

SEPT. 2023



Ranchers' **RoundUp** Special Edition

The Official Publication of the Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association



CHEERS TO 50 YEARS!



50th Anniversary RANCHERS ROUND UP

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Photo by Skye Riss

On Our Special Edition Cover:

On the day before the Easter Eggstravaganza, the Recreation & Lifestyle team painted a big 50 on the grass at Laguna Park. At the event the next day, everyone gathered together in the big numbers and waved at the drone, flying above. This groovy photo will go down in Dobson Ranch history! Thank you to everyone who participated and Straightforward Drone, LLC for capturing the great photo!

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480-831-8314

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

LA CASITA RECREATION CENTER
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480-831-7464

Monday through Sunday: 8:00 am - 9:00 pm
Holidays: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

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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.



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Message from the Presidents **50**



By Nicole Lynam, Current Board President

Making Dobson Ranch "The Best Place to Live" has been a collaborative effort of the residents, staff, and volunteers for the past 50 years.

We have a rare community of 5,000 homes filled with a diversity of incomes, cultures, family types, and age groups. Over that time there have been 27 Presidents, each serving between one to four years.

My time as Board President has taught me that fairly representing everyone in a community this large can be both a challenging and fulfilling role. It has been great to work with our staff, volunteers, and residents to help guide a community that has so much to offer. Volunteering with Dobson Ranch and the City of Mesa has allowed me the opportunity to feel like I am able to make a noticeable difference in making my community a better place. Thank you for putting your trust in me and allowing me this opportunity to represent Dobson Ranch.

Here are insights from a few of our other Board Presidents on what it takes to help govern and lead our community.



"My first term as board president provided me with my first real opportunity to personally meet the Mayor and Council and led to my decision to participate in the Mesa Leadership program. By the time I finished my second stint as board president, I had gained valuable knowledge on how to serve effectively on a governing board as an elected official which gave me confidence to volunteer for other community boards and, eventually, to run for the first of my four terms on the Mesa City Council."

~ **Dennis Kavanaugh, Board President 1985 - 1989**



"I enjoyed my time as Board President. I was fortunate to work with several excellent Board Members and did not encounter many difficult situations in my term. As a group, our goal was to maintain Dobson Ranch as, *The Best Place To Live* and I feel we did!"

~ **Sandy Murray, Board President 2007 - 2009, 2012 - 2013**



"After 50 years, Dobson Ranch is just getting started. Our prestige and resilience are thanks to the volunteers who've selflessly gifted their efforts toward the betterment of our community. Being Association President taught me that the best outcomes are achieved when we welcome diversity of thought and perspective into our leadership. My sincere thanks goes to everyone who helped me along the way. Your dedication and perseverance are the reason why we should be excited about the awesome future of Dobson Ranch."

~ **Allen Johnson, Board President 2020 - 2021**

All Board Presidents

- 1980 - Jan A. Sell
- 1981 - Odus V. Elliott
- 1982 - John Freeman
- 1983 - Milt Laflen
- 1984 - Cheryl Laflen
- 1985 - 1989 - Dennis Kavanaugh
- 1986 - Fred Moor
- 1987 - Rosmarie Orlick
- 1988 - Ron Karp
- 1990 - 1991 - Joe Domzalski
- 1992 - Keith Stott
- 1993 - Alan Kuhn
- 1994 - Rodger Weber

- 1995 - Bill Voigt
- 1996 - 1999 - Laurie Nichols
- 2000 - 2002 - Phillip Lowery
- 2003 - Kathleen Henderson
- 2004 - Tom Minor
- 2005 - Walter Switzer
- 2006 - 2007 - Michele Ray-Brethower
- 2007 - 2009, 2012 - 2013 - Sandy Murray
- 2010 - 2011 - Ted Disbrow
- 2014 - 2015 - Susan Powers
- 2016 - 2018 - Frank Mizner
- 2018 - 2020 - Ron Ricci
- 2020 - 2021 - Allen Johnson
- 2022 - Current - Nicole Lynam

Message from the Executive Director



By **Fran Pawlak**, Executive Director

During this Historic 50th Anniversary, it is an honor to serve as the Executive Director of The Dobson Association. As I think about the Ranch's impact on the residents, staff members, public servants, and businesses throughout the last 50 years, I can't help but think of the influence all leaders that came before me had on the Dobson Ranch family and entire community.

As the community association management industry evolved, we all shared common goals to build and sustain a community that people want to call home by preserving the nature and character of the Ranch, providing services and amenities to residents, maintaining, and protecting property values, collecting assessments, enforcing rules & regulations, and meeting the expectations of our homeowner members.

Planned communities began in the mid-20th century based on homeowner members sharing common area utilities, services, and amenity costs. Amazingly, Dobson Ranch pioneered the industry as the first and largest master-planned community in Mesa, AZ. Dobson Ranch was developed and managed by **Continental Homes from 1973 - 1981** with **Charles Kinney** serving a portion of that time as the Executive Director. Continental Homes adopted governing documents on **October 23, 1973** that outlined how the community was to operate moving forward with shared homeowner responsibilities.

In **1978**, management transitioned to the nine-member homeowner Board of Directors, elected by homeowners. Remarkably, over the next 28 years, a local community representative held the position of Executive Director to provide quality leadership and sincere guidance, beginning with **Dale Douglas** from **1982 through 2000**. Then, once Dale completed his time as Executive Director, other Executive Directors came on board through the following years to manage the Association. Those Directors and years included:

- 2001 – 2002 • Roger Weber**
- 2003 – 2004 • Frank Mizner**
- 2005 – 2006 • Lynda Bailey**
- 2007 – 2013 • Michele Ray Brethower**
- 2014 – 2017 • David Jones**
- 2018 • Board of Directors - Interim**
- 2019 – 2022 • Lynelle Glysson**
- 2023 – Current • Fran Pawlak**



Dale Douglas



(Left in Photo): Michele Ray Brethower

New experiences help you learn, and learning makes you grow. One of the best things about Dobson Ranch and the community management industry is the opportunity to learn and grow daily while providing exemplary service to Dobson Ranch homeowners!

Circa 1980s



L-R: Los Altos Recreation Center, the first built center at Dobson Ranch; La Casita before the Recreation Center and Admin Office was built; Saratoga Recreation Center.

Importance of Special Edition



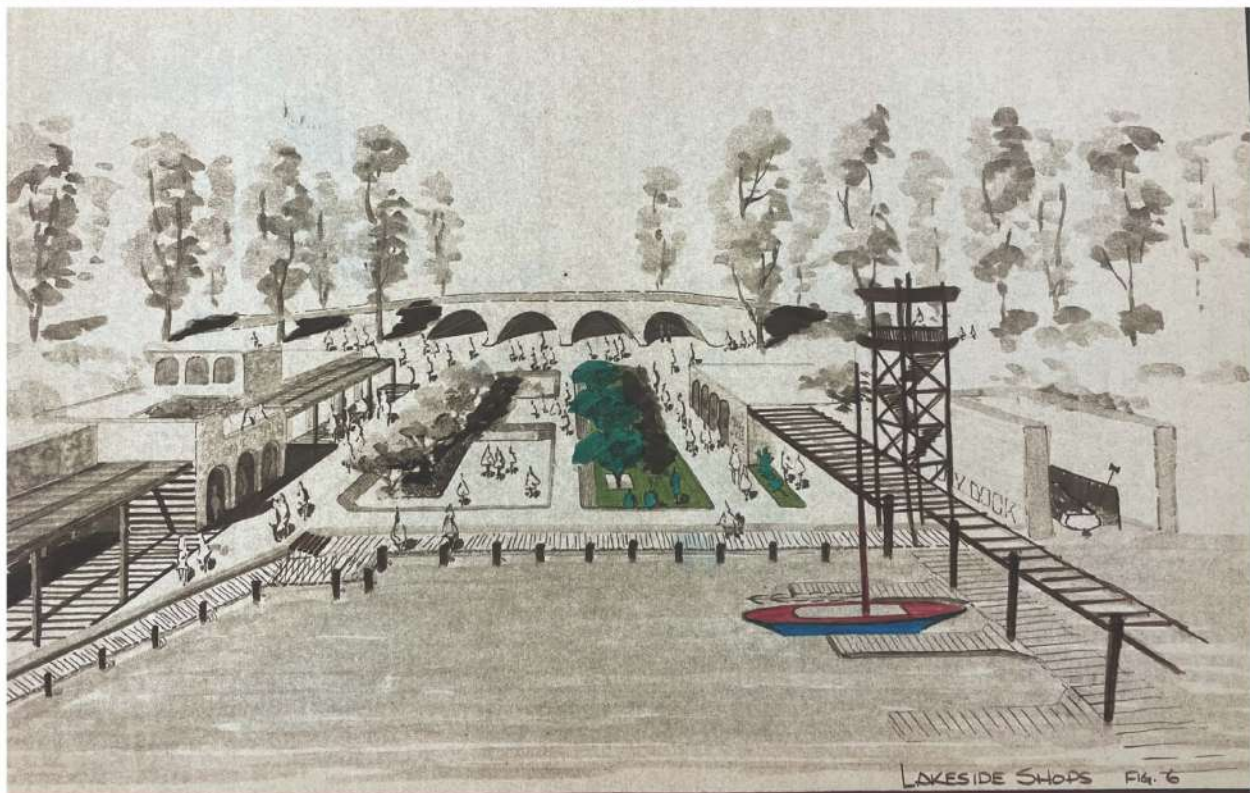
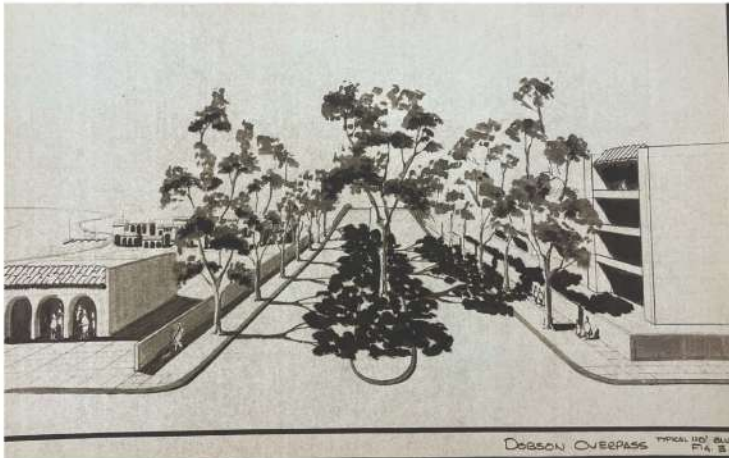
By Skye Riss, Communications Manager & Ranchers' RoundUp Managing Editor

Congratulations to Dobson Ranch for celebrating its 50th Anniversary! I have been with Dobson Ranch for one year and three months now, and I see why Dobson Ranch is such a special community. Simply put, people love living here. The residents are always attending the yearly events, meeting with one another, and participating together to volunteer, staying active, growing their families, and building wonderful memories that will last forever. Whenever I am out driving around Dobson Ranch, everyone waves at me as they are walking their dogs or getting their mail. I have never seen such a unique community as Dobson Ranch, and I am happy to work here and listen to all the wonderful stories from long-time residents and new.

This Special Edition of Ranchers' RoundUp has been one of my favorite projects in my career, and it took a lot of time to put together because there is so much history here in Dobson Ranch! I have learned so much about the Dobson family, how the City of Mesa was in the 1800s, and how our great community came to be "The Best Place To Live!" As this Special Edition is a collector's piece, I hope all of you keep and cherish it for years to come. As it will be a great thing to pass down generation to generation. Enjoy!

If you have any thoughts that you would like to share with us about the Special Edition, please let me know by emailing sriss@dobsonranch.com. I would be delighted to know what you enjoyed learning and reading.

Original Artworks of Dobson Ranch as a Master Planned Community



From Desert to "The Best Place to Live": A History of Dobson Ranch



By **Frank Mizner**, Long-Time Dobson Ranch Resident and Chairman of the 50th Anniversary Committee



NOTE: This history has been compiled as part of the 50th anniversary of Dobson Ranch. Sources of information include interviews with various residents and local officials, City of Mesa annexation and zoning records, and a wide variety of various newspaper articles. Special thanks are due to the staff of the Mesa Room of the Main Mesa Library for access to invaluable historical records. Any errors in this narrative are certainly unintended and are the responsibility of the author, Frank Mizner.

The Early Years - The Dobson Family

The roots of Dobson Ranch began in Perth, Ontario, Canada. **Wilson Wesley Dobson** left Canada in 1886 and homesteaded 160 acres of raw desert land near Alma School and Baseline roads. He was followed by his brothers **John** and **George**. The original Dobson home was at the corner of Center and First Street in downtown Mesa.

It was John who ran the family operations. He acquired additional land for an eventual total of nearly 4,000 acres. He was active in politics and was an early officer of the **Salt River Project**, which brought irrigation water from Roosevelt Dam to much of the Valley. Agricultural businesses included the **Baseline Cattle Company** and the **Sheepspring Sheep Company**. Crops included alfalfa and cotton.

A son of John, **Cliff Dobson**, was joined by a brother-in-law, **Dwight Patterson**, to greatly expand operations in the 1950's. This expansion included a large cattle feedlot and other ranches throughout Arizona.

The Dobson family was very prescient in seeing urban growth approaching the East Valley, including the regional freeway network. 160 acres were sold at the corner of Dobson and Southern for development of Mesa Community College. In 1970, Desert Samaritan Hospital was built on 24 acres donated by Cliff. The Patterson family home was on Dobson Road and was later incorporated into the golf course facility; today it is the restaurant after extensive modifications.

Also in 1970 Dobson and Patterson sold most of their remaining 3,000 acres to Continental Homes at an average cost of \$6,000 per acre.



Photo supplied by Ann Patterson Cleghorn

Mesa Growth

Mesa was founded in 1878 by Mormon pioneers from Utah. It was named "Mesa" which is Spanish for a tableland, often above a river - in this case the Salt River. At that time, the Salt River was free-flowing and supplied irrigation through a series of canals originally developed by the Hohokam native population.

Development was largely limited to the original square mile (University-Broadway-Country Club-Mesa Drive). The railroad came to Mesa in the early 1900's, and growth greatly accelerated after WWII.

By 1988, Dobson Ranch was completely built out with the last homes constructed in the Brookedge neighborhood north of Laguna Park. Today the Ranch has 5,000 residential units, about 1/3 single-family homes and 2/3 a combination of condominiums, townhouses, and patio homes.



Prescott, Cynthia. "Mesa Pioneer Monument." Clio: Your Guide to History. February 6, 2019. Accessed May 23, 2023.



The Father of Arizona Spring Training

Dwight Patterson was instrumental in encouraging major league baseball teams to conduct their spring training in Arizona. In the 1950's most teams did so in Florida and other locations. By the 1970's there were several teams based in the Valley. In 1979 Mr. Patterson opened the Dobson Ranch Inn at the northwest corner of Isabella and Dobson. It was the first quality resort hotel in Mesa.

Amenities included executive suites, an oversized pool and meeting rooms. The original restaurant was Dale Anderson's **The Other Place**, and the **Charro Lounge** featured live music and nightly dancing. For many years the Milwaukee Brewers and later the Chicago Cubs booked rooms for their minor league players.

For his long-term efforts, Mr. Patterson was known as The Father of Spring Training Baseball in Arizona, and was inducted into the Spring Training Hall of Fame.

The Dobson Ranch Inn was demolished in 2021 and redeveloped as a high-end apartment project named Broadstone Dobson Ranch.

Dwight Patterson - Photograph by Kelly Holcombe



From Desert to "The Best Place to Live": A History of Dobson Ranch cont.

