMINISTRATION OFFICE** 2719 S. Reyes, Mesa, AZ 85202 480-831-8314

Monday through Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

LA CASITA RECREATION CENTER 2719 S. Reyes, Mesa, AZ 85202 Monday through Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday through Sunday: 8:00 am - 7:00 pm

SARATOGA RECREATION CENTER POOL 2345 S Saratoga, Mesa, AZ 85202 Monday through Sunday: 8:00 am - 9:00 pm Holidays: 8:00 am - 9:00 pm

LOS ALTOS LEISURE POOL 2524 W. Campo Alegre Monday through Sunday: 8:00 am - 9:00 pm Holidays: 8:00 am - 9:00 pm

PLEASE CALL 911 FOR REPORTING EMERGENCIES. VANDALISM, SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY, ETC., **OCCURRING ON OR TO DOBSON RANCH** PROPERTY.

#### IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE PLEASE CONTACT THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE DIRECTLY WITH CONCERNS, COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS. **OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES ARE STRICTLY FOR** INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

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Ronnika Giles, Receptionist/Administrative

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Jessi Feltmann, Preschool Teacher

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



CUT OUT THIS PAGE ALONG THE DASHED LINE AND POST IN AN IMPORTANT LOCATION FOR EASY ACCESS!

• Weekly Update: To receive this valuable resource, visit DobsonRanchHOA.com, click on the "Comminications" pulldown, click "Sign Up for our Weekly E-Blast". • Website: DobsonRanchHOA.com



in GREEN!

# Important Contacts NOVEMBER 2023

# Join the Club

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CLUB & MOM'S CLUB Christa Tropin, Chairperson at ctropin@dobsonranch.com.

DOBSON RANCH COMMUNITY CLUB Kate O'Hara, Chairperson at azkateo@gmail.com.

WRITERS CLUB Chad Turner, Chairperson at ctproductionz@gmail.com.

LINE DANCING CLUB & HIKING CLUB Barbara Stout, Chairperson at stoutgeo@gmail.com.

**RETIREES' CLUB & BRIDGE CLUB Susan Toevs**, President at *suzila*@aol.com.

RETIREES' CYCLING CLUB Arnie Chase, Chairperson by phone at 480-838-4124.

PICKLEBALL CLUB Rich Bitner at rebitner@cs.com or Frank Mizner at planner1948@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S CLUB Patty Smith, President at smiths1975@cox.net. SMALL BUSINESS CLUB

**Nikki Ausdemore** by phone at 480-628-6730 email at nikki@orangeblossombookkeepingaz.com.

YACHT CLUB Wes Ver Woert, Chairman at WesV56@gmail.com.

DEMOCRATS & FRIENDS CLUB George Tihanyi at 480-792-6746 or Kerry Lengel at kerrylengel@gmail.com.

**REPUBLICANS CLUB Michelle Masters,** Chairperson at DobsonRanchGOP@gmail.com.

INDEPENDENTS CLUB Jack Wagner, Chairman at golfingjack@msn.com.

YOYO CLUB Chad Robinson, Chairman at dryoyoclub@gmail.com. Instagram @dryoyoclub.

THINKING ABOUT STARTING YOUR OWN CLUB? Email recreationdobson@dobsonranch.com for details.

# **Committees & Sub-Associations**

KIDS CAMP COMMITTEE (Ad-Hoc) Christa Tropin, Chairperson at ctropin@dobsonranch.com.

CC&R COMMITTEE (Ad-Hoc) Nicole Lynam, Chairperson at nlynam@dobsonranch.com.

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE Spencer Jarvis, Chairperson at jarvis.spencer@gmail.com.

ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE Nicole Lynam, Chairperson at nlynam@dobsonranch.com.

MASTER PLANNING COMMITTEE Tim McElrath, Chairperson at tim@mcelrath.me.

RECREATION COMMITTEE Rich Bitner, Chairperson at rebitner@cs.com.

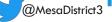
WATER & LAKE MAMAGEMENT COMMITTEE Chair position open. Dobson Bay Club • Ogden Mgmt. • 480-622-3445 Dobson Ranch Condos • United HOA • 480-567-9791 Dobson Glen • Trestle Mgmt. • 480-422-0888 Dobson Greens • Self Managed • 480-839-9079 Dobson Villas • Peterson Company • 480-513-6846 Laguna Village • Brown Community Mgmt. • 480-839-8013 Lake Park Village • Tri-City Property Mgmt. • 480-844-2224 The Landings • Brown Community Mgmt. • 480-339-8806 Legante Paseo • Trestle Mgmt. • 480-422-0888 Water Works • Associated Property Mgmt. • 480-941-1077 Wood Creek Townhomes • City Property • 602-437-4777

# **City Contacts**

Vice Mayor Francisco Heredia – District 3 District3@mesaaz.gov - 480-644-3003 Animal Control (Cruelty, Barking) - 480-644-2268 Code Compliance - 480-644-2061 Utilities, Solid Waste & Water - 480-644-2221 Graffiti Hotline - 480-644-3083 Housing, Community Development - 480-644-3536 Mesa Public Library - 480-644-3100 Mesa Fire & Medical, Non-Emergency - 480-644-2400 Mesa Parks & Recreation - 480-644-2211 Mesa Police Department, Non-Emergency - 480-644-2211 Mesa Police Headquarters/Info - 480-644-2324 Fiesta Patrol Division - 480-644-2614 Neighborhood Outreach - 480-644-5700 Household Hazardous Materials Center - 480-644-4463 Green Pool Issue - 602-506-6616

Streetlight Hotline - 480-644-3191 Transportation (Street Lights, Potholes) - 480-644-2160 Transit - 480-644-5541 Volunteer - 480-644-5432 Utility Emergency (Water) - 480-644-2262 Crime Prevention/Neighborhood Watch - 480-644-2539 AZ Blue Stake - 602-263-1100 Salt River Project - 602-236-8888 Homeless Liaison Officer Cook - 480-228-1449

@ Vice Mayor Francisco Heredia www.mesaaz.gov/home







WWW.DOBSONRANCHHOA.COM

# November Calendar NOVEMBER 2023

All events are subject to change. Visit the Events Calendar at dobsonranchhoa.com for updated info.



# December Calendar NOVEMBER 2023

All events are subject to change. Visit the Events Calendar at dobsonranchhoa.com for updated info.

## **STARTING NOVEMBER 24th!**

Celebrate the holidays at the AT&T Fiber Merry Main Street, Mesa's spectacular celebration of the season! Merry Main Street is open through **January 6**. For more info, visit merrymainst.com.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY/SUNDAY
				Table Tennis 1 2:30 pm Chica Rm.	2023 Community Lighted 2 Boat Parade 6:00 pm Laguna Park
					Sunday <b>3</b>
Retirees' General Mtg. 4 9:30 am Grande Rm. Bridge 12:30 pm Chica Rm. Water & Lake Management Mtg. 5:30 pm Grande Rm.	Line Dancing 9:00 am Grande Rm. Recreation Mtg. 4:00 pm Grande Rm. Dance Sampler 5:30 pm La Casita CC&R Mtg. 5:30 pm Grande Rm.	YoYo Club! 6 6:00 pm Grande Rm.	Retirees' Game Day     7       1:00 pm Chica Rm.     Fairytale Dancers       4:30 pm Chica Rm.     Intro to Ballet & Jazz       5:30 pm Chica Rm.     Master Planning Mtg.       7:00 pm Grande Rm.	Table Tennis 8 2:30 pm Chica Rm.	Yacht Club Boat Parade 9 6:00 pm Saratoga Rec. Center
			Happy Hanukkah‼		Sunday 10
Bridge 11 12:30 pm Chica Rm. Budget & Finance Mtg. 6:30 pm Grande Rm.	Line Dancing 9:00 am Grande Rm. Dance Sampler 5:30 pm La Casita DRAC Mtg. 5:30 pm Grande Rm.	Democrat and Friends 13 6:30 pm Grande Rm.	Fairytale Dancers     14       4:30 pm Chica Rm.     Intro to Ballet & Jazz       5:30 pm Chica Rm.     BOD Executive Session       (Closed)     5:30 pm Grande Rm.       BOD Meeting (Open)     7:00 pm Grande Rm.       Small Biz Mtg.     7:00 pm La Casita	Retirees' Game Day     15       1:00 pm Chica Rm.     15       Table Tennis     2:30 pm Grande Rm.       Bunco     6:30 pm Chica Rm.	16
Detices I Desud Mas	It is been a second				Sunday 17
Retirees' Board Mtg. 18 9:00 am Grande Rm. Bridge 12:30 pm Chica Rm.	Line Dancing 19 9:00 am Grande Rm. Laguna Village BOD Mtg. 5:00 pm Grande Rm. CC&R Mtg. 5:30 pm Chica Rm. Dance Sampler 5:30 pm La Casita	20	Fairytale Dancers     21       4:30 pm Chica Rm.     1       Intro to Ballet & Jazz     5:30 pm Chica Rm.	Table Tennis     22       2:30 pm Chica Rm.     Poker       6:30 pm Grande Rm.     Poker	23
					Sunday 24 LA CASITA REC. CENTER CLOSED
MERRY CHRISTMASI 25 ADMIN OFFICE - CLOSED LA CASITA REC. CENTER CLOSED	MERRY CHRISTMAS! 26 ADMIN OFFICE - CLOSED LA CASITA REC. CENTER CLOSED DRAC Mtg ZOOM 5:30 pm Grande Rm.	27	Fairytale Dancers     28       4:30 pm Chica Rm.     1ntro to Ballet & Jazz       5:30 pm Chica Rm.     Legante Paseo BOD Mtg.       7:00 pm Chica Rm.	Table Tennis     29       2:30 pm Chica Rm.	30 Sunday 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE HOURS ADMIN OFFICE - CLOSED LA CASITA REC. CENTER CLOSED
	Happy Kwanzaa‼				

