

# BELLASERA

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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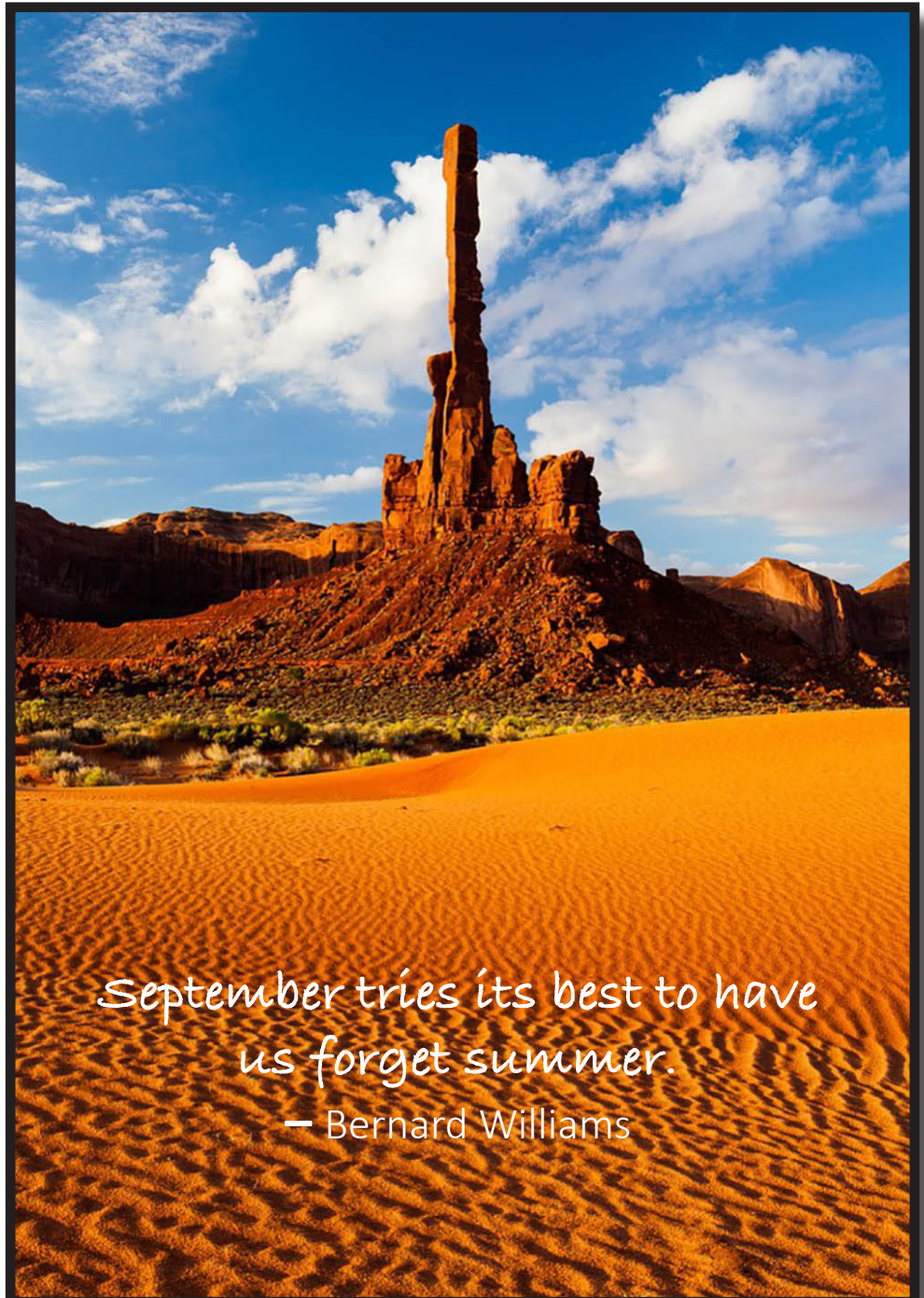
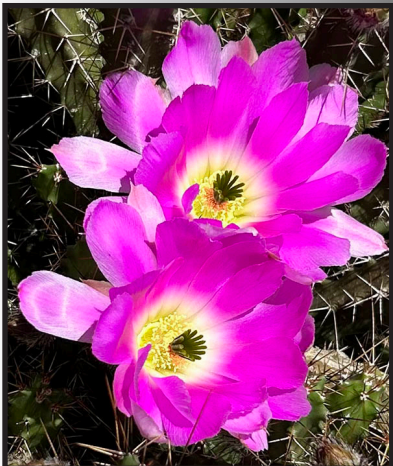
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*September tries its best to have  
us forget summer.*

— Bernard Williams

September - 2023



# Clubhouse Corner

by Richard Hoffman

## BELLASERA'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Please join your fellow homeowners on Sunday, October 15th, from 3:00-6:00PM at the Bellasera Clubhouse for a celebration of Bellasera's 25th Anniversary. Appetizers and cake will be served, and you are welcome to bring your own libations. Water and soda will also be provided.

