

BELLASERA

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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*The color of springtime is in the flowers;
the color of winter is in the imagination.*

Terri Guillemets



December - 2022



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Clubhouse Corner

by Richard Hoffman - President of the Board of Directors

Security Service Update

In October your Board of Directors voted to replace our prior front gate security service with a new local, family-owned vendor - Anderson Security Agency. Information regarding Anderson is included on page 6.

The transition to our new security service provider has generally gone smoothly and community feedback has been mostly positive. There have been some minor glitches to be expected when a new vendor takes over and becomes familiar with our systems and practices. It is an ongoing process.

To further improve security service performance and enhance community security we respectfully request that our homeowners/residents make full use of the QuickPass online visitor management service. *Directions to create an account and to sign on and utilize the QuickPass service are on **page 6**.* While this service has been available for several years, many residents continue to phone the front gate guard to request the guard add expected visitors to their account. This places an unnecessary burden on the guard and takes his/her attention away from their other responsibilities.

In addition to managing visitors without the need to call the front gate, the QuickPass online service also allows a resident to provide for automatic alerts (via text and/or e-mail) when a scheduled visitor is admitted. For those residents that already use the QuickPass online system (and for new users), we also request that you regularly review and update your approved visitor list. Failure to delete a former vendor/visitor from your list allows them to continue to enter Bellasera.

Best Holiday Wishes

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to wish all of our residents and homeowners a safe, happy and healthy holiday season.



BELLASERA COMMUNITY EVENTS

Board of Directors will meet on **Thursday, December 15** at **1 p.m.**

Budget & Finance Committee will meet on **Tuesday, January 24, 2023** at **1 p.m.**

Building & Grounds Committee will meet on **Tuesday, December 13** at **10 a.m.**

Communications Committee will meet on **Wednesday, January 18, 2023** at **8:30 a.m.**

Modifications Committee will meet on **Tuesday, December 13** at **12:30 p.m.**. Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **Thursday, December 8** at **12 noon**.

Bellasera Hikers: This month's hike will take place at the Pima-Dynamite trailhead on **Thursday, December 8**. Meet at the clubhouse at **9:30 a.m.** This area is nice and close to us and offers beautiful desert landscape and mountain views. The trails have minimum elevation but enough to keep it interesting. We will start on the Latigo Trail and pass the Crested Saguaro and continue on to the West Express trail. **Steve** and I are going to hike trails off West Express (before the 8th) so we can offer route options from 4-6 miles long. Sign up at the clubhouse or text **Nancy Mullen, 719-337-9736**.

Honoring Bellasera Veterans -- Addendum: Acknowledging the service and sacrifice of the following Bellasera resident whose name was omitted from last month's newsletter. **Len Van Niel**, United States Marine Corps, 1979-1982. Thank you for your service, **Len**.

Pickleball Invitation: You are invited to join a small group of men playing intermediate level pickleball on **Thursdays & Saturdays** at **9 a.m.** on the Bellasera court. For additional information contact **Dan Martin, danielrichardmartin@yahoo.com, 480-734-0387**.

Free CPR Training Classes in the Clubhouse:

Become a lifesaver with a FREE hands-only CPR. Most people who experience cardiac arrest at home, work or in a public location die because they do not receive immediate CPR from someone on the scene. As a bystander, don't be afraid. Your actions can only help. We have arranged for **Lori Schmidt** from the City of Scottsdale to conduct a class on Hands-Free CPR in the Bellasera clubhouse on the following date, at **2 p.m. Saturday, January 28, 2023**. Each class should last approximately ninety (90) minutes. In this class, you will learn the 3 steps to saving a life, which includes hands-only CPR and how to use an AED. As a bonus you will also be learning some basics in bleeding control. You'll get some hands-on practice on using pressure and applying a tourniquet in this quick module. Class size is limited – please RSVP to resident **Vicki Snyder, 602-622-2762, vicki@snyderpromo.com**. We do need a headcount for these events.

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**.

Bellasera Book Club: We're meeting on **Wednesday, December 28** at noon in the clubhouse to discuss "*The Alice Network*", a story of a female spy network during World War II. Any questions contact **Karen Moore, kkmoore40@yahoo.com**.

Weather permitting, **Water Aerobics** will be held most **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** from **11 a.m. to Noon**. The lap lanes will be used during that time.