**3 THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION** 

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# HOA News & Updates NOVEMBER 2023

## Board of Directors Meeting Report - September 28, 2023 Summary of Board Action Items and Motions

**2023-09-100** A motion was unanimously carried to approve eight (8) Pickleball & Tennis Court signs (rules/no trespassing signs with modifications) for \$1,379.84 as a Reserve expense item.

**2023-09-101** A motion was unanimously carried to approve the restructuring of the Ranchers' RoundUp publication to consist of 20 pages with 200 printed copies for distribution from the office and a digital online version at a cost of \$26,400. Printed copies will no longer be mailed to homeowners in 2024.

**2023-09-102** A motion was unanimously carried to approve the sale of two non-functioning 2008 Polaris vehicles in the maintenance yard for \$1,000.

**2023-09-103** A motion was unanimously carried to request that the Master Planning Committee make recommendations to the Board regarding the Rose Garden.

**2023-09-104** A motion was unanimously carried to approve four new Dobson Ranch Clubs: Community Club; Writers Club; Line Dancing Club; Family Engagement Club.

## **Call for Board of Director Candidates!**

Now is the perfect opportunity to serve your community! Three seats are open on the Board of Directors and each position is for a 3-year term starting April 2024. The Board of Directors is responsible for making sound decisions and setting policy. It is an endeavor that requires a time commitment of monthly board meetings, and executive sessions.

To apply, please visit dobsonranchhoa.com/call-for-candidates, complete the application and email to hoa.admin@dobsonranch.com, by February 10, 2024. Please include a bio and photo of yourself to be included in the March 2024 issue of the Ranchers' RoundUp.

## Executive Summary for the Period September 2023

Current Actual	Current Budget	Current Variance	BARKAN	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	Annual Budget
			Income				
254,553	254,592	(39)	Assessments	2,290,702	2,291,328	(626)	3,055,104
9,556	42,660	(33,104)	Other Income	339,698	409,040	(69,342)	524,750
264,109	297,252	(33,143)	Total Income	2,630,400	2,700,368	(69,968)	3,579,854
			Expenses				
123,363	92,998	(30,366)	Administrative Expenses	1,032,625	865,960	(166,665)	1,160,173
1,004	2,350	1,346	Board Expenses	52,226	52,676	450	54,776
4,278	16,045	11,767	Lakes Expenses	62,415	74,405	11,990	96,340
25,498	58,366	32,868	Landscape Expenses	309,896	445,607	135,711	581,363
35,480	48,143	12,663	Maintenance	298,957	423,084	124,127	557,669
4,336	6,201	1,865	Preschool Expenses	43,867	53,705	9,837	69,606
31,075	53,544	22,469	Recreation Expenses	269,359	460,781	191,422	610,013
32,754	22,934	(9,820)	Utilities	214,366	208,406	(5,960)	273,208
168	100	(68)	Watercraft	1,523	3,000	1,477	3,300
257,956	300,680	42,724	Total Expenses	2,285,235	2,587,624	302,389	3,406,448
6,153	(3,428)	9,581	Operating Net Income Before Depreciation	345,165	112,744	232,421	173,406
21,819	22,500	681	Depreciation Expense	195,873	202,500	6,627	270,000
1,481	0	(1,481)	Total Non-Operating Expenses	3,175	0	(3,175)	0
(17,148)	(25,928)	8,781	Operating Net Income After Depreciation	146,117	(89,756)	235,873	(96,594)
0	(22,500)	(22,500)	Fund Transfer	160,049	266,750	106,701	349,000
(17,148)	(3,428)	(13,719)	Net Income After Fund Transfers	(13,932)	(356,506)	342,574	(445,594)

## www.dobsonranchhoa.com/financial-statements/ Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings

Working Session • Thursday, November 9 • 5:30 pm - Grande Room Executive Session • Thursday, November 16 • 5:30 pm - Grande Room General Board and Town Hall Mtg. • Thursday, November 16 • 7:00 pm - Grande Room Executive Session • Thursday, December 14 • 5:30 pm - Grande Room General Board Mtg. • Thursday, December 14 • 7:00 pm - Grande Room Please attend the Working Sessions and General Board Meetings! Thank you!

## Dobson Ranch Board of Directors



Nicole Lynam Association President nlynam@dobsonranch.com



**Kathleen Tolar** Vice President ktolar@dobsonranch.com



**Stephanie Fee** Treasurer stephaniefee@dobsonranch.com



Michael Snedeker Secretary msnedeker@dobsonranch.com



**Sandy Murray** Director sandymurray@dobsonranch.com



**Richard Bitner** Director rebitner@cs.com



**Randy Harvey** Director rharvey@dobsonranch.com



Christa Tropin Director ctropin@dobsonranch.com

# HOA News & Updates NOVEMBER 2023

## Message From the Association President



## By Nicole Lynam, Association President

Happy November! It has been another busy month around the Ranch. I hope your ghouls and goblins enjoyed the Halloween Spooktacular and your entire family had a groovy time at our Fall Festival

50th Anniversary Celebration. Both events would not have been possible without the planning and hard work of our neighbors volunteering their time. Here are great examples of community:

- 1. A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common.
- 2. A feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals.

What makes Dobson Ranch such a special Community? It is the second point, of creating "a feeling of fellowship with others", that I hear people speak of when talking about Dobson Ranch. It is the events where people meet and get to know their neighbors. It is the activities and classes where people build friendships. It is the friendly smiles when passing neighbors along the lake paths or asking if the fish are biting today. It is neighbors going out of their way to help one another. It is simple kindness.

The Dobson Ranch motto is "The Best Place to Live". It is the people that make that true. It is our neighbors coming together to create that feeling of fellowship and togetherness that makes us a special community. Our community needs you. We need you to continue making this a special place where people can brag about the relationships formed here. We need your help volunteering to organize the amazing events and activities that bring us together. We need your voices and opinions on how to make that motto ring true for the next 50 years. Without our neighbors coming together, Dobson Ranch would just be "a group of people living in the same place" and lose the magic of this place we call home.



## **Executive Director's Message**



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

Throughout November, many notable dates keep us busy. November 1st - 2nd is the Day of the Dead; November 5th - 11th is Dear Santa Letter Week; November 7th is Election

Day; November 11th is Veteran's Day; November 16th is the Great American Smokeout; November 24th is Black Friday, and November 27th is Cyber Monday, to name a few.

For most of us, the month's highlight is Thanksgiving Day, November 23rd! Whether you're looking forward to visiting with family and friends, cooking a family feast in your new home on the Ranch for the first time, or simply enjoying the 4-day weekend, it's a reflective time of year.

To me, my "Thanksliving" highlight happens every day because of the people I am blessed to work with! As we live the spirit of Thanksgiving this month, please join me by often thanking our dedicated team of professionals who keep Dobson Ranch running smoothly throughout the year. Our lean and mighty wonder crew is the best, consisting of only 14 full-time staff – once consisting of well over 45 full-time staff in the good ole days.