By **Frank Mizner**, Long-Time Dobson Ranch Resident and Chairman of the 50th Anniversary Committee



Dobson Ranch Development

Annexation of the Dobson agricultural holdings into Mesa was necessary in order to provide utility services. That took place in 1972. In 1973 the overall master plan was approved by the City Council and development began immediately in the Los Altos area.



January 3, 1974

Longtime City of Mesa Planner

NOTE: Wayne Balmer worked for the City from 1973-2006 including as Planning Director (1984-87). He was very involved in the initial planning and early phases of Dobson Ranch.

In 1973, **Jim Petrie** was the Mesa City Manager and **Eldon Codley** was the Mayor. Officials with Continental Homes included **Charles Keating**, **Carl Lindner**, and **Gem Pennington**.

Dobson Ranch was seen as a real coup and very positive for Mesa. We had never seen anything like it. The groundbreaking ceremony was at the bottom of the then-dry Lake 1 and featured many local big-wigs. Dobson Ranch was not then part of Mesa and required annexation for utility services. It was just that, a "ranch". The Dobsons were very far-sighted in seeing the freeway and urban development coming their way. They donated or sold land where Banner Desert Hospital, Mesa Community College, and Fiesta Mall now stand.

The US-60 was initially planned as a "parkway" with limited access. Mesa insisted on a below-grade freeway with 1/2 mile crossings (e.g. Longmore and Extension). The freeway was extended to Country Club in 1983, and the 101 freeway was developed in the mid-90s. There were some controversies along the way. Residents were very opposed to the City radio tower on the MCC campus, and to a proposed high-rise where T.C. Eggington stands.

Dobson Ranch has always had a good relationship with the City as evidenced by the annual Breakfast with the City of Mesa meeting. Innovative programs (e.g. bike lanes, recycling barrels, speed humps) were first tried on the Ranch with HOA cooperation and then expanded City-wide. Sales on Dobson Ranch were always strong despite the uniqueness of its HOA. Interestingly, the area south of Guadalupe, with a separate builder, advertised itself as "the sizzle of Dobson Ranch without the cost".

Finally, I'd like to mention the long-time positive influence of **Dennis Kavanaugh**, who served nearly 20 years on the Mesa City Council. Dennis represented Dobson Ranch very well and was always a reasonable voice for all residents.

There were many unique features in Dobson Ranch, primarily the lakes and the street system. Mesa had no similar developments, and Dobson Ranch was seen as an excellent asset for the entire southeast Valley. Other unique features included zero-lot line homes, common area landscaping, extensive recreational amenities, and even the concept of an HOA to maintain common areas and facilities.

Several school sites were dedicated to the Mesa Unified School District, and construction soon followed. B.T. Washington Elementary opened in 1974, Rhodes Junior High in 1978, Crisman Elementary in 1980, and Dobson High in 1982. Numerous sites were also either dedicated or sold to provide for a variety of churches within the community.

Sales began in 1973 in the Los Altos area. The US 60 freeway was not yet built and there was some concern about the perceived "isolation" of the area, as well as the uniqueness of the development. Homes were relatively small, many without garages, but sales were brisk and construction proceeded east and south.



January 14, 2002

Continental Homes Sales Manager

NOTE: Jack Magura was Sales Manager for Continental Homes from 1975-1980. He had previously worked for the Mission Viejo Co., developer of The Lakes in Tempe.

Jack was hired by Charles Keating, then President of Continental Homes, which at that time was the largest homebuilder in the Valley. Continental was a subsidiary of American Financial (AF) out of Cincinnati. **Carl Lindner** was the President of AF. He worked closely with Charlie Kenny, the Continental employee who managed the Dobson Ranch property prior to homeowner control.

Homes started selling in the Los Altos area originally at \$30K. Lee Trevino was part of the groundbreaking ceremony for the golf course. Dobson Ranch had many unique features which certainly helped sales. These included the lake system, the golf course, and the many recreational facilities. Originally, the plan was to have bridges over the lakes on Baseline, Dobson, Lindner, etc., but that proved to be too expensive.

The legal structure of The Dobson Association is for one master governing document with eleven sub-associations, each with their own board of directors, assessments and architectural controls. This unique legal structure was intended to accommodate individual characteristics, such as private streets and condominium ownership, but has led to some confusion and controversy due to the overlapping assessments and CC&R provisions.

Initially The Dobson Association was managed by an employee of Continental Homes and residents had little influence on various issues. Once sufficient homes were sold, management was turned over to the homeowners, who in turn hired an on-site manager.

From Desert to "The Best Place to Live": A History of Dobson Ranch cont.

By Frank Mizner, Long-Time Dobson Ranch Resident and Chairman of the 50th Anniversary Committee



Our Original Executive Director

NOTE: Dale Douglas was the first Executive Director of Dobson Ranch hired by Dobson Ranch residents. Dale has served with the Tempe Police Department for 20 years, retiring as a Captain.

Dale started working with the Dobson Association on December 7, 1981. He had four employees working out of a former construction trailer on the current La Casita site. **John Freeman** was the Board President. Board meetings were in the afternoon at John's home. Dale was with the Association for 20 years, until 2001. There were some significant issues that Dale worked on during his 20 years serving the HOA including:

- A proposed high-rise building on the southwest corner of Alma School and US 60 that caused major homeowner opposition.
- The large City communications tower on the MCC campus that residents also opposed.
- A Board donation of \$5,000 to the Mesa Symphony that caused Board turmoil.
- Negotiations with the State to obtain permanent status for the lakes.

Dale summarized, "Service with the Dobson Association was very rewarding. I am most proud of managing a smooth transition to homeowner control, of establishing and maintaining good relations with the City, and of development of the current La Casita facilities."

The Future

What will Dobson Ranch be like in another 50 years? Forecasting the future is notoriously difficult, but here are some possibilities that I see happening:

- More retail and office developments will convert to high-density residential.
- The Ranch's convenient location will encourage updates and home add-ons.
- Drought will accelerate - lawns will disappear, private pools will become cost-prohibitive, and there will be political pressure on our lakes.
- More young families will move into the Ranch to avoid long commutes.

This article and other items will be part of the 50 year time capsule so we will see how it goes!

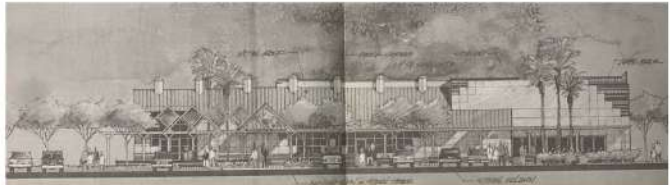
Conclusion

Researching and writing this article has been very interesting and a lot of fun. Thanks to all my sources, to the members of the **50th Anniversary Committee**, and especially to **Skye Riss**, Dobson Ranch's Communications Manager!

Most of all, thanks to the residents of Dobson Ranch for continuing to make this "The Best Place to Live". I have lived here since 1987 and I've always been proud to say that I live in Dobson Ranch.



Original La Casita Center before remodel.



La Casita Remodel Drawing



La Casita Facility Today

Dobson Ranch is unique among larger HOA's in being "self-managed". That is, residents elect a Board of Directors who in turn hire an Executive Director who is responsible for hiring staff and overseeing day-to-day operations on the Ranch. Most HOA's utilize management companies who provide necessary staff for maintenance, landscaping, CC&R enforcement, accounting, etc.

This self-managed concept of Dobson Ranch has always been highly appreciated by our residents and has contributed to the feeling that Dobson Ranch is a unique and valued community within the larger fabric of Mesa.

Dobson Ranch Size

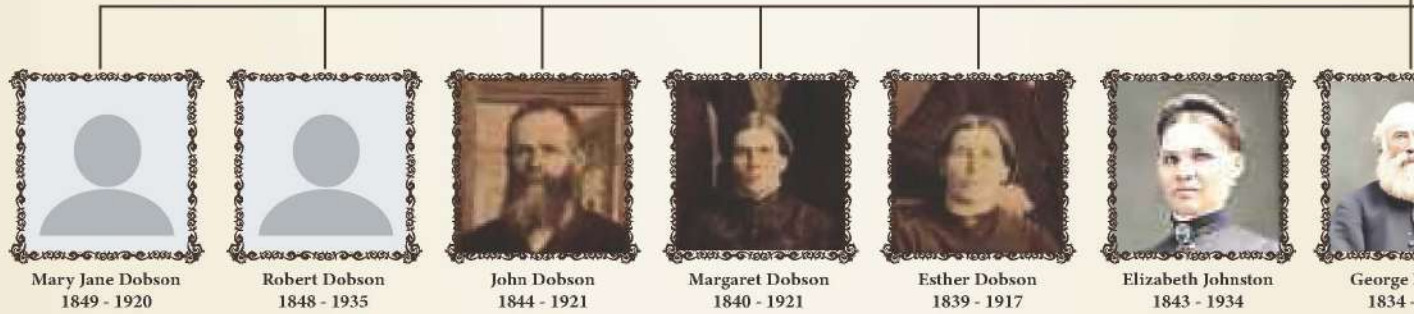
Along with the City's golf course, library, fire station and police substation, Dobson Ranch has many of the attributes of a stand-alone community; indeed the Ranch is larger in population than such Arizona cities as Douglas, Payson, Coolidge, Paradise Valley, Camp Verde, and Show Low.

History of the Dobson Family

Dobson Name Meaning
 English: patronymic from the Middle English personal name Dob(b) a rhyming pet form of Robert (see Dobbe) + -son.
 Source: Dictionary of American Family Names 2nd edition, 2022



Matthew Dobson
1805 - 1879

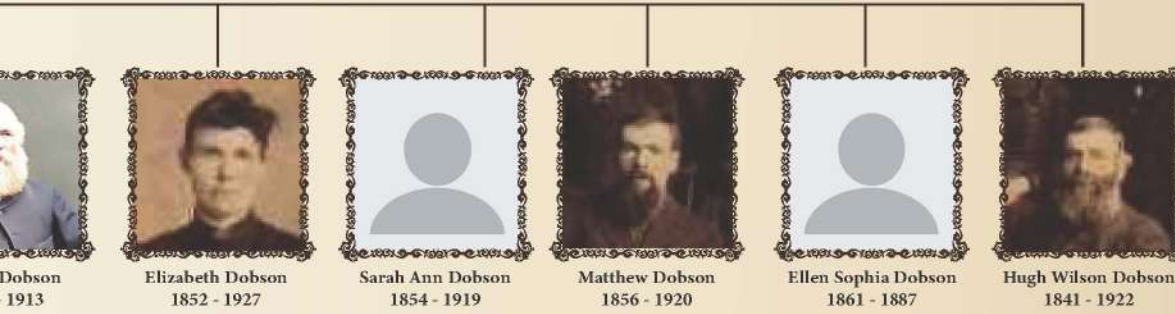




Matthew Dobson was born in 1805 in Kiltoghert, County Leitrim, Ireland. He married Sarah Ann Wilson.



Sarah Ann Wilson
1814 - 1895



John Henry Dobson
1913



Elizabeth Dobson
1852 - 1927



Sarah Ann Dobson
1854 - 1919



Matthew Dobson
1856 - 1920



Ellen Sophia Dobson
1861 - 1887



Hugh Wilson Dobson
1841 - 1922



John Henry Dobson
1874 - 1949
John Henry Dobson was born in 1874 in Marlborough, Carleton, Ontario, Canada. He married Sarah Electa Scott. They were the parents of at least three sons and two daughters. He lived in Chandler, Maricopa, Arizona, United States in 1920 and Tempe, Maricopa, Arizona, United States in 1930.



William Howard Dobson
1877 - 1953
William Howard Dobson in 1877 in Marlborough, Carleton, Ontario, Canada. He married Lila Leach. They were the parents of at least four sons and one daughter. He lived in Maricopa, Arizona, United States in 1930 and Supervisorial District 3, Maricopa, Arizona, United States in 1940.



Cora Mabel Dobson
1880 - 1935
Cora Mabel Dobson was born in 1880 in Marlborough, Carleton, Ontario, Canada. She had at least one son and two daughters with Nelson Ernest McEwen. She lived in Saskatchewan, Canada in 1916 and Moose Jaw No. 161, Saskatchewan, Canada in 1926.



Morrace Herbert Dobson
1882 - 1892
Morrace Herbert Dobson was born in 1882 in Marlborough, Carleton, Ontario, Canada.



Ernest Oswald Dobson
1886 - 1976
Ernest Oswald Dobson was born in 1886 in Marlborough, Carleton, Ontario, Canada. He married Edith May Moffatt. They were the parents of at least four sons and two daughters. He lived in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada in 1911 and Saskatchewan, Canada in 1916.

Milestones of Ranchers' RoundUp



By **Skye Riss**, Communications Manager & Ranchers' RoundUp Managing Editor
Special thanks to **Carolyn Burleson** for helping me gather this historical information!

Within the Dobson Ranch archives, we have ALL of the original Ranchers' RoundUps to date starting from the very first issue in September of 1976 and thank goodness because we were able to write this article by flipping through all of them to jot down pages of notes which include a goldmine of milestones of how the HOA transformed over these 50 years. Carolyn Burleson, our Administrative Assistant and I had a blast reading all the original stories and seeing the advertisements, especially the ones from the 70s and the 80s! Let's just say that the headlines and copy were not as "filtered" as they would be today, and they gave us a good laugh!

That being said, here is a full timeline of how Ranchers' RoundUp has transformed over the years, as well as the historical milestones the HOA had accomplished. This covers the highlights! Please enjoy!!

- **September 1976** - The 1st edition of RoundUp was titled the **Dobson Rancher** and the editor was Sherri Lee Brooks. It was a black and white, double-sided newspaper.
- **October 1976** - Volume two was released and went to a four-page newspaper format. A **Welcome Newcomers** article was added to feature new residents in Dobson Ranch, and most of the newspaper content was about recreational events.
- **November 1976** - The name **Ranchers' RoundUp** was born thanks to the **Stevens** who won a trip to Vegas!
- **December 1976** - The two main forms of communication were the telephone and Ranchers' RoundUp which was manually placed in resident's mailboxes. Display ads started showing up as well.
- **January 1977** - The Recreation Department were the ones who originally worked on putting together the RoundUp. There was an article asking volunteers to help write articles in the newspaper about fishing tips, sailing techniques, gardening hints, houseplant care and more. The first **Chef's Choice** featured recipe was Lemon Meringue Pie from resident **Debbie Pettit**.
- **February 1977** - New article headlines included **Advisory News, Around & About, Focus** (which is now **Movers and Shakers**), **Newcomer's Corral** and the story of the Dobson Ranch logo!
- **March 1977** - The first Homeowners Annual Meeting was announced to Dobson Ranch residents and it was hosted at **Washington Elementary School** on Tuesday, March 8th.
- **October 1977** - **Continental Homes** reports the construction of the **La Casita Recreation Center** starting.
- **March 1978** - **Recreation Center for DR** opens!
- **October 1978** - **Dobson Ranch Grows and Grows** with details about growth of **Superstition Freeway** and **Laguna Shores**.
- **December 1980** - The magazine's logo changes and the full calendar of events started showing up on the back page. RoundUps in the 1980's also advocated for political candidates.
- **October 1981** - Tennis lesson schedules started appearing with class schedules.
- **May 1983** - Dobson Ranch celebrates its 10th birthday. Celebrations included a sack race, a balloon toss, snow cones, face painting and bounce houses. The event started at 10:00 am in Laguna Park. All the food was \$0.10 each per item!
- **July 1983** - Fitness articles started popping up.
- **September 1984** - A Table of Contents was added to the newspaper.
- **1985 Issues** - There used to be opinion pieces published such as, **How Serious is Your Drinking?, What To do About Back Pain,** and **The Healthier Me**, just to name a few.
- **1986 Issues** - "**The Ranchers' RoundUp Now Has A New Centerfold, and It's Quite A Looker**".