During this celebration the community pool and work out area in the Clubhouse will be closed.

If you haven't already responded, please go to the Bellasera website (click [HERE](#)) and click on 'Events' at the top and scroll down to the 25th Anniversary Event and RSVP before October 1st. You may also sign up at the bulletin board in the Clubhouse foyer. Pre-printed name badges will be issued for this event, so be sure to include the names of all who will be attending.

If any of our homeowners have photos or memorabilia from the inception of Bellasera in 1998, which we would like to display at the event, please send them to [julie.coats@cox.net](mailto:julie.coats@cox.net) or contact Julie directly at (480) 223-8484.

## POSSIBLE CHANGES COMING TO LAWN AREAS AT CLUBHOUSE

If you reside here year-round, or even if you are one of our 'Snowbirds', you are aware of the ever-present drought conditions that Arizona and the Southwest have been experiencing the last several years. Water in our area is a critical but an increasingly diminishing resource. In order to secure and maximize long-term sustainable water supplies, many cities in the Southwest have adopted various measures and responses – some voluntary and some mandated. The City of Scottsdale has been proactive in planning for long-term sustainable water supplies for its customers. Today, there are no mandatory water use restrictions in place in Scottsdale. At this time, the City asks all residents to voluntarily cut their water usage by at least five percent. Approximately 65% of the City's total water demand is from residential customers, and turf irrigation is a significant portion of total demand. The City is currently promoting a voluntary water conservation program designed to reduce water usage by replacing water-thirsty lawns with vegetation appropriate to our Sonoran Desert. Aside from the reduction in water bills, the City offers rebates and other enticements to participate. If current conditions persist, it is only a matter of time until some form of mandates are adopted.

With this in mind, the Building and Grounds Committee is exploring the phased removal of the current turf areas adjacent to the Clubhouse and replacing them with native plants and substitute ground covers. Additional recreational/social amenities may also be considered. Any such project would be undertaken in phases over the next several years and would be designed to take maximum advantage of all available rebates and incentives offered by the City. The Board has supported these efforts although no final approval to move forward as to any particular plan has been given.

Prior to the Board making any final decisions, the Building & Grounds Committee will be hosting two (2) community-wide meetings – one in November and a second next January – to present their proposed plan to the Community and to answer questions and solicit homeowners' input. We will announce the specific dates and times of such meetings in subsequent postings.

**7350 E Ponte Bella  
Drive  
Scottsdale, AZ 85266**

Office: 480-488-0400  
Front Gate: 480-488-3663

Community Manager  
**Pamela Nunnelly**  
[manager@azbellasera.org](mailto:manager@azbellasera.org)

Board of Directors  
**Richard Hoffman - Pres.**  
**Tom Saari - V.P.**  
**David Wyllie - Sec.**  
**Jim Ragborg - Tres.**  
**Craig Johnson**

Email Addresses:  
**Board of Directors**  
[board@azbellasera.org](mailto:board@azbellasera.org)

**Budget & Finance -**  
[bandf@azbellasera.org](mailto:bandf@azbellasera.org)

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**Modifications -**  
[mod@azbellasera.org](mailto:mod@azbellasera.org)

**Security Advisor -**  
[sec@azbellasera.org](mailto:sec@azbellasera.org)

**Social committee**  
[social@azbellasera.org](mailto:social@azbellasera.org)

**Web Site:**  
[azbellasera.org](http://azbellasera.org)

# Bellasera Community Events

**Board of Directors** will meet on **Friday, September 15** at **1:00p.m.**

**Budget & Finance Committee** will meet on **Tuesday, September 26** at **1:00 p.m.**

**Building & Grounds Committee** will meet on **Tuesday, September 12** at **10:00 a.m.**

**Communications Committee** will meet on **Wednesday, September 13** at **8:30 a.m.**

**Modifications Committee** will meet on **September 12** at **12:30 p.m.**. Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **Thursday, September 7** at **12 noon.**

**Social Committee** will be held on **Friday, September 8** at **2:30 pm**



**Book Club:** We've spent the summer reading books of our choice and will share them when we meet on **Wednesday, October 18** at **noon** in the clubhouse. Contact **Karen Moore, kkmooore40@yahoo.com** with any questions.