So let me introduce you to the Dobson Ranch Team -

Marc heads up the landscape, maintenance, and lakes department, assisted by a fantastic group of guys: Rodrigo, Gonzalo, Gustavo, Chauncy, Fillipe, and Martin. Jackie, Camille, and Jessi take excellent care of the recreation, room/equipment rental, and preschool side details. On the administration side, we have a lively bunch: Ronnika, Skye, Akina, Jonathan, and I ensure customer service, communications, accounting, compliance, and overall operations are as efficient as possible. As primary departments of "one," -- we all work separately – together! We're continuously learning and growing, and we appreciate any positive feedback to serve you better.

Please remember that due to limited funding, staffing will not increase for some time, so we thank you in advance for your patience as we reorganize. You can always find accurate and up-to-date information regarding Dobson Ranch on the Dobson Ranch website, my weekly email blast, or the Ranchers' RoundUp. Please only look to one of these three (3) resources to help answer any questions you may have if a team member is unavailable due to high demand.

Happy Thanksgiving! Happy Thanksliving! Your gratitude and kindness for the staff and their work for the Dobson Ranch Association is greatly appreciated! The Admin Office and La Casita Recreation Center are closed on Friday, November 10th, for Veterans Day and Thursday and Friday, November 23rd and 24th, for Thanksgiving.

**5 THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION** 



# 2024 Assessment

The Board of Directors voted at the August 24, 2023 meeting to increase the annual assessment by 5%.

Annual assessment is \$639.00

**Quarterly assessment is \$159.75** 

Monthly assessment is \$53.25

January 1, 2024 statements will be mailed by the second week of November 2023 in time for you to make adjustments to your scheduled payments.

Please do not send payments to the office! Payments must be mailed to P.O. Box 98148 Phoenix, AZ 85038, or paid online. Payments sent to the office may not be credited to your account in a timely manner.



## **Code Compliance Specialist's Message**



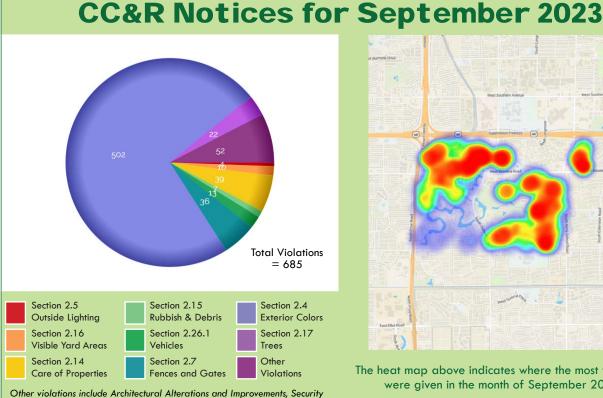
## Jonathan Lefler, Code Compliance Specialist

Wow! It's crazy how fast this year has gone by and to think we are just days away from Thanksgiving and Christmas is next month! I wanted to take a minute to thank you all for your hard work on cleaning up your yards this year! The Ranch looks great due to the work you all have done! You're making my job harder, which is good, because it's getting harder to find any violations.

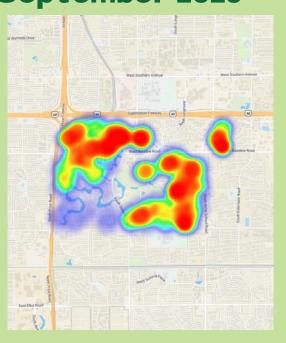
As we approach the holidays, we will all be decorating our homes. Please remember, in the guidelines section 2.5.1 it states that federally recognized holiday decorations such as Thanksgiving and Christmas, do not require approval if installed no earlier than 30 days before a holiday and removed no later than 21 days after a holiday. Please be considerate to your neighbors about lights and noise, and I can't wait to see some of the decorations! You all do a great job showcasing your holiday spirit.

I understand we have had some issues with notices and QR codes not working. We are continuing to enhance your experience make it the easier, and appreciate your patience during this transition. We have fixed a lot of issues already. If you have any questions or concerns about your violation notice, please contact me though email compliance@dobsonranch.com or by phone at **480-831-8314**, if you need an extension on your violation. Please do not respond though the HOA Life portal. Please take the time with the cooler weather upon us, to get your yards looking good for your holiday guests!

Also, please do not to dump furniture or waste on side streets, corners or in the lakes. We do not have the manpower, or resources to keep cleaning up these items. This also costs the HOA extra money that could be used for much needed resources and projects. Thank you again to all those that continue to make this a great place to live. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call, email me, or stop me in person when I'm out.



Cameras, Uniform Painting, Grass and Landscaping, Trash Bin Storage, Roof Maintenance, Garages and Carports, Storing of Vehicles, and Watercraft.



The heat map above indicates where the most violations were given in the month of September 2023.





# The Lakes

## Lakes & Fish Report

By Zach Hache, Water Resource Manager

What are those large mosquito-like insects that find their way into my home? They don't seem to bite, but sure do look like mosquitoes.



The insects are crane flies. Crane flies belong to the family Tipulidae, and are true flies. The adult crane fly resembles an oversized mosquito. Attracted by the light inside the house, they fly in the open window or door and start to flap against lampshades or walls. However, they are medically harmless as they do not sting, suck, or transmit disease pathogens.

The larval stage of the crane fly inhabits freshwater and semi-aquatic areas (such as irrigated land). Larvae of some crane fly species can be found in open fields, dry rangeland and even in

desert environments. The larval stage has chewing mouth parts and feed primarily on decomposing organic matter. Some species have also been reported to feed on roots of forage crops, turf grasses and seedling field crops. Crane fly adults only live for a few days and do not usually feed.

In temperate regions, adult crane flies emerge from pupae in the soil in early fall and late spring, when females mate and lay eggs in turf grass within 24 hours. Eggs hatch into wormlike larvae. The larvae feed on roots and crowns of plants during the fall and spring.

Remember, the adult stage of a crane fly is harmless. Their biology is such that their contribution to our ecosystem is largely beneficial because the larvae feed on decaying-organic matter and assist in the biological decomposition process.

If you see anything abnormal in the Dobson Ranch Lakes, please report it to the Dobson Ranch Administration office by calling 480-831-8314 or emailing hoa.admin@dobsonranch.com.

NOTE: It is highly recommended to use single barbless hooks when catching and releasing fish. Doing so, will reduce the trauma afflicted to the fish and keep the habitat and fish population healthy! Thank you!

# **Real Estate**

# Mesa Market Trends



## Homes Sold in Dobson Ranch

September 2023:	22 Homes Sold
September 2022:	53 Homes Sold
August 2023:	18 Homes Sold
August 2022:	58 Homes Sold

Median Home Sale Price in Dobson Ranch Sep. 2023: \$443,000 Sept. 2022: \$500,000 (-11.4% Growth Year-Over-Year)

Median Home Sale Price in 85202 Sept. 2023: \$375,000 Sept. 2022: \$360,000 (-4.2% Growth Year-Over-Year)

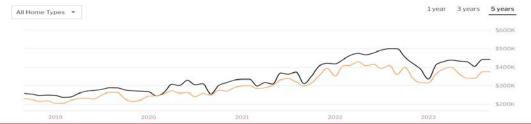
## What is the housing market like in Dobson Ranch?

In September 2023, Dobson Ranch home prices were down 11.4% compared to last year, selling for a median price of \$443K. On average, homes in Dobson Ranch sell after 23 days on the market compared to 43 days last year. There were 22 homes sold in September this year, down from 53 last year.

#### How hot is the Dobson Ranch housing market?

Dobson Ranch is very competitive. Many homes get multiple offers, some with waived contingencies. The average homes sell for around list price and go pending in around 23 days. Hot homes can sell for around 2% above list price and go pending in around 5 days.

Data as reported by **Redfin.com**.



THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION

WWW.DOBSONRANCHHOA.COM 8



# Your Neighborhood

## Monthly Update from Vice Mayor Heredia



# Discover crime prevention strategies, foster trust, and nurture neighborhood responsibility!

Our recent celebration of **G.A.I.N.** (Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods) stands as an annual statewide occasion dedicated to applauding the achievements of crime prevention through community engagement. It's a powerful reminder of how communities can actively contribute to maintaining the safety and security of their neighborhoods.