Sept. 1976



Dobson Rancher was the original name of the Ranchers' RoundUp.

Nov. 1976



The **Ranchers' RoundUp** new name was born, thanks to **Jim and Lynn Stevens**.

Nov. 1978



Logo change for the Ranchers' RoundUp went to a bolder font.

Dec. 1980



Logo change for the Ranchers' RoundUp went to a serif font.

Dec. 1989



Logo change for the Ranchers' RoundUp re-purposed the original DR cattle brand.

Up & Dobson Ranch



- **June 1987** - The **Dobson Ranch Library** opened to the public.
- **December 1989** The Ranchers' RoundUp logo changed again and the magazine was 20 pages. The **Los Altos Recreation Center** opened. There was a special new section called **Kids Corner** which would feature student's accomplishments from each local school including Booker T. Washington, Alma Elementary School, Dobson High School and Rhodes Junior High School.
- **May 1989** - Children submit written entries for **Mother of the Year**.
- **June 1989** - Children submit written entries for **Father of the Year**.
- **October 1991** - La Casita groundbreaking was held on October 1st.
- **May 1992** - The Junior Olympic sized Pool opened at Los Altos. There was a dedication of the new La Casita Community Center held on May 9th. Residents, board members, dignitaries attended.
- **June 1994** - A new logo for Dobson Ranch is featured as part of the **Ranch's Renewal Project**.
- **December 1997** - **The Green Thumb Awards** started.
- **June 1998** - The newly remodeled **Saratoga Recreation Center** was reopened. June 23rd was when the **Memorial Rose Garden** was completed.
- **September 1998** - The new Dobson Ranch pontoon boat was named **Dobson Dinghy** and launched for the dedication of the new dock at Los Altos.
- **November 1998** - The cover finally had fully colored photos on the front.
- **June 2007** - Names were given to each lake for easier identification. **Lake 1 Los Altos Lake, Lake 2 Frisbee Park Lake, Lake 3 Macayo's Lake, Lake 4 Memorial Lake, Lake 5 Dover Lake, Lake 6 City Park Lake, Lake 7 Saratoga Lake, and Lake 8 McBrien Lake.**
- **September 2009** - The **La Casita Recreation Center** has a grand reopening after the pool reconstruction.
- **April 2011** - The tennis courts at Los Altos were converted to pickleball courts.
- **January 2012** - The Dobson Ranch Memorial Rose Garden was awarded the 2012 **Public Gardens Excellence Award**.
- **September 2017** - Keyless entry FOBs replaced regular keys to the amenities located throughout Dobson Ranch.
- **May 2019** - **Sunset Plaza** outside of La Casita was dedicated.



"As residents of Dobson Ranch, many of you are aware of the Dobson Ranch brand. But how many of you know the fascinating story behind that hot-iron design?"

The logo once used by Dobson Ranch was the same brand used by the Dobson brothers when they homesteaded their working cattle and sheep ranch back in 1885!"

Jan. 2010



Logo change resembles the style used today.

Jun. 2012



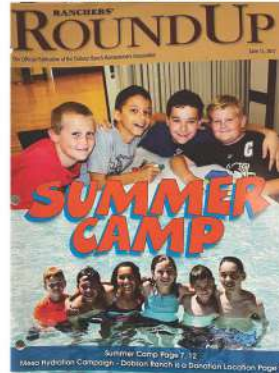
Newspaper format was printed in color.

Mar. 2013



New stories were featured starting in 2013, instead of just recreation events.

Jun. 2017



Ranchers' RoundUp went to a full color magazine!

May 2022



Ranchers' RoundUp as we know it today in 2023 - with a few more updates!

History of Recreation

By **Hannah Roberts**, Recreation Lead and **Niya Begay**, Recreation Coordinator (L-R)



Since Dobson Ranch was founded in 1973, The Dobson Ranch Recreation department has grown exponentially with more classes, improved free activities, and a larger-than-life staff. Once the first magazine was published in 1976, all information regarding recreation classes and events was featured and still is to this day. Residents can find classes such as tennis, swimming, and dance lessons for both adults and children, which all have been prevalent since our doors opened. Some classes that were taught in the early years of Dobson Ranch that are no longer available include boxing, flag football, and even weightlifting. As Dobson Ranch expanded, the classes became larger for more residents to enjoy.

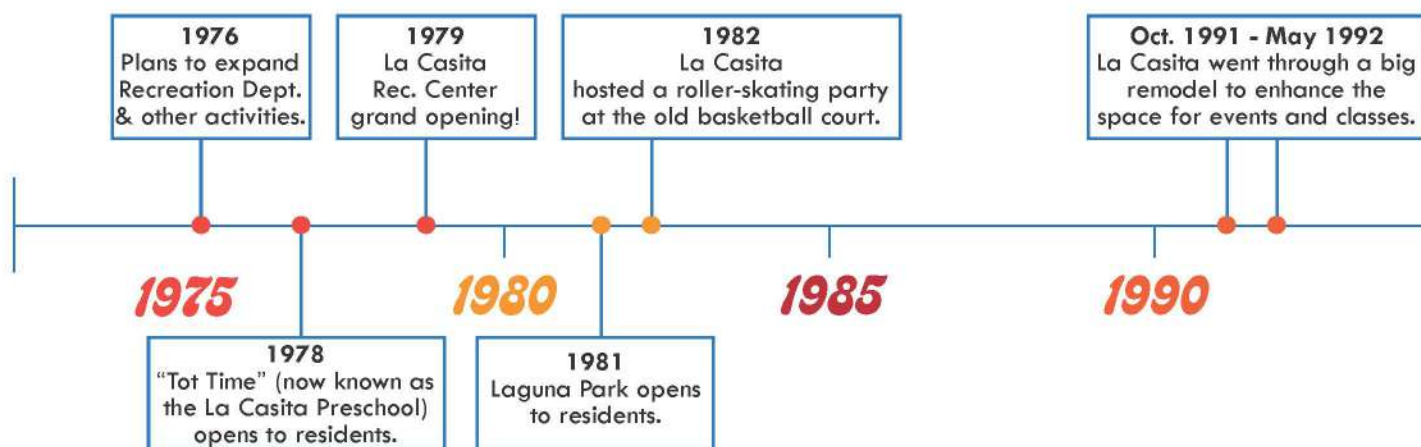
Before our recreation center was transferred over to La Casita in 1979, Dobson Ranch was already hosting numerous activities and events in our original locations of Saratoga and Los Altos. One of the original events that used to be held here at Dobson Ranch was an old-fashioned picnic starting the year we were first founded.

This picnic included arts and crafts vendors from residents, a baking contest including cookies, cakes, pies, and a pet show where families could feature their beloved furry friends. Although the picnic is no longer an event we organize, our Fall Festival, is a refined version of it. The Fall Festival is one of the four largest events we hold for our community which includes beer tasting, music, dancing, and games for young kids. Attendance over the years has increased due to more families moving into the community.

As Dobson Ranch grew, The Dobson Ranch Association has grown with it but not only the facilities, the amazing staff that runs the show as well. For our 50th anniversary, the splash pad located at La Casita got a long overdue facelift that opened just in time for summer. Our Saratoga location, that dates to 1973, is currently being renovated and we anticipate the grand opening of it soon. You might be surprised to know that only six full-time staff run our administration side and only five full-time staff run the recreation side. For as large as Dobson Ranch is, being roughly the same size as the city of Payson, AZ, the work that is being completed by these few staff members more than make up for their small numbers.

At the front desk on the Recreation side, you will find **Jackie Allen**, who works hard to accommodate guests in need. Along with Jackie, **Jessi Feltmann (Ms. Jessi)**, our preschool teacher for the last 18 years, puts her heart and soul into teaching the young children of this Association. Next is our Recreation & Lifestyle Manager, **Amanda Jensen**, who works tirelessly to ensure operations and events run smoothly and favorably with the help of ourselves **Niya Begay** and **Hannah Roberts**! On the Administration side, **Fran Pawlak**, our Executive Director, is constantly working in favor of the residents, using her expertise to lead this community forward. **Johnathan Lefler** in Code Compliance helps residents attend to their property. **Ronnika Giles** and **Carolyn Burleson**, our Administrative Receptionists provide excellent customer service. **Camille Gonzales**, our Operations Manager, unites the Admin, Recreation and Maintenance teams in our office and has implemented numerous systems essential for everyday operations. Our Accounting Clerk, **Akina Trimmer**, works diligently on assuring our finances are maintained. **Marc Diaz**, our Facilities Supervisor does an amazing job with keeping our amenities beautiful. And last but not least, our Communications Manager, **Skye Riss**, who does so much more than creates the beautiful Ranchers' RoundUp's each month, but also connects with homeowners and business partners alike to strengthen our relationship within the community.

The Dobson Ranch Associations goal is to make our community the premiere choice to live, and our staff members and the community's progress upholds that ideology. Because of the perseverance of all our departments, Dobson Ranch can celebrate another year of "The Best Place to Live!"



"THE THRILL OF VICTORY"

The Lakes vs. Dobson Ranch — 1982

There comes a time when every team, good and bad, must face the agony of defeat. The Dobson Dolphins gave that bitter taste to the Lakes swim team. The first swim meet of the fall was held at Lakes 454, Dobson Dolphins 460. This was not a cause for concern for the Dobson Dolphins, however. This was the very first time the Lakes have ever tasted defeat, in 77 years.

At the end of the first stroke (butterfly) the Lakes were ahead 136-57. The Dobson Dolphins had not gotten to their best stroke yet. The backstroke put us in the lead 209-111. We kept our heads above water in the Desobribe by beating the Lakes 309-106. During the remaining total of 328 to 317. We lost the freestyle race 117 to 105. Going into the final race, Dobson was down 439 to 424. We pulled out our scorers believing the Lakes had taken us four, giving the Dobson Dolphins a total of 460 points to the Lakes 454 points.

Congratulations to all Dobson Dolphins.

Rec. Director's Note:
This was a big year for the Dobson Ranch Swim Team and our community. Not because we were so close to losing in this meet but for the photos, effort, excitement and spirit the kids displayed during the races.

After losing to the powerful Lakes team last year by over 200 points (twice), the biggest upset in our history, we were able to pull out a win and a very narrow one. The coaches and the parents for this success.

The swim is second nature and soon will be forgotten. But the first recreational dip-



The action was exciting and the competition intense during the recent swim meet. Pictured above, boys from both teams compete in the 25 meter backstroke event.



50
Anniversary
CHEERS TO 50 YEARS!

ROLLER DISCO



Pictured above are trophy winners at the Mesa City Championships held July 20th at River Road. In the top row are Michael Williams, 2nd high point (total 11.25); Eric Packer, high point (total 11.4); John Fry, high point (total 11.25); and Kristine Smith, high point (total 11.25). In the bottom row are left to right: Charles Parsonson, 2nd high point (total 11.25); and Kristine Smith, high point (total 11.25). At right, the photo shows the trophy winners. The trophy would be awarded in the end under 10 yard freestyle.

Women's Tennis League

Last chance for all of you girls to sign-up for the Ladies Tennis League beginning the week of May 15. The spring league was lots of fun but we need to get more of you out on the courts.

Sign-ups are being taken for Novice, Intermediate and Advanced Intermediate levels, now through May 7 at either Rec. Office. Schedules of matches will be available by May 12 at the Los Altos Recreation Office for each division.

After the tournament, there will be a small cocktail at Los Altos Recreation.



Women's doubles second place winners were Judy Shaker and Debby Pettit, standing from left, and third place winners were Marsha McDowell, kneeling left, and first place winner, Lash, kneeling at right.

Doubles Tourney Success

Our August tournament, a women's doubles and men's doubles event, was a lot of fun. We were very pleased to see so many new faces.

Gary Green and Mike Bauer won the men's doubles while Gary Pettit and Doug Milstead finished second with Ben Shack and Gerry Don. Haddaway taking third. In the women's doubles, Peggy Anderson and Sarah East took top honors. Judy Shaker and Debby Pettit captured second place and Marsha McDowell and Joyce Stark finished third.

We would like to encourage all Dobson Ranch swimmers to participate in our events. It's a great opportunity to meet other tennis players and to make some new friends.



Men's doubles second place winners were Gary Pettit and Doug Milstead, standing from left, and Gary Green and Mike Bauer, kneeling from left, took first-place honors.



Rec. Director's Note: This was a big year for the Dobson Ranch Swim Team and our community. Not because we were so close to losing in this meet but for the photos, effort, excitement and spirit the kids displayed during the races.



First Woman Finisher... was Barbara Wilson with a 42:10.5.



Sailors take advantage of wind off Los Altos Recreation Area.

Basketball Leagues Formed

The men's basketball league is off and running with many participants. There is still room for more players. The more players that participate will give Dobson Ranch a stronger and competitive team. Dobson Ranch would be proud to have a group of winners represent our area with a winning team.

The women's league will have games every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at Washington school. Dobson Ranch would like to thank the school board for setting the schedule of Dobson Ranch use their own.

So there is action with basketball this season, and if you're one for action be sure and call the Los Altos recreation center and sign up right away.



Elite Series

REMEMBER THE LOUAI

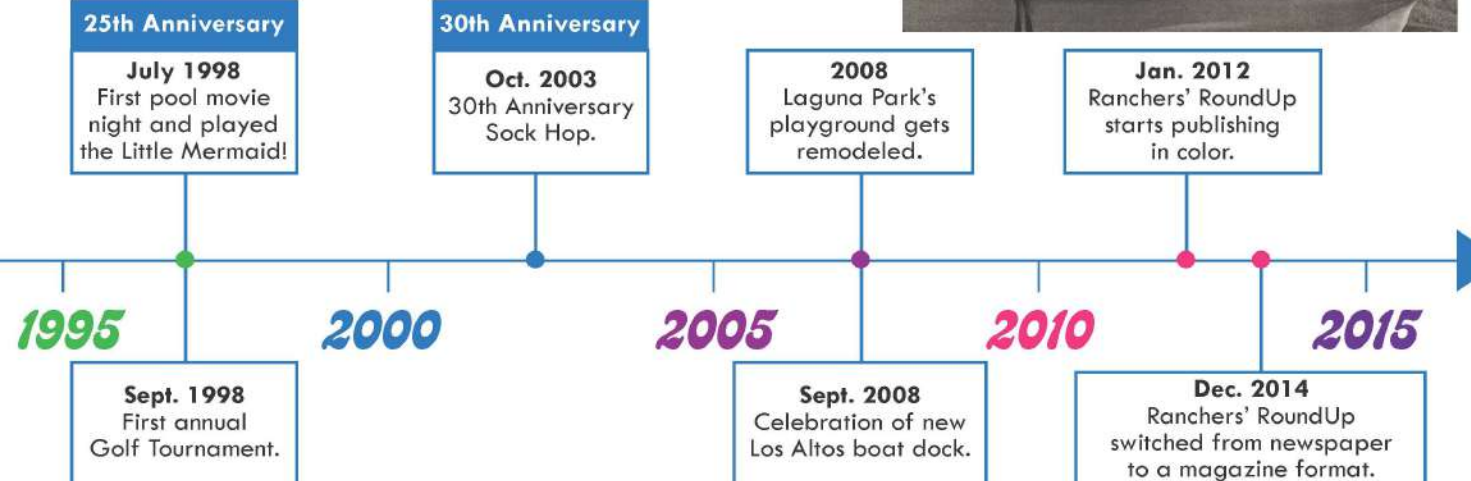
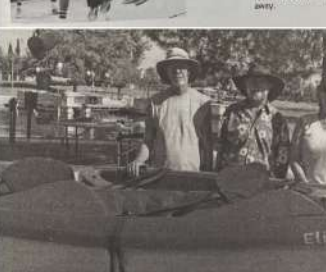
On October 18th, the second Dobson Ranch Luau was held around the La Casita swimming pool. The area was decorated beautifully with palm fronds, paper mache flowers, a mural, many candles, torches, and colored lights, all done by the women's club.