**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.**



**September Wine and Cheese:** Please join us for wine, cheese, and fun on **Friday, September 22, 2023** at the home of **John and Mary Moore, 7548 E. Pontebella Drive - 5:00-7:00pm.** Paris, France is the host of the 2024 Summer Olympics and this will be our first Wine and Cheese of the new season. So, please feel free to bring your favorite French white or red wine and an appetizer or dessert. In the spirit of the Olympics, if you have a favorite wine from a different country, please share it. The Olympics are all about community and fellowship and we hope you are able to join us for a fun evening. You will be able to sign up in the clubhouse, on the Bellasera website. (click [HERE](#))



**Water Aerobics:** There will be no regularly scheduled Water Aerobics classes for the month of September.



**Poker Club:** The poker group meets every Tuesday evening between 7:00 and 9:30 pm at the clubhouse. An email is sent out every Sunday asking whether players will participate or not. Response needs to be received by Tuesday noon the latest. If anyone has any questions regarding the game rules please reach out. Contact **Phil Castrovinci** Email **Pcastrovinci@cox.net, 480-437-1141**

**Lone Mountain Road Clean-up:** Save the date and think of volunteering for the next city-wide cleanup to be held on **October 28** in honor of National Make A Difference Day. We will include more information in the October newsletter.



**Pickleball:** Updates:

1. Two more temporary pickleball courts have been added to the West Tennis Court bringing the total to four courts.
2. The reservation system is being updated this month to reflect the availability of four Pickleball courts in accordance

with the Bellasera Recreational Policy. Residents will only be able to reserve 2 courts seven (7) days in advance using the on-line court reservation system or on the Bellasera Web Site.

3. A new pickleball machine has been purchased through contributions from some residents and are interested in using the machine for practice. The machine will also be used for clinics offered by the Bellasera Pickleball Club. You can reserve the machine through the online court reservation system.

4. The Bellasera Pickleball Club is offering tee shirts and hats in a variety of colors featuring the Bellasera Club logo. If you are interested in purchasing tee shirts and/or hats, contact **Vicki Snyder** by email at **vicki@snyderpromo.com** or text at **602-622-2762.**

5. The summer beginner's clinic was a great success with as many as 9 participants taking part. Additional clinics will be offered in the fall. Check the Bellasera web site for information and join the Bellasera Pickleball club to receive email notifications of future Pickleball Clinics and events. For information, check the website - click [HERE](#)

# Weather and General Information

## July & August Weather in Bellasera

(July 1 - July 31 & August 1 - August 30)

Highest Temperatures: July: **114 degrees** ---- August: **112 degrees**

Lowest temperatures: July: **71 degrees** ---- August: **70 degrees**

Rainfall: July: **0.01 inches** ---- August **0.48 inches**

Rainfall this year: **7.27 inches**

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

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## 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 **Paul Rippens - 480-912-7999**. 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.

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## 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 **Friday, September 1**, with the next pickup the week of **Monday, October 2**. 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 and its events. You can just click **[HERE](#)** to go to the site.

# September 2023 Bellasera Calendar

| Sunday                        | Monday                | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday                                  | Saturday   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|---|---|--|
|                               |                       |  |  |   | 1                                       | 2  |
| 3                             | 4<br><b>LABOR DAY</b> | 5<br>Morning coffee<br>Hour - 10:00 am<br>Poker - 7:00 pm                                | 6<br>Mahjong - 9:00 am   | 7<br>Yoga - 8:30 am<br>Duelies Dueling<br>Piano Bar - 6:00 pm | 8                                       | 9  |
| 10                            | 11<br>Yoga - 8:30 am  | 12<br>Building &<br>Grounds - 10:00 am<br>Modifications -<br>12:30 pm<br>Poker - 7:00 pm | 13<br>Communica-<br>tions Commit-<br>tee - 8:30 am<br>Mahjong - 9:00 am<br>Game Night -<br>7:00 pm | 14<br>Yoga - 8:30 am  | 15<br>Board of Direc-<br>tors - 1:00 pm | 16<br><i>Rosh Hashanah</i>                       |
| 17<br>Pool Party -<br>5:00 pm | 18<br>Yoga - 8:30 am  | 19<br>Poker - 7:00 pm  | 20<br>Mahjong - 9:00 am  | 21<br>Yoga - 8:30 am  | 22<br>Wine & Cheese<br>- 5:00 pm        | 23   |
| 24                            | 25<br>Yoga - 8:30 am  | 26<br>Budget &<br>Finance - 1:00 pm<br>Poker - 7:00 pm                                   | 27<br>Mahjong - 9:00 am  | 28<br>Yoga - 8:30 am  | 29                                      | 30<br>Training/fitness<br>equipment -<br>2:00 pm |
|                               |                       |  |  |   |   |  |
|                               |                       |  |  |   |   |  |

