

BELLASERA

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 1 - Arizona Wildland Fires

Page 2 - Clubhouse Corner --
from Laurie Forte,
Community Manager

Page 3 - This and That

Page 4 & 5 - Monsoon Season

Page 6 - Notices & Weather

Page 7 - Protecting your Home
and Yourself from Wild
land Fires

Page 8 - Classifieds

Page 9 - Rear View

Page 10 - Brush & Bulk
Collections

Page 11 - 13 - July and August
in the Garden

Page 14 & 15 - Community
Calendar

Page 16 - From the Bellasera
Board

Page 17 - BCA Information

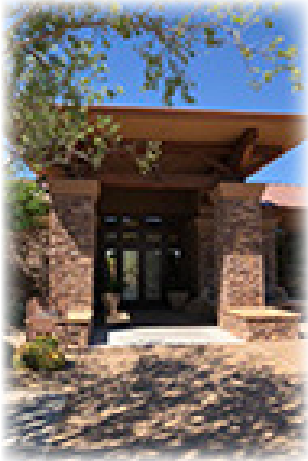


ARIZONA WILDLAND FIRES

Wildland fires, brush fires, forest fires or whatever you want to call them have been around since the beginning of time and will continue to be a part of living in areas such as the Sonoran Desert. As homes are built in previously undeveloped areas, it creates a situation known as the urban-wildland interface, a problem that adds to the work of local firefighters. Bellasera is an example of that interface problem, homes built in the desert landscape with NAOS (natural area open space) behind almost every home. The Bellasera Community has taken action to eliminate flammable material behind the homes with a five-foot clearance to mineral soil from rear fences into the NAOS area. In addition, work has begun on the removal of dead plant material for an additional fifteen feet into the NAOS area in locations deemed high fire hazard. Tree branches in the five-foot area can be trimmed to a height of six feet from the ground and four feet in the fifteen foot area.

As the community attempts to eliminate fire hazards in the open areas, it is important for property owners in Bellasera to understand they are the first line of defense against a wildfire. We are including some tips on how homeowners can and should protect their property. Please take the time to read these tips on page 7 of this newsletter and be prepared in case a wildfire should strike our community.

July and August - 2019



Clubhouse Corner

by Laurie Forte, Community Manager

Behind the Fence ...

PLEASE tell your landscapers that they CANNOT throw debris over the fence and into the wash. As our landscapers have been clearing the 5 foot break behind your fences they have found many lots where owners and/or landscapers have thrown debris over the fence. I have directed them to remove the debris ... THIS TIME. When they clear the area again before the view fences get painted and find debris, you will be charged to have it removed. Thank you for your cooperation.

Fitness Center work to be done starting August 5

As of right now, the new flooring and new weight equipment installation will begin on August 5th. The Fitness Center will be closed for the entire week. Please plan accordingly. If the date changes, I will put up notices in the Fitness Center. Thank you for your cooperation. We will also hold a couple of sessions with the new equipment with a trainer to make sure everyone knows how to properly use everything safely.

Outdoor shower repairs and re-tiling

The outdoor shower is scheduled to have all of the fixtures replaced and new tile installed this summer. Thanks to all who have been so patiently waiting for the showers to be repaired.

Pool Service

Just a reminder that if you backwash your pool or need to empty it, you must NOT empty into the wash behind your property.

Puppy Luv Animal Rescue

Many of you have already met 'Pepper' the Bellasera office dog. She comes to work with me many days during the week, and loves everyone!! She was a rescue from a local rescue called Puppy Luv. We also have residents who volunteer for this group. The rescue is in need of towels, sheets and blankets. If you have any of those items that you would like to donate, you can drop them off in the clubhouse under the counter at the main bulletin board by the front door. You can also call the office and we can arrange for a pickup. If you would like more information about the rescue go to www.puppyluvar.com.

This and That

Bellasera Book Club: We will be spending our summer relaxing and reading the books by **Willa Cather** and discuss them when we resume in October. Information: **kkmoore40@yahoo.com**.

Loop 101 widening project

In case you have not experienced it, construction work on the Loop 101 freeway has resulted in the closing of on and off ramps at Scottsdale Road. This work will continue for the next two months. Plan accordingly.

