

BELLASERA

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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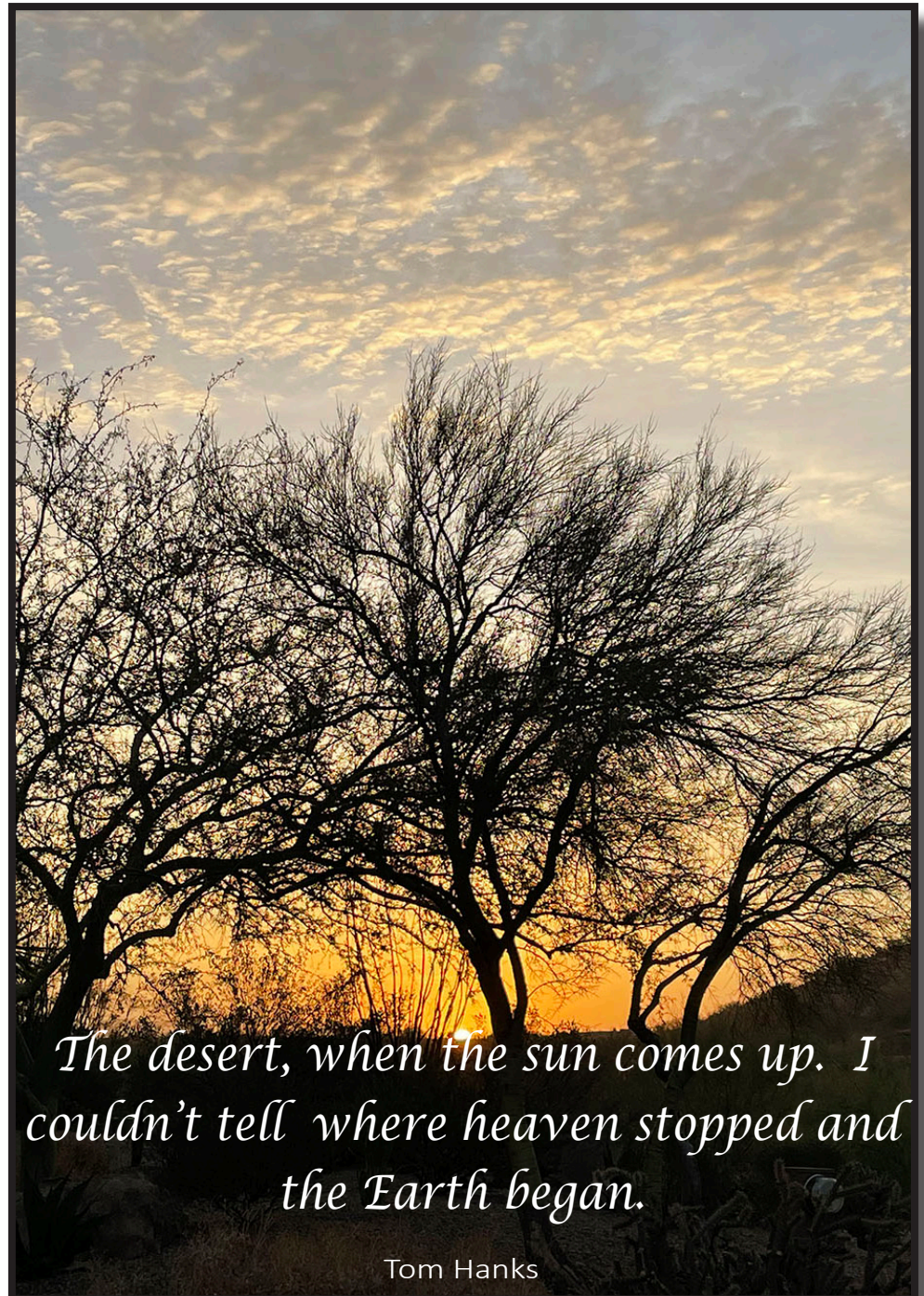
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*The desert, when the sun comes up. I
couldn't tell where heaven stopped and
the Earth began.*

Tom Hanks

April - 2022



Clubhouse Corner

By Richard Hoffman, President of the Bellasera Board of Directors

Meet the Candidates Night on April 13th at 7:00 PM

At our upcoming Annual Meeting, Bellasera homeowners will be voting to fill four (4) open positions on our Board of Directors. All homeowners should have received their Annual Meeting package in the mail with their included ballot. Three of the open Board positions are for two-year terms and one position is for a one-year term.