While we commemorate G.A.I.N. once a year, I wholeheartedly encourage you to stay engaged throughout the year. This continuous involvement not only strengthens our sense of unity but also motivates residents to take an active role in ongoing efforts to safeguard their neighborhoods.

There are numerous avenues to get involved. **Neighborhood Watch**, the bedrock of all crime prevention programs, encourages citizens to collaborate with law enforcement in reducing burglaries and other local crimes. This program provides valuable insights into steps for safeguarding your home and offers guidance on organizing neighborhood groups to make crime prevention part of our daily routine.

The Community Engagement Academy (CEA) provides a one-day experience where participants gain insights into police operations and get a firsthand look at a day in the life of a police officer in their neighborhood. It involves training, discussions, and presentations regarding Mesa Police Department policies, practices, and procedures. We especially invite community leaders to participate.

The Volunteers In Police Service Program (VIPS) is another initiative aimed at supporting members in delivering police service and promoting community partnerships. Effective law enforcement thrives on collaborative efforts between the police and our community members.

To explore these programs and discover additional opportunities, visit **www.mesaazpolice.gov/community**. As always, please contact my office if you have any questions or comments. We are happy to help! Call **480-644-3003** or email **District3@MesaAZ.gov. ~Vice Mayor Heredia** 



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SERT LANDSCAPING PS & TRICKS

by Sue Hakala, Certified Volunteer Master Gardener

## **Dust Mites**

Dust mites are particularly fond of human and animal dead skin cells that we regularly shed. They like dandruff in particular. Unaltered dandruff has a fat content of 10%, which is too rich for the mites. They depend on a fungus to predigest the dandruff for them lowering the fat content. The mites rarely occur without the fungus, but not the other way around. In humid climates, the fungus can greatly outnumber the mites, making food scarce for the mites. So the greatest challenge for the dust mite is to find a place to live that has high enough humidity to support life, but low enough to slow down the growth of the fungus. Luckily for them, they thrive in about the same amount of humidity that humans feel comfortable in.

Dust mites probably occur in every house in the world. They are about one-hundredth of an inch in diameter, and related to spiders having eight legs at maturity. They are born in dust, live in dust, and die in dust. Population densities can be about 14,000 dust mites per ounce of dust. Dust mites go through six developmental stages, taking about a month to go from an egg to an adult. They don't drink water, absorbing it from the air.

One species of dust mite is primarily responsible for dust allergies: Dermatophagoides. Inhaling their microscopic cast skins and feces are thought to be a factor in some allergy attacks, and what make you itch (if you're susceptible) when you lay on a carpet, old furniture or beds. Mites will also set up housekeeping at the site of scabs, ulcers, fungus infections, and other skin problems.

It is unrealistic to think you can eliminate them from your home completely. The best way to keep them under control is to vacuum thoroughly, preferably using a vacuum with a water filter. Dust first so that it'll settle on the floor before vacuuming. Probably using a good dandruff shampoo will help too. It's best to avoid overstuffed furniture made of fuzzy textures. Use washable curtains or blinds that can be vacuumed or washed in water temperatures of 140F. Have other items steam cleaned or dry cleaned at least once a year. Put plastic covers on mattresses, replace feather pillows and down quilts with synthetic fabrics. Pets with fur and feathers also contribute dander for the dust mites to eat. Keep pet sleeping areas far away from yours, and clean them regularly too.



Dust mites seen under a microscope by Getty Images.

#### MAKING EVERY DROP COUNT: CHOOSING THE RIGHT IRRIGATION CONTROLLER FOR YOUR LANDSCAPE

When it comes to landscape irrigation, there are two main options for scheduling water usage: using a smart controller... or "smartly programming" a standard controller. Both options have their benefits and drawbacks, so it's important to understand the differences between them.

A smart controller is a device that uses weather data and/or real-time sensors to automatically adjust irrigation schedules based on historical and current conditions. This means that the controller can turn off irrigation when it's raining or adjust watering times based on temperature and humidity. Smart controllers can save water and money by reducing overwatering and ensuring that plants receive the right amount of water at the right time.

"Smartly programming" a standard controller involves manually adjusting irrigation schedules based on weather conditions and plant needs. This requires more effort and attention than using a smart controller, but can still be an effective way to save water and money. ALCA recommends standard controllers are adjusted by an experienced irrigator monthly if possible, or seasonally (4 times per year), at the minimum. Some standard controllers can be made "smarter" with the addition of add-ons like soil moisture sensors or rain sensors to help them adjust more like a smart controller - this is a great option when an upgrade to a smart controller is not feasible.

So which option is best for your landscape irrigation needs? The size of your landscape, the types of plants you have, and your budget can guide this decsion. Smart controllers can be more expensive than standard controllers, but they can also provide more precise control over irrigation, saving water and money in the long run. "Smartly programming" a standard controller can be a more affordable option at the outset, but requires more time and effort over time.

Ultimately, the key to smart irrigation is using the right tools and techniques for your specific landscape. Whether you choose a smart controller or smartly program a standard controller, make sure to regularly monitor and adjust your irrigation schedule to ensure that your plants are getting the water they need without wasting money and resources.





## How much rain do you get? Rainlog.org helps you track and it helps with research - a win-win!

By Kathrine Blomquist, Water and Lake Management Committee Member



Happy Fall! Hopefully by the time this article comes out, our temperatures will be below 100 degrees. What a summer! Heat records were shattered and the monsoon season was a "non-soon" season.

Are you having the feeling of déjà vu at this moment? If so, it's because last month's article started the exact same way. It has been a hot summer and so far, the afternoon temperatures are not playing along with the change of season. At least now we have cooler mornings and longer shadows...and pumpkin spiced foods and refreshments!

The big question on our weather minds is "are we in for a wet winter?" So far, the amount of rain received at my house is a tad bit more than at this same time last year (3.7" vs 3.425") thanks to the

rainy January. According to the National Weather Service, East Mesa received 9.83" of rain in 2022 (weather.gov). Here at my house, we received 9.54" in 2022.

How do I know my rainfall total so accurately? I am a participant in a citizen science project called **Rainlog.org**. Each morning after it rains, I check our rain gauge and enter the amount received into the Rainlog.org website. This information, the data collection, is the main part of the citizen



science project. All participants' information is displayed on a rain map and the rainfall totals are easy to download to compare by month, season, year over year, etc.

It isn't just the rainfall totals we get to access. Participating in Rainlog.org is helpful to water managers, drought planners, weather reporters, and scientists. The information helps them to get a better picture of precipitation patterns across the Southwest. The Salt River Project (SRP), Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR), and the Flood Control District of Maricopa County are a few of the partners.

Rainlog.org is a free program. All you need to participate is by having a rain gauge (ours is plastic and attached to the wall in our backyard), a laptop or smartphone, and an account on Rainlog.org. Kids of all ages can participate so join your neighbors and register today. (And yes, reading about Rainlog.org may seem like déjà vu, too. The first time I wrote about the program was a "Letter to the Editor" in the Ranchers' RoundUp, May 2014, as a grad student. How time flies-Go RedHawks and go rainy winter!)

Speaking of SRP, thanks again to the residents that participated in this summer's Shade Tree Program workshops. Remember to pick up your free saplings at Mesa Community College on Sat., November 18 from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm.

To all residents who took advantage of the cooler mornings this fall and added new landscaping, be sure to enter any new trees to Mesa's Trees are Cool Initiative at www.mesalistens.com/trees-are-cool. By doing so, you'll help the City of Mesa reach its goals of planting 1,000,000 new trees and increasing the city's tree canopy coverage to 15% by 2050.



(Left to Right): City of Mesa - Tree Planting; Example of Plastic Rain Gauge.

# Mesa Public Schools Pioneers Education-Industry Connection through MYCA Program

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

Mesa Public Schools is breaking new ground by launching the Mesa Youth Creative Agency (MYCA) program, a transformative initiative offering teens real-world experience in diverse creative fields, such as graphic design, 3D design, video production, branding, painting and more.

Inspired by a visit to Artists for Humanity (AFH) in Boston, Dr. Andi Fourlis Superintendent at Mesa Public Schools, saw the potential for connecting education and industry in a profound way. AFH, founded by Susan Rodgerson, provides a nurturing space for young artists to learn and create after school. Building on the model, MYCA aspires to be the first of its kind, offering teens invaluable mentoring opportunities, hands-on work experience and an avenue to build impressive portfolios.