# Social Committee

During the last few months the Social Committee has been very busy putting together a number of events and activities for our homeowners and we wanted to highlight a few of them. More information can be found on the website which will continuously be updated as new information becomes available. [www.azbellasera.org](http://www.azbellasera.org) : RSVPs will be managed from the website.

**Women's Golf Group:** We are considering starting a women's non-competitive social golf group and we need your input. Are you interested in playing 9 or 18 holes? Do you want to play early morning or late afternoon? Week days or weekends? Do you have a specific course that you like or are you up for playing a different course each week? Are you interested in organizing? Please send your feedback to **Kathy Porter** at [Kporterproperties@gmail.com](mailto:Kporterproperties@gmail.com) and she will compile the information and we will share the results.

Are you looking to get involved? We are looking for you! The Social Committee is very busy planning a number of activities, events and speakers for Bellasera and we could use your help. Reach out to us at [social@azbellasera.org](mailto:social@azbellasera.org) . Are you willing to run a group or plan an event? Can you make phone calls or create flyers? We are looking for individuals that want to get involved in the following:

- Help making Flyers
- Lead or Coordinate new groups: Walk, Run, Hike, Bike, Golf, etc.
- Do you have contacts for Speakers that would be a good fit for Bellasera?
- Contacting and scheduling:
  - concerts at the MIM
  - events at the Holland Center
  - Events at Desert Foothills Library
  - Theater Events

## Clubs

We currently have information on the following clubs on the website: Pickleball, Yoga, Poker, and Book Club. More clubs will be added as they are formed. Be sure to check out the Clubs page on the website for more details.

## Shred-A-Thon

Foothills Food Bank & Resource Center is offering a Shred-A-Thon on **Saturday, January 27, 2024**. The Social Committee is also working on having a Shred-A-Thon here in Bellasera on **Friday, January 26th** from **10am to 12pm**. You can start thinking of items to dispose of at the Food Bank's event or the event in our clubhouse parking lot. Either way, it's an opportunity to get rid of old records in a safe manner. You can also get rid of old, outdated prescriptions as well as small electronics, computers, gently used clothing, housewares and books.



**FOOTHILLS FOOD BANK & RESOURCE CENTER PRESENTS**

# SHRED-A-THON & PRESCRIPTION TAKE-BACK

**Saturday, January 27, 2024**  
**9:00am - 12:00pm**

**Free Event!**  
No proof of residency required.

**Collection and Shred Site:**  
**6061 E. Hidden Valley Drive, one block south of Cave Creek Road**  
Monetary & non-perishable pantry item donations are always appreciated!

**Also Accepting:**  
Small electronics, phones, computers, gently used clothing, housewares, books  
for *Goldmine Thrift Store* and *Desert Foothills Public Library*

**Thank You to our community partners & sponsors!**  
Town of Cave Creek, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, Desert Foothills Public Library, Goldmine Thrift Store, Tech 4 Life, and North Valley Junk Removal.

**National Bank of Arizona** **HAYDEN ELECTRIC, INC.**

6038 E. Hidden Valley Drive, Cave Creek, AZ 85331 | (480) 488-1145 | [www.foothillsfoodbank.com](http://www.foothillsfoodbank.com)

# Communications Committee

The Bellasera website is up and running and we've heard a lot of positive feedback. We had a training class on August 12th and if there is enough interest we will offer another one in November. Email [comm@azbellasera.org](mailto:comm@azbellasera.org) if you are interested.

You will find all of the same information on the new website plus a whole lot more. You will be able to join clubs and receive emails from the groups that interest you. You will not be bothered by information you have not signed up for.

