

# BELLASERA

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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Area Manager, AAM

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New Fitness Center Layout -  
photos by Keith Christian

### Bellasera Fitness Center gets upgrades!

Pictured above is Bellasera's newly refurbished fitness center. After months of research by community volunteers, the Board of Directors approved the replacement of the original carpet and certain original strength equipment for the exercise area. Some of the equipment dated back to when Bellasera opened in 1998. A fitness consultant evaluated our current weight equipment and made recommendations on a replacement strategy. The Board and members of the Building and Grounds committee visited several local fitness centers, two of which were recently renovated.

Two additional fitness consultants and an exercise physiologist reviewed our strategy. All of them advised us that we were space constrained and, expressed safety concerns, particularly related to the spacing behind our tread mills. Layout design concepts were proposed with that in mind. Each consultant has experience with our age demographic and the equipment selection was made with that in mind.

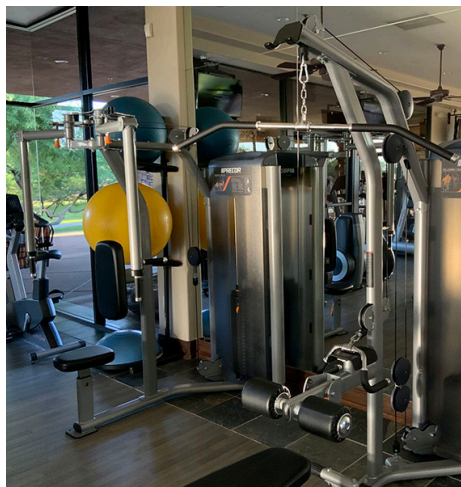
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## Fitness Center (continued from page 1):



Precor Multi-Press



Precor Rear Delt/Pec Fly (left)  
Precor Pulldown/Seated Row (right)



Precor Abdominal/Back Extension

Three bids for replacement equipment and flooring were received and reviewed.

Based on the knowledge gained during the review, the Board selected four pieces of Precor equipment, three of which are dual use. We elected to replace the original gym carpet with a synthetic wood-grain surface that is fusion bonded to a 5mm base layer. The result is beautiful flooring that looks like real wood, but is more economical, durable, and easier to clean. The product, Bounce II, is hygienic because of heat-welded installation, is quiet underfoot, is ergonomic, and low maintenance due to a protective wear layer.

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## This and That

### Ladies Luncheon:

Ladies luncheon will be on **Thursday, September 19** at noon at Confluence restaurant, 36889 N. Tom Darlington Drive in Carefree Marketplace. Contact **Lucy**, 480-595-8218, [ciaolucyr@gmail.com](mailto:ciaolucyr@gmail.com), if you can attend.

### Water exercise:

There is a water exercise group every morning at 8 a.m. in the Bellasera pool. We would like to invite anyone who wants to participate. We play music and try to walk, and exercise in the water. This way even if we are sore and achy we can run and dance pain free in the water! Everyone is welcome! **Linda Sotnick, 480-575-7040.**

### Wine Tasting:

The September wine tasting event will be on **Friday, September 27**, from 5 - 7 p.m., hosted by **Tom and Dianna Saari** at 7628 E Ponte Bella Drive. Since we are in the waning days of summer, please bring a summer red or white wine and a favorite appetizer. Come join the party! We have a sign-up sheet posted in the clubhouse, or you can e-mail, [disaari@aol.com](mailto:disaari@aol.com) or call, **480-361-8392**, if you plan to attend. We look forward to seeing you all.

### Facebook:

If you're a Facebook fan and would like a couple of nice pages to view, try these two: *Beautiful Arizona Sunsets* and *Arizona Wildflowers & Cacti*.





# Clubhouse Corner

by Annette McCarthy - Area Manager

We're happy to report **Ronda Lalli** will be Bellasera's new AAM Portfolio Manager. Bellasera will be one of the communities under

**Ronda's** management.

In the coming weeks, the Board will work with **Ronda, Annette**, and AAM management to identify the best person who will be located on-site in our office part time to act as our Resident Services Coordinator. The RSC reports to the area Portfolio Manager.

**Ronda** has 6+ years of experience in management of planned community associations similar to Bellasera, with a focus on project and expense management. **Ronda** will work with the Board to develop and manage the budget, and act as the Board's agent managing community projects. She will be in our community on an as-needed basis. We think Ronda's experience will be a valuable contribution to the Board and Bellasera residents.