Christy Cuddy, Director Coordinator of MYCA and former principal at Highland Arts Elementary School, asserts, "Mesa Public Schools is pioneering a new approach by tangibly connecting teens with the creative industry. We're not just another after-school program; we're a full-fledged creative agency. Our focus on business and marketing skills sets us apart, preparing our teens for successful futures."



Cuddy emphasizes the program's transformative impact on participants, sharing, "When our teens complete the MYCA program, they'll possess an extraordinary resume and a wealth of hands-on experience. Their creative prowess will be unrivaled, sparing them the need for basic graphic design classes."

The MYCA team understands the power of networking and industry connections in fostering success. Bailey Vidler, a MYCA studio manager, states, "Our mission is to ensure our teens have a robust launchpad for their future careers. By cultivating relationships with universities and industry professionals, we empower our teens to thrive beyond the program."

Teen mentor and studio manager Paul Hebron shares the program provides a fresh perspective on youth engagement, explaining, "Unlike traditional approaches where adults try to understand young audiences, MYCA reverses the dynamic by hiring teens to speak to their peers. This paradigm shift allows us to infuse fresh ideas and unique insights into our work with clients."

As MYCA blazes a trail connecting education with industry, Mesa Public Schools envisions a future where creative minds blossom and flourish in their passions. The program's emphasis on mentorship, industry exposure, and experiential learning sets a high standard for empowering the next generation of creative professionals.

For more information, regarding MYCA, please contact Christy Cuddy at 480-308-7304.





(Left) Learning beyond the classroom, embracing real-world education and job ready skills; (Middle) Mesa Public Schools paves the way for teen creativity with MYCA Program; (Right) The center is empowering students through networking and industry connections. Photos by Mesa Public Schools.



## Hunger is a Problem, But We Can be Part of The Solution

By Skye Riss, Communications Manager & Ranchers' RoundUp Editor



One of the worst things that someone can endure is hunger. It affects everyday life, preventing the ability to work, move, focus, take care of loved ones, and do other daily tasks. United Food Bank, a member of Feeding America was founded back in 1983 as a nonprofit organization, and over the many decades has grown their commitment to provide 20 million meals per year to families and individuals to help alleviate hunger and diminish food insecurity. One driven woman making a huge impact in Mesa, AZ is Mandy Hodges, Food Drive Manager, and her amazing team members at United Food Bank.

Within the beautiful rolling hills of Georgia, was where Mandy Hodges grew up. Mandy had always been driven by a deep sense of community, and her journey led her to the world of nonprofits. For many years, she dedicated her time to the Episcopal Church, focusing on youth and children's programs and extending a helping hand to those in need. Mandy's passion revolved around nurturing young people, encouraging them to explore their unique gifts, and fostering bridges between those from different walks of life. She believed that compassion and

understanding flourished when people ventured beyond their comfort zones.

Life's path eventually led Mandy and her family to Arizona, where they settled in 2005. When the pandemic struck around 2020, it catalyzed reflection for her family, prompting them to reevaluate their lives and priorities. At that time, Mandy's daughter was only in first grade, and the pandemic disrupted her early education. Like countless others, the family pondered their direction. What was working? What needed change?

Amid these contemplations, Mandy decided to embark on a new journey of self-discovery and self-empowerment. In 2021, she obtained a master's degree in social justice and human rights from Arizona State University. Mandy's studies gravitated toward anti-poverty work, with a special focus on food insecurity. In Mandy's eyes, food represented the most fundamental of human needs. Mandy explained, "Without food, we cannot be our best selves. A little child in school who's hungry can't focus. We see a lot of families visit the food bank, and they're choosing between food, medical bills or gas to be able to drive to work."

Mandy has been with the United Food Bank for over seven months as Food Drive Manager, leading food drives and distribution, and has already accomplished a lot! "The United Food Bank is a very collaborative environment, and my team is always open to new ideas. I saw that Feeding America had



a campaign called Hunger Action Month, so in September, I asked my manager if we could put together a Family Action Month, where we'd invite families to participate in volunteering of all ages. We had that Family Action service day on September 8th and invited families to come to the food bank. It was wonderful to see these families working together and heartwarming when the little ones would carry jars of peanut butter or green beans to put into the donation care packages," smiled Mandy.

Now, Mandy is preparing for her first holiday season with United Food Bank. Mandy explained, "November and December have the highest volume of donations. We are preparing to have a very busy and successful season, hosting turkey and food drives, partnering with local organizations, and recruiting volunteers to send out food on a larger scale. Our two major food



distributions will be on November 20th and December 20th."

As Mandy looks forward to the holiday season, she can't help but smile. Her work at the United Food Bank is more than a job; it is a calling. Her journey, full of twists and turns, had brought her to this place, at this moment. And she is prepared for whatever challenges lay ahead.

Mandy's story is a reminder that each one of us could make a significant impact on our community, regardless of where we come from or what path we have traveled. Just like Mandy, we could be the catalyst for change, the driving force behind a better world. United Food Bank is grateful to anyone who would like to volunteer this holiday season. To register, visit: unitedfoodbank.org/volunteer.



# **Holiday Wishes**

Happy Thanksging

# From all of us at Dobson Ranch!

We would like to thank you for your support and generosity volunteering your time during our 50th Anniversary year. Things are changing in Dobson Ranch for the better and we need to continue to move forward, for the next generation of families and community leaders.

Enjoy the holiday with your loved ones!





# **Dobson Rand**

## For the complete list of clubs, please see Page 1 in this issue or visit dobsonranchhoa.com/join-the-club/

## **DOBSON RANCH RETIREES' CLUB**

#### By Susan Toevs, Retirees' Club President

Another busy month for the Retirees. With the return of cooler weather our calendars are full of outdoor activities. Welcome back to our many winter visitors, nice to have you home for the season! We are hiking, biking, walking and picnicking in addition to our regular indoor activities. With 147 members, we are in full swing! Retirees enjoyed being part of the 2023 Halloween Spooktacular treat trail. Our members, Gary and Betsy Hertzler greeted the children at the entrance to the trail passing out treats.



Special Thanks to Betsy for arranging a Day Trip to the English Rose Tea room in Carefree, and to Carolyn Sedlak for arranging a membership appreciation luncheon at the EVIT restaurant. Our November meeting

had an interesting program about the WAYMO transportation system. We have been curious about those driverless cars and now that we know how it works, we just might be seen being chauffeured around town.

A new slate of officers will be elected in November and installed for the New Year in December. It has been a privilege to be President for the last two years. Seeing our club return from COVID and grow with new members and programs has been a delight. A big THANK YOU to my Board Members, Donna Fox, Vice President, Carolyn Sedlak, Treasurer, Jane Weitzel, Secretary and members at large, Judy Bielo, Tanya Andrew, Nancy Palomo, Bill Tekien and Chuck Weitzel who have all helped our club flourish.

Our December meeting will be filled with holiday cheer as we fulfill the wishes of families and children who have been recommended to us by a local agency. At the meeting we will have a gift exchange between members. Come join us on the first Monday of the month at La Casita. We gather for coffee and fellowship at 9:30 am with a business meeting and program beginning at 10:00 am. Lunch follows the meeting for more fellowship. All this is included in your annual club dues. Guests are welcome to come see what it is all about at no charge for 3 activities. HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ONE AND ALL!

## Retirees' Hiking Club - 2023 Hiking Fall Schedule

By Barbara Stout, Retirees' Hiking Club Chairperson

Hello Hikers, This is the new hiking schedule for this Fall. I look forward to seeing you this year on our first hike October 25. The weather looks promising for that hike. If the weather is warmer early in October 1 will add a hike. An email will be sent out for our first hike the Saturday before the hike. We will still meet at La Casita to assess how many are hiking. This year we will be ride sharing or you can go on your own if you do not want hikers in your car. Please email me to receive and email the weekend before each hike at **stoutgeo@gmail.com**. The Clippers are trying for 100 miles in 100 days starting November 1st.

Clippers hikes are in Blue on Fridays and are in Blue on Wednesdays. February 10th, 2023 is turn in milage day for the 100 mi.