This year we have seven candidates who have applied to stand for election to those four open positions. As is our custom when we have more candidates than openings, we will be holding a "Meet the Candidates Night" at the Bellasera clubhouse on **Wednesday, April 13th, at 7:00 p.m.** The candidates will introduce themselves, share their perspectives and answer questions from homeowners. Please consider attending and mark your calendars.

Also, please remember the Annual meeting of Bellasera homeowners - **Sunday, April 24, 2:00 p.m.** at the clubhouse.

Bellasera Resident Shares Snake Story

by Vicki Snyder

It was a beautiful Saturday afternoon, April 6, 2019, the perfect 80 degree weather that snakes love. I pulled into my driveway and stepped out - but never saw it. My windows were up, so I never heard it. A four-foot Arizona Diamondback did a calf bite through my blue jeans. He then slid under my car. He scared me, I scared him!

I spent two days in HonorHealth Thompson Peak Hospital Intensive Care Unit. The protocol is get blood tests, and then monitor the anti-venom repercussions. They took measurements to watch for swelling at the ankle, calf, and thigh to avoid issues leading up to the heart.

Please be cognizant of your surroundings, your animals and children. This is their environment too. Call Snake Removal, **480-237-9975**. It's not necessary to kill it.



Bellasera Community Events

Board of Directors will meet on **Sunday, April 24** following the Annual Meeting.

Budget & Finance Committee will meet on **Tuesday, April 26 at 1 pm**

Building & Grounds Committee will meet on **Tuesday, April 12 at 10:00 am**

Communications Committee will meet on **Wednesday, May 12 at 8:30 am**

Modifications Committee will meet on **Tuesday, April 12 at 12:30 pm**

Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **Thursday, April 7 at 12 noon**

The Bellasera Newsletter & Bulletin Board Policy has been updated and approved by the Board. It's available on our web site, azbellasera.org, on the "Policies" page.

Water Aerobics will take place **Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11:00 - Noon**. Both lap lanes will be used.

Lone Mountain Road Cleanup: To coincide with the City of Scottsdale annual city-wide cleanup, the next trash pick-up by Bellasera residents on Lone Mountain Road is planned for **Saturday, April 23, at 8 a.m.** Communications Committee member (aka newsletter garden columnist) **Joe McDade** will lead the group of Bellasera volunteers. If you'd like to join the effort, e-mail editor@azbellasera.org. All material will be furnished and volunteers will be asked to sign a waiver form. Bellasera has been participating in this twice-a-year event since 2014.

Yoga: Bellasera yoga instructor **Joy** continues to offer Zoom classes, in addition to the clubhouse sessions **Monday & Thursday at 8:30 a.m.** You may contact her via e-mail, joy.blonstein@gmail.com.

April Wine and Cheese: Please join us on **Friday, April 22** from **5-7 p.m.** for our monthly wine and cheese event. Your hosts are **John and Mary Moore** located at **7548 E. Pontebella Drive**. As we begin to approach the warmer weather party season, we are asking all of our participants to bring their favorite warm weather wine and an appetizer or dessert. If you would like to join the party, you can sign up in the clubhouse or by contacting **Mary Moore, 480-248-6510, ponte7548@gmail.com**. We look forward to seeing everyone and to sharing good wine, food and conversation.

Book Club: Bellasera Book Club will meet by the pool at **noon** on **Wednesday, April 27** to discuss "*Unbearable Lightness of Being*" by **Milan Kundera**. We will also pick a choice for May and books for Summer. Questions contact **Karen Moore, kkmoore40@yahoo.com**.

