

Grayhawk Flight

August 2015



Inside:

Our Desert, Our Home

The Book Nest

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Venu at Grayhawk \$239,900

FOR SALE

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FOR SALE

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FOR SALE

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FOR SALE

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PENDING

7518 E Nestling Way \$679,000

PENDING

Vintage Grayhawk #1046 \$366,000

PENDING

8223 E Mountain Spring \$485,000

PENDING

7469 E Phantom Way \$699,900

SOLD

21056 N 72nd Place \$424,000

Grayhawk Market Watch... Year to Date Stats 2015



158
Properties Sold
in Grayhawk



95
Condos/Townhomes
Avg. Sale Price: \$280,847
Avg. Days on Market: 96



63
Homes
Avg. Sale Price: \$728,729
Avg. Days on Market: 117



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David Van Omen
david@bvoluxury.com
Grayhawk HOA Board Member



Andrew Bloom
andrew@bvoluxury.com

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Grayhawk Community Association



Capital Consultants
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 7940 E. Thompson Peak Pkwy.
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 www.grayhawkcommunity.org

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Fax
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Talon Guardhouse/Roving Patrol
 (480) 502-7685

Raptor Guardhouse
 (480) 502-5078

Hours of Operation
 Monday - Friday
 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

GRAYHAWK STAFF



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On the Cover
 Cactus Flower

Manager's Corner



This month I thought I would update you on several projects that the Grayhawk Community Association (GCA) has been working on during the past couple months, and upcoming projects scheduled throughout the community. While some of our events and activities might slow down a little during the summer months, our projects continue to keep us busy.

Grayhawk's landscape contractor, DLC Resources, is scheduled to begin working on renovations to the landscaping in front of the Grayhawk monument signs located at Thompson Peak Parkway and Pima Road; Hayden Road and Deer Valley Road; and Grayhawk Drive and Hualapai Drive later this summer. Additional plants of varying species and rip rap will be installed to "freshen up" the area around these monument signs.

You may have noticed work being done in front of the Monterey Park monument sign located at the corner of Grayhawk Drive and 74th Street. Because this monument sign is set back fairly far from the street, we would like to bring the renovation for this neighborhood monument sign and the new landscape materials to be installed out closer to the curb. Also, there are two large trees near the street in front of the monument sign and the Bermuda grass beneath the tree canopies does not grow in the summer because it is heavily shaded. The new design will include a curbed area around both trees with the new renovation materials (plants, boulders, decomposed granite) installed within the new curbed area.

DLC Resources is scheduled to begin work on the final phase of the irrigation replacement and plant enhancement project in August. This project began over three years ago and should be completed later this year. In this project, we are replacing the originally installed polyurethane tubing with PVC piping. Most of the polyurethane tubing is over 15 years old has begun to show signs of deterioration, and the tubing in many areas has been damaged by tree roots. After the new PVC irrigation lines have been installed, we are enhancing these areas with additional plants to add more color and plant varieties to these locations. Both of these projects are part of a previous strategic planning objective by the Grayhawk and Retreat Village Board of Directors to update and enhance the "look" of the community.

Another project intended to enhance the "look" of the community is the new color scheme being painted on the common area walls and wrought iron fences throughout Grayhawk. We are currently working on painting the walls and fences in the Monterey Park, Ridgecrest, Featherwind, Pinnacle and Montevina neighborhoods, which are the last single-family home areas to be painted the new Mesa Tan color. The final phase of this project will be to paint the exterior common area walls and fences in the Encore, Tesoro, and Cachet at Grayhawk condominium developments, and along Pima Road north of Thompson Peak Parkway. This project began in March of 2013 and we anticipate completing this project by the end of this year or early 2016.

As you can see, the GCA is very busy continuing to enhance and upgrade the common areas throughout the community. The Grayhawk Community Association and Retreat Village Association Board of Directors are to be commended for their foresight and desire to continue to improve this beautiful community you call home.

We'll talk again soon.

Michael Fee

Grayhawk Community Manager



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BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are open to residents and we encourage you to attend. Your involvement does make a difference!

Grayhawk Board of Directors

Mon., August 3 at 5:30 p.m.
Grayhawk_board@grayhawkcommunity.org

Retreat Village Board of Directors

Mon., August 3 immediately following the GCA meeting.
Retreat_board@grayhawkcommunity.org

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Communications Committee

Call Jenn Sheets at 480-563-9708 for more information.

Programs Committee

Call Sarah Van Duyne at 480-563-9708 for more information.

Landscape Committee

Call Stacey Harvey at 480-563-9708 for more information.

Operational Review Committee

Call Mike Fee at 480-563-9708 for more information.

Architectural Review Committee

Tues., August 4 and 18 at 4:30 pm at the GCA office.

OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

Avian Condominium Meeting

No meeting scheduled. Call Associated Property Management 480-941-1077 for details.

Cachet at Grayhawk Condominium Board Meeting

No meeting scheduled. Call First Service Residential at 480-551-4300 for details.

Crown Point Board Meeting

Call Stacey Harvey at 480-563-9708 for details.

Edge Condominium Board Meeting

No meeting scheduled. Call Associated Property Management at 480-941-1077 for details. www.theedgegrayhawk.com

Encore Board Meeting

Wed., August 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Encore Clubhouse. Call Ogden & Company at 480-396-4567 for more details.

Tesoro Condominium Board Meeting

Mon., August 10 at 7 p.m. in the Tesoro Clubhouse. Call Brown Management at 480-339-8825 for details. www.tesorohoa.com

Venu Condominium Board Meeting

Call Associated Property Management at 480-941-1077 for details.

Village at Grayhawk Condominium Board Meeting

No meeting scheduled.
Call First Service Residential at 480-551-4300 for details. www.village-at-grayhawk.org

Vintage Condominium Board Meeting

No meeting scheduled. Call First Service Residential at 480-551-4300 for details.
www.arizona.fsrconnect.com/vintageatgrayhawk

VISION

Grayhawk: a Sonoran Desert home to vibrant southwestern living with an uncommon commitment to community.

MISSION STATEMENT

Grayhawk Community Association strives to enhance quality of life and community strength through inclusion, participation and pragmatic stewardship of human, financial and environmental assets.