November 1 - McDowell Mountain/Fountain Hills Shallomo Dr. Staging Area Pemberton trail - Pacers (3 miles) Pemberton to Scenic Trial - Clippers (7.6 miles)

November 3 - McDowell Mountains/Fountain Hills Shallomo Dr. staging area Pemberton to Tonto Tank and back - Clippers

November 8 - Salt River Wild Horse Trail - Pacers (3 miles) and Clippers (6.1 miles)

November 10 - McDowell Mountains/Fountain Hills Shallomo Dr. staging area Escondido trail - Clippers (9 miles)

November 15 - Estrella Mountains Rainbow Valley to Toothaker and back Rainbow Valley to Toothaker to Butterfield to Dysart and back (5.7 miles)

November 17 - Estrella Mountains Rainbow Valley to Toothaker to Butterfield to Gadson to Butterfield to Gadsden to Butterfield or Coldwater back (9.1 miles) November 22 - Cave Creek Overton Trail - Pacers (3 miles) Go John - Clippers (5.8 miles)

November 24 - White Tank Mountains Staging area Mesquite Canyon to Ford Canyon to Willow Canyon and back (8.4 miles)

November 29 - Usery Park Lost Sheep trail from Visitor Center to Moon Rock to Chain Fruit and back - Pacers (3.6 miles) Lost Sheep trail from Visitors Center to Moon Rock - Clippers (5.5 miles)

December 1 - Cave Creek Spur Cross to Metate to gate back metate to Towee to Spur Cross to DragonFly (9.3 miles)

December 6 - McDowell Regional Park North Trail - Pacers (2.9 miles) North Trail to Verde trail back to Pemberton to Cinch to North trail

# ch Club News

# WELCOMING OUR 4 NEW CLUBS!!

## **FREE LINE DANCING**

Are you interested in Line Dancing? We meet every Tuesday from 9:00 am to 11:00 am in the Grande Room at La Casita. We dance to various music. It is mostly an exercise class. Bring your own water for our break. It is open to everyone not just the ladies. Please email Barbara Stout (stoutgeo@gmail.com) to get on the email list!

## WRITERS CLUB

The Writers Club hopes to create and build a community of like-minded people who enjoy the act of writing in any style or any type, with all genres welcome. The Writers Club can guide and instruct anyone within all aspects of the writing process. The club will also act as a bouncing board to writers who are looking for feedback. Please email Chad Turner (ctproductionz@gmail.com) for club meeting details.

## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CLUB

Our DR community has a rich history of wonderful family events. The Family Engagement Club is to provide a monthly time and space for all homeowners of all ages to come together to discuss and plan events that bring our diverse families together. Please email Christa Tropin (christa.tropin@gmail.com) for club meeting details.

## **DOBSON RANCH COMMUNITY CLUB**

The idea of a DR Community Club is to create supportive & positive neighbor-to-neighbor engagement opportunities for DR Residents. This would be accomplished through social events, volunteer activities, education and projects for the common good of our community - sharing ideas, resources and expertise. Please email Kate O'Hara (azkateo@gmail.com) for club meeting details.

## **DOBSON RANCH WOMEN'S CLUB**

By Patty Smith, Women's Club President

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY, DOBSON RANCH FAMILY! We have a wonderful neighborhood. Please take time to get to know your "new friends". Thank you to all of the Ranch Volunteers and Staff for all the planning and efforts for the 50th Anniversary festivities. Pauline is hosting Bunco in November. Date to be determined. Out to Lunch was at IF Restaurant (off Dobson and Guadalupe). So enjoyable with great people and food. Try it!

We thank all our Veterans, especially our family and friends for their service...That includes our members. Thank you, Jacque, Navy! I wish you and your families Blessings and an enjoyable Thanksgiving Day.

Grateful for all of You. ~ Patty

## **PICKLEBALL CLUB**

## Happy Thanksgiving! Why Not Include Pickleball In Your Celebrations?

By Rich Bitner - Recreation Committee Pickleball Rep.

Our "Sunbirds" have returned from their summer retreats, and our "Snowbirds" have been flocking home for the winter at a steady pace. So, the courts are getting busier and we are back on winter hours until the heat returns. Morning "Drop-In Play" starts at 8:00 am Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, including holidays (usually). Evening "Drop-In Play" continues on Monday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 - 10:00 pm under the lights.

As the courts continue to become more congested with the increasing popularity of this sport, particularly in the evenings, please remember that "Drop-In Play" means everyone takes turns and should be ready to play with any others on the court who are waiting with you to be next.

We are also asking residents not to bring too many non-resident guests at one time during drop in play to avoid overcrowding. Also, please remember our eight new dedicated pickleball courts at Los Altos are available to residents and their guests every day between 7:00 am and 10:00 pm and four courts at Saratoga that are available for play on the same hours throughout the week on a first come basis (no drop-in schedule).

Email rebitner@cs.com for further information about morning play, referrals for professional instruction, and to get on our email list for announcements regarding schedules, weather issues, maintenance and other activities. Please contact Donna Ransom at donna85202@gmail.com to get on her email list for Monday and Thursday night play.

Please wear appropriate court shoes hydrate, stretch and warm up. Let's stay safe out there!!



# Recreation































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# & Lifestyle



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# Recreation



## **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.dobsonranchhoa.com.

## DANCE SAMPLER (AGES 5-8)

When: Tuesdays, November 28 - December 19 Where: La Casita Recreation Center Time: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Cost: **Contractor fee due to instructor the first day of program: \$30.** 

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.



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

When: Thursdays, November 30 - December 21 Where: La Casita Recreation Center Time: 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm Cost: Contractor fee due to the instructor the first day of program: \$30.

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 and princesses shine in this fun and creative program. Children need soft soled shoes and comfortable clothes. Ballet shoes, leotard and tights recommended. There will be a performance

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





## TABLE TENNIS DROP IN When: Fridays

Where: La Casita Recreation Center Time: 2:30 pm

Table tennis is available for Dobson

Ranch residents only. Tables are available on a first come, first served basis. Players must be ages 13 or older to participate or if younger, accompanied by an adult. Paddles and balls are Free to rent with a driver's license or school ID. To join the group, please email Frank Mizner at planner1948@gmail.com.

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

When: Thursdays, November 30 - December 21 Where: La Casita Recreation Center Time: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Cost: **Contractor fee due to instructor the first day of program: \$30.** 

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.





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

When: November 17 & December 22 Where: La Casita Recreation Center Time: 6:30 pm (arrive by 6:15 pm) Cost: Free to residents, \$5 non-residents. To

join the group, please email Frank Mizner at planner1948@gmail.com.





When: November 17 & December 15 Where: La Casita Recreation Center Time: 6:30 pm (arrive by 6:15 pm) Cost: Free to residents, \$5 non-residents To join

the group, please email Carolyn Sedlak at fpsedlak@yahoo.com.



## Bridge

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

Cost: \$1.00 per player To join the group, please email Susan Toevs at suzila@aol.com.

## The La Casita Recreation Center ONLY takes credit/debit cards as forms of payment!

To clarify, this is not in reference to the CIT portal for assessment payments. ONLY recreation activities, programs and rentals!

Thank you!



Going to the movies? Get your Harkins Theatres discounted tickets at the La Casita Recreation Center and SAVE! Credit/debit payments accepted only. Enjoy!

# & Lifestyle

## **NOTICE ABOUT INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS & CLASS ACTIVITIES**

Effective November 1, 2023 the transition of class instructors from full-time employees to Independent Contractors (IC) has led to a noticeable decline in the number of classes offered at Dobson Ranch. Each instructor was allowed to become an Independent Contractor; accepting to do so and meet all legal and insurance requirements was a personal decision made exclusively by each instructor.

The decision on the part of the Association to make this change was simple. Each class, except for Dance Classes with Jana Moore (already an IC), was operating at a loss to the Association. Furthermore, many of the class attendees are non-residents. In other words, the Association paid out more than it brought in.

Reducing costs and liability are the primary reasons to hire Independent Contractors. This includes employee benefits, taxes, workers comp, and other associated expenses, such as low-class/no-class attendance, but the Association is still obligated to pay the employee. This financial benefit to the Association has been a motivating factor for making this transition.

It's important to note that while teaching recreation classes as an Independent Contractor offers many advantages, it also comes with responsibilities that instructors must be diligent in managing these aspects of their business to ensure success.