Mangia Foodies. We had such a great time at our Italian food demo that we are just going to keep learning and creating more wonderful food. This month's demo is on Making Yeast Breads. And just in time for an Easter Dinner you might be hosting. Depending on how many bakers we have we might do two demos. One on **Wednesday, April 13 at 5 p.m.** and another on **Thursday April 14 at 5 p.m.** in my home, **30994 N 74 Way**. I will have dough already prepared so we can experiment with shapes and fillings. And of course we will be eating what we make and then some. You will be making dough as well so if you have a food processor or machine with a dough hook, bring it. If you don't have one no problem. If there is a particular flour you like you can bring that too. I suggest unbleached bread flour. And certainly bring wine or a beverage of your choice if you like. Let me know if you can join us, e-mail **Rae at rsugarrae@aol.com** or text/phone, **516-987-2897**. Looking forward to cooking with you

BELLASERA COMMUNITY WELCOME RECEPTION

MARCH 20, 2022



The Welcome Committee. left to right - **Julie Coats**, **Dianna Saari**, **Cheri Valuet**, **Mary Moore**, **Pat Nielsen**, **Dawn Hulej**.

The Bellasera Board of Directors and the Welcome Committee, shown to the left , welcomed over one-hundred Bellasera residents to a reception at the clubhouse on the afternoon of Sunday, March 20. It was wonderful to see our residents out again and visiting. President **Richard Hoffman** welcomed everyone as the guests enjoyed the food provided.

As the guests mingled and visited, they were treated to a program of pictures of the flora and fauna of Bellasera along with the ubiquitous Arizona sunrises and sunsets that we all enjoy. It was a fun afternoon.



Bellasera Association President **Richard Hoffman** addresses the attendees at the Welcome Reception.





The desserts along with the sandwiches are ready for the guests as **Mary Moore** and **Dawn Hulej** make a last minute check to make sure everything is just right.



Indoors and out, Bellasera residents enjoyed the cool but beautiful afternoon at the Welcome Reception.



Weather and General Information

March Weather in Bellasera

(March 1 - March 31)

Highest Temperature: **92 degrees**

Lowest temperature: **34 degrees**

Rainfall: **0.51 inches**

Rainfall this year: **1.46 inches**

Bellasera weather 24/7/365: **weather.azbellasera.org**

Bellasera Weather at a Touch: A free app for your iPhone, iPad, or Android phone. Provides instant Bellasera weather information at a touch. This app is available in the Apple App Store or Google play. In the App Store or Google play, search for “PWS Monitor” (no quotation marks). Install the free app. Touch the gear icon at the lower left of your display. The Settings screen will appear. Touch “Enter A Known Station ID” Enter “KA-ZSCOTT79” Touch OK. That’s it. More information, if required, is available by e-mail, **editor@azbellasera.org**.

Newsletter Copy Deadline

If you have classified ads, meeting dates, or articles for publication, please e-mail to **editor@azbellasera.org**, or turn them in to the Association office no later than the **20th** of the month. The monthly newsletter is produced by the Communications Committee. The editor is **Keith Christian, 480-382-9310**.

Neither the Bellasera Community Association nor its Board of Directors provides any warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy, timeliness, completeness, merchantability, or fitness for any particular purpose, of any information contained in this newsletter in any form or manner whatsoever.

Photographs used in this newsletter are provided by residents of Bellasera or obtained from social media. Name of the photographer is included if available. If you have photographs that you would like to see used in this publication, please forward them to **editor@azbellasera.org**

City of Scottsdale Brush & Bulk Collection

The City of Scottsdale will pick up brush and bulk items in the Bellasera community during the week of **Monday, April 25**, with the next pickup the week of **Monday, May 23**. Brush and bulk items to be picked up should be at curbside by 5 a.m. at the start of the week. It will be removed during the week. **Remember, here in Bellasera, items cannot be put out prior to Friday of the previous week.** For more information, contact Solid Waste Management, **480-312-5600**.

Web Site Search

Web Site Search: Bellasera’s web site, azbellasera.org, has a wealth of information about our community. It’s easy to search for whatever you’re looking for by doing a Google (or equivalent) search as follows. To find everything on the site about the word “rain”, enter the following: **azbellasera.org:rain** After the colon, enter any topic you wish to search for.