The Resident Services Coordinator is the first point of contact for resident's requests and/or concerns. The RSC will manage reservations for the Association's facilities including the courts and the activity room, inspect the Clubhouse and pool for needed maintenance and cleaning, assist with issuing car gate transponders and fobs, and provide administrative support for the Community Manager by bringing any other matters that are beyond the RSC's scope of authority to the attention of **Ronda** and the Board.

## Prepare for Fence Painting -

In preparation for fence Painting to begin in February 2020, we ask that you take a look at plant material that may need to be pulled or cut back from the view fencing. We have noticed some overgrown plants that are growing through the fencing during

landscape walks. Also, remember that any rabbit barriers will need to be removed for the fence painting. If you have any questions concerning this upcoming project, please call the Bellasera office for clarifications.

## Email Address Updates –

We would like to encourage all residents to update your email addresses so that you can be assured to receive all communications from the office and your Board of Directors. There are two sources from which you may receive e-blast communications. From the Bellasera website and/or from Constant Contact from AAM. You can contact me at the Bellasera office or email with updated email addresses at [amccarthy@aamaz.com](mailto:amccarthy@aamaz.com). Both email data bases will be updated with this information. Thank you for your attention to this important information!

## Reminder: New Bellasera office hours –

You have received some recent communications concerning a change in the Office hours for your Bellasera Community. As a reminder, the office will be staffed from **8:30 am to 12:30 pm Monday through Friday**. We are currently evaluating the traffic in the office as well as the needs of the residents and will notify you if these hours need to be adjusted. If you need assistance after **12:30 pm**, you may call me on my Direct Line **602-906-4932**. I check those messages regularly and will be happy to get back to you.

## Update...Outdoor Shower repairs & re-tiling –

In a previous newsletter the outdoor shower repairs and re-tiling project was planned to have been completed this summer. We are currently working on better identifying the scope of work for this project so there will be a delay. We appreciate your patience on this project. Watch for details of the shower project in upcoming communications.

## Meeting Notices

**Board of Directors** will meet on **Wednesday, September 25** at **1:00 p.m.**

**Budget & Finance Committee** will meet on **Wednesday, September 18** at **10:00 a.m.**

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

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

**Modifications Committee** will meet on **Tuesday, September 10** at **noon**. Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **Thursday, September 5** at **12 noon**.

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### Bellasera Weather at a Touch

A free app for your iPhone, iPad only provides instant Bellasera weather information at a touch. This app is only available in the Apple App Store. In the App Store, 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, [wx@azbellasera.org](mailto:wx@azbellasera.org)

### July & August Weather in Bellasera

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

Highest Temperature: July: **111** - August: **112**

Lowest temperature: July: **70** - August: **72**

Rainfall: July: **0.43 inches** - August **0.34 inches**

Rainfall this year: **9.30 inches**

Bellasera weather 24/7/365: [weather.azbellasera.org](http://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](mailto: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.

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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 **Monday, September 30**, with the next pickup the week of **Monday, October 28**. 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**.

# September

2019

## Bellaser Community Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am 	3 Poker - 7 pm	4 Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	5 Yoga - 8:00 am	6 Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	7 Pickelball - 9 am
8	9 Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	10 Building & Grounds - 10 am Modifications - Noon Poker - 7 pm	11 Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	12 Yoga - 8:00 am	13 Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	14 Pickelball - 9 am
15	16 Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	17 Poker - 7 pm	18 Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am Communications-8:30 am Budget & Finance - 10 am	19 Yoga - 8:00 am Ladies Lunch - 12 noon.	20 Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	21 Pickelball - 9 am
22	23 Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am 	24 Poker - 7 pm	25 Pickelball - 9 am Water Aerobics - 10 am Board of Directors - 1 pm	26 Yoga - 8:00 am	27 Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm Wine Tasting - 5 - 7 pm	28 Pickelball - 9 am
29 Brush & Bulk Removal	30 Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am					

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

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.

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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](http://www.AllAboutCleaningArizona.com), e-mail: [Info@AllAboutCleaningArizona.com](mailto:Info@AllAboutCleaningArizona.com).

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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.

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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.

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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](http://www.AllAboutCleaningArizona.com), e-mail: [Info@AllAboutCleaningArizona.com](mailto:Info@AllAboutCleaningArizona.com).