The Arizona Department of Transportation has begun a project to widen and improve Loop 101 from Interstate 17 in Phoenix to Pima Road in Scottsdale. To learn more about the project and upcoming traffic restrictions, please visit ADOT's project webpage, where you can also subscribe to project alerts. Following are upcoming restrictions:

- Eastbound Loop 101 will be closed between State Route 51 and 56th Street from 10 p.m. Friday, June 28, to 5 a.m., Monday, July 1.
- Scottsdale Road will be closed in both directions between Mayo Boulevard and the westbound Pima Freeway frontage road from 9 p.m. Monday, July 1, to 5 a.m. Tuesday, July 2, and from 9 p.m. Tuesday, July 2, to 5 a.m. Wednesday, July 3.
- The westbound Loop 101 off-ramp at Scottsdale Road will be closed through August. Detour on Hayden Road or 64th Street off-ramps.
- The eastbound Loop 101 on-ramp at Scottsdale Road will be closed from 9 p.m. Monday, June 24, to Friday, Aug. 23. Drivers can access eastbound Loop 101 at 64th Street or Hayden Road.
- The westbound Loop 101 on-ramp at Hayden Road will be closed through August. Detour on the westbound frontage road to Scottsdale Road or Pima Road/Princess Drive to access westbound Loop 101.
- The eastbound Loop 101 off-ramp at Hayden Road will be closed from 9 p.m. Monday, June 24, to Friday, Aug. 23. Detour on Scottsdale Road or Pima Road/Princess Drive off-ramps.
- North- and southbound left turn bays on 56th Street to east- and westbound Loop 101 will be reduced to one lane through construction of the 56th Street bridge.

It's monsoon season again. Here are a few (lifesaving) tips to survive this annual weather occurrence in our area.

- Driving around barricades is illegal and dangerous.
- Do not let children play near storm drains or washes after a heavy rain.
- Avoid low-water crossings.
- Avoid camping in a wash or in the bottom of a canyon with steep side slopes.
- Be especially cautious at night. Flood dangers are much more difficult to see in the dark.
- Even a less serious urban flood can be dangerous. Driving too fast through standing water can cause a car to hydroplane. The best defense is to slow down or pull well off the road (with the lights off) for a few minutes to wait out heavy rains.
- Avoid areas already flooded, especially if the water is flowing fast.
- Do not attempt to cross flowing streams.
- Do not camp or park a vehicle along streams and washes, particularly during threatening conditions.
- If flooding occurs, get to higher ground. Get out of areas subject to flooding. This includes dips, low spots, canyons, washes, etc.
- Roadbeds may be washed out under floodwaters. Never drive through flooded roadways.
- If your vehicle is suddenly caught in rising water, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- If a traffic signal is out, treat the intersection as a 4-way stop.
- As little as ten inches of water can float average-sized cars, mini-vans, SUVs and trucks. Strength of the flow is the critical force.
- When in doubt, wait it out, or find a safer route.

When thunder roars, go indoors. If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck by lightning. There is no place outside that is safe from a lightning strike. Remaining indoors for 30 minutes after seeing the last lightning and hearing the last thunder will eliminate the risk at the end of storms. If fewer than 30 seconds elapse between the time you see a flash and hear the thunder, then the flash is less than 6 miles away. Research has shown that the most successive flashes are within 6 miles, which means that you should have reached a safe place if lightning is less than 6 miles away. However, lightning may strike up to 10 miles away from the parent storm.

If someone is struck by lightning, call 911 immediately.

Never touch wiring during a thunderstorm. It's too late to unplug electronics if thunder is heard. Corded phones are dangerous during thunderstorms. Lightning traveling through telephone wires has killed people. Cell phone and cordless phones are safe.

Wait to use any plumbing: sinks, showers, tubs, and toilets. Plumbing can conduct electricity from lightning strikes from outside.

Unplug expensive electronics including TV, stereo, home entertainment centers, and computer modem lines when thunderstorms are expected, and before the storm arrives. Typically, summer thunderstorms form in the early to mid-afternoon, when most people are at work.

Stop playing video games connected to the TV.

No place outside is safe from lightning during a thunderstorm. When a storm approaches go to a nearby large substantial building or a fully-enclosed metal-topped vehicle. Bring pets indoors. Lightning and thunder are very scary for pets, and they are likely to panic or even run away to try and escape the storm.

Power and communications outages can be more widespread and last longer than a thunderstorm. Be ready for outages inside and outdoors by taking precautions and actions to minimize inconvenience and maximize safety. Protect sensitive electrical equipment by installing power protection devices that

can be purchased at department, hardware or electronics stores.

Stay at home.