APRIL 2022

Bellasera Community Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					¹ Water Aerobics - 11 am	²
³	⁴ Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	⁵ Poker - 7 pm Bellasera Hikers - 8:30 am	⁶ Water Aerobics - 11 am	⁷ Yoga - 8:30 am	⁸ Water Aerobics - 11 am	⁹
¹⁰	¹¹ Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	¹² Building & Grounds Com- mittee - 10 am Modifications - 12:30 pm Poker - 7 pm	¹³ Water Aerobics - 11 am Mangia foodies - 5:00 pm Meet the Candi- dates - 7:00 PM	¹⁴ Yoga - 8:30 am	¹⁵ Water Aerobics - 11 am PASSOVER	¹⁶
¹⁷ 	¹⁸ Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	¹⁹ Poker - 7 pm	²⁰ Water Aerobics - 11 am	²¹ Yoga - 8:30 am	²² Water Aerobics - 11 am Wine & Cheese - 5 to 7 pm	²³ LONE MOUNTAIN ROAD CLEAN- UP - 8:00 AM
²⁴ ANNUAL MEETING - 2:00 PM Board Meet- ing following the annual meeting	²⁵ Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	²⁶ Budget & Finance - 1 pm Poker - 7 pm	²⁷ Water Aerobics - 11 am Book Club - Noon	²⁸ Yoga - 8:30 am	²⁹ Water Aerobics - 11 am	³⁰
Brush & Bulk Removal						

BELLASERA HIKERS



Bellasera Hikers

On Tuesday, March 8, seventeen Bellasera residents pictured above, led by **Karen Meiliken**, hiked the Latigo Trail at Brown's Ranch.

The April hike will be on **Tuesday, April 5**. Meet in the clubhouse parking lot at **8:30 a.m.** The hikers will leave from the recently opened Pima-Dynamite Trailhead, with 2 options:

Option 1-Plan to hike leisurely out and back a total of 2 miles to see a beautiful crested saguaro.

Option 2-Plan a longer and more challenging hike, continuing from the crested saguaro at a brisk pace to Scorpion Point, and back with elevation, totaling 5.1 miles. Each hiker is responsible for choosing the best hike for their own ability.

Please come prepared to drive, bring water, sun protection and hiking sticks if desired. You may sign-up on the sheet inside the clubhouse or leave a message for **Mary Van Cleave, 248-225-8510**, so we know who's coming.

photo by Gene Hollander

BELLASERA RULES REMINDERS

Bellasera Home Exterior Garage Door Lighting Specifications:

The following are the specifications for 'under eaves' lighting for the exterior of your home: LED Soft White Bulbs, 9 Watt (65 Watt equivalent), 650 to 800 lumens, 2700 light appearance, either "indoor" or "indoor/outdoor" bulbs should work satisfactorily, assuming the bulb is protected under the eave. For clarification or additional information, please contact the Community Manager.

All exterior improvements to a home (including but not limited to site work, exterior alteration of existing improvements, artwork displayed on the exterior surface of any residence or in the front yard, fences, signs, antennae, playground equipment, lighting, fences, solar panels, and landscaping) must be in accordance with Bellasera's Design Guidelines and approved by the Modifications Committee prior to the commencement of work. Design Guidelines, modifications applications and submittal procedures are available on our website.

Any condition that exists on a residential property which does not strictly comply with the Design Guidelines will be treated as a violation in accordance with our Violation Policy available on our website.

One "security" sign, measuring no greater than 100 square inches, no higher than 18 inches tall and placed no more than 2 feet from the foundation of the home may be installed in the front yard of a residence.

Open House Signs shall not exceed 18 x 24 inches and a sign rider shall not exceed 6 x 24 inches. Open House hours are limited to between 8:00AM and 6:00PM.

For Sale or For Lease signs, shall not exceed 18 x 24 inches and a sign rider shall not exceed 6 by 24 inches.

For Sale, For Lease, Open House signs or directional signs of any kind are prohibited on common area.

Political Signs may be displayed no earlier than 45 days prior to an election nor later than 7 days after an election day on an Owner's property. Signs shall not exceed 16 square feet.



Phaino Cardinal - *photograph by Sandy Simmons*



April In the Garden

by Joe McDade

Spring Is Here, As Beautiful As Ever! Clocks Spring Forward, Sun Shifts Northward

For most of the country, changing of the clocks is a hopeful step closer to spring. Here in the Sonoran Desert, there is no reason to hope because we are usually well on our way to being awash in color by April. The adage that spring in the Sonoran Desert can be a four-month-long spectacle of life and color is clearly demonstrated in our community that one seems never to tire of. Deserts are not as bereft of life as they seem; their barren landscapes can support a remarkable variety of plant and animal life. We are surrounded by all of this.