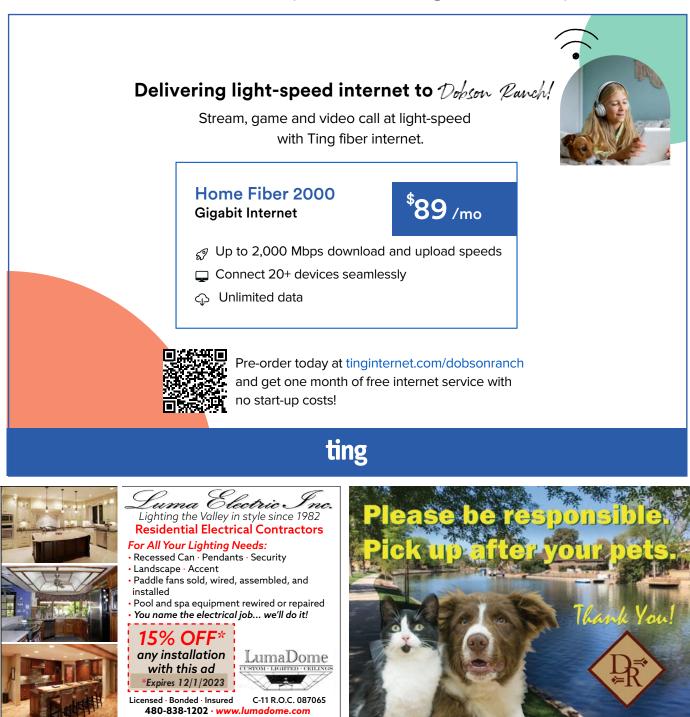
Classes will be advertised through RecDesk, the Dobson Ranch website, and the Ranchers' RoundUp. All class registrations are through RecDesk, following the IC Class Policy, but payments will be managed and received by the Independent Contractor only. The IC Class Policy is posted on the website under dobsonranchhoa.com/classes-and-sports.

So, where does this leave us? At an exciting crossroads! As we rebuild and reorganize Dobson Ranch for the future, we want to establish new programs, encourage new-class IC's who are very comfortable with this business model, and develop new activities.

Finally, we would like to thank our past instructors for the years of fun activities for our homeowners and our current instructors for choosing to continue teaching at Dobson Ranch as Independent Contractors! If you have any questions, please email **hoa.admin@dobsonranch.com.** Thank you!

CURRENT PRICING						
	DISPLAY	CLASSIFIED ADS				
DISPLAY AD SIZE	WIDTH/HEIGHT	6-MO. CONTRACT	12-MO. CONTRACT	Classified ads are limited to 40 words. All business classified		
1/16 PAGE	1.75"W x 2.375"H	\$420	\$780	advertising is \$1.25/word. Cost for non-business classified		
1/8 PAGE	3.5"W x 2.375"H	\$840	\$1,560	advertising is \$0.75/word. Please apply 2% sales tax		
1/4 PAGE	3.5"W x 4.75"H	\$1,260	\$2,340	within your payment amount. Email the copy for your ad to		
1/2 PAGE	7"W x 4.75"H	\$1,890	\$3,150	sriss@dobsonranch.com.		

The **Ranchers' RoundUp** is a full **COLOR** magazine. It is the official publication of the Dobson Ranch HOA and distributed to 5,000 homes in the community. Email communications@dobsonranch.com to place an ad.



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Thank you for not feeding the ducks! Bread and other foods can make ducks ill and do not contain the right nutrition or calories they need to keep warm in the winter. Rotting food pollutes their water and causes surface algae, which also kills fish and gives ducks diseases. It also makes the water smell. Feeding or disturbing wildlife is not permitted in Dobson Ranch.



CALL MESA POLICE: (480) 644-2211 CRIME PREVENTION INFO: www.mesaaz.gov/police



Catalytic Converter Located Under Vehicle In Line with the Exhaust System



## **Yours Could Be Next!**

Catalytic Converters and sometimes the entire exhaust systems are popular items to steal from vehicles. It takes less than two minutes for a thief to steal these parts, especially in higher clearance vehicles.

**REPORT** any <u>Suspicious</u> Persons or Activity around and/or under vehicles, especially in large storage areas by calling the

Mesa Police Department at: (480) 644-2211

- Park in areas with plenty of light and visibility.
- Secure vehicles in garages or buildings whenever possible.
  Park so that no one can crawl under the back or sides of
- any vehicle—Especially Pickups and SUV's.
  Consider having catalytic converters etched with the VIN number of the vehicle.
- Talk to your mechanic about installing a preventive theft device (cage, straps, etc.) for your catalytic converter.
- Be proactive—when you hear tool sounds (saw/grinder, power wrench) at or near vehicles, especially at night, please call Mesa Police!

50 Years of Theman \* \* \* 2023 \* \* \* East Valley Veterans Parade

# East Valley Veterans Parade Downtown Mesa NOVEMBER 11

11 AM - 2 PM

23 THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION



Realtors Left to Right: Rita Crawford, Jim Amerine, Susan Wood Peter Quintanilla-IT Support, Jamie Amerine Powers

# Call (480) 839-2600 Sold is the **Amerine Teams** favorite word!

www.AmerineTeam.com ateam@AmerineTeam.com Ê MLS





THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION

ALCA



# **MORE LEARNING.** MORE PLAY.

# PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# **Preschool options** still available for the 2023-24 school year

- $\checkmark$ 
  - Half and Full-day options
- Montessori Preschool
- CTE Preschool on 4 high school campuses (Red Mountain High, Skyline High, Dobson High and Mesa High School), also offers before and after child care.
- STEM Based Enrichment Preschools

## >>> Enroll today at mpsaz.org/kinderu



mpsaz.org | 🚹 🞯 @mpsaz @mpsenespanol



# FALING GOVERNMENT THREE COMPLETE THE THREE COMPLETE THREE COMPLETE THE THREE COMPLETE THREE COMPLET

# FREE FIRST DAY!\*

campbowwow.com/dobson-ranch-mesa

## 602-584-9663

\*Offer valid only at above location. Free first day valid only for interview day. New customers only. Camper must meet entrance requirements.







# Bring in this ad and we will give you the **first exam FREE!**

Limit 1. Offer includes exam fee only.

- Austin Gifford DVM, resident of Dobson Ranch for 4 years and counting.
- Newly remodeled veterinary hospital.
- Primary Pet Care is the only animal hospital located within Dobson Ranch.

480-838-3682 | 2650 W Baseline Rd, Mesa, AZ 85202 | 🖸 @primarypetaz PrimaryPetVet.com





## NO place like home...

Light housekeeping

Injury Recovery



#### Helping Your Loved One Stay Home Safely & Independently

**Our Services Include** 

 Meal preparation Personal Care

There

- Respite care
- Grooming/Dressing
- Mobility Assistance
  - Errands/Shopping
- Health & Safety education
   Assisted Living Referral Services

#### Call for a FREE Personalized Care Assessment

Janne Gutierrez | 480-676-1446 | alwaysbestcaretempe.com | jgutierrez@abc-seniors.com Dedicated to exceeding your expectations ... always.



EVERY DAY, Arizona youth are buying counterfeit pills laced with Fentany through texts and social media.

DON'T WAIT until it's too late. Here's what you can do to prevent it:

> Talk with your child about NEVER taking a pill that's not prescribed to them.

**MONITOR** your child's texts and social media.

Get the FACTS on Fentanyl at TalkNowAz.com

Even if you don't think your child is taking pills, talking with them could be the reason



www.aaechs.com

# **Accepting Applications** for 2023-2024 School Year



Located next to MCC's Dobson campus 1440 S Longmore



CardinalPaintingAZ.com Cardinal Painting Company<sup>™</sup> 480.294.3744

## Call Today for a Fast FREE Estimate!

Painting in Dobson Ranch for over 25 years!

#### VISA | Licensed & Bonded DISCOVER Residential & Commercial ROC #257509



SUARANTEED CALL FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY (480) 966-7794 (602) 579-1012

THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION





# Classifieds

## GOODS AND SERVICES

CARLSON HAULS JUNK – Call us first to remove your junk. D. Ranch homeowner for 42 years. 480-695-6361. Not a licensed contractor.

## MARIA'S HOUSECLEANING - Houses,

apartments, townhomes. Weekly, bi-weekly, and monthly services. References available. Free estimates. Maria Gomez (480) 620-5536. Not a licensed contractor.

## HANDYMAN

B.C. HANDYMAN – Retired contractor - 30 years experience. Will do small maintenance jobs/repairs and small remodel jobs in the Mesa area. Not a licensed contractor. Contact Bill Chase 320-808-5317.