As each of the over 220 people in attendance entered, they were greeted with a "hi" and a kiss on the cheek. After finding a table, they soon made their way to the various food and drink bars. Everyone found plenty of snacks, ribs, chicken wings being served by the recreation staff, and more than enough to drink. The bars also ran by the recreation staff were loaded with Scotch, Whiskey, Gin, Vodka, Rum, Mitters, beer and wine. A sure favorite was the staff's own house special.

During the evening the band "Sweetbriar" played a variety of favorite dancing tunes. Even when they went on break, the night didn't slow down. We had two fabulous Hawaiian floor shows, one by Theresa Carreras of our own staff.

The entire evening seemed to go quite well and many favorable comments were given by those in attendance. Even the slightly brook cold weather didn't slow us down.

I would like to thank Sue Biggen and all the members of the women's club, Jo Phillips, Charlie Kinney and the entire recreation staff for yet another excellent special activity on Dobson Ranch. If by chance you missed this one, well I'm sorry. But, I can guarantee you there will be many more to come!



Partnership with Mesa 50 Anniversary



By **Francisco Heredia**, Vice Mayor of Mesa - District 3



I am proud to celebrate the longstanding partnership between the City of Mesa and the Dobson Ranch Association. For the last 50 years, this partnership has played a vital role in enhancing the quality of life for our residents and improving the overall success of our community.

As the first master-planned residential development in Mesa, Dobson Ranch was recognized by the **Arizona Planning Association** as a **Historical Planning Landmark in 1998** – an impressive accomplishment!

Over the years, we have worked closely with the Dobson Ranch HOA to develop and test innovative programs that benefit our community as a whole. The residents and businesses of Dobson Ranch have played a significant part in the overall quality of life in Mesa, including involvement in community service projects, municipal pilot projects, service on many nonprofit boards and City advisory boards, and numerous recreational and environmental activities.

These initiatives exemplify what can be achieved when an active community engages its residents and works hand-in-hand with local government to improve the quality of life for everyone. Districtwide, the Association has provided tremendous support to programs and initiatives championed by my office, such as the Annual District 3 Toy Drive and the Back-to-School Supply Drive.

As we reflect on the past 50 years, it is clear that the partnership between the City of Mesa and the Dobson Ranch HOA has been a tremendous success. By working together, we have been able to create a thriving community that is safe, welcoming, and enjoyable for all residents. I am confident that this partnership will continue to be a cornerstone of our community for many years to come. I am honored to support and represent this community.



Top Left: 50th Anniversary Proclamation at Annual Homeowner Meeting on April 11th, 2023; Top Center: 50th Anniversary City Breakfast in February 2023; Top Right: Short Term Rentals Meeting in November 2022; Middle Left & Center: District 3 Toy Drive; Middle Right: Back to School Supply Drive in August 2022; Bottom Left: City Breakfast in February 2020; Bottom Center: Neighborhood Outreach Community Meeting in November 2019; Bottom Right: City Breakfast in February 2019.

Partnership with Mesa 50

This proclamation was presented to The Dobson Association
at the 2023 Annual Meeting!



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The Dobson Ranch community will be celebrating its 50th anniversary throughout 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Dobson family started a farming and sheep business in Arizona's territorial days, well prior to the significant growth and annexation by local municipalities; and

WHEREAS, Dobson Ranch was the first large-scale master planned community in Mesa and was recognized by the Arizona Planning Association as an Historical Planning Landmark in 1998; and

WHEREAS, the residents and businesses of Dobson Ranch have played a significant part in the overall quality of life in Mesa, including involvement in community service projects, municipal pilot projects, service on many nonprofit boards and city advisory boards, and numerous recreational and environmental activities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mesa and Dobson Ranch have enjoyed a long and productive relationship.

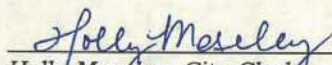
NOW THEREFORE, I John Giles, Mayor of the City of Mesa, Arizona do hereby recognize and congratulate Dobson Ranch HOA on its 50 years in Mesa.

DOBSON RANCH HOA

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Mesa, Arizona, to be affixed this 16th day of February 2023.


John Giles, Mayor

Attest:


Holly Moseley, City Clerk



A Dobson Granddaughter With a Big Heart



By Skye Riss, Communications Manager and Ranchers' RoundUp Editor



Meet **Ann Patterson Cleghorn**, the daughter of **Dwight Patterson (1912 - 1999)** and **Ruby Mae Dobson Patterson (1915-2003)**. Ruby was born on Dobson Ranch. Ann was also very close with her grandparents **John Dobson (1845-1921)** and **Sarah Electra Scott (1881-1965)** and remembers such wonderful memories of working and playing with her family and cousins on the Dobson cattle ranch. Now living in Gilbert, AZ, she takes us back to the time to the mid-40s and 50s when Mesa was a quiet town with dirt roads and open land as far as the eye could see.

Ann was born at Saint Joseph Hospital in Phoenix in 1938. Both of Ann's parents were well known in Mesa, for sitting on various organizations and forming Dobson Ranch as we know it today.

Ann's father Dwight Patterson was honored as a history maker in 1993, as a Rancher, and the "Father" of Arizona Baseball Spring Training for forming the famous **Cactus League**. Dwight also founded the **Hohokams** in 1953, an organization made up of volunteers who helped the Cubs and the Oakland Athletics during baseball games with parking, collecting game tickets and more. Ann joined the Hohokams in 2000 as a volunteer and all the proceeds went to charity.

Dwight was trained as a teacher and served as a trustee for all three branches of public education in Arizona. Dwight was born in Tempe to pioneers who homesteaded the area in 1880. He married Ruby Mae Dobson in 1936 and the couple moved to Mesa. Dwight became associated with the **Baseline Cattle Company** and the **Sheepspring Sheep Company** and was active in the **Arizona Wool Growers Association** and the **Cattle Feeders Association**.

Ann remembers Mesa at a time when it wasn't the bustling city we know it as today. "I grew up on the Ranch at Baseline and Alma School when it was a dirt road south of Baseline. I used to meet my cousins on Saturdays and Sundays in our Ford tractors, and we drove through the countryside. Also, we would travel to the Northeast and the East Coast around the time when Dad brought the Chicago Cubs to Mesa in 1953, and we used to travel with the Cubs! We'd go to Chicago and New York City," Ann reminisced.

Both of Ann's parents would have fun parties at their home on the Ranch and invited famous people like **Joe DiMaggio** and **Mr. William Wrigley**, founder of Wrigley's Gum. Aside from all the fun Ann had, she also worked on the Dobson cattle ranch. "I was a seamstress during the summertime, and I would weigh the molasses feed trucks for the cattle."

The entrepreneurial mindset and large family inspired Ann's life. Ann has been married to her husband Richard for 18 years and Ann has three daughters and five grandchildren. During her career, Ann worked as a Managing Partner at the Dobson Ranch Inn, founded by her father Dwight and other partners. The Dobson Ranch Inn, in its heyday, was the place to meet for business and to stay for a night out. The Inn was also the official meeting place of the **Cactus League Baseball Team** and the spring home for the Cubs and the Milwaukee Brewers during various times in its 30-year lifespan. "I was a partner after Dad passed, and I moved into his office," Ann remembered.

In memory of her father and his love of baseball, Ann founded the **Dwight Patterson Youth Sports Scholarship**. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to students in the Masters in Athletic Training programs that have demonstrated a commitment to youth sports and the well-being of youth athletes through their academic, clinical, and service activities. Recently, Ann donated money to the **Arizona School of Health Sciences** in honor of her father.

After reminiscing about her memories with her family and Dobson Ranch, Ann shared with us her celebratory message for our 50th Anniversary.

"I think congratulations are in order. It is incredible that there are over 5,000 homes there now. People really seem to love living in Dobson Ranch. Mom and Dad were thrilled that they got to live there as well. Congratulations to all of you for an extremely successful and well-run community!"



Owning One of the First Homes



By Lynn Stevens, Dobson Ranch Resident



Jim and I purchased our home at 2420 W. Via Rialto Avenue in 1973 for **\$43,000**. This included additional fees for lakefront property and a sunken living room.

We, and our two children, enjoyed watching our home being constructed and moved from our Tempe home in March of 1974.

I-60 ended at McClintock, and the 101 was just under construction. So, Price Road was the north/south route in the area.

There was no water in Lake 1 at that time, nor were there any grade schools in the area. Our children were bussed to Ida Redbird and Whittier until Brooker T. Washington Elementary School was built. Our oldest was bussed to Powell Jr. High, before Rhodes was built. He also attended Mesa High School, and decided to stay there after Dobson High opened. Quite an interesting beginning!

We won the contest to name the first community newspaper... **Ranchers' RoundUp**, and won a \$200 paid weekend in Las Vegas.

The newspaper eventually went to a magazine format, but it's fun to know that it has kept the same name.

Los Altos tennis courts and swimming pools came into being, and the first Recreation center was there, with one employee in the office.

Entrances to the bike path were fenced and gated, and homeowners had to use their key to enter both ends. Annual picnics began at Los Altos with food and games like sack races, etc. My husband won the first sailing regatta there. We later sold our sailboat for a row boat, and then purchased a pontoon boat.

The first HOA assessment fee was **\$9.50**. It's amazing now, considering all the homes, lakes, recreation areas, etc. on the Ranch, that our current fee is only **\$50.72!**

I served on the Recreation Committee for several years, and was captain of a tennis team that played league competition at La Casita many seasons. It's been great seeing all the changes in the past 50 years, with a variety of family activities, well maintained pools, tennis and pickleball courts, plus a large retirees group that stays busy.

My husband passed away in 2014; but I've chosen to remain in my home. As far as I know, there is only one other original owner still residing on my street. In addition to all the many positive things, the entire HOA staff and Board of Directors continues being friendly and doing an incredible job for our community, proving that Dobson Ranch truly is... *"The Best Place to Live!"*



November, 1976



Jim and Lynn Stevens of Los Altos have been declared winners of the Dobson Ranch Name Your Newspaper Contest. For their fantastic efforts, the Stevens' have won a gift certificate for good times in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Easy Access to Work, School & Play

By Skye Riss, Communications Manager and Ranchers' RoundUp Editor



Longtime residents of Dobson Ranch, **Bob** and **Linda Behnke**, moved into their brand new home in May of 1974, a year after the founding of the planned community in Mesa. Two of their sons still live in Dobson Ranch with their families today. Bob and Linda have so many wonderful memories from living in the community and they are active members of the Dobson Ranch Retirees' Club.

Bob and Linda met in high school and fell in love. Bob married Linda weeks after graduating and, as time flies, here they are 58 years later with seven children and 39 grandchildren! Bob and Linda also own two other homes in Dobson Ranch that they rent out.

Bob and Linda remember the time when they were first looking for a home in Mesa. "We moved to Mesa in 1973 from Chicago. When we moved into Dobson Ranch, we got to witness the development of the lakes, parks and pools! They were very deep at the time and because there were no pools yet,

our kids used to tube on the lakes and jump into the water. This was in the '70s and a lot has changed since then," Bob thought back.

"We moved to Dobson Ranch because it was centralized in a great area with easy access to work, school and play. Our children walked to Booker T. Washington for grade school and Rhodes Jr. High and Dobson High School. We're close to the hospital, shopping centers, the airport, the Dobson Ranch Library, and the Dobson Ranch Golf Course, where we visit often," Bob and Linda explained.

They share many passions together in life and worked hard to provide for their family. Bob worked for Prudential Insurance Company for almost 30 years, and Linda managed

a daycare business out of their home for over 17 years. Linda remembered, "There was one young man whom I had in my daycare as a child, who came back to me as an adult and said I made the best graham cracker and peanut butter sandwiches," Linda laughed. Bob also coached the baseball team in the Ranch for 17 years.

Bob and Linda celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on the Ranch in the La Casita Grande Room, eight years ago! "We love Dobson Ranch! With all the events that the HOA Staff, clubs and Board put together, we can see they really care about creating great experiences for the residents. We love bringing our grandchildren to the La Casita Splash Pad, attending the concerts in the park, and all the special holiday events," Linda beamed.

"Anyone who comes to Dobson Ranch would never realize that it is a 50-year-old community because it is so well maintained. Because of the HOA, we live in a clean environment. The HOA is doing a great job by upkeep and transforming many of our amenities such as the pools and the community centers as well," said Bob.

Both are enjoying their retirement by riding their bikes around the lakes and neighborhood. They also tried their hand at pickleball and joined the Retirees' Club to make some new friends. Over the years, Bob and Linda have noticed a lot of younger families moving into Dobson Ranch, and enjoy watching the children play together in the parks.

Bob and Linda happily share their 50th Anniversary message to Dobson Ranch: *"For those who are living in Dobson Ranch, take advantage of all the wonderful amenities around you. Get out with your kids, grandkids and loved ones, or even by yourself, and enjoy it today, because we don't know what tomorrow holds. Thank you to everyone who serves on the Staff, committees, clubs and Board who donate their time and talents to make Dobson Ranch an even better place to live."*

Coming Together as a Community

By Skye Riss, Communications Manager and Ranchers' RoundUp Editor



Meet Michele Terry Rubenstrunk.

Michele Terry moved to Dobson Ranch in 1974. It was the summer just before starting 8th grade. She attended Powell Junior High School for 8th and 9th grade with other kids from the Ranch. There weren't many children who lived on the Ranch those first couple of years, but eventually Michele had plenty of good friends. Michele and the other children on the Ranch went off to attend Mesa High School, as Booker T. Washington, Rhodes Junior High School and Dobson High School were not built at the time. Dobson High School was built last on the Ranch.

One of the first jobs Michele had as a teenager was being a Receptionist at the La Casita Administration Office. Michele handed out fishing licenses, took tennis court reservations and assigned bike tags. Michele said, "It was a good first office job!"

Michele remembered a lot of fun moments during her childhood on the Ranch. "When I lived on the Ranch, there wasn't a pool, basketball or

tennis courts, so my friends and I went swimming in the Los Altos lake. It was a big deal when the Circle K was built on Baseline, because we rode our bikes there during the summer for cold slushies and treats. We had a basketball hoop in our driveway and there were always kids playing ball in our yard or in the cul de sac," Michele reminisced.

The biggest change that Michele got to experience was the building of the US 60 highway. "My brother and his friends rode their bikes up and down the mounds of dirt and into the deep trenches that were dug, and my brother would come home covered in dirt! I also remember learning to drive in the parking lot that eventually became the Fiesta Mall. It was fun having a mall so close! Watching Dobson Ranch expand over the years was amazing," Michele fondly remembered.

"As the Ranch grew and more families joined the neighborhood, the pools, tennis courts and basketball courts were built. Things became more

organized, and there were meetings to talk about safety, neighborhood amenities and events. These meetings led to the Dobson Ranch Board of Directors being established."

Michele's dad, **Ray Terry** was on the first Board of Directors and participated in any way he could around Dobson Ranch. Michele said, "He was always willing to help." Michele's mother and father were active in the community, and they also had a wide circle of friends that enjoyed living on the Ranch.

"Growing up in Dobson Ranch was fun and a safe place to be! You could take off on your bike or walk around and never have to worry about crime or trouble finding you back then," said Michele. Michele moved back to Dobson Ranch to live in her family home that she grew up in. Her children grew up in Dobson Ranch and went to the same schools as her sister and brother. They also attended the Dobson Ranch summer camps and enjoyed growing up so close to the lakes, parks, and local library.

Michele shared a 50th anniversary wish for Dobson Ranch. "I wish and hope that everyone continues to have pride in Dobson Ranch, take care of their homes and common areas, be respectful of each other, and keep coming together as a community. If we all continue doing those things, Dobson Ranch will stay healthy and strong for many years to come!"