Grayhawk Community Association Board Members

Linda Shaw
President

Paul Alessio
Vice President

Barb Nelson
Treasurer

David Van Omen
Secretary

Margo Bellock
Director

Robert Mann
Director

Martha Troy
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Retreat Village Association Board Members

Arlene Smith
President

Ira Mallin
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Patrick Thompson
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Secretary

Alan Fernandez
Director



Grayhawk Elementary

Grayhawk Elementary School Hosts a Back-to-School Breakfast

Parents and students are invited to meet the teachers, visit with friends and classmates, sign-up for extra-curricular activities, order spirit wear, and enjoy breakfast treats at Grayhawk Elementary School's Back-to-School Breakfast. The multi-purpose room (MPR) will be the main meeting area for the event that will be held August 7 from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Pre-ordered school supplies will be distributed at that time as well.

IMPORTANT DATES!

TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS POSTED
August 6 at 4 p.m.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BREAKFAST
August 7 from
8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
August 10 at 8:45 a.m.

Additional events planned for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year include Parent Orientation Night, Bingo Night, Fall Festival, Heroes Day, Lynx Laps, Walk to School Day, Book Fair, Teacher Appreciation Week, Fine Arts Night & Auction, and Lynx & Bounding Assemblies celebrating academic success.

Grayhawk Elementary School ranks first among 25 ranked elementary schools in the Paradise Valley Unified School District. The school employs approximately 40 full-time teachers and serves over

600 students in grades kindergarten through sixth. The average student per teacher ratio is 19 while the Arizona average ratio is 21 students per teacher.

The school's curriculum includes language arts, math, science, social studies and a physical education program that promotes fitness as well as social, team, and individual skills. Band, chorus, orchestra, computer science, dance, and art programs are also available to students. Grayhawk Elementary School offers an accelerated reader program that strengthens students' reading abilities. It has an extensive library media center that offers a collection of books and other study materials and resources.

Grayhawk Elementary School opened in 1998 and since has been recognized as a Core Knowledge School of Distinction, one of only four schools in the country with this honor. Additionally, it recently received the prestigious A+ School of Excellence Award™, in which only 51 of the 2,000 Arizona public schools have been granted.

MEET THE 2015-2016 PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO) BOARD

President Susan Matura	Lynx Family Events Diane Frei
Vice President Brooke Dalzell	Hospitality Chair Cherie Hoover
Treasurer Andrea Walther	Community Representative Holly Martz
Room Parent Treasurer Katrina Bradley	Room Parent/Teacher Liaison Debbie Peterson
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Fundraising Chair Lisa Iacono	



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Don't Overpay for Your Sewer Service

By Nicole Sherbert, City of Scottsdale Water Resources

Did you oversee your lawn or refill your pool this past winter? Maybe you fixed a leak sometime near New Year's Day? If so, you may be eligible for an adjustment to your sewer volumetric charges. But you need to act soon!



Sewer volumetric charges are associated with the costs to treat wastewater that is discharged from your home into the city's sanitary sewer system. Unlike water usage, however, sewer usage is not metered. Instead, sewer charges are based on a customer's average water use in the cooler winter months when outdoor watering and pool evaporation should be greatly reduced, giving a better representation of the actual indoor wastewater amounts that are returned to the sewer system.

Sewer charges are recalculated annually in July based on your average water use billed in December, January and February. So, if your water usage this past winter was not a true reflection of the actual water discharged to the city's sewer system, you may appeal your sewer charges by completing a Sewer Charge Adjustment Request.

The request form is available online at ScottsdaleAZ.gov/Water and must be received by Scottsdale Water **no later than Sept. 30.**

Award-winning “Volunteer In Paradise” program in PV Schools seeks volunteers

Help students achieve!

The Volunteer In Paradise (VIP) program in the Paradise Valley Unified School District is currently seeking tutors to provide one-on-one and small group instruction to children in grades K-6.

The VIP program was recently named a first place Magna Award winner in a national recognition program co-sponsored by the National School Boards Association (NSBA) and Sodexo. Now in their 21st year, the Magna Awards recognize school districts and their leaders taking bold and innovative steps to improve the lives of their students and their communities. An independent panel of school board members, administrators and other educators selected the winners from nearly 250 submissions.



“As a VIP, you will make a meaningful difference and impact the academic achievement of children in your community. All of our VIPs reported they would recommend our program to friends and family members seeking a volunteer opportunity. Additionally, 100 percent of our teachers have reported that the academic achievement of their students increased due to the additional intervention provided by our volunteers, and the assessment data supports this,” said Laurie Smith, VIP Coordinator.

If you'd like more information about the VIP program, please contact Laurie Smith at VolunteerInParadise@gmail.com or 602-449-2053 or visit <http://www.pvschools.net/VIP>



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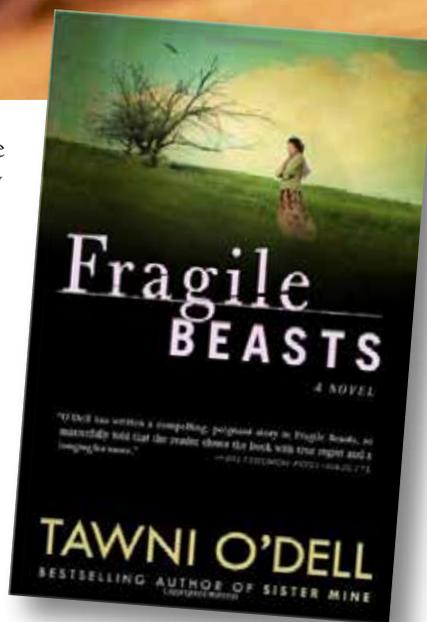
**THE
MATHESON
TEAM**

The Book Nest

By Lauren McDermott, Talon Fairways

I have enjoyed being a member of the original Grayhawk Book Club for approximately eight years now. When I volunteered to write the first, of what will hopefully be many, “rotating monthly reviews” presented by Grayhawk’s various book clubs, I did not need to go back through the list of dozens and dozens of works that we’ve read to know which one I would select! *“Fragile Beasts”* by Tawni O’Dell was one of my very favorite books in recent years... and based on my group’s overall rating of this novel, it seems that sentiment was universally shared. (As background, after a 60-90 minute discussion each month, our group concludes by going around the room, with every participant assigning a personal rating from 1-10.)