Turn off electric appliances that were on before power was lost. Leave one light on as an indicator for when power is restored.

Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed — food will stay fresh up to 8 hours.

If the power is out for less than two hours, do not open the refrigerator or freezer. This will help food stay cold. For a power outage lasting longer than two hours, pack cold and frozen foods into coolers. As a general rule, perishable foods should not be held over 40 degrees for more than two hours.

During a thunderstorm, turn off the A/C unit. Power surges from lightning can overload units, leading to costly repair bills.

Stay away from downed power lines.

Call 911 to report downed power lines.

If a power line comes into contact with your vehicle, remain inside the vehicle until help arrives. Do not attempt to get out of the vehicle - that is the safest place for you to be. By stepping out of the vehicle, your body can become the pathway for electricity to reach the ground, causing severe bodily harm and possibly electrocution. Use a cell phone, if available, to notify emergency services of the exact location.

These are an underrated killer in Arizona! Straight line winds in any thunderstorm can lift huge clouds of dust and reduce visibilities to near zero in seconds, which can quickly result in deadly, multi-vehicle accidents on roadways.

Dust storms, or haboobs, are more common during the early part of the monsoon, but can occur at any time during the season, depending on rainfall patterns. Be prepared for blowing dust and reduced visibilities any time thunderstorms are nearby.

Remember: **PULL ASIDE, STAY ALIVE!** If you encounter a dust storm, and cannot avoid driving into it. Pull off the road as far as you can safely do so. Turn off your headlights and taillights. Put your vehicle in “PARK,” and/or engage your parking brake, and take your foot off the brake (so your brake lights are not illuminated.) Other motorists may tend to follow tail lights in an attempt to get through the dust storm, and may strike your vehicle from behind. For additional information, see **pullasidestayalive.org**.

Dust storms usually last a few minutes, and up to an hour at most. Stay where you are until the dust storm passes.



Meeting Notices

Board of Directors will meet on **Wednesday, September 25** at **1 p.m.**

Budget & Finance Committee will meet on **Wednesday, July 17** at **10 a.m.**

Building & Grounds Committee will meet on **Monday, July 8** at **10 a.m.**

Communications Committee will meet on **Tuesday, September 19** at **8:30 a.m.**

Modifications Committee will meet on **Tuesday, July 9 & August 13** at **noon**. Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **Thursday, July 4 and August 8 at 12 noon**.

June Weather in Bellasera

(June 1 - June 30)

Highest Temperature: **108**

Lowest temperature: **60**

Rainfall: **0.00**

Rainfall this year: **1.89**

Bellasera weather 24/7/365: **weather.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, July 29**, with the next pickup the week of **Monday, August 26**. 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. For more information, contact Solid Waste Management, **480-312-5600**.

Don't Forget - coming in 2020

Bellasera will be painting all the view fences in the community during February & March, 2020! Make plans to trim or remove plant material from your view fence and remove all rabbit fencing.

Remember - February & March 2020



Protecting your Home, and Yourself, from Wildland Fires

As a property owner, you are the first line of defense against a wildland fire meaning that you should take steps to provide a “defensible space” around your home. With our desert landscaping, much of that has already been accomplished, however there may be things that still need to be done. Consider these suggestions.

- Trim or thin out the head of trees to reduce the amount of fuel. If your trees overhang the NAOS area or your roof, they should be trimmed so they do not overhang these areas. Also trim shubbery away from your home. If shrubs catch fire, they can start your home on fire.
- Bellasera homes do not have open eaves that could catch embers during a fire and they also have non-combustable roofs. This is a good thing, but check to make sure you don’t have a build-up of leaves or debris on your roof or in rain gutters.
- Make sure your windows are in good condition. Double paned windows can stop a fire from breaking the glass and then entering your home.
- If there is a fire in Bellasera, cushions on patio furniture can catch fire. Move them into your home. If the fruniture is wood or any material other than metal, move them away from the structure.
- Remove ladder fuels to create a separation between low-level vegetation and tree branches to keep fire from climbing trees.
- DO NOT store any combustible materials next to your home.

In case you must evacuate your home, remember these important tips:

- Consider a “Go-Kit” with perscription medication, emergency supplies, important documents, and other essential items.
- If you don’t have a “Go-Kit” take important papers. You should already have them is a place where you can quickly access them.
- Don’t forget your medications. Again, have them in a place where you can quickly access them.
- Don’t forget your pets. Have a carrying cage ready and any medication your pet may need. They will be frightened so be gentle with them.
- Have your evacuation plan already figured out. How will you leave the community and where will you go. These are important things to consider.