Michele is shown with her father Ray Terry, who served on the first Board of Directors.

Memories of Yesterday

By **Skye Riss**, Communications Manager and *Ranchers' RoundUp* Editor



Meet **Zachary Sverdrup**. Zach has great memories stemming back from the time he spent with his grandparents, **Philip Lowery Col. USA (Ret.)**, and **Joan Lowery**, who lived on the Ranch.

Zach's grandparents moved to Dobson Ranch in the mid-80s, and Zach, his mother, and his brother moved to Dobson Ranch in 2000. Zach's grandparents served in the Army, and afterward, they got married and had eight children! Philip, unfortunately, passed away in 2006, but he served his country for 30 years including tours of duty in Korea, Japan, Vietnam, Turkey, Germany, and the Pentagon. "I believe, in total, there are 33 grandkids and probably 15 great-grandkids from them, so we have a big family! I remember spending summertime at my grandparent's and there would be 25 of my cousins running around and playing. It was awesome, and trying to find places to sleep in the house was fun," Zach laughed.

Some of Zach's favorite memories on Dobson Ranch include the time he spent fishing with his grandfather on the lakes. "We would go fishing together all the time. My grandfather was always checking people's fishing licenses," Zach stated. It so happens that Philip Lowery served as Dobson Ranch Board President from 2000 to 2002. Zach's grandfather also managed his company **Lowry Associates**, working with police and fire departments around Arizona. Zach explained, "My grandfather's company is the reason why there are so many red-light cameras in Mesa."

Philip was an active member in the Mesa Sunrise Rotary, Mesa Sister Cities, Dobson Ranch Retirees' Club, and the Holy Spirit Catholic Church. From when he spent his years on the Ranch to now, Zach has noticed many great changes in Dobson Ranch. He went on to say, "I think the biggest change I've noticed is that the residents are taking more pride in their homes and the community continues to stay well-maintained. There are also more events that cater to the younger crowds. My favorite thing about Dobson Ranch is that there is such a great sense of community and everyone is willing to help one another."

Finally, Zach shared his congratulatory 50th Anniversary message to the community and the HOA. "Thank you for building and maintaining this community and making sure that the residents have what they need! Happy 50th Anniversary to Dobson Ranch!"

Frank Rutkowski grew up in Dobson Ranch and experienced the development of this beautiful community. He would frequent the lakes, the construction zones, and the recreation centers with his friends and has learned the ins and outs of Dobson Ranch!

Frank moved to Dobson Ranch with his family in 1970 and purchased his original family home because there were too many good memories that he did not want to forget. "When we moved into Dobson Ranch, my Mom worked for Continental Homes and built the first phase of Dobson Ranch which is the Los Altos area. My Mom worked as a Colorist helping new homeowners pick the color of their countertops, floors, or carpets and she had a very good eye for interior design. I remember the first day when we moved in, my brother and I helped and when we were finished, we grabbed our fishing poles and went right down to the lake to go fishing. Back then there were about 30 kids at the lake fishing, and we made a ton of friends," said Frank. I would often trade bobbers and hooks with the other kids. When the windy season came, they would all fly their kites at the elementary school. My swimsuit never dried out in the summertime because I was always swimming. It was great," laughed Frank.



"Some of my favorite memories of living in Dobson Ranch was playing in the construction zones with my friends when all the workers went home. We would build plywood forts and sand piles and had dirt clod fights. I got hit with a dirt ball and was in great pain. So, I climbed inside the fort and laid there, and I heard dirt clods hitting the walls. It was like a warzone," Frank laughed! "When my brother and I went to Booker T Washington Elementary, they came up with the mascot idea of the Booker T Bulldogs, because someone would bring their Bulldog into work, and it became a regular occurrence, and all the kids loved it!" Frank shared an interesting story about a special drainage river near the elementary school. "That drainage river would come all the way down to the 60 and so many toads spawned in it and there would be hundreds covering the grassy school field. So as kids, we collected hundreds of little toads in cups and showed them to each other, and then something else was built in its place and the toads stopped showing up. But when I moved back to Dobson Ranch in 1997, one night I found a toad in my garden."

In his free time, Frank enjoys riding his pontoon boat on the lakes in Dobson Ranch and watching all the wildlife. He often sees beautiful Owls and Blue Herons. For work, Frank works at the **American Legion**, which is a private club for Veterans and their families. "I work as a bartender, but I am also a member because my grandfather fought and served in World War II. I can't vote on anything, but as a bartender, I sure have a lot of leverage! I have made many amazing friends over the years of working there."

Frank finally shared his 50th Anniversary wishes to Dobson Ranch. "I'm pleased with how the HOA has taken such good care of maintaining our community. There have been many wonderful improvements over the last few years, and I couldn't be more pleased, and I hope it stays that way!"

Age is Only a Number

By Skye Riss, Communications Manager and Ranchers' RoundUp Editor



Carolyn Sedlak has done it all! Delivered Ranchers' RoundUps with her kids, worked part-time at Saratoga Community Center, works as the Treasurer of the Retirees' Club, was nominated for Arts Hero Award, rode a trapeze at the age of 70 and so much more! Carolyn is a lovely person and has lived in Dobson Ranch for 45 years.

Carolyn and her husband **Frank**, moved to Dobson Ranch in the late 70s from Cleaveland, Ohio with their three children, Frank David, Lisa, & Kari. Her husband Frank originally built their home in the early Dobson Ranch development located at the corner of Dobson and Keating and met all of Carolyn's dreams for what she wanted it to look like. Carolyn remembered the good old days when her children would ride their dirt bikes around Dobson Ranch, and back then, any violations that were issued came with a yellow sticker posted on the garage door. "We were famous for getting yellow stickers for various items such as how our canoe boat was parked, how the lawn looked, and how our trash bins were placed and it just made us laugh," reminisced Carolyn.

In 1978, Carolyn worked part-time at the Saratoga pool, because at that time, La Casita was not built yet. "We wore navy blue shorts with a round yellow D for Dobson with the circle around it because that was the logo back then. I was the one who opened the gates for residents to get in and out of the pool and I would clean the pool by brushing it down."

Eventually, Carolyn learned about the need for people to help deliver Ranchers' RoundUp to the homes, so Carolyn got together with her family, and they started delivering the community newspaper! "At the time, my children were ages 12, 10, and 6 and we used to pick up the papers once a month on a Friday at Los Altos. We folded them, put them in bags, and then delivered them the next day. We only had one day to deliver them, and my children were paid a nickel. My daughter Lisa used to deliver them on roller skates and a red wagon, which someone stole, Frank David used to deliver them on bike and by foot. And Kari would just be the little six-year-old helping her older siblings. We did this for quite a few months and in total we delivered the newspapers to about 1,500 homes in Dobson Ranch."

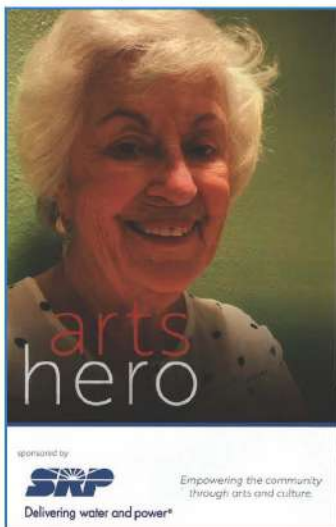
Carolyn and her family have always been very active within the community. Her son helped teach tennis, her daughters were both on the Dobson Dolphins swim team, Carolyn was one of the first pickleball players who got the club started, eventually became Treasurer of the Retirees' Club and has worked in that position for over 12 years!

Aside from participating in many Dobson Ranch clubs and activities, Carolyn has also worked at the **Scottsdale Center for the Arts** as their Head House Manager. "I'm the one that opens the doors to the theater, and I've been with the Center for 31 years. About two years ago I was named **Arts Hero Award** for the years 2021-2022, and I was so surprised and overjoyed. The playbill, wrote a special article about me and featured me for several months. At first, I thought it was a joke that I received the award. But then I found out from my boss that it was real, and I started to cry. I was even more humbled when I found out that the CEO of the Scottsdale Center for the Arts nominated me."

Carolyn is a go-getter and just loves to have a good time. 12 years ago, she suffered from a heart attack but thankfully caught it in time and recovered. After leaving the hospital, Carolyn went to play more pickleball, and even more exciting, she went with her daughter-in-law to a circus-themed club to swing on a trapeze!

"When I got to the top of the platform ready to jump off, I thought to myself, maybe this is not such a good idea. I told my instructor this is a mistake, while below me, people are cheering me on! All of a sudden, I was swinging on the bar and flying through the air," Carolyn laughed!

"I'd like to jump out of an airplane someday too!"



CAROLYN SEDLAK

An Energizer Bunny

Carolyn Sedlak's colleagues at the Scottsdale Center for the Arts think culture is a energizer bunny for nothing.

The lead house manager's batteries are always full when it comes to making things run smoothly for patrons. That's the way it has been for 31 years.

"We could not imagine our Center operating without her," Scottsdale Arts President CEO Gard Wuestenmann writes in nominating Sedlak for Arts Hero honors. "We've watched Carolyn evolve and constantly overcome many changes and challenges... Her amazing energy and sense of humor is what all of us here at Scottsdale Arts love about her."

Sedlak started as a volunteer at the center in 1991. Three years later she became an assistant house manager. As lead house manager, she oversees a staff of seven employees and a volunteer corps of about 100 people. The job is part logistics, parts hospitality, and a mix of whatever else is needed to ensure patrons get in and out of the center safely.

Her relationship with the center began, attending performances wasn't

a normal part of a life filled with family, work, and an active life. Her husband wasn't easy to tag.

Her horizons today? "So much brighter," Sedlak has seen so many perform different ways things are not fixed, but I still like to have like to see. It's always change.

Change is good. So across her continuity for years, playing and posing, being the longest treasurer of a retail assoc and volunteering as an artist. Commings Auditorium, and things, have been constants.

At 80 and proud of it, there's of Sedlak ending her long no center. Her plans to keep going and...

Do you know an Arts Hero? Send us a note to [email] or [email]. We'll be happy to feature the Arts Hero content. Photo credit to [email]



Original Marker Drawing of Dobson Ranch

This drawing represents the initial layout of how the Master Planned Community of Dobson Ranch would look.



ook. There is no signature or name to credit the artist of this marker drawing, but it is beautiful!



Real Estate History in Dobson Ranch



By Scott Sepulveda, Associate Broker at Realty One Group and Long-Time Dobson Ranch Resident



My first glimpse of Dobson Ranch was when we approached our new home at 2313 S. Playa Cir in Saratoga Lakes. The date is still firm in my mind. January 29th, 1979. I was a junior in high school and my father had just accepted a job transfer to AZ. He would be a District Manager for Alpha Beta Markets and his home store would be the one on Dobson and Baseline. The local Albertsons store resides in that plaza now. Dobson High had not been built yet, so my twin sister and I would finish our high school years at Mesa High. Our house backed up to what would eventually become Laguna Park. But for now, my younger brother and I would enjoy the empty lot right behind our house. We had fun riding our bikes over the dirt mounds, shooting our BB guns at tin cans, and watching the jackrabbits scurry about.

I have had the privilege of seeing many, many changes in the area and right here in The Ranch over the last 44 years. I vividly remember the street post sign on eastbound Baseline road near the Tempe border. It was one of those City signs welcoming the driver to Mesa while posting the current population. It read 154,000. A year or two later, it read 160,000. Then 182,000. The sign is no longer there. Mesa's population is now about 515,000.

I have come to truly appreciate the variety and character of the many residences in Dobson Ranch. Among the 20+ subdivisions, you'll find condos, townhouses, patio homes, and plenty of single-family-detached residences. There are several subdivisions that I mark as favorites in my mind.

Laguna Shores has the distinction of boasting some of the Ranch's highest resale prices. Most of the houses there have generous lot sizes and many of them have 3-car garages. There are plenty of waterfront lots and a huge variety of exterior styles, such as Tudor, Spanish, Ranch, and Territorial. A house in Laguna Shores recently sold for \$900,000! That's the current record sales price in Dobson Ranch.

Brook Edge Estates is one of our newest subdivisions, built between 1984 and 1990. I love the tile roofs and Spanish-style look. The reason for the late start is that the land was once penciled in for an elementary school. Eventually, it was decided that the kids south of Baseline and west of Dobson could attend the existing Booker T. Washington Elementary north of Baseline road.

Knoell Villa Solano is among our most unique subdivisions. This is because the homes there are what are known as the Gemini Twin style. This dwelling type is fairly rare. From the street, it looks like a duplex, but it's not. A Gemini Twin home is two separate parcels owned by separate individuals. If you look closely, sometimes you can see an old roof woven next to a new roof. This happens when the two owners choose not to get new roofs simultaneously. The homes in Knoell Villa Solano sell quickly when they hit the market because they are highly desirable.

I've also admired **The Landings** community. These are the townhouses that are lined up string-style just south of Baseline and west of Dobson. They all have garages and most of them back up to a very peaceful and narrow lake that resembles a stream. The community features two pools and some rock water features. I love taking my morning walk through there. Of course there are several other beautiful subdivisions that are worth noting including **Legante Paseo**, **Westport Bay** and **Lake Park Village**.

I've had the privilege of enjoying a front-seat view of the real estate market swings over the past few decades. The Ranch has weathered all the market fluctuations and remains to be a popular destination to call home. Most of the highest sales prices came at the height of the market, the latter part of 2021, and the first two months of 2022. But there sure were some bargains to be had during the market crash. At the bottom of the market in 2011, I recall that a waterfront home in Saratoga Lakes sold for \$130,000! It was a bank-owned property on Naranja Ave.

As you know, not all people appreciate HOAs, but I find myself bragging about ours. I love the fact that we get so many amenities including three recreation centers with pools, eight lakes, fishing, a dog park, parks, playgrounds, walking paths, tennis, basketball and pickleball courts, a community **Xeriscape Garden**, a **Memorial Rose Garden** and so much more. The numerous events, clubs, and activities add to the value of our beautiful community. My wife and I have lived in our current home in Saratoga Lakes for over 30 years. My current house is my third residence in Dobson Ranch and it will be my last. We love it here!



The Dobson Home: Now a Beautiful Hospice



By Lin Sue Flood, Director of Community Engagement - Hospice of the Valley



Located in Chandler, at 1188 N. Dobson Road, the **Dobson Home** was first built in 1939 as the family residence and sheep farm of **Francis Roy** and **Pauline Dobson**, who had two children. The Dobson Home opened in 2004 with 11 patient private rooms and a nurse's station. It still has the look and feel of a family home and ranch, with ample grounds and a lovely patio.

The Dobson Home was originally constructed in 1939 on the corner of an alfalfa field. The owners, Francis Roy Dobson, his wife Pauline, and their two children **May** and **Roy**, moved into the house in 1940. At that time, the home consisted of three bedrooms, three bathrooms, a kitchen, family room and Francis Roy Dobson's office. The original property also had a garage with an apartment built over it. During the summer months, window fans kept the home cool.

There is a basement with several murals painted on the walls. **Barney Appleby**, Pauline's brother, was the artist. These scenes depict a sheep bridge, forest and sheep camp. Francis Roy Dobson grew hay, cotton and

barley on the land, but he mainly raised sheep. In the summer, the sheep were herded on foot to a sheep camp in northern Arizona and were herded back in the winter.

Since January 2003, **Hospice of the Valley** has leased the property from **Jon** and **Susan Weeks**. At that time, **John Eden** of Eden Architects LLC, was commissioned to draw plans to expand the Dobson Home. The expansion tripled the size of the original structure while preserving the original home. Mr. Eden received an **Architectural Merit Award** for his design.