Set, alternately, in the rural, somewhat down-trodden coalmines of Pennsylvania today, and the steamy, dramatically colorful bullrings of 1950’s Spain, *“Fragile Beasts”* weaves the story of several highly unlikely and yet extremely likeable pairings—all converging at some point in time to “save each other”. In current day Pennsylvania, Klint and Kyle Hayes are two sensitive teenaged brothers who have been cruelly abandoned by their mother, and now find themselves suddenly orphaned without a father. Their futures appear bleak and uncertain, when salvation comes from an odd and most unexpected source. Candace Jack, the area’s elderly, reclusive, and extremely wealthy heiress, decides (for her own complicated reasons) to step forward and become the boys’ guardian.



As they move into her mansion, and their relationships and secrets unfold, we learn that Candace Jack is not the heartless spinster that the town thinks her to be. In fact, Candace has loved very deeply and has lost very tragically. Years ago, she had a magical love affair with Spain’s most dashing and charming and famous bullfighter, who was killed before her eyes in the ring. (Providing this detail gives nothing away, as the novel’s opening Prologue so eloquently and beautifully describes this scene.) Candace and El Soltero’s intense connection—and the fact that it was cut short in such a horrifying manner—has impacted and haunted Candace for the rest of her days. She has essentially shut herself off from American society, and chosen to surround herself with All Things Spain—her servant, her art, and even the bulls in her field.

“Fragile Beasts” is a complex and touching story, one which is hard to simply relay. The title is apt. The character development is remarkable. It’s a story of family dynamics and self-actualization and art and competition and abandonment and trust. Ultimately, I would summarize it as a story of love, loss, and redemption.

A few in Book Club stated that they had a little trouble “getting into it”, but were thoroughly engrossed once they did. I, personally, was captivated from the start. Our group has never given a Perfect Ten...but *“Fragile Beasts”* scored big, with an average rating of nine.



Hub Sports Soccer Back in Grayhawk This Fall

The main benefits of sport are improved health and fitness, and the development of social and communication skills. A growing body of research literature finds that in addition to improved physical health, sport plays a positive role in youth development. Benefits include improved academic achievement, higher self-esteem and fewer behavioral problems.

Children who participate in sports are learning important social skills, even at the youngest ages. They are not only learning to communicate and work with other children their age, but also coaches, parents and officials. The communications and leadership skills learned through sports benefit children in school, personal relationships and even into their careers.

Children who participate in sports get praise and encouragement from coaches and parents, which helps to build self-confidence. Children also learn how to take constructive criticism and use it to their benefit. Students who play sports also tend to excel in school, as they are able to apply the same determination and hard work learned through sports in school.

“People who work together will win, whether it be against complex football defenses, or the problems of modern society.”

—Vince Lombardi

HUB SPORTS

Hub Sports offers children the opportunity, right here in Grayhawk, to learn these important skills all while increasing physical activity and learning the game of soccer. For the past fifteen years, Hub Sports (previously Simply Sports) has delivered unique, developmental, progressive and stimulating programs and camps to children.

HUB Sports is dedicated to promoting healthy lifestyles through sports. To provide an environment where children will be empowered, excited and fulfilled, and driven to excel through exercise and activity.

In addition, they aspire to develop each child’s full moral, ethical, attitudinal and physical potential in order that they may become responsible, reflective, sensitive, adaptable, contributing citizens to our ever-changing world.

While the benefits to participating in one of Grayhawk’s soccer programs through Hub Sports are far reaching, it is important to know that participating in the programs is also simply just FUN! For years, children have loved learning to play soccer alongside friends and neighbors right here in one of Grayhawk’s own greenbelts. This fall, Hub Sports will continue a long tradition of excellence with Mini Kicks and Little Kicks, both “kicking” off in September. Check the In and Around Grayhawk section of this newsletter for more information on classes.



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trailer for use at their personal parties and events.

For more information, contact Sarah Van Duyne
at svanduyne@ccmnet.com or 480-563-9708.





Our Desert, Our Home

By Victoria Kauzlarich, Volare

Hi. I'm Victoria Kauzlarich. My husband and I have owned property in Grayhawk since 2002, first in The Village and currently in Raptor Retreat. I was an occasional resident for about 10 years until I made my permanent move here in 2012.

I'm from Illinois and I was always the designated "Plant Manager" at our house. Our property was heavily wooded, our growing season was about six months long and I developed a fair amount of skill landscaping with shade loving plants. None of this prepared me for a desert landscape. I might just as well have been dropped on Mars with the direction to go grow something.

When we moved into our house here, the landscaper who maintained the property offered to continue and, of course, we readily agreed (see comment regarding Mars, above). Our landscape included over 50 randomly-placed shrubs about which we knew nothing. Ditto for the drip irrigation system. Oh, and double ditto for the trees.

In addition to a shrub dominated landscape, our new house had a 50' raised bed in our side yard, visible from our kitchen and dining room. It was overgrown and unruly. To say that I had no idea what to do with it (in addition to being clueless about shrubs, irrigation and trees) is an understatement.

For the next year, in a cycle that was all too predictable, our landscapers came by every few months to hack away on our shrubs and butcher our trees. The net effect was always a tidier yard,

but the plants looked like victims of a massacre. The raised bed remained unchanged and unimproved.

By this time, I decided that I could either spend the next 10 years making mistakes and killing a lot of plants by experimenting with this raised bed or I could learn about desert plants from the beginning and try to transform this area into something we could enjoy. I chose the latter, enrolled in the Botanical Garden's Desert Landscape School and became a Certified Desert Landscaper. I've never looked back.

Desert Landscape School was a 7-month program that focused on sustainability. We were required to research and learn 65 native and desert adapted plants; the exams were no fun. We learned how a mix of plants can create a landscape of lasting year round beauty, full of color and visual interest. We learned how to recognize and recommend the right plant for the right place to minimize maintenance and reduce water use. And we learned how and why desert plants are ideally suited to this unforgiving environment.

In the coming months, I hope to share some of what I learned through these columns. My intent is to take the mystery out of desert plants, desert landscaping and drip irrigation systems. Through these columns, I hope to give you insight about a range of beautiful, diverse plants and enable you to be more successful growing plants in your yard, on your balcony or on your patio.

Come join me on this journey. Welcome to "Our Desert, Our Home."

H₂O BY THE NUMBERS

Another regular feature of this column will be a collection of "water factoids" designed to enlighten, surprise and amuse. Since we're in the middle of monsoon season, this month's water tidbits are monsoon related.

- "A monsoon is a large scale weather pattern which causes our summer thunderstorms."
www.southwestweather.com
- "The official declared monsoon season lasts from June 15th through September 30th." NOAA Monsoon Statistics
- "In Phoenix, normal rainfall from July - September is 2.65 inches."
www.phoenix.about.com
- "One inch of rainfall on 1,000 square feet of roof yields 600 gallons of water."