December Wine and Cheese Event: Happy Holidays! We will not be having a Wine and Cheese event in December since many of our residents will have gone to visit family and friends in other areas of the country and it's just a busy time of the year with many other conflicting events. Look for the announcement of the January Wine and Cheese event in the January newsletter. In the meantime, travel safely and enjoy the holidays.

WEATHER AND GENERAL INFORMATION

November Weather in Bellasera

(November 1 - November 30)

Highest Temperature: **78** degrees

Lowest temperature: **36** degrees

Rainfall: **0.33** inches

Rainfall this year: **9.67** 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 “KAZSCOTT79” 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.

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, December 5**, with the next pickup being on **Monday, January 2, 2023**. 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: 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.



DECEMBER 2022

Bellasera Community Calendar

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|---|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | 1 Yoga - 8:30 am Pickleball - 9:00 am | 2 Water Aerobics - 11:00 am | 3 Pickleball - 9:00 am |
| 4 | 5 Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11:00 am | 6 Poker - 7:00 pm | 7 Water Aerobics - 11:00 am | 8 Yoga - 8:30 am Pickleball - 9:00 am Bellasera Hikers - 9:30 am | 9 Water Aerobics - 11:00 am | 10 Pickleball - 9:00 am |
| Brush & Bulk Waste Removal December 5 - 9 | | | | | | |
| 11 | 12 Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11:00 am | 13 Building and Grounds - 10:00 am Modifications - 12:30 pm Poker - 7:00 pm | 14 Water Aerobics - 11:00 am | 15 Yoga - 8:30 am Pickleball - 9:00 am Board of Directors - 1:00 pm | 16 Water Aerobics - 11:00 am | 17 Pickleball - 9:00 am |
| 18 <i>Hanukkah Begins</i> | 19 Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11:00 am | 20 Poker - 7:00 pm | 21 Water Aerobics - 11:00 am | 22 Yoga - 8:30 am Pickleball - 9:00 am | 23 Water Aerobics - 11:00 am | 24 Pickleball - 9:00 am |
| 25 <i>Christmas Day</i> | 26 Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11:00 am <i>Hanukkah ends</i> | 27 Poker - 7:00 pm | 28 Water Aerobics - 11:00 am Book Club - Noon | 29 Yoga - 8:30 am Pickleball - 9:00 am | 30 Water Aerobics - 11:00 am | 31 Pickleball - 9:00 am |

We would like to thank the residents of Bellasera who volunteer their time for the betterment of our community.

**Annette Barnard
Joe Carlon
Elaine Christian
Keith Christian
James Derks
Audrey Fischer
Stanley Green
Richard Hoffman
Jeanne Horvath
Craig Johnson
Lena Junker
Joe McDade
Linda McVey
Mary Moore
Todd Newberger
John Nielsen
Carol Padwe
Jim Ragborg
Paul Rippens
Chuck Roach
Tom Saari
Charles Schroeder
Tom Shannon
Sarita Simmons
John Smith
Paul Snyder
Dennis Soeffner
Bruce Van Cleave
Barbara Walsh
David Wyllie**



Who's Anderson Security?

Bellasera's main gate security is now provided by **Anderson Security**. Anderson Security, owned and operated by **Kimberly Anderson-Matich**, is a family-operated security services firm founded in 1994. Anderson Security was founded on one basic premise: to bring a degree of experience, dedication, and professionalism to the security industry, which has long been missing. They are determined to erase the negative image regarding private security that has been with the general public for many years.

Anderson provides security personnel for many HOA communities, including Whisper Rock, our neighbors across the road.

QuickPass New Account

To set up a new QuickPass account, contact **Pamela** in the Bellasera office, **480-488-0400**, **pnunnelly@AssociatedAsset.com**.

After you have an account, more information about using QuickPass is on our web site, **azbellasera.org**, "**BCA Members**" page.

December in the Garden

by Joe McDade



Our Beautiful Winter Has Arrived!

Similar to last year, November, true to form, was a beautiful month with very comfortable, pleasant weather, cool in the evening and morning, with comfortable daytime temperatures. A smooth transition into winter for you and your garden, topped off by a perfect Thanksgiving Day!