Hospice of the Valley's Dobson Home opened as an inpatient care home in June of 2004. Hospice of the Valley's mission since our founding as a not-for-profit organization in 1977 is "bringing comfort, dignity and compassionate care to our community."

What makes the Dobson Home so special is the warm, cozy feeling you get as soon as you walk in the door and step into a lovely sitting room with a fireplace and adjoining dining room. There's always something yummy cooking or baking -- and it truly does feel like coming home.



Lin Sue Flood - Hospice of the Valley

Clubs & Committees

Tennis Club: Est. in the mid 70s - The Tennis Club was very active and would play on a weekly basis and even compete in local and state tournaments!

Women's Club: Revived in 1981, Est. in the 70s - In the fall of 1981, The Dobson Ranch Association recruited women on the Ranch to revive an inactive Women's Club.

Fae Keyes was one of the many who responded and held the first meeting in her home. This small group organized with devotion to the community as their platform. Officers were elected and **Rosemarie Orlick** emerged as President. Meetings were initially held in the members homes. Subsequently, La Casita became the regular meeting place. Annual scholarships have become the major philanthropic goal. The funds have been earned through a Christmas Boutique, two fashion Show Luncheons and Yard Sales, as well as successful Garage Sales. Other humanitarian efforts have become traditional. Thanksgiving and Christmas packages are given to families in need.

Retirees' Club: Est. 1998 - The Club was organized when several retired residents decided to meet and find ways to make new friends, stay active and become involved in Dobson Ranch activities together. From its inception, the Retirees' Club has fostered the spirit of good fellowship, volunteerism and social activities on Dobson Ranch. Each year the membership of the club has grown as Dobson Ranch residents enjoy the camaraderie and functions offered by club members. Some of the sub groups that branched off the include the Hiking Club, Cycling Club and several committees including Day Trippers, Dinner Night Out, Happy Hour, Men's Breakfast, Movie Day, Game Day, Ladies Lunch, and more.

Yacht Club: Est. in the early 2000's - The Dobson Ranch Yacht Club and annual Lighted Boat Parade was founded by **Chris Diamond, Mike Rosenfeld, Manelle Williamson, Kevin McCarthy** and **Wes VerWoert**. The club members also help to clean up the debris in the lakes of Dobson Ranch.

Pickleball Club: Est. 2010 - "Play began on Dobson Ranch in 2010, when resident **Jack Armstrong**, had seen it being played in an RV Park. He used an old tennis court at the Los Altos Rec. Center for a demonstration. He used a rope as a net with a 2" x 4" in a paint bucket as a post. Lines were blue painters' tape eventually graduating to blue chalk lines. Play grew and Jack (along with the Retirees' Club) convinced the HOA to convert one tennis court into four pickleball courts with permanent nets. Play continued to increase, and when the courts needed resurfacing in 2018, the entire area was converted into eight permanent courts. Play is now enjoyed several mornings a week and almost every evening, with beautiful courts, good lighting, and a great view of Lake 1. Pickle on!" By **Frank Mizner**

Democrats and Friends Club: Est. 2010 - The club was organized by **George Tihanyi, Barbara Pyle Rogers** and **Sandra Fisher** after realizing there was a need. The first Board meeting was held on April 6, 2011. Discussion was held about regarding volunteers and board positions need to be filled. On May 4, 2011, the first Board Members were elected: **Mike Murphy**, Chair; **Lupe Solis**, Vice Chair; **Wayne Manske**, 2nd Vice Chair; **Lee Sheppard**, 3rd Vice Chair; **Kathy Rood**, Treasurer; **Anne Occhiuzzi**, Secretary; **George Tihanyi**, DR Neighborhood Spokesperson. During election years, the club focused on electing our candidates. All candidates presented at the meetings, donations and volunteer opportunities for the candidates were done at the meeting in which they attended. This was the first political club in Dobson Ranch!!

Independants Club: Founded in 2016 - "The Independent party has been growing in numbers over the years and being a member of that party, I decided to have the club represented in the Ranchers' RoundUp. The section proved very successful where Dobson Ranch residents partook in the activities promoted in the RoundUp. It proved to be a **get involved** catalyst for Dobson Ranch residents to talk about, debate topics happening to our country was a winning recipe." By **Jack Wagner**

Republicans Club: Est. 2018 - "We're the home for Republicans, right-leaning Independents, and Libertarians in the famous Dobson Ranch."

Mom's Club: Est. 2022 - The Dobson Ranch Moms Club was founded by **Andrea Hogan** to be a place where Dobson Ranch Moms meet and discuss certain topics and family matters.

Small Business Club: Est. 2022 - The Dobson Ranch Small Business Club was founded in December of 2022 by **Nikki Ausdemore**. It provides a way for small business owners and residents to form community and provide resources to one another. "By forming this club, we hope to help our small businesses thrive and grow by offering a supportive and encouraging environment."

Recreation Committee: Est. 2020 - The committee was established to gain broader input from members regarding planning, improvements and preservation of the common areas in Dobson Ranch.

DRAC Committee: Est. 2020 - The committee serves the Homeowners of the Dobson Association. Committee members review submissions of owners who would like to make changes including but not limited to structural design, placement of buildings, landscaping, building materials, color schemes, maintenance and repair of property from public view.

Water & Lake Management Committee: Est. 2021 The committee was chartered by the Dobson Association Board of Directors to provide input and recommendations to the Board of Directors, the Executive Director and Staff regarding matters that pertain to the use of water on Dobson Ranch.

Master Planning Committee: Est. 2022 - The committee was established to gain broader input from members regarding planning, improvements, and preservation of the common areas in Dobson Ranch.

50th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee: Est. 2022 - The 50th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee was established to help plan the 50th Anniversary celebration (2023) of Dobson Ranch.

Budget & Finance Committee: Est. 2022 - The committee was established to gain input from members regarding financial matters that are included within the proposed scope of work.

CC&R Ad Hoc Committee: Est. 2023 - The committee was established to develop a plan for educating residents as to the upcoming vote to amend the Dobson Ranch CC&Rs according to a Board recommendation to make uniform for all Dobson Ranch sub-associations.

Kids Camp Ad Hoc Committee: Est. 2023 - The committee was established to research options and create a proposal to reestablish the kids camps at Dobson Ranch.

43 Splashing Years of the Dobson Dolphins



By Skye Riss, Communications Manager and Ranchers' RoundUp Editor



The **Dobson Dolphins** was founded in 1980 as a non-profit Dobson Ranch-based swim team, and the swim team has broadened its horizons by opening the registration up to non-residents. The Dobson Dolphins is the longest-running swim team in Mesa and potentially all of Arizona and is managed by a Board of Directors. The current President of the Dobson Dolphins is **Katy Hansen** and her and her family have been a part of the Dobson Dolphins for 10 years! Some past Presidents over the 10 years include **Kathrine Blomquist, Amy Schuler** and **Susan Fuggar**. "I have five kids and they've all been part of Dobson Dolphins and we liked the family aspect of the swim team," said Katy.

Katy explained how they always get full registrations which is great because they don't have to do much advertising, as it is mostly word of mouth. And when they get new registrations, the children have to go through a test to see how well they can swim. "For the little kids, they have to swim across the pool safely. And for children that are ages seven through eight who can swim, they need to know all of the basic swim strokes such as freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, and butterfly." Many of the students and swim team members come back to swim again with the Dobson Dolphins and eventually when they are old enough, they become head coaches of the other children. "We like to cultivate our coaches from within," said Katy.

As President, Katy manages the day-to-day operations of the Swim Team, especially in registration season! "As part of the Board, tasks are shared. As volunteers, we all help to keep the team running. I work with preseason registration, hiring of coaches, and organizing. Our treasurer skillfully keeps us fiscally responsible and is an expert with spreadsheets and management. Other board members run our events such as the **Flip Flop Bop, Swim-A-Thon, Water Fun Day**, and setting up several fundraisers. We all work together to help area youth have a fun summer at the swimming pool."

Finally, Katy wished Dobson Ranch a great 50th Anniversary! "Happy Anniversary Dobson Ranch and go Dolphins!"



"THE THRILL OF VICTORY" The Lakes vs. Dobson Ranch — 1982

There comes a time when every team, good and bad, must face the agony of defeat. Well, the Dobson Dolphins gave that bitter taste to the Lakes swim team. The final score after the last relay was swam was Lakes 454, Dobson Dolphins 460. This was not a casual victory for the Dobson Dolphins, however. This was the very first time the Lakes have ever tasted defeat, in 7 years.

At the end of the first stroke (Butterfly) the Lakes were ahead 116-97. The Dobson Dolphins had not gotten to their best stroke yet. The Backstroke put us in the lead 219 to 211. We kept our heads above water in the Breaststroke by beating the Lakes 309-306, giving the running total of 328 to 317. We lost the freestyle races 117 to 102. Going into the relay races, Dobson was down 430 to 434. We pulled out our victory defeating the Lakes on relays to four, giving the Dobson Dolphins a total of 460 points to the Lakes



Why? Not because it, excitement and

rice), the improvement, the coaches

creational experiencing family mem-munities getting

The action was exciting and the competition intense during the recent swim meet. Pictured above, boys from both teams compete in the 25 meter backstroke event.



The "Hub" of the Retirees' Club

By Nancy Roggio, printed in the October 2019 Ranchers' RoundUp



Jean & Myron Brown

Today the **Retirees' Club** is going strong and boasts over 140 active members. But the popular club had humble beginnings.

Over 20 years ago, **Myron and Jean Brown** were living in their second Ranch home on Lake 7 by Laguna Park. Myron was retired, but Jean and their son-in-law were still running **Brown & Sons Electric**. They enjoyed their life together and raising their kids, but also wanted to meet more people the same age in the area.

They ran a notice in the **Ranchers' RoundUp** newsletter in March of 1999 (the exact wording is shown in the upper right) to see if other Dobson Ranch retirees would like to get together to ban boredom, have some fun and make new friends. The couple also posted the notice on local grocery store community bulletin boards.

"We wanted to reach out to as many people as possible that shared the same interests and had the same desire to meet their neighbors. We were looking for interesting people who waited their entire careers to relax and have some fun," Myron, reminisced.

Although only four couples responded to the first notice in **RoundUp**, a breakfast meeting was set up to get to know them and make plans for future get-togethers.

Shortly after the first breakfast meeting, Myron and Jean, became instrumental in drafting the Retirees' Club bylaws... which are still in existence today.

An **Advertising Committee** was promptly formed to promote the new club. Person-to-person phone calls were made to solicit other retirees to join the club.

Attn: Retired Dobson Ranchers
We are planning to initiate an association of retired people simply for the reason of associating in as many different ways as the body desires. Some of our ideas are for women's and men's groups and couples groups, doing things that interest each group. There are even charitable things we may want to pursue. We are going to have an informal meeting on March 30, 1999 at 7:00 pm in the Chica Room at La Casita.

We look forward to seeing you then!
-Myron and Jean Brown

Thanks to Myron and Jean's drive and determination, the Retirees' Club roster grew fast as word spread within the community. By the end of the first year there were over 50 active and enthusiastic members meeting and traveling together to interesting destinations on a regular basis.

At one point, Myron wasn't sure if he had taken on more than he could handle, but as more and more retirees joined the club, responsibilities were delegated. Jean had cooked and served every meal at club meetings until they reached 60 members. She was glad when other women volunteered to help. Both Myron and Jean each served as President of the Retirees' Club for a year, and they are still active participants to this day.

When asked what's the best part about being a Club member, Jean simply replied, "Having the help you need when you need it, and having lots of friends you can always count on."

Their happiest memory with the Retirees' Club was the party that the club members threw for them last year to celebrate their 20 years of boundless energy, enthusiasm and involvement.

There was another couple instrumental in the Retiree's Club legacy from the very beginning... **Paul and Peggy Karban**. The Karbans, originally from Missouri, met while attending Oklahoma State. They relocated to Arizona for Paul's position with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

They moved into their comfortable new home in Dobson Ranch in 1979, where they remain to this day and claim it was "the best move they ever made." Paul and Peggy were lucky enough to retire together in 1995 at the age of 65.

In 1999, the Karbans saw the post in the **Ranchers' RoundUp** and were one of the couples who immediately responded. They, too, were looking for companionship, entertainment and making new and lasting friendships with fellow Ranchers.

They began participating in numerous retiree activities and volunteered their time and talents. Paul was Chairman of the Pancake Breakfast for five wonderful years. Paul and Peggy shared the cooking detail during that time and "loved every minute of it."

Paul also became involved in the **Retirees' Hiking Club**. At one point, the hiking club was made up of all women, except for Paul. "It was a great activity for women who had outlived their spouses and wanted to connect with other women going through the same thing," he said. "Somehow the beauty and serenity of the desert helped mend their broken hearts."

"It's a great benefit to everyone who lives in Dobson Ranch that we have so many wonderful clubs, activities and fun events," said Paul.

"No matter what we did for the Retirees' Club, it was never a job. It was always fun!" Paul concluded.



Paul & Peggy Karban

The Lakes of Dobson Ranch

By Kathrine Blomquist, Water & Lake Management Committee Member



Dobson Ranch, one of the largest master-planned communities in Arizona, is also one of the largest lake communities. Dobson Ranch is home to ten lakes that meander throughout the community, covering 78 acres. Whether enjoyed by strolling along a nearby path, relaxing in a boat, or fishing, the lakes are, and have been, a favorite amenity for residents of all ages throughout the years.

Canals

For an arid valley that receives less than 7" of rain a year, how did our community come to have lakes? To begin this story, we look at the ancient desert dwellers that lived in the region, years before European and American explorers arrived. The indigenous peoples built intricate canal systems by hand with stone tools that crossed nearly 500 miles along the **Salt and Gila Rivers**. This network of irrigation canals was the largest created in the early Americas.

Utilizing waters from the rivers, coupled with organized canal management, the ancestors of the **Akimel O'odham** built an empire that lasted nearly 1,500 years. Their farmland grew to cover over 27,000 acres until changing climatic conditions forced the canals to be abandoned around 1450. The canals could no longer be maintained due to repeated floods, coupled with drought. Visit **Mesa Grande Cultural Park** (1000 N. Date, Mesa 85201) for more history.

Our story continues in the 1800s with the influx of pioneer settlers to the area, now known as the Salt River Valley. The Dobson Family emigrated from Canada to Mesa during this time. These ranches and farming operations used water flowing in the original canals and established new ones. Please visit **Mesa's Park of the Canals** (1710 N. Horne, Mesa 85203) to see the historic canals. But just as the ancient desert dwellers had

experienced, the continued cycle of drought and flooding continued. A drought starting in 1898 was so intense, acres of farmland went out of production and people moved away. **John Dobson**, along with other remaining ranchers, came up with a solution - a water storage dam was needed to capture spring runoff of snowmelt from forested mountains in northern and eastern Arizona, which is now the **Tonto National Forest**.

In 1903, the group of ranchers founded the **Salt River Valley Water Users' Association** by pledging more than 200,000 acres of land as collateral. With this pledge, the Users' Association secured federal funds from the **National Reclamation Act of 1902** to build a water storage and delivery system. These funds built the **Roosevelt Dam**, which was completed in 1911. Today, this project, the **Salt River Project (SRP)**, delivers water and hydroelectric power to more than 2 million people in central Arizona, using a 131-mile canal system.



Continental Homes

Continuing our story, in the 1970s the City of Mesa approved the sale of land from the Dobsons to Continental Homes.

The lakes of Dobson Ranch were created by excavating down to a depth of 10 to 16 feet to form ten basins. The lakes were linked together through an intricate underground piping system, gutters and scuppers, and to this day, as it was when first filled in 1975, the lakes are supplemented with water from SRP and stormwater runoff. Approximately 1,300 acre-feet of water is lost annually to evaporation and seepage. In the 1990s the state recognized Dobson Ranch's surface water rights and made allowances for the evaporation and leakage. To make up for the water loss, and to ensure the lakes are filled, Dobson Ranch purchases water annually from SRP.