Jack Gilcrest, Landscape Architect



Plant of the Month: *Leucophyllum laevigatum*

Every month we will feature a plant that is ideally suited to a desert landscape and is on GCA's Recommended Plant List. Whether you just need a replacement plant or you're planning to renovate your landscape, the plants we will feature are easy to maintain and provide year round beauty.

When I was designing my new landscape, I discovered that I have a bias when it comes to shrubs. When I was researching plants, the shrubs I consistently liked are those that have an open habit and are wider than they are tall. To my eye, this casual, "mound form" is the ideal contrast to the architectural and sturdy look of cacti and agaves.

One of the shrubs that fits this bill is this month's plant - the Chihuahuan Sage. There are many sage plants in this genus (*Leucophyllum*) and you will see them throughout Grayhawk, but this sage is distinctive because of its shape and size. It is smaller than most of the other sages and requires trimming just once a year. This plant is nearly bullet-proof. It loves the heat and tolerates temperatures as low as 10 degrees. When considering a shrub, it doesn't get much better than this.

Latin Name: *Leucophyllum laevigatum*

Common Name: Chihuahuan Sage

Native Distribution: Chihuahuan Desert

Size: Approximately 4' x 5'

Flower: Periodically, From Summer through Fall, a Profusion of Small, Delicate & Fragrant Light Purple Flowers

Foliage: Medium to Fine Textured Olive Colored Leaves, Arranged on Spiky Branches

Site Preferences: Full Sun in Well-Drained Soil; Tolerates Reflected Heat

Landscape Uses: A Natural, Soft Counterpoint in Xeriscape Gardens; Associates well with Cactus & Agave; Good Accent Plant; Can be Used as a Foundation Plant

Plant Characteristics:

- Evergreen
- Open, Loose, Spiky Form
- Hardy to 10F
- Low Maintenance
- Pruning:
 - Only Once in Late Feb. - Early Mar.
 - Do Not Prune Again During the Growing Season
- Moderately Fast Growth Rate
- Drought Tolerant Once Established
 - Less Water Produces Slower Growth
- Attractive Natural Form



SOLD

New Featured Listing in Grayhawk Gated Halcon Retreat Offered at \$1,099,000

- Completely Remodeled Courtyard Floor Plan
- Private Cul-De Sac Street
- Single Level, 3 BR + Office + Bonus, 2.5 BA, 3 CG, 3759 sf
- Beautiful Outdoor Living Spaces with Pool, Firepit & Water Feature



SOLD

Featured Listing in Grayhawk Gated Monterey @ Talon Retreat Offered at \$725,000

- Charming and Beautifully Updated
- Updated Kitchen & New HVAC
- Private Outdoor Living Space with Heated Pool
- Single Level, 3 BR + Office, 2.5 BA, 3 CG, 2,967 sf



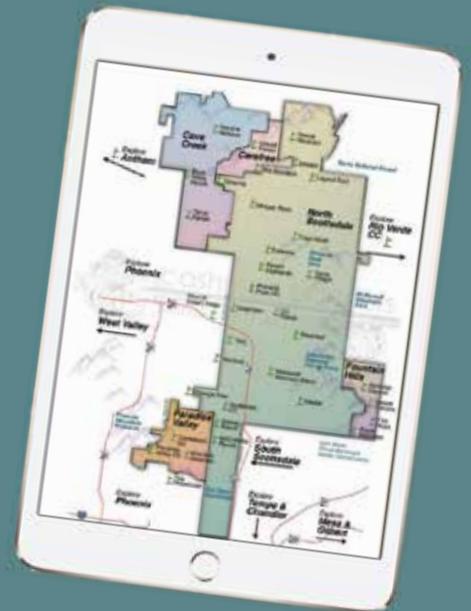
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2	3 Wild Horse Pass 9:30 am Toscana GCA and RVA Board Mtgs. 5:30 pm Talon Room	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10 Tesoro Board Mtg. 7 pm Tesoro Clubhouse	11	12 Ladies Night Out 5 pm Tommy Bahama	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19 Encore Board Mtg. 6:30 pm Encore Clubhouse	20 Grayhawk Golf Outing 3:15 pm Grayhawk Golf Club	21	22	
23 Babysitting Class 12 pm Raptor Room	24	25 Bunco 6 pm Raptor Room	26	27	28	29 Splish Splash 10 am Grayhawk Greenbelt	
30 Nutrition Workshop 2 pm Talon Room	31						

In & Around Grayhawk

Wild Horse Pass Hotel and Casino

Mon., Aug. 3 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Meet at Toscana at 9:15 a.m.

5450 E. Deer Valley Dr., Phoenix

Grayhawk residents will be joining a CCMC sister community, Toscana, in visiting the Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino in Chandler. They offer the best casino promotions in all of Arizona! Indulge in Vegas style casino entertainment without the hustle and bustle of Vegas crowds. Each person attending this trip will receive \$10 in bonus play. RSVP as soon as possible to 480-563-9839. Also, if you have a Players Club Card, please have your card number available when you RSVP. Non- U.S. Residents, please bring your Visa to redeem points.



Ladies Night Out

Wed., Aug. 12 at 5 p.m.

Tommy Bahama, Kierland Commons

15205 N. Kierland Blvd.

It's been HOT, HOT, HOT for a few months now, and we are all in need of a little tropical relief. So this month the ladies of Grayhawk are celebrating at Tommy Bahama in Kierland! Join the ladies at the one of best spots in Kierland for some tropical beverages and delicious Happy Hour Specials. Enjoy ambiance and a vacation feeling that can't be beat! Join your friends and neighbors to sit back, relax and enjoy the night. Space is limited. RSVP to 480-563-9839 by August 10.

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Grayhawk Golf Outings

Thur., Aug. 20, 3:15 p.m. check-in, 4 p.m. shotgun start

Grayhawk Golf Course, 8620 E. Thompson Peak Pkwy.

This will be the last summer series golf outing! So come join us for a nine-hole, 4 pm shotgun outing at the Grayhawk Golf Club. Cost is \$40, which includes your first drink on the course. A second drink following golf will be sponsored by David Van Omen with RE/MAX Platinum Living and Roland Bennett with Peoples Mortgage. We max out at 36 people, so sign up quickly! RSVP to 480-563-9839 by 5 p.m. on Monday, August 17.