Once again, you are the first line of defense against a wildfire. As we have witnessed many times across our country, wildfires can strike quickly and with devastating results. Be prepared and be fire safe.

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

Our four year old golden retriever needs a dog walker and a dog lover who will play ball with him at the dog park. Could that be you? Please text **Donna, 308-641-7942**.

Massage is a potent medicine. There is no question that proper massage can relax tense muscles, and decrease pain. Relaxing therapeutic massage is available in the privacy of your home or at the clubhouse Massage Room. For an appointment or further information contact Bellasera resident **Jim Birkholz**, licensed Massage Therapist at **480-244-9567**. Gift Certificates available.

I love living in Bellasera! Did you know that real estate inventory levels in our community are very low? I have buyers who want homes in Bellasera. Have you been thinking about making a move? Now is a great time to sell. Contact me today for a market analysis: **Audrey Fischer**, Realtor, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, **480-740-4223** or **audrey.fischer@azmoves.com**.

All about Cleaning *** Professional Window Cleaning. Inside-Outside-Tracks. Power Wash (After Monsoon season Must). Request an over the phone estimate or on-site free estimate. Call **Maria at 480-206-5237**, **www.AllAboutCleaningArizona.com**, e-mail: **Info@AllAboutCleaning Arizona.com**.

Cabin available for rent in Munds Park. enjoy fall foliage or plan ahead for snow adventures. 3 bedrooms, 2 sleeper sofas/2 baths; gas fireplace; fabulous deck; full kitchen; washer/dryer. \$300 weekend/\$500 for 3 night Holiday weekend. Cleaning fee negotiable. Call Bellasera resident **Marti Bening** at **480-488-4297** for details.

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 About Cleaning ***Regularly scheduled Home cleaning ***One Time Cleaning ***Move In/Out cleaning ***After Remodeling Cleaning. We have excellent references from long-time Bellasera Resident customers and surrounding areas. Call **Maria** at **480-206-5237** (owner-operator, Bellasera resident for over 10 years). Licensed-Bonded-Insured. **www.AllAboutCleaningArizona.com**, e-mail: **Info@AllAboutCleaningArizona.com**.

Introducing Desert Dwellers Home Watching Services, LLC, available exclusively to Bellasera residents. Desert Dwellers is owned and operated by year-round Bellasera residents, **Jennifer Brummet** and **Ross Strozeqski**. We are dedicated to ensuring our neighbors have access to reliable and trustworthy home monitoring services while they are away from their desert dwelling. We are licensed, bonded and insured and can provide a variety of weekly, by-monthly, and monthly home monitoring visits. Services are based on our clients' preferences and include inspections of both the interior and exterior perimeter of the property. All visits include a comprehensive home watching report. For a complete list of services and to schedule a complimentary assessment, please contact us, 480-634-1452, **ddhome watch@gmail.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. E-mail your ad to: **editor@azbellasera.org***

Rear View - A Bit of History

JULY 2014

As I reported in the May Newsletter, after the Settlement with the owner of the adjacent 12-acre parcel was finalized, one of our homeowners who objected to the terms of the Settlement filed a Motion with the Court in our case to re-open the litigation and undo our Settlement. After oral arguments before the Court on June 5, the Court on June 9 denied the homeowner's motion. Unless the homeowner chooses to appeal the Court's decision by July 9, our Settlement will become final.--Richard Hoffman

The Board of Directors approved a contract to re-tile and re-model the Men's and Women's Steam Rooms located in the clubhouse. The work is scheduled to begin in the middle of July and should take approximately a month (two weeks for each Steam Room) to complete. While work is ongoing, the respective Restroom (Men's or Women's) in which each Steam Room is located will be closed. To minimize the inconvenience to clubhouse/pool visitors and to our on-site Manager, the remodeling will be done sequentially – one Steam Room remodeled and re-tiled before work begins on the other - so that one 'Unisex' Restroom will be available at all times. We will advise our residents via e-mail blast before the work begins and as it progresses.