HANDYMAN SERVICES – Painting, Electrical, Plumbing, Lighting, Honey-Do Lists Welcome. Call Chris 480-980-2442. Not a licensed contractor.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS HUNG, CURB NUMBERS PAINTED – Bill 480-560-5463. Not a licensed contractor.

## HOME IMPROVEMENTS

LUXURY VINYL PLANK – Owner/installer. Product sales/installation. Floor prep. New baseboards. Call or text 480-600-0374. Sullivan Hardwood Flooring, Inc. ROC #151124 since 1999. www.FloorAZ.com.

## MASTER ELECTRICIAN ROGER HEASTER - 25 years in the Valley. Not a licensed

contractor. 602-732-8877. HEATING CHECK-UP – \$39.95. Mazon's Heating. Call 480-966-7794

or 602-579-1012. Licensed. Bonded. ROC #C39-212482.

JOSE'S PAVERS – Paver, Travertine, Artificial Grass. Re-landscaping any job. Concrete, sidewalks, stucco. Not a licensed contractor. Call or text Jose (480) 330-7265.

## TIME TO PAINT YOUR HOUSE? -

Cardinal Painting Company. Interior/ Exterior. One room to complete house. Licensed. Bonded. Insured. ROC #257509. Fast, Free Estimates. 480-294-3744.

## DZO REMODELING LLC - We do

Plumbing, Drywall, Painting, Bathroom/Kitchen/Flooring Remodels, Roofing and much more! 12+ years experience! ROC 343814 Licenced, Bonded and Insured! Call or text Victor 480-543-8879

## PLUMBING - CURE ALL PLUMBING -

480-895-5858. We specialize in water heaters, drain cleaning, pipe lining and coating, leaking pipes, faucets, toilets, tubs, slab leaks, reroutes, water softeners, disposals, reverse osmosis systems. Senior Discounts. Family owned and operated. Free estimates. Licensed. Bonded. Insured. ROC #204797 www.cureallplumbing.com.

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AQUA TECH PLUMBING & DRAIN – For all your plumbing and drain cleaning needs. Licensed. Bonded. Insured. ROC #228747. Reliability and experience you can afford. 480-507-3335. aquatechplumbingaz.com.

KILEY'S PAINTING – Interior/Exterior. Small jobs or the whole house. Dobson Ranch resident. Reasonable prices, quality work. Licensed, bonded, insured. ROC#337276 Free Estimates. Call Aaron 602-716-1720.

PLUMBING SERVICE – Complete plumbing repairs and service. Free water heater inspection. Call 480-966-7794 or 602-579-1012. MAZON'S PLUMBING Licensed. Bonded. ROC #C37-212482.

## LANDSCAPING / LAWN CARE

LAWN SERVICE – With a company you can trust. The owner is a Dobson Ranch resident. Routine service, one time clean -ups, weed control. Reasonable prices and Quality work. ROC: 281191. www.kjelandscape.com. Call or text 480-586-8445.

SAENZ LANDSCAPING – Complete landscaping service. Weed control, tree trimming/cut down, sprinkler installation/repairs, timers, vacuum breakers, pavers, turf, concrete, stucco. Free estimates. Not a licensed contractor. Call or text Jose (602) 330-6804.

## AZ HOME & LANDSCAPE SERVICES, LLC

 Complete landscape services including: installation, property clean-ups, tree care, sprinkler and irrigation systems and repair, spring/winter lawns, pavers, sod, turf, lighting, and much more. Licensed, bonded and insured. Free Estimates.
 Dobson Ranch Resident, Valley wide.
 Call 480-200-9598.

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.

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

## MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED SMALL PICKUP – 480-560-5463.

## AT YOUR SERVICE

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

MISCELLANEOUS WORK – My name is Luke and I am 16 years old and I can do house work, handy work, fixing small things, yard work, interior cleaning, and dog walking. Please call 623-301-0342.

LOOKING FOR A PET SITTER? You found the perfect one, I am 16, responsible and I love all animals! I can watch any animal and preform basic care around the home and yard, please call or text my number 480-356-3287.

MOBILE CAR WASH - Need a simple car wash or a full detail? I'm your guy! I'm 17, ambitious and I can get your car looking new inside and out. Call or text Cody for a FREE quote at 480-356-3287.

## CLASSIFIED AD COSTS & INFO

Call 480-831-8314 or email communications@dobsonranch.com to place an ad.

Dobson Ranch HOA does not endorse any of our advertisers.

Classified pricing for a **business ad** is **\$1.25 a word**, +2% tax.

Pricing for a **personal ad** is 0.75 a word, +2% tax.

## How To Stay Informed NOVEMBER 2023

# DOBSON • RANCH

The Dobson Association 2719 S Reyes, Mesa, AZ 85202 ADMINISTRATION • Hours - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm 480-831-8314

RECREATION • Hours - 8:00 am to 9:00 pm

480-831-7464

www.dobsonranchhoa.com

## RANCHERS' ROUNDUP MAGAZINE - A Primary Communication Source!

- Our monthly magazine is mailed to all homeowners.
- This is also your new homeowner guide!
- If you do not receive, email communications@dobsonranch.com.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S WEEKLY EMAIL BLAST**

- To receive this valuable resource, visit
   DobsonRanchHOA.com, click on the Communicatons pull-down, click on Sign Up.
- Email blasts are sent out on Monday each week to keep you informed!

## THE DOBSON RANCH APP-

 Scan the QR code with your smart phone's camera to download the App from Apple or Google Play store.



- Register for an account and once approved, you will receive an email with a temporary password to login.
- Please go to your phone's settings and choose the Dobson Ranch App to turn on Push Notifications.

## VISIT THE DOBSON RANCH WEBSITE -DobsonRanchHOA.com

 The website is also a primary source for valuable information such as governing documents, minutes, financials, the events calendar, recreation activities, FOB forms, clubs and committees, to name a few!

## FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM!

- Facebook @DobsonRanchHOA.
- Instagram @dobsonassociation.

## SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL

@dobsonranchhomeownersassoc8080.

## **HOA LIFE -**

## dobsonranchhoa.com/architectural-guidelines

- This is the Dobson Ranch Code Compliance/ Violation/Architectural Application website.
- Please contact the Administration Office to receive your **pin #**.

## HOW TO MAKE YOUR ASSESSMENT PAYMENTS

- Visit DobsonRanchHOA.com or call the Admin office at 480-831-8314 for help!
- Quarterly assessment payments are due January 1st, April 1st, July 1st and October 1st. Statements are mailed two weeks in advance. Mail payment using coupon and envelope provided directly to the bank.

## **RECDESK** -

## DobsonRanchHOA.RecDesk.com/Community/Home

 This is where you register for classes, events and more!

## **CONTACT US!**

Administration - hoa.admin@dobsonranch.com. Recreation - recreationdobson@dobsonranch.com. Communications - communications@dobsonranch.com. Compliance - compliance@dobsonranch.com. Collections - collections @dobsonranch.com.

## **CITY OF MESA**

• Visit MesaAZ.gov to learn more about everything the City of Mesa has to offer!

Thank you!

Welcome to "The Best Place to Live!"

Tacking Sof Camille Joseth alkine

# EAST VALLEY VETERANS PARADE

The East Valley Veterans Parade takes place **Saturday**, **November 11**, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm along Center Street and First Street in downtown Mesa. The parade provides an opportunity for the community to gather in honoring, thanking and celebrating local Veterans, active Military, and their families. This year's theme is "Vietnam Valor" in recognition of the 50 years that have passed since the conclusion of the war in Vietnam. More details are available at evvp.org.



WWW.DOBSONRANCHHOA.COM

# City of Mesa Events NOVER

NOVEMBER 2023









Celebrate the holidays at the AT&T Fiber Merry Main Street, Mesa's spectacular celebration of the season! The festivities begin on **November 24** with the lighting of our four-story tree on Main Street

and Macdonald, followed by an evening of music, food and fun for everyone. Adding to the joy of Mesa's Merry Main Street is the Winter Wonderland Ice Rink, more than 5,000 square feet of ice open for more than 40 days at the Plaza at Mesa City Center. The Jack Frost Food Truck Forest delights foodies, while Santa himself asks visitors if they've been naughty or nice on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. Merry Main Street is open through January 6. For more information, visit merrymainst.com.







INTERESTED IN SPONSORING OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY? Please contact communications@dobsonranch.com or call 480-831-8314 Extension: 4325 for details!