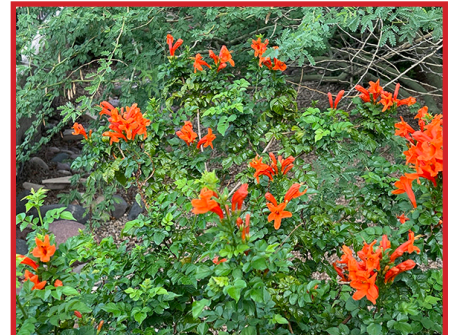
Enjoy Your Surroundings.... But Get Ready For Winter!

Our community is beautiful this time of year, attributed mostly to our magnificent gardens whose flowering shrubs (*Bougainvillea*, *Lantana*, *Bird of Paradise*, *Honeysuckle* and others) are in full bloom and

will continue for the next couple of months. And, with winter rain, many shrubs such as brittlebush, creosote, and ocotillos will sprout bright new leaves adding to the color and vibrancy of our surroundings.

We must assume that our great weather will be interrupted at times by cold temperatures and rain (hopefully) which is why we need to re-

view winter guidelines for your garden. We'll also provide some advice on planting, and pruning.



Winter Guidelines: Watering & Frost

Watering- I covered this last month but feel it's important to reiterate and expand on guidelines for the winter. With normal winter rainfall and temperatures, reduce watering frequency and reset automatic timers along the following guidelines:

Native/Desert Adapted -Trees* (30 to 60 days) -Shrubs (30 to 45 days)
- Ground Covers and Vines (21 to 45 days)

Non-Native -Trees (14 to 40 days)
-Shrubs, ground cover and vines (10 to 14 days)

Plants in containers -May not need watering as frequently as they did a month ago.
-Check before watering to be sure the top inch of the soil is dry.

Please note that the watering frequencies and ranges are affected by rainfall amounts. Miraculously, plants seem to know the difference between irrigation and rain. Even with steady, appropriate irrigation, fruit set and growth is always better with adequate rain.

*** Native trees are mostly drought tolerant and, once established, need no supplemental watering as our normal rainfall is sufficient. They may need a soaking once or twice during our hot season if rainfall is below normal. This is applies to most of the trees here in Bellasera.**

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Note: If you have the time and patience, I recommend turning off your drip system timers after a rainfall and manually triggering a watering cycle as necessary.

Frost - I covered frost last month but here are some additional suggestions.

If freezing temperatures are predicted, follow these guidelines:

1. At sunset, drape frost cloth, burlap or old sheets and blankets (never plastic) over cold-tender plants, such as bougainvillea, citrus, hibiscus, natal plum, roses, annual flowers and vegetables.
2. Extend the canopy over the entire plant or area, allowing it to hang to the ground. If possible, support the cloth on temporary framework so that it does not touch foliage. The goal is to trap heat radiating from the ground beneath the cover, warming the air around the plant.
3. Remove the cover the next morning before temperatures reach 50 degrees F, or it will heat up like a greenhouse beneath the cloth.
4. Cover the tips of columnar cacti with foam cups

Did You Know?

Bougainvillea is very susceptible to frost and, even with protection, cannot usually be spared from damage. Also, large bougainvillea tends to be too big and unwieldy to cover, don't bother.

Citrus Trees also fall into the "too big" category as well and will usually suffer only a few wilted leaves. This of course does not apply to a small, newly planted citrus tree.

Annual Flowers, especially petunias and pansies, will do well if covered. They really thrive in this weather.

Planting

Here in the Sonoran Desert, we can always find something to plant. For December, I'd suggest the following: **Herbs, Roses and Trees.**

Herbs: Parsley, Sage, Rosemary, Thyme and Basil- For you cooks out there, try varied alternatives of these culinary favorites.

- Sow **parsley** seeds for 'Giant of Italy' (large, flat-leaf), 'Krausa' (triple-curved leaf with a frilly appearance) or 'Paravert' (curly leaves with a soft texture).
- Set out transplants for golden, pineapple or tricolor **sage**; 'Arp', 'Gorizia' or 'Spice Islands' rosemary; and lemon, lime or nutmeg **thyme**.
- **Rosemary** is everywhere in our community and easy to grow.

- **Basil** plants are readily available in small potted plants in grocery stores. Simply transplant to a larger pot, put it in the sun, feed it water and you'll have a steady supply of fresh basil.

Bare-Root Roses- December is the perfect time of the year to consider purchasing bare-root roses. And, because you have a month or more to plant them, take some time to look for the best quality plants in the varieties that grow best in the valley

Trees- If your garden has a need, this a good time to plant or transplant deciduous trees. Deciduous trees planted on the south side of a house provide summer shade but allow sunlight through during winter when the leaves are off.