AUGUST 2014

There is apparently some confusion regarding the Board's recently adopted Noise Abatement policy which limits the days and times that vendors/contractors will be granted access to the community and to perform their work. Simply stated, vendors and contractors will only be admitted to Bellasera through the front security gate and allowed to work in the community, from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 7:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. No vendors or contractors will be admitted or allowed to work in the community on Sundays or on the following major holidays: New Years Day; Memorial Day; Fourth of July; Thanksgiving; and Christmas Day. No exceptions will be made except in the event of an emergency. Examples of such 'emergency' situations are: fire and weather emergencies; medical emergencies; emergency plumbing/water/electrical repair; emergency air conditioning/heating repair; restoration of telephone service; service vehicles from the utility companies; and 'house checking' services. Standard plumbing/electrical/air conditioning/heating/cable TV and other similar repairs and installations do not constitute emergencies. Please schedule your vendors and contractors with these limitations in mind.

JULY 2009

As expected, last month's column resulted in some responses on both sides of the dog leash issue. I would first like to make it clear that there is no confusion on behalf of the Scottsdale City Police regarding enforcement of the leash law within a private, gated community. They believe the law is clear and will steadfastly respond to all complaints about loose dogs whether they be in a public or private area.

On August 1 - Burgers, Bingo and Beer, 6 p.m. Join your neighbors for a fun and enjoyable night of playing Bingo with prizes, munching on BBQ'd burgers and sipping cool, refreshing Root Beer Floats. Note - alcoholic beverages are BYO. Sign up sheets at the clubhouse offer 2 options - bring a side dish or pay \$5 per person at the door

The Bellasera community wishes to express its sympathy and condolences to the relatives and many friends of resident Bob Gillette, 75, who passed away on June 20, from sarcoma. Survivors include his wife, Pat, daughter Rebecca, sons Robert and Christopher, and five grandchildren.

AUGUST 2009

Poker and Pizza Night – Saturday, September 12, 6 p.m. Bring your penny jar and good luck for an evening of Texas Hold 'Em, Dueces Wild and other winning hands. No experience necessary. You may start as a beginner, but by evening's end, will have learned a new vocabulary of Poker speak and hopefully accumulated piles of pennies (yours and/or your neighbors). Pizza and soft drinks will be provided. BYOB. Remember to bring your food donations for the local food bank that evening. Sign up sheets are posted at the clubhouse.

If you are interested in a Bellasera logo baseball cap or white t-shirt, both are available for order at the clubhouse bulletin board. These are offered at rock bottom prices to residents. Mens White T-shirts and Ladies Cut White T-shirts - \$10 each & XXL \$12.

Brush & Bulk Collection

Scottsdale Solid Waste provides monthly brush and bulk collection for residents who pay for residential collection services. This service provides an easy and convenient way for you to dispose of items too big to fit in your curbside container. To get the most out of this service, please put out the right stuff, at the right time in the right way.

The Right Stuff

Brush & bulk collection is for things like yard waste, furniture, mattresses and other large items. Please do not put out tires, paint, paint thinners, strippers, pesticides, batteries, motor oils, chlorine or pool acid for bulk collection. Dispose of these at the City's Household Hazardous Waste drop-off events. Please do not put out construction or remodeling debris, sheet glass, windows or mirrors. Residents are responsible for debris like this – when you're remodeling, make sure your contractor hauls this stuff away. Schedule your trimmings and cleanup projects to coincide with the brush removal schedule, so it can be removed from the curb in a timely manner. Your neighbors will appreciate it!

The Right Time

Have your brush and bulk out for collection by 5 a.m. the Monday of the week your area is scheduled. **Bulk trash cannot be put out any more than 3 days prior to the Monday of bulk pick up week!**

The Right Way

Remember that each homeowner is responsible for the manner in which material is placed out for collection, whether or not you hire someone else to do the work. Please separate your brush and bulk pick up into two piles – one for green waste and one for everything else. The piles will be picked up by separate trucks during your designated brush and bulk pick up week. The green waste – yard clippings, branches and trimmings – will be composted to help grow new plants, while the rest will be taken to the landfill for disposal.

Please stack items neatly, parallel to the street on your front property line, where your trash collection typically takes place. The piles should not exceed 10 feet long by 6 feet wide by 4 feet tall. Please place the bulk waste and green waste piles at least three feet apart from each other.