Committee

For the past 40 years, the **Water & Lake Management Committee** has advised the Board of Directors on different aspects of managing the lakes, water levels, and flow. The lakes are tested monthly, and stocked with different fish, with each species doing their job.



Artificial habitat installations have been placed around stocking locations and throughout Lakes 1, 7 and 8. The habitats create areas for smaller fish to evade predators and to lay their eggs and naturally procreate. Also calling the lakes home are turtles, ducks, cormorants, and geese.

Conservation

One area the Water and Lake Management Committee has addressed throughout the years is developing programs to save water, both in the community's common areas and in residential use. The Committee has prepared a Drought Management Plan for the Dobson Association to enact with regards to the City of Mesa is in a Stage One "Water Watch".

Through various programs, Dobson Ranch is a community leader in conservation. One example of ranch-wide water savings is by "reverse irrigation," a plan where common areas are under-watered in the summer to help save water for overseeding in the winter. The Association used less than 1,500,000 gallons of water in 2021 from the previous year. The use of Smart Irrigation Controllers, the "Rain Bird" boxes in the common areas, help the Association save as well.

Today's Arizona elementary school students are taught the major industries that shaped early Arizona, known as the 5 Cs: Cactus, Cattle, Citrus, Climate and Copper. The lakes at Dobson Ranch have been shaped by their own Cs as well: Canals, Continental Homes, Committee and Conservation. With help from the ancient desert dwellers, pioneers, urban visionaries, and ongoing community support and guidance, the lakes of Dobson Ranch are a true urban masterpiece.

Her Strength & Resilience Moves Mountains

By Skye Riss, Communications Manager and Ranchers' RoundUp Editor



Sameera Abou-Haidar has been a proud contributing member of the Dobson Ranch community for 39 years. She and her then-retired husband **Dr. Adib Abou Haidar** moved to Dobson Ranch, emigrating from Lebanon. She is now 92 years old and more beautiful than ever! She and her late husband are very well known in the community for dedicating their time to Dobson Ranch and the residents, serving on the Board of Directors, clubs and committees. Sameera is a fierce bridge player and was a tennis pro, playing until she was 85 years old! She is also an accomplished piano player.

Community service has always been a significant part of Sameera's life. As soon as she and her husband moved to Dobson Ranch, they looked for ways to volunteer and get involved in the community. "The first thing we did was to get to know our neighbors, who were very nice and welcoming. I wanted to find somebody who played tennis, and my neighbor happened to be in the tennis club, and I immediately joined the team."

Sameera had a very successful career as an **Avon** representative for 25 years. Most of her customers were Dobson Ranch residents, and Sameera made many long-lasting friendships that way.

Sameera and her husband participated in several Dobson Ranch clubs and committees. Sameera joined the **Women's Club** and from the years 1988 to 1989 was the **President of the Women's Club**. "Around this time, we both also joined the Retirees' Club and were among the original members. Adib also loved to volunteer his time working at the City of Mesa Senior Center. My husband also was elected to the Dobson Ranch Board of Directors in 1990 and was a member for several years. Over those years, he held various positions, including Treasurer, Vice President, and being in charge of the **Beautification Committee**. My husband also helped come up with the idea for the **Memorial Rose Garden** and **Tree Conservation** initiatives," said Sameera.

Sameera's husband had the idea to replace jarring speed bumps with flatter, more gradual speed humps in Mesa, AZ and Dobson Ranch, after being inspired by the streetscapes he saw in France. Adib brought this idea to Dennis Kavanaugh, who was a Councilmember at the time, and Dennis helped get the speed humps passed and were approved in 2011 as part of the **Mesa Speed Hump Program**.

Sameera also was a member of and the head of the **Election Committee** for 20 years. She did a fantastic job making sure that the Dobson Ranch community had timely, fair, and accurate elections for the Board of Directors. In recognition, long-time resident, **Frank Mizner**, and the Board of Directors, awarded Sameera with a **Dragonfly Award** in 2016.

Sameera Abou-Haidar's life and career are a testament to the power of perseverance and dedication. Despite the challenges and obstacles she has faced, she has remained committed to making a positive impact on her community and has become a beacon of hope and inspiration for others.



Left: Plaques and awards given to Dr. Adib and Sameera Abou-Haidar in recognition for their contributions.



The Sunshine in Nellie

By Skye Riss, Communications Manager and Ranchers' RoundUp Editor

50
Anniversary
CHEERS TO 50 YEARS!



Nellie Amedee is a ray of sunshine! Whenever she walks into the room, heads turn because she keeps a smile on her face and her positive attitude is magnetic. Nellie has lived in Dobson Ranch since the beginning of the HOA in the late 70s and has built a wonderful life for herself with her church, friends, and family surrounding her.

Nellie was born in New Orleans and spent her childhood there with her parents and siblings. She originally moved to Arizona to help with her asthma, and she instantly fell in love with the state. Nellie moved to Dobson Ranch with her husband at the time, each packing two suitcases and jetting off to their new home together. There were several qualities that Nellie was looking for in a good home, and she found them in Dobson Ranch. "The reason I moved to Dobson Ranch was because **St. Matthew UMC** was only a few minutes away; the schools were very close for my two daughters and all the shopping needs for daily life were around us."

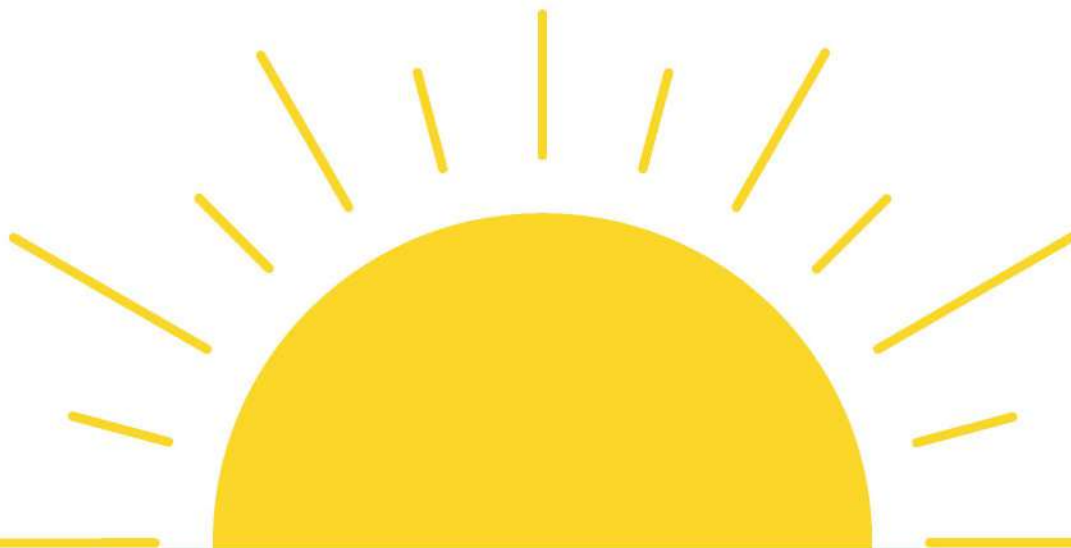
One of the things that makes Nellie special is that she loves people! Nellie laughed saying, "I would ask my daughters, where do you want to go today? They would respond, Mom we don't want to go anywhere with you today because you talk to too many people!" Nellie is naturally a very outgoing person and that helped her have a very successful career and create wonderful memories for herself. Nellie worked for **State Farm Insurance** for 38 ½ years! "I applied to State Farm in 1974 and was placed in their Management Trainee Program. Over the years, I worked in several different positions and finally in the underwriting department. I truly loved working as an Automobile Underwriter; it was the best decision I made. Because of my regular

work hours, it allowed me to spend time with my family, my church, as well as volunteer in the community."

Nellie was also frequently asked to train new underwriters because of her direct, professional and thoughtful approach. "If trainees asked me a question and I have given them the answer already, I would still answer them as many times as they needed to understand. I appreciated when my trainees would ask me questions because it showed me that they wanted to understand and get better in their role."

After those 38 ½ years of working at State Farm, Nellie eventually retired but then started volunteering at Booker T. Washington Elementary School. "I absolutely loved volunteering at Booker T. Elementary School as an art masterpiece presenter. The students were so eager to learn and so excited to participate in discussing the paintings. The kids loved when I presented it because I made it fun and educational for them. Many of the teachers would send me emails thanking me and asking me when I would come back. And when the kids saw me, they wanted to hug me. Some of them called me Miss Amedee and some called me Andre's Grandma," smiled Nellie.

"I can truly understand why people have lived in Dobson Ranch as long as I have lived here. It is because Dobson Ranch truly is a very nice place to live!"



18 Wonderful Years of Getting M

Photos By Jessi Feltmann, Dobson Ranch Preschool Teacher

What better way to celebrate the next generation of Dobson Ranch than with a collage of beautiful photos of Ms. Jessi's preschool students having fun making art, celebrating their accomplishments, exploring, doing science experiments and playing with friends! Jessi Feltmann has been the Preschool Teacher for over 18 years at La Casita and she has taught her students how to be kind, caring, and unapologetically themselves!



Play With Ms. Jessi

50
Anniversary
CHEERS TO 50 YEARS



Life in the Year of 1973!

FUN FACTS & FIGURES

- **World Population:** 3.9 billion
- **U.S. Population:** 211,908,788
- **Life Expectancy** in the U.S.: 71.4 years
- **Average Annual Income:** \$12,900
- **Minimum Wage:** \$1.60 per hour
- **Unemployment Rate:** 5.6%
- **Mortgage Interest Rate:** 8.821%

AVERAGE COST OF A...



- **New Home:** \$32,500
- **New Car:** \$3,200
- **Gallon of Milk:** \$1.31
- **Roasting Chicken:** \$0.39 per pound
- **Gallon of Regular Gas:** \$0.40
- **First Class Stamp:** \$0.08

TELEVISION



- **Shows that ended their runs in 1973:** *Bonanza*, *Laugh-In*, *Mission Impossible*, *The Mod Squad*
- **Shows that premiered in 1973:** *Kojak*, *Barnaby Jones*, *Schoolhouse Rock*, *Police Story*, *The Young and the Restless*
- **Highest-rated TV shows of 1973:** *All in the Family* (CBS), *The Waltons* (CBS), *Sanford and Son* (NBC), Emmy winner *M*A*S*H** (CBS), *Hawaii Five-O* (CBS), *Maude* (CBS), *Kojak* (CBS), *The Sonny & Cher Comedy Hour* (CBS), *Happy Days* (ABC), *Good Times* (CBS), *Here's Lucy* (CBS), and *The Wonderful World of Disney* (NBC)

MOVIES



Top-Grossing Films of 1973:

- **The Sting** (#1) - Wins Oscar for Best Picture
- **The Exorcist** (#2)
- **American Graffiti** (#3)
- **Papillon** (#4)
- **The Way We Were** (#5)

SPORTS



Sports Champions in 1973:

- **Heavyweight Boxing:** George Foreman
- **World Series:** Oakland Athletics
- **Super Bowl VII:** Miami Dolphins
- **NBA:** New York Knicks
- **ABA:** Indiana Packers
- **Stanley Cup:** Montreal Canadiens
- **NCAA Football:** Alabama and Notre Dame
- **NCAA Basketball:** UCLA Bruins
- **US Open:** Johnny Miller
- **Wimbledon:** Jan Kodes and Billie Jean King
- **World Driver's Championship:** Jackie Stewart
- **The first Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race**
- **Kentucky Derby:** Secretariat (also wins Triple Crown)



MUSIC



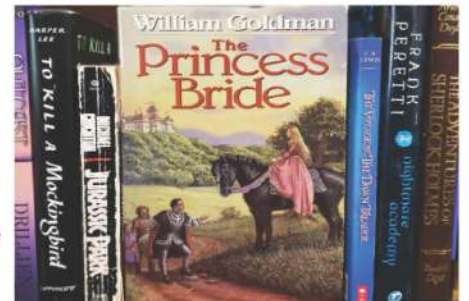
Top Five Hits of 1973:

- **Tie a Yellow Ribbon** (Tony Orlando and Dawn) #1
- **Bad, Bad Leroy Brown** (Jim Croce) #2
- **Killing Me Softly** (Roberta Flack) #3
- **Let's Get It On** (Marvin Gaye) #4
- **My Love** (Paul McCartney & Wings) #5

Notable Album Releases in 1973:

- **Dark Side of the Moon** (Pink Floyd)
- **Houses of the Holy** (Led Zeppelin)
- **Quadrophenia** (The Who)
- **Innervisions** (Stevie Wonder)
- **There Goes Rhymin' Simon** (Paul Simon)
- **Goodbye Yellow Brick Road** (Elton John)
- **Catch A Fire** (Bob Marley & The Wailers)
- **Band on the Run** (Paul McCartney & Wings)

BOOKS



New Books Released in 1973:

- **The Princess Bride** (William Goldman)
- **Gravity's Rainbow** (Thomas Pynchon)

Best Selling Books of 1973:

- **Jonathan Livingston Seagull** (Richard Bach)
- **Once Is Not Enough** (Jacqueline Susann)
- **Breakfast of Champions** (Kurt Vonnegut)
- **The Odessa File** (Frederick Forsyth)
- **Burr** (Gore Vidal)
- **The Hollow Hills** (Mary Stewart)
- **Evening in Byzantium** (Irwin Shaw)
- **The Matlock Paper** (Robert Ludlum)
- **The Billion Dollar Sure Thing** (Paul E. Erdman)
- **The Honorary Consul** (Graham Green)
- **Rendezvous with Rama** (Arthur C. Clarke)
- **Sybil** (Flora Rheta Schreiber)
- **A Wind in the Door** (Madeleine L'Engle)

DID YOU KNOW?



- The first cell phone call occurred, the first personal computer was developed, and the modern internet was designed.
- The MRI, CAT Scan and Recombinant DNA were introduced.
- The 1973 oil crisis begins. Oil-producing Arab nations cease exports, causing old prices to soar, setting off a worldwide energy and economic crisis.
- Air bags were commercially available.
- Construction is completed on the world's tallest building: the World Trade Center.
- The Jet Ski, the Cuisinart and the Bic Lighter were all introduced.
- The Endangered Species Act is signed into law.
- The first light beer, Miller Lite, was introduced.

DO YOU REMEMBER?



- When television had only 7 channels, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 13 along with a few fuzzy UHF channels?
- 8 Track Tapes, transistor radios, vinyl records?
- The peace symbol, flower power, the yellow smiley face and bean bag chairs?
- Bell-bottoms, hip huggers, platform shoes?

BIRTHS



Notable Births in 1973:

- **Seth MacFarlane:** Actor, Filmmaker
- **Adrien Brody:** Actor, Producer
- **Tori Spelling:** Actress, Author
- **Juliette Lewis:** Actress, Singer
- **Heidi Klum:** Model, TV Personality
- **Neil Patrick Harris:** Actor, Producer
- **Pharrell Williams:** Rapper, Songwriter
- **Kate Beckinsdale:** Actress
- **Dave Chappelle:** Comedian, Actor
- **Tyra Banks:** Model, TV Personality
- **Monica Lewinsky:** Former White House Intern, TV Personality

FASHION



- Bell Bottom pants, hip huggers, earth shoes, clogs, tie dye t-shirts and gypsy dresses were popular.
- Long hair, big hair, afros were in style.
- Button shirts and pullovers with colorful patterns including paisley were worn.
- Wide leather belts, and macrame belts were popular. Pea coats, denim jackets, and cloth jackets were in.
- Men had long mutton chop sideburns with mustaches and beards.
- Women usually had a part in the middle with long straight hair or loose curls.