Pruning

I covered this last month but here are some additional guidelines for December:

- Continue pruning **deciduous trees** such as Desert-willow, Cat-claw Acacia, and Chaste Tree.
- Resist the urge to prune any damage on plants due to frost and do not prune cold-tender plants, wait until springtime.

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- Many **agaves** are semi-dormant at this time and old, dead leaves can be removed by gently pulling from the base. Resist the urge to pull out the dead leaves that are firmly attached as this can damage the base of the agave.

December is also a good time to prune **Texas sage, roses** and other **desert and deciduous shrubs**.

Do **not** prune frost sensitive plants such as **bougainvillea** and **hibiscus**.

Miscellaneous

Citrus- Our Gila Woodpeckers will tell you when your oranges are becoming sweet. If you notice holes in your oranges (I have) they are beginning to enjoy them.

Lemons usually lag behind oranges.



Fertilization- Do not fertilize this month.

Holiday Lights On Plants- If you put holiday lights on your plants and trees, take care to wrap them loosely and remember to remove them after the holiday season. Don't put "costumes" on saguaros or other columnar cacti, as this inhibits the plants ability to photosynthesize. However, lights on frost sensitive cacti and succulents can add a few degrees of protection during the cold winter months.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

(If you have a gardening question, please contact the Maricopa County Plant Hotline at maricopacountyplant hotline@gmail.com)

Holiday Food Bank Donation

The Bellasera Communications Committee has donated a grocery merchant gift card to the Foothills Food Bank. The card was provided by the City to those participating in the annual road clean up to be used for snacks, water. In the spirit of the holidays the committee decided to give the card to those less fortunate in our community.

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

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.

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, International Diamond Society – Coldwell Banker Realty, **480-740-4223** or **audrey.fischer@azmoves.com**.

Introducing Desert Dwellers Home Watching Services exclusively serving 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, **ddhomewatch@gmail.com**.

FOR SALE. Relax the Back Zero Gravity Classic Manual Recliner with extra long foot extension. Excellent condition, black leather. Asking \$500. Original price over \$2000. Relax the Back Zero Gravity Power Recliner with Jade heat system. Black leather- excellent condition. Original price over \$4,000. Asking \$1000. Keaton 48 inch mat board cutter for picture framing. Excellent condition. Original price over \$1000. Asking \$150. All items are in Bellasera. Call **480-766-8941**.

Caring Corps Charity in Carefree annual golf event fund raiser on **Monday, December 5, 2022** at Mirabel Golf Club. Sponsorships, donations, volunteers are needed. To help, go to **foothillscaringcorps.com**, or call **480-488-1105**.

Arizona Real Estate – it's all the buzz... I know you've heard the market has shifted, however, it's not dead. My quarterly market updates created specifically for Bellasera show that our community is still in demand. As we head into our high season, if you have pondered the thought about selling, now would be a great time. Contact me today for a free market assessment: **Regina Alvarez, Realtor: My Home Group 480-334-1750** or **regina@craigbennettgroup.com**

LET THE SUNSHINE IN! UPDATE YOUR HOME. If you have the need or want new window coverings, take advantage of the significant discounts offered to Bellasera residents from your neighbor **Mike Alldredge**, owner of Array Shutters and Blinds, a Certified Hunter Douglas Dealer with Expert Installation and over 40+ Years of Window Covering Experience. We also offer Custom Shutters, Outdoor Shades and Beautiful Draperies. Contact me at **602-622-6565**

Hello Bellasera Neighbors! In addition to being a licensed AZ realtor, I've been securities licensed for 35 years in most states and specialize in real estate 1031 exchanges. My website, **Sandysimmons.bhhsaz.com**, offers a wealth of information on finding and buying or selling a home/investment property. Please call me to learn how I can customize a tax friendly exchange that meets your specific needs. **Sandy Simmons, Realtor** - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Arizona Properties, **310-405-1403** or **sandy.simmons@bhhsaz.com**.

*Classified Ads are only accepted from Bellasera homeowners. Real estate for sale, non-resident business or commercial ads are not accepted. Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad. **Your ad will run for 3 months**, and may be extended upon request. Ads are limited to 75 words. E-mail your ad to: **editor@azbellasera.org***