A Perfect Spring

March was a great transition to spring with moderate daytime temperatures (with some above average highs), cool evenings and some rain. We still have ideal conditions for **planting** as well as some **pruning** and other **miscellaneous tasks** which are covered below.

Planting

Although your summer planting should be underway, you still have time to add some additional life to your garden. Just remember to choose native plants or plants that are adapted to our high temperatures and alkaline soils. This is a good month for transplanting as you should beat the heat and have them in the ground before temperatures climb beyond 100 degrees. Some suggestions:

- **Tropical Plants** like *Bougainvillea* and *Lantana*.
- **Desert-Adapted** trees, shrubs, groundcovers, vines, ornamental grasses, perennials, cacti and succulents.
- **Citrus Trees** - Remember, dwarf only and they need to be in the rear of your property.
- **Herbs** - Transplant warm-season favorites, including ***basil, lavender, rosemary*** and ***sage***.
- **Warm-Season Veggies** - Sow seeds for *black-eyed peas, cantaloupe, cucumbers, jicama, lima beans, okra, peanuts* and *summer squashes*, such as *crookneck, pattypan* and *zucchini*.

Warm Season Annual Flowers

I covered this last month and, as the weather continues to warm, your winter annuals will decline rapidly (stop flowering) and need to be replaced with warm season annuals. So, when you give up on them, nurseries will have great choices. Some suggestions are:

- ***Celosia*** - ***Gaillardia*** - ***Globe amaranth*** - ***Portulaca*** - ***Gazania*** - ***Zinia*** - ***Verbina***
- ***Lisianthus*** - ***Madagascar periwinkle*** - ***Marigold*** - ***Petunia***

Pruning

As emphasized last month, pruning should be done to maintain plant health (remove dead, damaged or diseased portions, cross branching, etc.), to highlight the “natural” shape of the plant, to train a young plant, and to eliminate hazards. With this in mind, April is a good month for pruning as follows:

- Continue to prune evergreen trees.
- Lightly prune your ***Mesquites*** and ***Palo Verdes*** after bud break or after flowering.
- Pruning newly planted trees and shrubs is **not recommended** and in fact can be detrimental. However, corrective pruning of broken or torn branches and/or limbs can be done at planting time. Save other pruning activities for the second or third year.

- Continue to prune summer and fall flowering shrubs by mid-month including:
 - Texas Sages* -*Yellow Bells* -*Lantana* -*Turpentine Bush*
 - Mexican-honeysuckle* - *Sky Flower* - *Black Dalea*
- **Rosemary** - Spring growth should be well underway and, following the blossoming (which should be almost over) of its vivid blue-violet flowers, can be safely trimmed back.
- **Cactus** - If *cholla* or *prickley pear* cactus become too large, they should be cut to a joint with a saw or large clippers.

Monthly Garden Tasks

Roses - During spring’s peak bloom period feed and water to promote continued flowering. Apply fertilizer every two weeks until the heat of summer begins. Water twice per week when temperatures are below 80 degrees, increasing to three times weekly when temperatures are above 80 degrees or conditions are windy, which can dry out foliage and blooms.

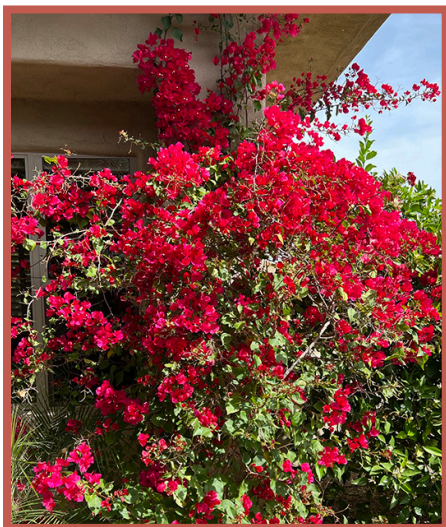
Watering/Drip System - you need to clean out sediment and algae as well as replace clogged emitters and also clean filters. Adjust your drip system to **water more frequently. How much?** This is always one of the hardest questions to answer. Generally, be sure to run your system long enough to wet the top two feet of soil. Deep, infrequent (e.g. once per week) watering is much better than a daily sprinkle. **Remember:** annual flowers may require more.