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Desert Dwellers Home Watching, LLC, is a home watching service exclusively for Bellasera residents. Desert Dwellers is owned and operated by year-round Bellasera residents **Jennifer Brummet** and **Ross Strozewski**. We are dedicated to ensuring our neighbors have access to reliable and trustworthy home monitoring while away from their desert dwelling. We are licensed and insured and provide a variety of weekly, bi-monthly or monthly visits. We provide visual inspections of the interior and exterior of the home including, but not limited to, check of windows and doors for any potential problems, visual inspection of landscaping, run water in all sinks, bathtubs and showers (to keep traps from drying out and prevent sewer gases from entering your home), start and run vehicles, and post storm surveying. All visits include a comprehensive home watching report. For a complete list of services and to schedule a complimentary assessment contact us at **480-634-1452** or e-mail us at [ddhomewatch@gmail.com](mailto:ddhomewatch@gmail.com).

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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**.

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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](mailto:audrey.fischer@azmoves.com).

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*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](mailto:editor@azbellasera.org)*

## **Rear View - A Bit of History**

### **SEPTEMBER 2009**

The Board recently approved the purchase and installation of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for the clubhouse. The AED is a portable electronic device that automatically diagnoses the potentially life threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia in a patient. It's able to treat them through defibrillation, the application of electrical therapy, which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm. AEDs are designed to be simple to use for the layman.

Road crews are finishing up the repaving of Scottsdale Road from Dixileta to Dove Valley. The new rubberized asphalt surface promises to reduce the road noise level for residents living and playing near one of Scottsdale main traffic arteries, just west of the Bellasera community.

Poker and Pizza Night – Saturday, September 12, 6 p.m. Bring your penny jar and good luck for an evening of FIVE CARD DRAW. 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. Remember to bring your food donations for the local food bank that evening. Sign up sheets are posted at the clubhouse.

Over the past year, as we've had more time to focus on reading all of the requirements in our Governing Documents-and make no mistake they are vast- we've come across issues that haven't previously been addressed. Recently, we've been sending out letters on incorrect paint schemes and metal art hung on front or side walls. For some of our residents, these issues have been outstanding for a considerable period of time. So, our letters are an unpleasant surprise.

### **SEPTEMBER 2014**

Green, Green Grass of Home. It's never been greener, not the grass, but the Sonoran Foothills landscape where we live, not in the last 15 years I've lived here. All due to the 4.64 inches of rain that's fallen this monsoon season here at the Official International House of Newsletters Weather Station. It looks more like a March scene, after the winter rains, than late August. For those away from Bellasera for the summer -- hope it lasts awhile. It's something to see. —Editor

The re-tiling of the clubhouse steam rooms is now complete and both restrooms can be used as usual. However, the steam rooms still require plate covers for outlets and it may be a few days before they can actually be used. Thank you all for your patience during this time of remodeling.

The next trash pick-up by Bellasera residents on Lone Mountain Road is planned for Saturday, September 27 at 8 a.m. The community has adopted this roadway as a participant in Scottsdale's Adopt-A-Road program. Our portion of Lone Mountain Road is from Scottsdale Road to Hayden Road.



# Respecting Our Open Space

In the July/August edition of this newsletter, we featured articles concerning wildland fire and what the Bellasera Community can do to protect our open space along with protecting the homes. As part of the community work, a five-foot area has been cleared behind all residents lots and the discussion continues as to what else can be done. During this work and the subsequent inspection of the clearance, it was noted there are violations to the NAOS (Natural Area Open Space) rules imposed by the City of Scottsdale. Some of those violations are being noted in this newsletter in the hope that those residents who are causing these infractions will correct them and that others will take notice and make sure they are not being included in these violations. It is important for all residents to remember they cannot disturb in anyway the open space and cannot use this area for dumping trash, yard clippings, or disposing of waste water or back-wash water from pools. It is our part of the Sonoran Desert and we must protect it!

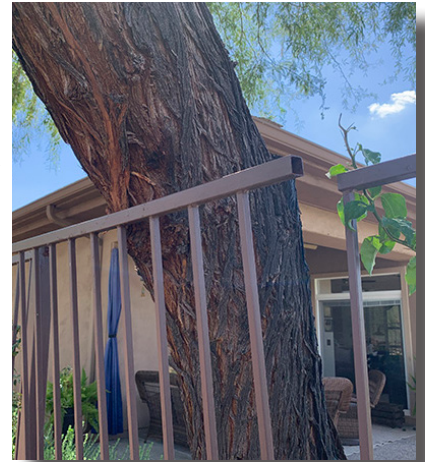
- Pool, spa, or any landscaping backflushing is not permitted into the NAOS by the City of Scottsdale. Such moisture can allow for more vegetation growth thus causing more fuel in case of a fire. Water from pools and/or spas may have chemicals in them that can be damaging to plants and wildlife. Moisture from these releases can also cause damage to the stucco finish on the walls. The photo to the right shows that a drain has been installed through the wall so that the pool backwash can be dumped into the NAOS area. Questions may be answered using The City of Scottsdale - Water Quality website or by calling (480) 312-8780.