Prepare items for Collection

- Cut tree limbs into 6-foot segments and stacked neatly so that all cut ends point in the same direction.
- Tree limbs and other objects must be less than 12 inches in diameter.
- Wood panels and wood fencing must be no larger than 5 feet square.
- Keep glass separate from other items, in small, sturdy cardboard boxes and clearly labeled. Boxes should be 2'x2'x2' or smaller.
- Place yard clippings (grass & leaves) in plastic bags. Bags must be securely tied.
- Place cacti in sturdy closed boxes with lids. Boxes should be 2'x2'x2' or smaller.
- City crews will only remove large debris. The equipment used often leaves behind small debris, which is the homeowner's responsibility to cleanup.
- Do not place bulk trash on or within four feet of city-owned containers or bins, water meters, cable boxes, fire hydrants, block walls or other fixed objects



July & August in the Garden

by Joe McDade

Settle Into Summer....Along With Your Garden Change Is Underway

With the Summer Solstice behind us and all our winter neighbors headed for cooler climates, those of us who stuck around for the summer get to experience changes in our environment. Along with the predictable rise in temperatures, there is less congestion on the streets, in the stores and restaurants. And, you can't help but notice the healthy growth our vegetation has undergone, especially native trees which is a direct result of our wonderful winter rainfall. Your garden has now started to go through a metamorphosis that is not visible. It is entering a slowdown period when gardening comes to a standstill, starting in July and continuing into August. It's just not a good time to do any serious planting.

As Your Garden Slows Down.... Important Tasks Await You

As we step into summer, there are a number of important maintenance tasks that require your attention, with **pruning** at the top of the list, especially native trees. As always watering is a high priority along with **general cleanup**, especially burned out weeds

Native Tree Maintenance

Pruning- Summer is the recommended time to prune native desert trees because they are actively growing and can recover quickly. Things to consider before undertaking this task:

- Good pruning is both an art and a science.
- The result should be a safe, healthy and beautiful tree that complements its natural growth habit.
- If you prune your trees yourself, familiarize yourself with proper pruning principals and techniques. There is a lot of literature available, including the Internet.
- If you hire someone to prune your trees, be sure **they** understand proper pruning principals and techniques.
- Remove no more than one-quarter of a tree's branches in a year. Cutting off too much foliage "starves" the plant by reducing its ability to synthesize and can leave it susceptible to disease.
- It's advisable to hold off any pruning for at least one year after planting. Two years is even better. If you allow as many branches as possible to survive, the tree will develop strength and trunk girth.

Keep in mind that the longer you wait to prune your mesquites, the higher the risk of wind damage during the monsoon.

Watering....Coping with The Heat

Last June brought us exceptionally hot weather while this June was a different story as our temperatures were on the moderate side for this time of year. The heat will certainly pick up in July and August and there are some steps you can take to help your garden cope. In the meantime, to get you through these hot months, I'd like to offer some general watering recommendations.

Landscape Plants

- Increase water application as the weather warms. Pay attention to irrigation needs of plants.
- Apply mulch to the ground around the base of heat sensitive plants to keep the roots cooler and prevent evaporation. Keep the mulch several inches away from the trunk.

- Cut off spent blooms to stimulate rebloom.
- Late August or early September fertilization will benefit most plants struggling to have a flush of growth before slowing down for the winter. The growth put on before dormancy will store more energy during the winter that will be available to the plant when it pushes growth in the Spring.

Annual Flowers- If you have planted some annual flowers, they are more than likely in pots where soil temperatures heat up to triple digits, and roots will “cook” without adequate moisture. Containers in full sun often require **daily watering**. Water should soak through the soil and drain out the bottom of the pot with each application to prevent salt buildup which can kill plants over time. The frequent watering needed in summer, unfortunately, also leaches nutrients out of the soil. Therefore, a slow-release or organic fertilizer is recommended as they are less likely to burn plant roots in the summer heat compared to a faster-acting chemical fertilizer.

Note****I planted **Vincas** for the first time with great results. If you’re looking for big, bold color for sunny spots, the annual Vinca varieties are probably for you. These plants have the botanical name Catharanthus and are bred from a heat and drought tolerant, sun-loving species from Madagascar. They have pinwheel-shaped flowers in festive shades of lavender, pink, red, and white. They thrive in pots and their low-water, heat-loving nature have made them ideal for our summer.

Citrus- Our hot weather will easily stress your citrus trees for water which results in fruit rinds becoming tough. Later in fall, rinds will crack and split because they are unable to expand as the fruit increases in size. Water mature trees every 10 to 14 days to a depth of 3 feet. Newly planted trees need water every 5 to 7 days to a depth of about 2 feet (or through the entire root ball). Note**** Citrus will let you know when they are stressed as they will literally look like they are begging for water.