Child and Babysitting Safety Certification Class

Sun., Aug. 23 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Raptor Room, GCA Office

This popular class covers infant/child safety and basic care techniques for present or would-be babysitters. Topics cover everything from pediatric CPR and first aid to basic child safety and diaper changing. A workbook for participants to keep is included in the course fee. Certification cards are issued upon successful completion of the course. Certification is valid for two years! Participants must be at least 10 years old to participate. Price is \$35 and includes a pizza lunch. Payment may be made in cash or check. Checks will be made out to ABC's of CPR. RSVP by Thursday, August 20 to 480-563-9839.

Ladies Bunco

Tues., Aug. 25 at 6 p.m.

Raptor Room, GCA Office

Join neighbors for a night of food, drinks and Bunco! Never played before? Don't worry! It's an easy dice game- all you need to know is how to roll dice and count! We'll do a quick lesson before we get started. All you need to do is bring yourself, \$5 and an appetizer OR a bottle of wine to share. Your \$5 will go into the pot for cash prizes at the end of the night. RSVP to 480-563-9839 by Friday, August 21.



Back to School Splash Bash

Sat., Aug. 29 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Grayhawk Greenbelt

(78th Place & 78th Way)

School is back in session and you already need a break? We've got you covered! Head on over to the Grayhawk Greenbelt for a good old-fashioned splash bash! We will have a 20' water slide, toddler slide, massive Slip 'n Slide, and delicious frozen yogurt from The Treatery! Be prepared to get wet during

the water balloon fight, some beach volleyball, or the wet and wild obstacle course provided by the Boys and Girls Club. We will have cold water and juices for everyone. Thanks to our sponsors: Mo Hamideh with Homeowners Financial Group, The Grayhawk Group at RE/MAX Fine Properties, and the Thunderbirds Branch of the Boys and Girls Club for making this event possible! Cost to participate is \$5 per child. Parents are free of charge. Space is limited. RSVP is required by no later than Wed., Aug. 26 to 480-563-9839.

Premier Fitness Nutrition Workshop

Sun., Aug. 30 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Talon Room, GCA office

We are providing the residents of Grayhawk an opportunity to learn how to create a healthy lifestyle that works best for you. Now that the fall months and holidays are quickly approaching, this class will provide ways to stay healthy and on track during these busy times. All attending this workshop will receive healthy eating resources, tips and recipes that still excel in flavor! If you want to change some eating habits or have a gluten allergy, this is a great opportunity to learn and ask those lingering questions. Learn how to go gluten free from Premier Fitness Systems co-owner and celiac specialist Greg McLean. RSVP by Wed., August 26 to 480-563-9839.



COMING SOON:

Wicked

Thursday, Sept., 10 at 7:30 p.m.

ASU Gammage, 1200 S. Forest Ave., Tempe

Broadway's biggest blockbuster is back by popular demand. Variety calls WICKED "a cultural phenomenon," and it continues to break box office records and sell out in record time. Long before that girl from Kansas arrives in Munchkin land, two girls meet in the Land of Oz. One — born with emerald green skin — is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. How these two grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good makes for "the most complete, and completely satisfying, musical in a long time". The Grayhawk Community Association has great seats in the Orchestra section and at a discounted price! Seats are: Orchestra A2- Row 15- Seats 42-56. Only 8 tickets left, these tickets will go fast! Call 480-563-9839 to reserve your tickets today.

Martial Arts/Karate Class

Tues., Sept. 14 through Dec. 15

5:15 to 6:15 p.m. (Juniors) and 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. (Seniors). Talon Room

Kids and adults are invited to join neighbors to learn Karate, Judo, Tai Chi, Jiu Jitsu and Tae Kwon-do from Master Mark Williams, right here in Grayhawk! Master Williams began studying Martial Arts in 1965 and has been teaching for over 30 years. The first class is open to younger children (5-9 year olds) and provides a 12-week long beginners level introduction. The price for this series of classes is \$150. The second class accommodates continuing students and adults, with a price of \$175 for a 15-week session. A price break is offered for multiple children. Full payment for the session is required by the start of class. Drop-ins are welcome at an additional \$5 per class. New students are welcome at any time during the session. Contact Master Williams at 480-945-2877 or markozuka@hotmail.com for more information or to register.

Hub Sports Soccer

Mondays beginning Sept. 14, 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Grayhawk Greenbelt

Is your child the next soccer star? Register them today! HUB Soccer Programs are designed to teach your children the fundamentals of soccer while having fun, playing games, getting exercise and building confidence. Don't let your 2 and 3 year olds miss out on Mini-Kicks, or your 3-5 year olds on Little Kicks, both a fun introduction to the sport of soccer. The 45 minute classes run for 8 weeks and are staffed by professional coaches on one of Grayhawk's own greenbelts! Cost is \$129 for the session. A minimum of six children are required for a session. For more information, visit www.hubsports.org or call 480-585-7684.

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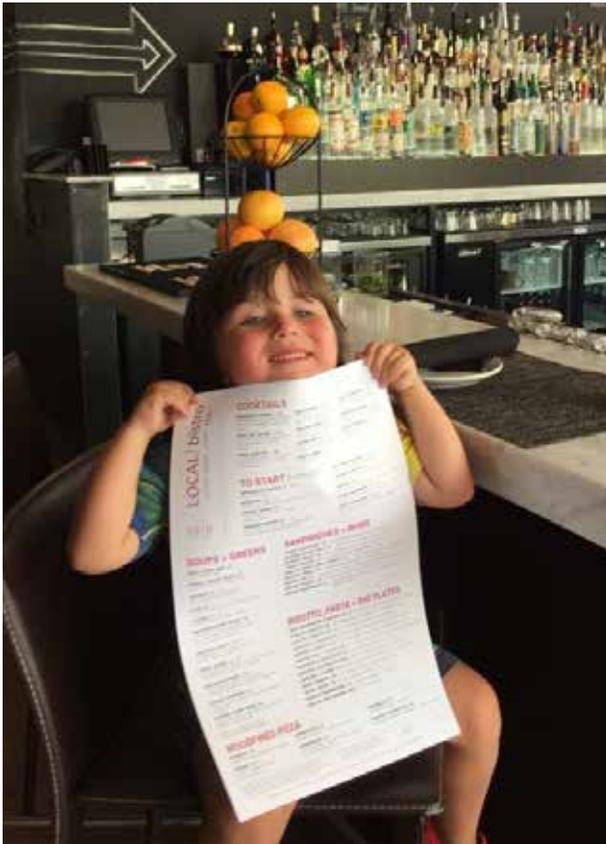
Mike Hawkins
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References Available