- Trash and yard clippings must not be dumped over yard fences into the NAOS area. These items dry out in the intense desert heat and become additional fuel in case of a fire. Branches can also move during heavy rainfall and dam water ways causing water flow issues. Please make sure you or your gardener/landscaper does not throw material over the fence. The photo to the left shows yard clippings have been disposed of by throwing into the NAOS area.



- As the development ages, so do the trees planted in our yards. If your trees are damaging the view fencing around your yard, it is your responsibility to have the tree either trimmed or removed. The view fence belongs to the Bellasera Community, not the property owner and you may be responsible for any damage to the fence. The photo to the right shows damage that has been done and will now have to be corrected.
- Have your gardener/landscaper keep vines or plants trimmed that are on your view fences. This is especially important with the fence painting project scheduled for February and March of 2020. Please allow for a 6 inch clearance between the fence and your landscaping to allow the painters access to both side of the fence.



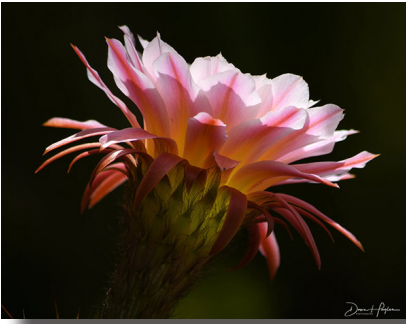
- Green pools or fountains are a breeding ground for mosquitos. If you are a part time resident, please make sure you have taken care of this problem before leaving. Any green pool, pond or fountain noticed in Bellasera is immediately reported to the City of Scottsdale for action. Remember that mosquitos can carry the West Nile virus and so far this year seven people in Maricopa County have died from this virus. For more information contact the City of Scottsdale website, [scottsdaleaz.gov](http://scottsdaleaz.gov), or **480-312-2546**.

- With the dry desert landscaping, it's hard to believe that this has happened. A resident has dumped their barbecue charcoal briquettes over their view fence into the NAOS area! Please, let's use some common sense and not do this type of thing. The photo shown at the right says it all.



- Residents of Bellasera are required to have a certain number of trees in their front yard landscaping and those trees must have lighting provided. However, lighting installed in the NAOS area is not permitted. Several lights have been noticed in the NAOS area and must be removed.

If you find any of these problems in your yard, please take action to correct them.



# September in the Garden

by Joe McDade

## What Happened To The Monsoon?

Here in Bellasera we can certainly attest to the fact that this year's monsoon season has been a disappointment which is actually an understatement. While some parts of Arizona have seen decent storms, the storms have been few and far between for us. And, as we head into September, there aren't a lot of strong signs that pattern will change.

Here are some statistics:

- This is the eighth driest monsoon season on record for this point in the season.
- We've seen just over a quarter of an inch of rain so far at Sky Harbor where the "official" monsoon season is recorded. The current driest year on record is 1924 when the Valley picked up .35 inches of rain.
- If we don't get any more rain the entire season (which ends Sept. 30), it would end up as the driest. However, don't give up hope!

It's worth noting that in 2014, we went into the last month of the season with a measly total as well which turned around quickly in September as we received record rainfall. So, there is still a chance.

## What Happened To Your Garden?..... Heat Stress!

Like some of us, your garden has been suffering from heat stress for many weeks and will soon start to recover with the cooling nighttime temperatures. As we say goodbye to our mediocre monsoon season, we have been greeted with some late summer, above average and certainly unwelcome, temperatures. While it's not atypical for this time of year, it does make you wonder if summer will ever end. Well, don't despair football season is here and cooler temperatures, along with lower humidity levels, should start arriving this month which will be a welcome relief to your garden (along with you I'm sure). So, have positive garden thoughts!

## Transition To Fall

While September is a healing or recovery month, it is also the kickoff month for prime planting time. So, let's think positive as I attempt to provide some suggestions and guidance for our fall garden undertakings.

## Fall Planting

### Guidelines, Suggestions & Timing

**Evaluate Your Garden:** September is the ideal month to take a look at your landscape to decide *what works and what doesn't*. Most all of our landscaping in Bellasera was initially put in by landscapers almost 20 years ago and I'm sure everything was *not planted* in an optimal spot. So, I encourage you to take an inventory and answer these questions?