Feed Citrus - Fertilize trees with their second feeding of the year this month or next. Apply one-third of the tree’s total annual nitrogen requirement. Water deeply after spreading the fertilizer.

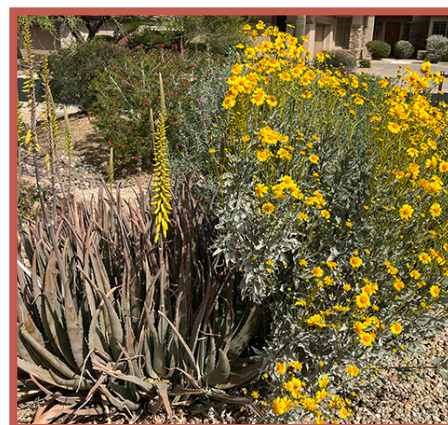
Weeding - April and May are usually the worst months.

What’s Blooming Now?

Bougainvillea has been blooming for the most of the winter and, right on schedule, is now undergoing a growth spurt which will add to their intensity and luster. In addition **Penstemon**, **Fairy Duster**, **Senna** and **Lantana** are coming into their own, adding to the bouquet. It’s the tip of the iceberg as a myriad of other “Bloomers” will quickly join the color parade. And, of course, we have our omnipresent **Desert Marigold** with its beautiful yellow flowers cropping up everywhere joined by **Desert Bursage** another native ground-cover that needs little water and provides nice color contrast. If you have **Citrus**, go outdoors at night and enjoy the unmistakable beautiful, unique fragrance of citrus in full bloom.



Bougainvillea



Aloe & Mt. Lemmon Marigold



Orange Tree Blossoms

(If you have a gardening question, please contact the Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Service at <https://extension.arizona.edu/maricopamg>)

B e l l a s e r a C l a s s i f i e d s

Moving Sale— — furniture, art work, decorative accessories. Sectional sofa, chairs, tables, lamps,rug. Everything in like new condition. Please call **Fran, 480-284-5683**.

Need a New Look? How about replacing your old window coverings, what a difference it can make to your home. I'm **Mike Alldredge**, a Bellasera resident and owner of Array Shutters and Blinds featuring Hunter Douglas shades, O'Hair Shutters, patio shades & window film. Call me, **602-622-7575**. We'll offer you our friends and family discount. Also, we can do custom draperies designed by an A.S.I.D. decorator.

I love living in Bellasera! The market is still on fire. We are seeing record prices per square foot in Bellasera with very favorable terms for sellers. Does your house need some work prior to sale? We have a program called REALVITALIZE. If you are interested in selling or just want an idea of what your home is worth, please call me! **Audrey Fischer, Realtor – Coldwell Banker Realty, 480-740-4223, audrey.fischer@azmoves.com**.

Desert Dwellers Home Watching Service exclusively for Bellasera residents. Owned and operated by year-round Bellasera residents, we are dedicated to ensuring our neighbors have access to reliable and trustworthy home monitoring. Licensed and insured we provide visual inspections of the interior and exterior of your home. For a complete list of services and to schedule a complimentary assessment contact us at **480-634-1452** or e-mail us at **ddhomewatch@gmail.com**.

Life Settlement - proven alternative for those who wish to terminate their life insurance. Recent market value vs. "disposal" value examples: 1. Term policy sold for \$800,000; 2. Whole Life surrender value of \$6,500 sold for \$550,000. Problem is people aren't aware of it: "What are life settlements"; "Sounds too good to be true." "My other advisor never mentioned this." Thinking about dropping a policy? Examining every opportunity before making important decisions is smart business. Contact **Marc Ruskin, 480-221-1070, ruskinmarc@aol.com**.

Bellasera Residents: The Kiwanis Club of Carefree can pick up your unwanted furniture, clothing and household goods. All items will be sold in our Marketplace resale store in Cave Creek. Proceeds go to support kids in our local school district. Contributions may be tax deductible and a receipt will be provided. Call **480-488-8400**, for information and to schedule an appointment. Thanks for your support.

All classified ads must be 75 words or less. Ads will run for 3 months and may be renewed upon request. Editor reserves the right to edit all ads submitted. Send yours to: **editor@azbellasera.org**

photograph by Sandy Simmons