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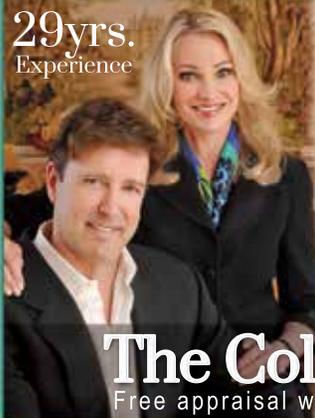
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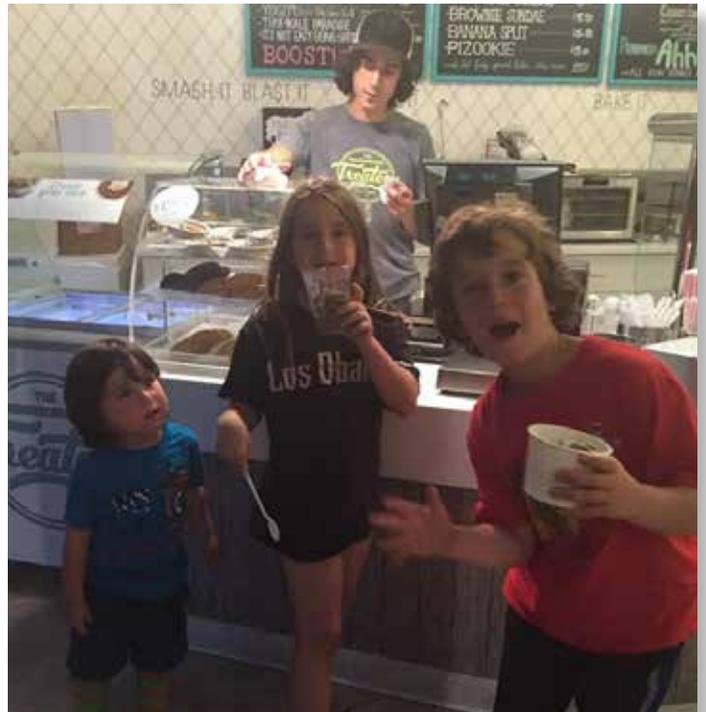
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IF IT ROARS LIKE A LION, IT MUST BE THE SONORAN DESERT TOAD!

These toxic toads kill more Arizona dogs than rattlesnakes do

By *Fernande Hastert Kuykendall, Halcon Villas*

A deep-throated wroa-oo-wroah, reminiscent of a mountain lion explodes across the desert night. Seconds later, ... is that the cry of a wounded bobcat screaming to the stars?

Awakened, mystified and plain scared, my "fearless" husband jumps out of bed. Armed with a flashlight and golf club, he's ready to go on backyard safari and "hunt" the injured predator. Dutifully, I follow him outside to protect him from a possible "attack from the rear". The moment he swirls the flashlight around, the wailing stops. At first we see nothing; then, out of the corner of our sleepy eyes, we spot IT, -- the psychedelic toad of the Sonoran Desert --, swimming in the pool. Its breeding season is obviously underway!

During monsoon, summer rains sufficient to wet Sonoran Desert Toads deep in their burrows, trigger emergence and signal the beginning of their breeding season. The rains produce temporary pools that become the meeting place for cacophonous orgies, sometimes involving several species. Each night for a very few days of the year, male toads invade these temporary pools of rain water, swimming pools and ponds to feed and breed, crying out relentlessly to attract females, identifying their gender, species, and perhaps extolling their individual strengths as potential mates. One female can generate 8,000 eggs per mating. Tadpoles hatch in two to 12 days. Each species croaks its own "song". Since they are usually unable to escape from swimming pools, they can be found the next morning, -- usually still alive --, sitting grumpily inside pool filters, waiting to be rescued.

Determined and persistent, Sonoran Desert Toads are surprisingly difficult to keep out of your yard because they can squeeze under gates. The wily toads have even been observed climbing both wire fences and wire mesh snake guards or slip through any rodent-dug holes under fences. During the rest of the year, Sonoran Desert Toads hibernate underground.

These huge toads like to gorge on insects, especially June beetles. They can be up to 7 1/2 inches long, the largest toads found in Arizona. They are olive green to brown in color and have lumpy skin, large glandular lumps on their hind legs, golden eyes with horizontally elliptical pupils, large, poison-filled parotoid glands behind their eyes and external ears, and one or more distinctive

white tubercles at the corners of their mouth.

After mating, toads feed on insects, spiders and smaller toads that are also made abundant by the rains. They will also eat small vertebrates. In fact, toads will attempt to eat anything of an appropriate size that moves. Even insects that fly are easy prey for the toad's quick flicking tongue. If they have been gorging on a plentiful supply of nocturnal insects, they can become amazingly fat as well. After storing an adequate supply of fat, toads again burrow into the ground where they overwinter. They spend most of the year underground, having dug themselves in or usurped abandoned rodent burrows.

With their large size and frequent habit of sitting nonchalantly out in the open as they wait for something edible to happen by, Sonoran Desert Toads might seem to be an easy target for predators, but these large, slow amphibians are very well defended. If picked up or mouthed by a predator, Sonoran Desert Toads will exude a potent, milky white toxin from their parotoid glands. If ingested, their toxin is capable of seriously sickening or killing potential predators. Sonoran Desert Toad toxin also contains large amounts of potent hallucinogenic tryptamines. The parotoid glands produce bufotenine for which the toad is known, a chemical belonging to the family of tryptamines. Bufotenine is a controlled substance. While



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possession of the toad is not a crime in itself, -- in Arizona one may legally bag up to ten toads with a fishing license --, it could constitute a criminal violation if it can be shown that one is in possession of this toad with the intent to milk and smoke its venom. The poison produces psychoactive effects when smoked.