- Do I need to move some plants that did not do well in full sun or, perhaps, needed full sun?
- What do I need to replace? Remember, plants have a life cycle.
- What should I add?

**Site Selection:** This is the key to growing non-native plants here in the Sonoran desert. The sun will be getting farther and farther south each day. A site on the North side of a wall with

half-day light now will be in more shade later. Plants need at least six to eight hours of sun to perform properly.

**Timing:** Based on our poor monsoon season and slow cool down, the optimum time to start planting, especially landscape shrubs, trees, cacti and succulents 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.

### What To Plant

**Landscape plants-** After Sept. 15, you should be able to begin planting *landscape shrubs, trees, cacti, succulents and ornamental grasses*. Early fall planting allows roots to become established in warm soils before cold nighttime temperatures set in. The sun can still be very intense this month, so protect cacti and other succulents with shade for a few weeks to prevent damage to stems. **Note:** Again, be sure nighttime temperatures are in the 70's.

**Vegetables-**Yes, you can grow vegetables here in Bellasera. If you have the inclination, energy and time, try these:

What To Plant	When to Plant	How
Carrots	Sept.20-Nov. 1	Seeds
Beets	Sept. 20 -Dec 15	Seeds
Green Onions	Sept. 15 - Nov. 15	Seeds
Radishes	Oct. 1 - Nov. 30	Seeds
Garlic	Oct. 1- Oct.31	Cloves
Endive	Sept. 1 - Nov. 15	Seeds
Lettuce (head)	Aug. 20 - Sept. 20	Seeds
Lettuce (leaf)	Sept. 1 - Nov. 15	Seeds
Cabbage	Sept. 20 - Oct. 1	Transplants or Seeds
Cauliflower	Sept. 20 -Oct. 1	Transplants or Seeds
Broccoli	Sept. 20-Oct 10	Transplants or Seeds

### Miscellaneous Tasks

**Feed Citrus-** If you did not do so in August, fertilize with your third and final application of the year which helps improve fruit size.

**Prune Roses-** Around mid-month, prepare hybrid roses for their second bloom period. Remove dead or damaged canes, weak, spindly foliage and any suckers arising from below the bud union (a slight bump at the base of the stem where the variety was grafted to the root stock). Cut back no more than one-third of the plant. Apply a slow-release fertilizer and water to a depth of 2 feet.

**Weeds-** We probably won't have many weeds, but, just in case, be sure and pull any that might have sprouted. Weeds compete with garden plants for moisture, nutrients and sunlight, and also harbor pests such as beet leafhoppers, which transmit curly top virus to tomatoes and other vegetables.

**Watering** - With the heat continuing, maintain your summer watering schedule for trees and shrubs, begin to cut back a little by late September to let things slow down and begin hardening off for winter.

If it is one of those years where it is still above 100° and the nights are still hot, hold off on the water cutbacks until early October. Those plants that are just waking up after the hot summer will want water.



**Pruning-** Continue pruning only for health and safety. The sun is still intense although it is coming in more horizontally. You won't want to do any lifting of branches that will expose the trunk or branches. Avoid any pruning that will open the tree to sunburn, especially on the south and west sides.

**Grass-** If you are one of the few with grass and plan to overseed with ryegrass in October, stop fertilizing warm season Bermuda lawns four to six weeks prior.

**General Fertilization-** This is the month for that last application of fertilizer before cold weather arrives. Use a low nitrogen formula so as to prevent excessive new growth. Plants need a chance to harden off to prepare for the cold as new growth will likely freeze with the onset of a frost. Stop fertilizing your Christmas cactus now in order to hopefully induce blooms by the holidays.

**Warm Season Annual Flower Beds-** While you can consider replacing them with cool season annuals, I would wait until October as your summer flowers will probably last a while longer. I'll have recommendations next month.

### **Observations and Musings**

#### **Why Do Desert Plants Have Small Leaves?**

Ever wonder why desert plants, especially Palo Verde trees, have such tiny leaves compared to broad leaf trees such as maples and eastern oaks? That trait is called microphyllly and the Foothills Palo Verde is the extreme example. Desert plants must maintain an internal temperature of less than 115 degrees Fahrenheit to survive. The size of their leaves helps them do that. A group of many small leaves has a larger surface area than a single large leaf of equal volume. This large surface area helps the plants lose heat by radiation. Also, in the wind, a large leaf will tend to develop a boundary layer of stagnant air. With small leaves, the boundary layer air does not develop, so the leaves can radiate heat without transpiration, even in relatively calm air.