EVEN MORE 1973 TRIVIA...

Most Popular Baby Names:

- Amy
- Jennifer
- Kimberly
- Michelle
- Christopher
- James
- Jason
- Michael

Popular Food and Beverages:

- Black forest cake
- Carrot cake
- Cheese balls and logs
- Crepes
- Deviled eggs
- *Hamburger Helper*
- *Hungry Man* Frozen Entrees
- Jello salads
- Pasta primavera
- Quiche
- Spaghettios
- Spam
- Tab Soda
- Zucchini bread

Companies and Brands Established

- Baymont Inn & Suites
- Billabong (clothing)
- Bird's Eye
- Crabtree & Evelyn
- FedEx
- Men's Wearhouse
- RE/MAX
- Cablevision
- Compuware
- Louisiana-Pacific
- Argos

1973 Slang:

- What's up dude
- What's happening
- Maintain
- Chill
- It's casual
- Cool
- Out of sight
- Far out
- Right on
- Get down
- Stylin'
- If you catch my drift
- Groovy
- Keep on truckin'

Dobson Ranch Crossword Puzzle!

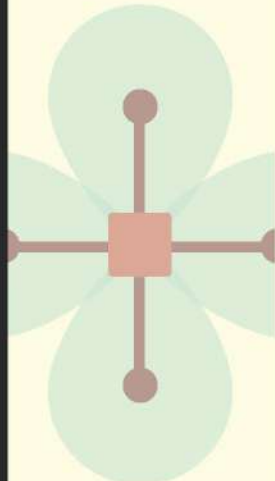
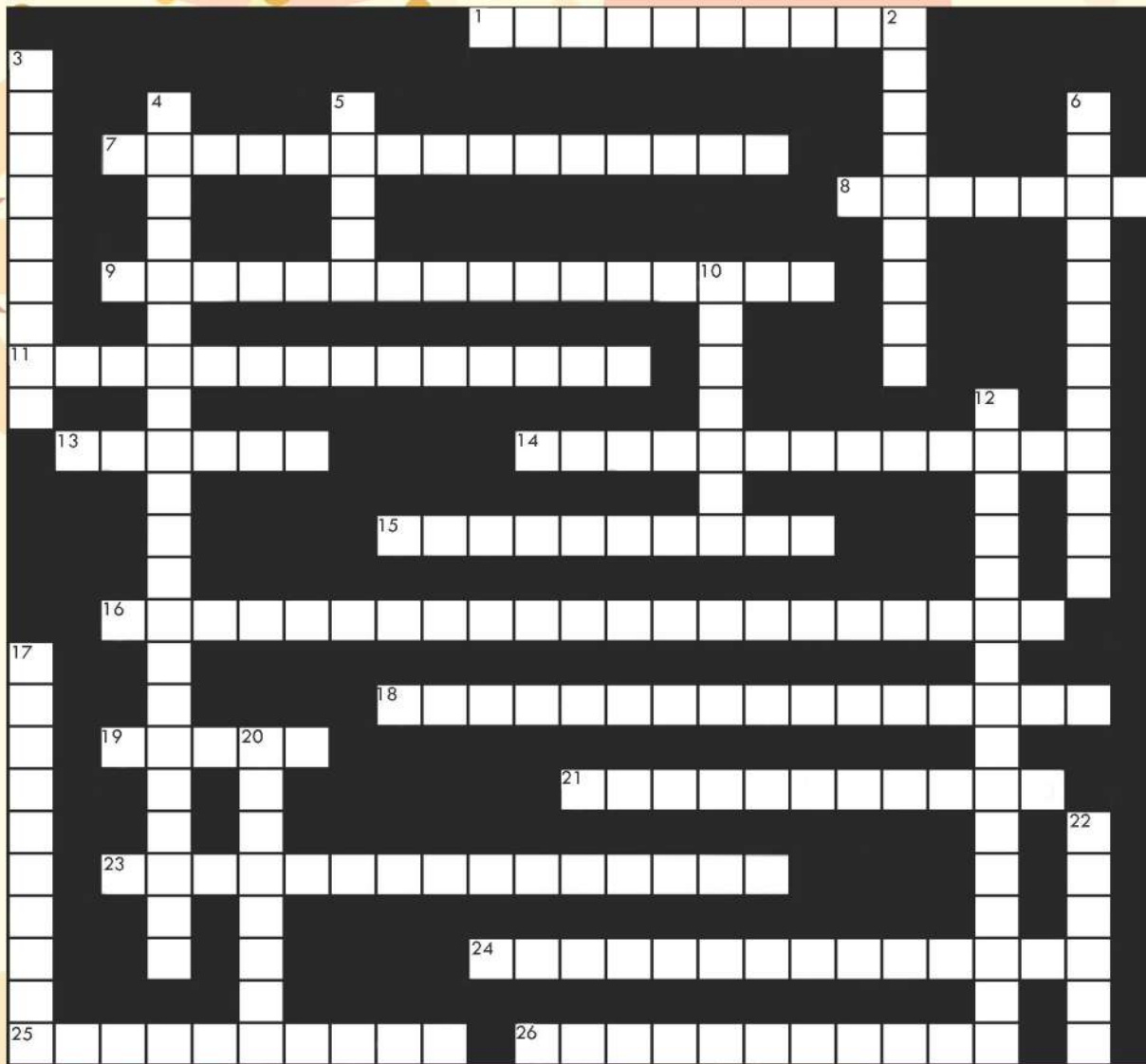


Image by Freepik

ACROSS

1. Year of first edition of Ranchers' RoundUp.
7. Name of Dobson Ranch monthly publication.
8. Name of our La Casita Preschool teacher.
9. First home builder in Dobson Ranch.
11. Name of our former Executive Director.
13. Country of origin for the Dobson family.
14. Original name of Dobson Ranch newsletter in 1976.
15. One of the original founders of the Dobson Cattle Ranch.
16. Name of local golf course.
18. Name of monthly quiz in Ranchers' RoundUp.
19. Meaning of Spanish word mesa in English.
21. Managing Editor of Ranchers' RoundUp.
23. Award Mesa won in 1979.
24. Name of youth swim team we help sponsor.
25. Where we hold our Fall Festival event.
26. Purpose of original Dobson land.

DOWN

2. Arid landscape design.
3. Historical dam named after a president.
4. Name of our annual event held in October at Laguna Park.
5. Number of Dobson Ranch lakes.
6. Road heading north to US-60.
10. Original settlers of Mesa.
12. Name of local Jr. High School.
17. Name of original shopping center in our district.
20. Where Administration Office is located.
22. Last name of founding family.

Love crossword puzzles? Then be sure to give this one a try. The questions are all Dobson Ranch related and the answers are scattered throughout this 50th Anniversary Special Edition of *Ranchers' RoundUp* just waiting to be found.

Get stuck? No worries!

The answers to this crossword puzzle can be found on page ____.

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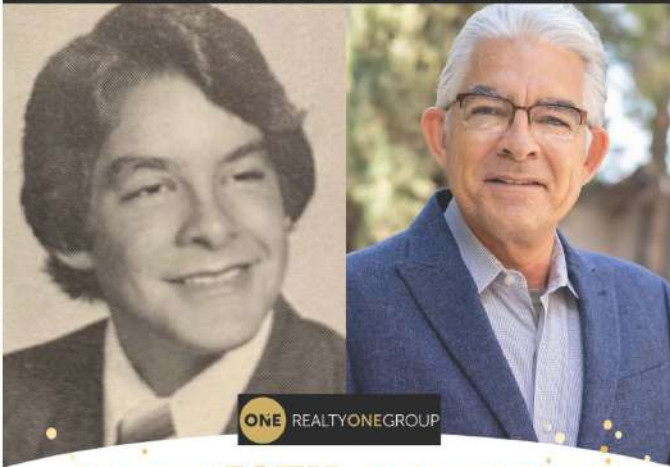
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*We appreciate your
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to our school communities.*



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The Dobson Ranch 2023 Admin, Recr



Top Row Left to Right: Jessi Feltmann, Hannah Roberts, Niya Begay, Jonathan Lefler, Fran Par
Bottom Row Left to Right: Chauncey Hoach, Jackie Allen, Amanda Jensen, Akina Trimmer, Ca

Education and Maintenance Team!



...wlak, Gonzalo Garcia, Carolyn Burleson, and Rodrigo Verdugo.
...mille Gonzales, Ronnika Giles, Marc Diaz, Gustavo Aguilera, Felipe Gutierrez and Skye Riss.

Special Thanks

Happy 50th Anniversary Dobson Ranch! This would not be the "Best Place to Live!" without all of the support and dedication of our Board of Directors, Clubs, Committees, Staff, Residents and Community Partners! Here is a big thank you for these 50 amazing years and for your collaboration to our Special Edition!

Big Thanks To:

The Dobson Ranch Board of Directors

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Kathleen Tolar
Stephanie Fee
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Chauncey Hoach
Felipe Guterrez
Rodrigo Verdugo
Gustavo Aguilera
Martin Carera
Mike Jepsen

Dobson Ranch Clubs

Retirees' Club
Retirees' Hiking Club
Retirees' Cycling Club
Pickleball Club
Women's Club
Mom's Club
Small Business Club
Tennis Club
Yacht Club
Democrats & Friends Club
Republicans Club
Independant's Club

Dobson Ranch Committees

Kids' Camp Committee
50th Anniversary Committee
Budget & Finance Committee
CC&R Committee
Architectural Committee
Master Planning Committee
Recreation Committee
Water & Lake Management Committee

Dobson Ranch Sub-Associations

Dobson Bay Club
Dobson Ranch Condos
Dobson Glen
Dobson Greens
Dobson Villas
Laguna Village
The Landings
Legante Paseo
Water Works
Wood Creek Townhomes

Image by Freepik

The Dobson Dolphins Swim Team

The City of Mesa

Mayor John Giles

Vice Mayor Francisco Heredia

Lucy Hambright

The City of Mesa Police & Fire Dept.

Lily King, Rihana Raidy & Team

Kevin Christopher

The Dobson Ranch Golf Course

The Dobson Ranch Library

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All Dobson Ranch Vendors

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Letters from 85202 Students

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Suzi Glover with State Farm

The Dobson Ranch Retirees' Club

Dobson Dolphins

Camp Bow Wow

All Class Instructors

Linda - Tai Chi

Jeanne - Yoga for Beginners

Karen - Zumba

Samantha - Healing Yoga

Jana - Fairytale Dancers, Dance Sampler
& Intro to Ballet and Jazz

Kwong Young - Tennis

Water Aerobics - Becky

Aqua Zumba - Karen

AND TO ALL THE DOBSON RANCH RESIDENTS!

Words of Appreciation from 8520

Here are letters that students from local Mesa Schools who also live in Dobson they love "The Best Place to Live!". Do you see your letter or your child's letter?

I like Dobson Ranch because my grandmother lives here.

I like to play on the computer.

A community is what we make it to be. Wherever you are, that is the key.

We all must pitch in to do our part. Or nothing will ever be able to start.

Together we work, together we play, because we know, there's always a way.

If no one helps, if no one stays, the community will break apart, throughout the days.

In a community, we work together. No matter good times or bad, however the weather.

From land to land, from sea to sea, a community is always what we make it to be.

Decorative
Outstanding
Beautiful
Super
Outrageous
Newer
Rhino sized
Awesome
Neat
Courageous
Hears the place to live.

Dobson Ranch,
Is really a great branch.
From tennis courts to pools,
To help enrolling in schools.
Helpful hints on decorating,
And people who will do the painting.
This community bands together,
And will stay that way forever.
Your friends and family live here,
The people that you want near.
Caring community volunteers,
Who will stay with you for years.
Smiles that welcome you,
And nice neighbors too.
The comfort that you feel,
When preparing a homemade meal.
A helping hand will always be lent,
Even when you haven't got a cent.
Even when you move away,
The community will still stay.
Because this is the branch,
Known as Dobson Ranch.

I like Dobson Ranch because it has lots of lakes and it has places to walk around. I like to ride my bike around the block it is real fun to do.

Where can I go when I feel left out?

Where can I go when I am in doubt?

Where can I go when I just want to talk?

Where can I go to take a nice walk?

My community is where I can go for all these reasons.

At any time, and through all the seasons.

Dobson Ranch, our Community
I like Dobson Ranch because it has good schools. It is nice and beautiful. I have fun in Dobson Ranch. A lot of nice people live here.

I like Jaunita Circle because on Halloween nights we block the streets and have a great party with piñatas, candy, cupcakes, and games! It's great, you'd wish that you were there! We do on New Years too!

2 Students



Dobson Ranch, submitted on behalf of the Ranch's 25th Anniversary about why
better? If so, please email sriss@dobsonranch.com! We would love to know!

*I wake up, it is still not sunny yet,
But I decide to go outside and see if the paper is there for me to get.*

*I step out my front door and see my street,
My neighbors awaiting for me to greet.*

*As I go back to my room to read for awhile,
I start thinking of when I was a young child.....*

*I have grown old here, on this unforgettable street,
With all the new people that I have been privileged to meet.*

*In this community, I have lived the best and worst years of my life,
Like when I became spouse to, and lost Christopher Benjamin Strife.*

*Communities are places people live and learn,
Watching neighbors mistakes you have yet to earn.*

*A community is a place to grow old in,
Watching neighbors move out, and others begin.*

*This community of mine is yet to disappear,
Maybe in 2010, or some other year.*

*But I will feel sorry for those who could not,
Spend the times here that everyone ought.*

*I sit while others pack up my things,
As I leave to my rest home I give up my wings.*

*I will miss this place more than words can express,
This was my community, my home, my place of rest.*

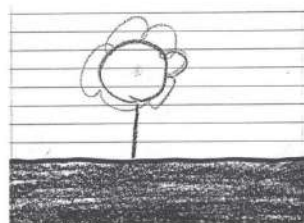
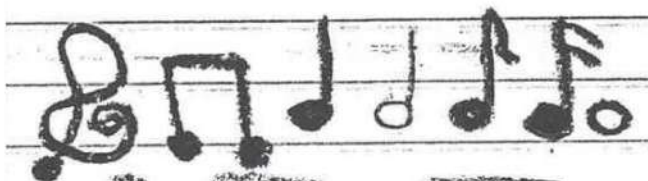
I like living in the
Dobson Ranch area because
there is a lot of sidewalks.
The stores are nice
because the food is
always ripe.

Welcome to Dobson Ranch.
I will tell all you guys about Dobs
Ranch. My name is Andrew Sanchez.
I will show you around Dobson Ranch.
I like to live in Dobson Ranch.
It's fun you can ride your bike all day.
I love Dobson Ranch. I like the swimming
pool. This is my first time living in
Dobson Ranch. I really like the lake too.
I like living in Dobson Ranch.
I like fishing.
I don't want to leave Dobson Ranch.

I Like playing soccer
in Dobson Ranch. My
Friends play soccer with
me. I have Fun with
them. I Like it a lot.
It is Fun in Dopsen Ranch
I go in when My mom
said to a n d e a t
and sleep.

Dobson Ranch
Outrageous
Base ball
Swimming
Outstanding
New places
Row boats
Awesome
Nature
Cool
Home

Imagine a quiet place. It is serene, peaceful, secluded from the world.
Imagine friendly people who are polite and kind to one another, and keep beautiful homes.
Now imagine that it is very possible to live in such a dream-like place. It starts with two
words: Dobson Ranch.





**CELEBRATE
WITH US
ALL YEAR
LONG!**

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BRICK SPONSORS

The Dobson Ranch Retirees' Club & The Dobson Dolphins

INTERESTED IN SPONSORING OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY?
Please contact Skye Riss at sriss@dobsonranch.com or call
480-831-8314 Extension: 4325, and Skye will
give you all the details!