Dogs are at special risk from Sonoran Desert Toads and can quickly exhibit potentially fatal symptoms of toad poisoning (excessive salivation or foaming at the mouth, head shaking, red or irritated gums, drunken gait, confusion, weakness or complete collapse, heart arrhythmia, vomiting, diarrhea, and pawing at the mouth). Seizures and death can occur in dogs within 30 minutes from a Sonoran Desert Toad poisoning. Once toad poisoning symptoms appear, emergency veterinary care is needed, but if you observe your dog with a Sonoran Desert Toad, immediate first aid can help prevent toad poisoning from occurring in the first place:

First Aid for Dogs

1. Turn on the garden hose or other water source to get a small but steady, gentle flow. Too high a flow can cause your dog to choke or swallow water. Too low a flow (a mere trickle) would be ineffective.
2. Hold your dog's mouth open with its nose pointed downward to prevent water from going down its throat.
3. Put the hose up to the back corner of the dog's mouth and direct the water flow forward towards the front of the mouth. Having the water flow out of the front of the mouth is very important because you don't want your dog swallowing or inhaling any of the water. Rub the dog's gums and wipe off its nose to help remove any toxic slime.
4. Depending on your dog's exposure, continue rinsing its mouth for up to 10 to 15 minutes.
5. If you are unable to immediately and thoroughly rinse out your dog's mouth, if your dog has eaten all or part of one of these toads and/or swallowed the toxin, or if your dog still exhibits any toad poisoning symptoms after washing its mouth, seek immediate, emergency veterinary care.
6. To keep your pets safe, check your backyard for dangerous nocturnal creatures not just at night, but first thing in the morning as well.
7. Thoroughly wash outdoor water dishes; if a toad sat in it overnight, the water can contain enough toxins to make the dog seriously ill or kill it.

In Arizona there are nine species of true toads. The Sonoran Desert Toad, -- formerly known as the Colorado River Toad, -- is a welcome sight and sound, as it signals the much needed summer rains are due to commence almost immediately. Despite their toxicity, Sonoran Desert Toads are very beneficial to have around because of the amazing volume of insects that they consume, including the blood-thirsty Conenose "Kissing Bug" (Flight / June 2008 edition), and if you don't have pets or a swimming pool, they are nice to have around on bug-filled summer evenings.

FOOTNOTE: Although this article focuses on the Sonoran Desert Toad, please be aware that many other species are poisonous also and heed First Aid tips for dogs.



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Sip and Tell

Sue Lukenbill, Encore Resident

It's funny how the heat plays tricks on you. I've spent a good amount of time in Show Low and was up near Lake Tahoe in July, and yet I feel like I've been doing nothing but complain about the heat in Scottsdale. I guess no matter how much you get away, all you can think about is how miserable it is when you're here! In an effort to ward off the impending "Dog Days of Summer", I wanted to continue to explore happy hours in the area.

Now, I've been to **Rhythm & Wine** before. I've even written a review before (you might remember the article from back in May of 2010). But like many restaurants, this neighborhood comfort food establishment has continued to stay "fresh" by switching up their happy hour and daily specials. I honestly believe that you are really missing the boat if you don't stop by and check out their happy hour!

Grayhawk's Director of Communications Jennifer Sheets and I met at 4:30 p.m. at **Rhythm & Wine** for their happy hour. Before ordering any food, we made sure to take care of ordering beverages. That is always a priority! I ordered the Skinny Lemon Drop, made with Absolut Citron Vodka, Limoncello, agave nectar, and fresh lemon. It was one of the best I've had yet! Jenn ordered a red Sangria.

We ordered from the Happy Hour Plates menu where all bruschettas and flatbreads were half priced. In fact, that evening was \$20 Eat and Drink night, where for \$20 you could order your choice of flatbread with a select bottle of wine.

We ordered the Chewy Pretzel Bites that came with a smoky cheese fondue. We also ordered the Smoked Salmon Crostini which was topped with lemon aioli, capers, and shaved red onion. Jenn suggested we try the Hard Rockin' Shrimp, but to be honest, the words "Cajun spiced shrimp" had me a little nervous. I love shrimp, but I am not usually brave enough to try spicy Cajun food.

Regardless, we thoroughly enjoyed our small plates. The Salmon Crostini was beautiful and, who doesn't love pretzels and cheese? The items range from \$5 - \$9. So you can order anything from hummus to pretzel bites, a burger to a flat iron steak. The happy hour pricing for drinks is great as well, with \$1 off all beers, \$2 off all cocktails, and \$3 off any glass of wine.

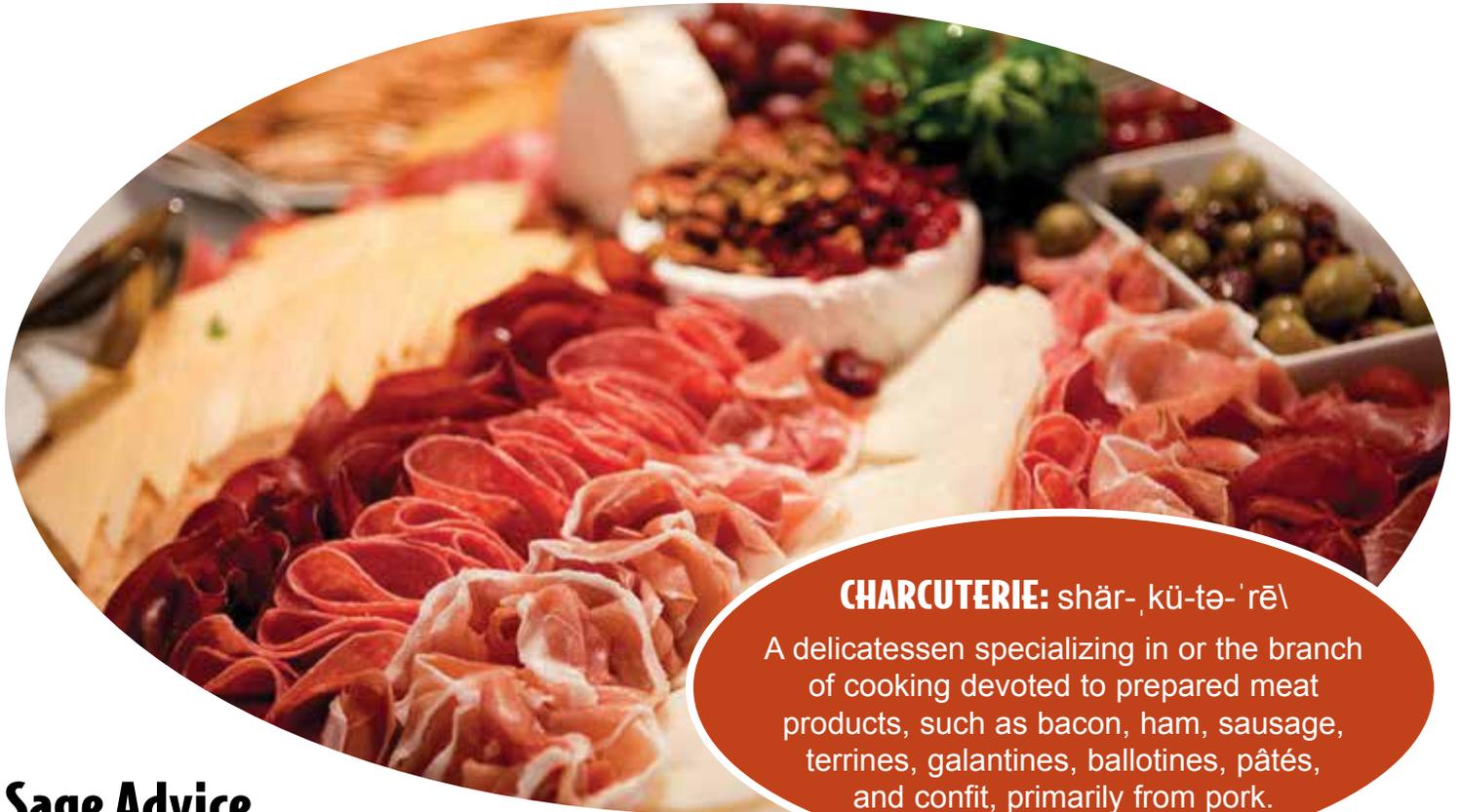
Rhythm & Wine also features summer daily specials, with everything from Italian and Vino Night to Prime Rib Night and Fiesta Night. It's a great way to get out, snag a good deal and enjoy some of our local food and drink. Stay cool, friends!