Trees- The monsoon normally brings adequate moisture for your native trees. With the amount of rain we’ve had this past nine months, there shouldn’t be any reason to supplement unless we go into a complete dry spell the next couple of months. If that happens, you will need to soak them thoroughly, one time each month. A soaker hose is ideal for this task.

Remember: The arrival of the **monsoon** (we hope) will bring welcome relief for you and your garden. During July, humidity should start arriving from the Gulf of California which will bring us thunderstorms and blowing dust.

It’s Bean Pod Time!

The fruits of many desert plants are continuing to ripen such as Prickly-pears and other cacti. In addition, Ironwood, Palo Verde and Mesquite trees are also loaded with fruit in the form of bean pods. These three native trees are dominant in Bellasera as a good number of them were uprooted and saved during home construction in order to be replanted in your front yard. Of course these “fruits” result in a cleanup challenge for us.

We have all four species of green-barked Palo Verde trees: the Blue Palo Verde, the Foothills Palo Verde, the Mexican Palo Verde and the Palo Brea. All four produce a different bean pod.

Miscellaneous Tasks and Observations

Hose off dusty plants-Summer storms promote populations of spider mites, which thrive on dusty foliage. They are especially attracted to roses but appear on many plants. Look for their telltale fine webbing or a rusty appearance on leaves. Hose off plants early in the morning before the sun heats up. Spray as often as needed to remove dust or to control mites.

Black widow spiders-These beneficial garden creatures consume annoying pests, such as cockroaches and crickets. Black widow spiders (*Latrodectus hesperus*) are active on warm summer nights;

Scorpions- are active during hot summer nights and are effective predators of other insects. Although the sting of a scorpion is painful, it is generally not life threatening.

Hummingbirds- There is a dramatic increase in hummingbird activity this month, as many species begin “tanking up” fat reserves for migration, and other species arrive here on their way south.

Fertilization - Do not fertilize until the weather cools.

Roses- Cut back on fertilizing established roses to encourage plants to slow down for the hot summer. Water deeply as temperatures climb and hose off plants in the early morning to increase humidity and control spider mites.

Toward the end of August and into September add an iron supplement if roses show yellowing from iron deficiency.

What To Plant

July- as mentioned above, gardening is almost at a standstill. However, Native Americans traditionally sowed summer crops right before the start of the monsoons. The desert’s brief summer season of extra rainfall and humidity promoted seed germination and encouraged plants to grow quickly. Native crop choices for today’s gardeners include: •amaranth •devil’s claw •melons •squash •tepary beans

August -Normally the start of our late summer/early fall vegetable planting season which continues into November. Unless we have a dramatic monsoon, I would hold off until September which will still give you plenty of time. I’ll provide more details on fall planting in September.

Happy 4th of July.....Think of July 4th, 1776 as a day that represents the Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States of America as an independent nation.

*“There are flowers everywhere for those who are willing to see them”
Henri Matisse*

See you in September.....Just in time for football season!

(If you have a gardening question, please contact the Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Service at 602-470-8086)



July

2019

Bellasera Community Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	¹ Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	² Poker - 7 pm	³ Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	 Office closed	⁵ Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	⁶ Pickelball - 9 am
⁷	⁸ Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am Building & Grounds - 10 am	⁹ Poker - 7 pm Modifications Committee - noon	¹⁰ Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	¹¹ Yoga - 8:00 am	¹² Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	¹³ Pickelball - 9 am
¹⁴	¹⁵ Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	¹⁶ Poker - 7 pm	¹⁷ Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am Budget & Finance - 10 am	¹⁸ Yoga - 8:00 am	¹⁹ Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	²⁰ Pickelball - 9 am
²¹	²² Water Aerobics - 10 am	²³ Office closed Poker - 7 pm	²⁴ Office closed Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	²⁵ Office closed	²⁶ Office closed Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	²⁷ Pickelball - 9 am
²⁸ Brush & Bulk Removal	²⁹ Office closed Water Aerobics - 10 am	³⁰ Office closed Poker - 7 pm	³¹ Office closed Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am			

August

2019

Subtitle

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				¹	² Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	³ Pickelball - 9 am
⁴	⁵ Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	⁶ Poker - 7 pm	⁷ Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	⁸ Yoga - 8:00 am	⁹ Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	¹⁰ Pickelball - 9 am
¹¹	¹² Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	¹³ Poker - 7 pm Modifications Committee - noon	¹⁴ Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	¹⁵ Yoga - 8:00 am	¹⁶ Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	¹⁷ Pickelball - 9 am
¹⁸	¹⁹ Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	²⁰ Poker - 7 pm	²¹ Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	²² Yoga - 8:00 am	²³ Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	²⁴ Pickelball - 9 am
²⁵ Brush & Bulk Removal	²⁶ Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	²⁷ Poker - 7 pm	²⁸ Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	²⁹ Yoga - 8:00 am	³⁰ Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	³¹ Pickelball - 9 am