There is a page describing all the amenities Bellasera offers and a link to Quick Pass, sign-up for pickleball/tennis courts, and pay your association dues online. In addition, you can sign up for events and you will receive a confirmation email and a reminder email before the actual event.

Over the past few months, the Communication Committee, along with assistance from others, has been updating the Bellasera directory. Make sure to click on the Resource tab on the new website and check to make sure your information is correct. Everyone can have their own phone number and email listed in the directory. If there are edits, please email [comm@azbellasera.org](mailto:comm@azbellasera.org). An updated directory will be available on October 1st.

Take time to go to [azbellasera.org](http://azbellasera.org) to review the website, check the Bellasera directory, and sign up for upcoming events.

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Another Beautiful Arizona Sunset - *photograph by Paul Rippens*



# September in the Garden

by Joe McDade

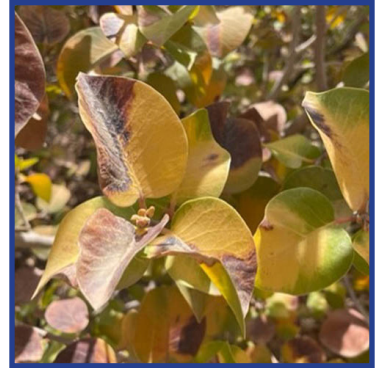
## **A One Two Punch: *Record-Breaking High Temperatures & AWOL Monsoon***

In addition to suffering through an extended record breaking heat, our monsoon was a no show. This lack of rainfall not only added stress to your plants and trees but deprived your garden of much needed moisture and nutrients necessary for ideal fall planting.

### **Heat Stress...Understand and Recognize It**

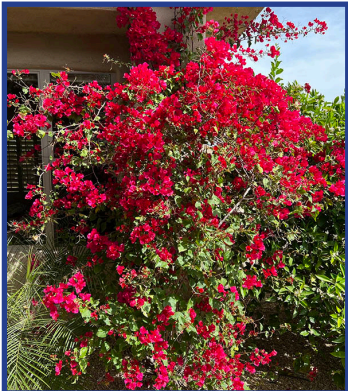
Consistent weeks of record-breaking high temperatures are stressful for many plants. Despite best efforts to keep plants alive, many will begin to see symptoms of heat and drought stress. Leaves, fruit, flowers, bark, wood and roots may be damaged. Different plant species have a specific threshold when a critical temperature is reached or exceeded, they will experience tissue damage, dehydration and death.

If you take a walk in your garden, you will likely notice some plants are yellowing, wilting, or have given up and died. The yellowing in succulents is normal in response to summer heat, but you may notice some are suffering



more severe than normal and, conversely, others doing better. Why the difference? Filtered sun, perhaps from a tree, and age as older plants tend to handle heat stress better.

You'll also notice that some plants will always do well in heat. These include **Lantana**, **Texas Sage** and **Bougainvillea** which are all widespread here in Bel-lasera.



### **Heat Stress...How To Deal With It**

With hot days remaining into September and, assuming that the monsoon doesn't rescue us, how do we proceed?

1. Be sure plants are receiving enough water. You need to increase the frequency when temps are above 110 degrees.
2. Don't fertilize. Feeding plants simply makes them work harder to produce

new growth when all they are trying to do is deal with the heat.

3. Don't prune away heat-damaged growth until the weather is more normal. Those ugly leaves are protecting the interior of the plant.

One final note: Think about adding more of the plants that have coped with our stressful heat, perhaps as replacements for those that you have lost.

### **As We Transition To Fall, Some Events Are Certain!**

Even though it may difficult to get into a fall mindset, keep in mind that some things are certain, which are not only a precursor to fall, but have a **positive affect on your garden**. Specifically:

- The sun shifts from a northern to southern arc: but it's more dramatic or apparent for us. Why? Well, most of our homes are oriented north/south and 85% of our days are sunny. We are aware of the sun. Observe your plants that have a southern exposure, they will perk up.
- Shorter days and cooler nighttime temperatures. Morning temperatures should start becoming bearable and evenings, pleasant.





● Some Plants will begin to come alive, especially Lantana and Pink Fairy Duster. I encourage you to take a few minutes out of your day, walk around our garden and observe the changes. **Have Positive Garden Thoughts!**

### Fall Planting - General Guidelines

**Timing:** Based on our somewhat poor monsoon season and slow cool down, the optimum time to start planting is probably toward the *end of September*. You should wait until the night temperature falls in the 70's as it will be less stressful for root systems to establish and plants don't need as much water to survive. However, if you start planting in mid-September, you should still monitor plants for signs of water stress.