#### **Labor Day**

This annual holiday is celebrated on the first Monday in September. It is actually the creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity and well-being of our country.

#### **Football**

As the football season gets underway, I thought a few quotes would be apropos:

*"At many a moment on many a day, I am convinced that football must be a game for madmen and I must be one"* Vince Lombardi

*"I like football, I find it's an exciting strategic game. It's a great way to avoid conversation with your family at Thanksgiving"* Craig Ferguson

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

# *From the Board*

Some have requested further clarification regarding the decision to adjust the guard operating hours at our front gate.

At its last meeting the Board recognized the need to revisit and review large dollar items that are part of our recently approved annual operating budget. It's always the Board's responsibility to be good stewards of the Associations finances. Security was just one of the large dollar items reviewed.

When the operating budget was developed last April, the Board voted to increase dues to cover the projected increase in operating expenses identified at that time. The increased dues were considered adequate for the budgeted services and operations. Then later a need to address the wildfire prevention occurred, which put additional focus on our finances. Adequate wildfire prevention is not a one-shot effort, but will require annual maintenance. The Association is in good shape financially, but that doesn't mean we can rest comfortably. In addressing the new issue, the Board recognizes the need to balance the sustainability of current services while developing a new annual program to mitigate the threat posed by wildfires. The Board is still reviewing a plan to address wildfire risks, and that comes with additional, unforeseen costs. Some in the community voiced their opinion that we should just pass an assessment to cover the costs of removing the threat. The Board concluded an assessment is the least desirable approach and doesn't address the continuing annual need. The community has never had a special assessment, and we would like to keep it that way.

We have contracts with two vendors to provide gate security 24/7/52. Securitas provides on-site guards and Centralized Vision provides off-site, virtual guards. Although some in our community like the optics of a live guard, essentially both provide the same level of security and require the same process for guests entering the community. Actually, in some cases Centralized Vision provides support that exceeds the presence of a guard. They provide security support for a number of communities larger than ours that operate with no live guard service, and are substantially less expensive hourly than Securitas.

As stated in the August 10, 2019 e-blast titled Bellasera NAOS/Guards, we explained the benefit of stabilizing guard hours. We also stated the M-F live/remote coverage schedule has been in place for over two years and has worked extremely well. We know from data collected that our proposed live/remote guard staffing hours will continue to provide great security for the amount of traffic through our gates. We're very satisfied and comfortable with the service provided by Securitas and Centralized Vision, but we will continue to monitor gate traffic to ensure security continues to meet our needs. In addition to stabilizing the Securitas guard hours and providing continuity of personnel and security, the adjustment to hours of operation should result in an annual saving of over \$6K, while not affecting community security.

We elected to implement the following live guard hours on **1 SEP: M-F: 6 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat: 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Sun: 7 a.m.-5 p.m.** To a few this appeared arbitrary, however the Board felt implementing this change beginning in September would allow at least two months to evaluate the modified concept and make adjustments as required before a larger number of residents return in November. It's important to note that in the past two plus years, we have experienced no denial of access issues involving Centralized Vision. Their operations staff is highly trained and they have access to QuickPass. We will make necessary adjustments if, based on resident feedback of problems with guests entering the community after regular guard hours, we determine the revision is not appropriate for the needs of Bellasera.



## **Bellasera Community Association**

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

**Office: 480-488-0400**

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

**M-F: 6 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat: 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Sun: 7 a.m.-5 p.m.**

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

**Weather: [weather.azbellasera.org](http://weather.azbellasera.org)**

**Community Directory: [directory.azbellasera.org](http://directory.azbellasera.org)**

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**Community Manager: Ronda Lalli**

**-Office Hours-**

**Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 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](http://azbellasera.org), "BCA Members" page*

### **Board of Directors**

**[board@azbellasera.org](mailto:board@azbellasera.org)**

**President - Dennis Carson - [dmcbca@cox.net](mailto:dmcbca@cox.net)**

**Vice President - Joe Carlon - [jmc0465@aol.com](mailto:jmc0465@aol.com)**

**Secretary - Dennis Soeffner - [dennissoeffner@aol.com](mailto:dennissoeffner@aol.com)**

**Treasurer - David Reid - [dreid997@gmail.com](mailto:dreid997@gmail.com)**

**Director - Carl Leroux - [carlleroux@hotmail.com](mailto:carlleroux@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 Reed-Chair

**Security Advisory** - Joe Carlon