From the Bellasera Board

- The Board convened an emergency meeting on June 12, 2019 to address the increasing threat of fire in our NAOS. Scottsdale law allows us to remove all vegetation within a distance of 5 feet behind a lot's view fence, and remove dead material within an additional 15 feet, for a total fire prevention barrier of 20 feet. Our landscaping company was already working on the 5 feet barrier as part of our basic landscaping contract. The Board approved spending an additional \$8,700 to hire a supplemental crew to work on the additional 15 feet barrier. Based on expert advice, the Board and our Manager directed the work efforts to focus on certain high-risk areas near the highways before addressing the interior areas.

We are fortunate to have **Paul Rippens** in our community and he deserves recognition. **Paul** has been very instrumental in advising us in this matter. **Paul** is the retired Chief of Forestry, Los Angeles County Fire Department, and is our contact with the Scottsdale Fire Chief, who at **Paul's** request agreed to visit our community and review our situation.

- As mentioned last month, the Modifications Committee will begin inspecting homes to make sure the exterior paint is up to standards expected in the community. The Modification Committee is in the process of working with Dunn Edwards to update the color palette for acceptable primary and trim colors. That will be available in the Manager's Office when finished. Homeowners are not bound to use Dunn Edwards paint, but may use paint from any other supplier as long as the colors match the approved palette.

- Work should begin on replacing the exercise room floor and replacing/reconfiguring the exercise equipment during the first week of August. Look for notices on the clubhouse doors as the date gets closer. The fitness center will be completely shut down while the work is being done.

- The West tennis court has been repaired and painted, and is ready for play.

- Last month we reminded the community of the rules regarding contractors entering the community on Sundays and holidays, and entry through the Lone Mountain gate. The Board fined a resident \$250 who knowingly participated in assisting a contractor enter through the Lone Mountain gate on a restricted day.

- The Board has directed a review of the Facilities Policy, particularly as it applies to the number of guests who may use the facilities while accompanied by a resident. As always, comments are welcome while this process is underway. If anyone cares to comment, please drop a note in the suggestion box or send an email to **Laurie** and she will see that it is forwarded to the appropriate people. We are not interested in denying the use of our facilities by guests, but we want to make sure our residents are the primary beneficiaries of our facilities.

- It was mentioned last month, but it's worth mentioning again: effective July 1, 2019 all gate passes and facility fob's will be turned off for residents who have account balances that are unpaid for over 120 days. Once the account is brought current, privileges will be re-activated. Be sure and check your statements when they arrive in the mail.



Bellasera Community Association

**7350 E Ponte Bella Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85266-2701**

**Office: 480-488-0400
Security/Front Gate: 480-488-3663**

**Web Site: azbellasera.org
Weather: weather.azbellasera.org
Community Directory: directory.azbellasera.org**

**Community Manager: Laurie Forte, Lforte@aamaz.com
-Office Hours-
Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**Questions regarding your account?
Contact AAM, LLC: 602-957-9191 or toll free, 866-354-0257
AAM, LLC (after hours, emergency): 602-957-9191 or toll free, 866-553-8290**

Bellasera Community Volunteers

*Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless
Interested in volunteering? Go to azbellasera.org, "BCA Members" page*

Board of Directors board@azbellasera.org

**President - Dennis Carson - dmcbca@cox.net
Vice President - Joe Carlon - jmc0465@aol.com
Secretary - Dennis Soeffner - dennissoeffner@aol.com
Treasurer - David Reid - dreid997@gmail.com
Director - Carl Leroux - carllerox@hotmail.com**

Committees

Budget & Finance - Audrey Fischer, Mary Moore, Chuck Roach, Carlton Rooks - Chair, Charles Schroeder, Paul Snyder

Buildings & Grounds - Bob Gromko, John Mattox, Jim Ragborg-Co-Chair, Tom Saari-Co-Chair, Dennis Soeffner,
Jill Wyllie, Bruce Van Cleave

Communications - Dennis Carson, Keith Christian-Chair, Joe McDade, Carol Padwe, Paul Rippens

Modifications - Stanley Green, David Hathaway, Craig Johnson, David Reid-Chair

Security Advisory - Joe Carlon