**Evaluate Your Garden:** As I mentioned in the above section on heat stress, after a long, hot summer, take a look at your landscape to decide what works and what doesn't. What do you need to replace? What do you need to add?

### What to Plant

**Desert-Adapted Landscape Plants** - Trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, perennials, cacti and succulents can all be planted this month, after Sept. 15 (with the caveat regarding nighttime temperature). Early fall planting allows roots to become established in warm soils before cold nighttime temperatures set in. Just be aware of their potential mature height and width, allowing room to grow without interference or unnecessary pruning to keep them in bounds

**Vegetables** - Yes, you can grow vegetables here in Bellasera. If you have the inclination, energy and time, try these: ●Carrots ●Beets ●Green Onions ●Radishes ●Garlic ●Lettuce (head)

●Endive Lettuce (leaf) ●Cabbage ●Cauliflower ●Broccoli

NOTE: The specific dates as to *when to plant* and how (*seeds or transplants*) can be found in the September 2021 newsletter which is archived at: [www.azbellasera.org](http://www.azbellasera.org).

### Warm Season Annual Flower Beds

While you can consider replacing them with cool season annuals, I would wait until October as they should continue to do fine. I'll have recommendations next month.

### Miscellaneous Tasks For September

**Fertilization** - Ordinarily, this is an ideal month for that last application of fertilizer (low nitrogen formula) before cold weather arrives. However, as with planting, you should wait until the night temperature falls in the 70's before any application of fertilizer.

**Freshen Up Roses** - Prepare rosebushes for their second bloom cycle. Just as new growth begins to appear, remove any dead or damaged canes. Lightly trim weak top growth. Do not remove more than one-third of the total bush. Feed with a slow-release fertilizer to last through fall.

**Watering** - Keep an eye on the temperatures and be prepared to adjust your watering schedules. If it is one of those years where it is still above 100° and the nights are still hot, hold off on the water cut-backs until early October. Those plants that are just waking up after the hot summer will want water.

**Citrus** - If you did not do so in August, fertilize with one-third of the tree's annual nitrogen requirement.

**Mesquite Trees** - It's a great time to prune them because they had their spring and summer growth and will now hold their prune for more of the calendar year.

**Monitor Agaves** - Check your agaves and, if any have collapsed into a rotted mess, they were infested by agave snout weevils earlier in the year. Although it is too late to save them, you can control the weevils' spread to nearby agaves by digging up and disposing of the rotten plant material and surrounding soil; this will remove any eggs or larvae.

**Weeds** - We probably won't have many weeds, but pull any that might have sprouted.

*Football Season Has Finally Arrived! Pumpkin Lattes are now available!*

(If you have a gardening question, please contact the Maricopa County Plant Hotline at [maricopacountyplanthotline@gmail.com](mailto:maricopacountyplanthotline@gmail.com))



# Bellasera Classifieds

**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.

**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, **ddhome-watch@gmail.com**.

I love living in Bellasera! Our market has struck a more reasonable balance with low inventory levels. Our community is very much in demand. 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 market value, please call me! **Audrey Fischer**, Realtor – Coldwell Banker Realty, **(480) 740-4223** or **audrey.fischer@azmoves.com**.

HOME CLEANING SERVICE- WINDOW WASHING- POWER WASH- working for Bellasera residents and surrounding communities for over 15 years- References available upon request. Please request an estimate calling **(480)206-5237** or **Info@AllAboutCleaningArizona.com**

HOUSE CHECKING Starting at \$45. References long time clients upon request. **Info@AllAboutCleaningArizona.com**

FOR SALE: Electric three-wheel bicycle with large basket on back! Perfect condition! Call **Bob 503-329-1947** or **Sandy 602-918-6511**.

Here in Bellasera, our homes are blessed with lots of windows so we can enjoy the outdoors from inside. There are many different types of window treatments that can virtually disappear from the window so we can enjoy the views and feelings that open space gives us... without looking through slats. Motorized Roller Shades, Duettes and Large Louvered Shutters bring a modern look and are excellent choices to open up your window world. Call me at **602-622-7575** to find out more. **Mike Alldredge**, Array Shutters and Blinds. LLC

*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***

***Remember, in Bellasera it's  
25 miles per hour and stop at  
all stop signs.***