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CHARCUTERIE: shär- kü-tə- 'rē\

A delicatessen specializing in or the branch of cooking devoted to prepared meat products, such as bacon, ham, sausage, terrines, galantines, ballotines, pâtés, and confit, primarily from pork.

Sage Advice

By Mary Kebbekus, Peregrine Vistas Homeowner

Well, we used to call it a deli platter or cheese and sausage plate. However, doesn't it just sound more delicious when we speak French? Oui!

Not only are charcuterie plates popping up all over restaurant menus, but they are the perfect no-cook dinner when you are tired of salads and need something, well, more meaty! The twist these days is the inclusion of multiple tasty tidbits that can round it out to a full meal. A well-orchestrated offering has flavors ranging from rich and salty to smooth and buttery, then throw in some crunch, acidity, and a dash of sweet. Perfection on a platter.

Several local stores have a lovely selection of prosciutto, sopressetta, salami, mortadella, and the like that they will slice for you (always very thinly please!). Don't be afraid to ask what things are and try a bite. Or, try one of those small wrapped/netted numbers hiding in the cooler. Not much to look at from the outside, but they are an often overlooked powerhouse of meaty goodness. That same cooler will have all sorts of things just begging to jump on your charcuterie platter. I for one just found LaQuercia brand meats (fabulous) at

Fry's all neatly presliced and packaged. Be brave!! Talk to the cheesemonger - they are often a wealth of knowledge and can help you branch out (plus they offer you a taste). Pay attention to what is on the restaurant version and take notes!

The following suggestions only scratch the surface - wonderful meats and cheeses abound. The key is high quality, intensely flavored ingredients. Definitely a time for quality over quantity.

- Salami, Bresaola, Prosciutto, Capocollo, Mortadella, Black Forest Ham, Soppressata
- A Slice of Pate or Terrine
- Soft Cheese (Saint-Andre Brie, Purple Haze Goat by Cypress Grove)
- Blue Cheese (Point Reyes Blue, Gorgonzola)
- Semi-Soft Cheese (Taleggio, Edam)
- Hard/sharp Cheese, (Manchego, Aged Provolone, Chunks of Parmigiano Reggiano)

- Dried Figs, Apricots, Cranberries, Pineapple or Cherries
- Nuts (Walnuts, Pepitas, Marcona Almonds)
- Fig Jam, Chutney, Pear or Quince Paste, Honey, Aged Balsamic Vinegar, Grainy Mustard
- Cornichons, Olives, Pickled Italian Veggies (Giardiniera)
- Crusty Baguettes, Artisan Breads, Crackers or Breadsticks (stick with fairly neutral/plain flavors here)

Some of the items may seem a touch odd to share a plate, but believe me when I tell you that a dry, salty cheese with a drizzle of truffle or lavender honey is not to be missed. The combinations are endless and easily tailored to your personal taste. Pick a couple meats, a couple cheeses, and some yummy bits to keep them company. Pour a glass of wine and leisurely savor the flavors.

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We know everyone is different and that each of our residents wants to get their information in different ways. From flyers near your mailbox to the magazine you're reading, we are working to give you as much information as we can in as many places as we can. If you're short on time or just not in to paper, make sure you keep up with Grayhawk events and business through any of our social media channels:



GrayhawkAZ



GrayhawkAZ



GrayhawkAZ



AZGrayhawk

IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS

Grayhawk Onsite Office	480-563-9708
Capital Consultants Management Corporation	480-921-7500
Grayhawk Community Patrol	480-502-5078
Talon Guardhouse	480-502-7685
Raptor Guardhouse	480-502-5078
After Hours Answering Service	602-234-9288

UTILITIES

Southwest Gas	602-861-1999
City of Scottsdale Water	480-312-5650
City of Scottsdale Solid Waste	480-312-5600
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CITY OF SCOTTSDALE

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Fire Department Main Phone	480-312-8000
Police or Fire Emergency	911
Parks and Recreation	480-312-2771
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SCHOOLS

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El Dorado Private School	480-502-6878

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US Post Office, Kachina Branch	480-513-2963
Southwest Wildlife	480-471-9109

A Stress Free Morning Routine for Back to School

Let's go! Let's go! Come on...you're going to be late! Why is there cereal all over the floor? What do you mean you still have homework? Did you brush your teeth yet? Let's go!

Aaaaahhhh! Morning bliss!

Many parents would probably say that their mornings are less than relaxing; right up there with the dentist or a tax audit. Parents living on the orderly side of the street would say that the key to having a stress free morning is to have a well-organized bedtime routine. It might seem like more work at first, but really, it can't be any worse than it already is!

Some basic tips might help ease you into a more stress free morning:

- No yelling. Raising your voice is only going to escalate the situation.
- Early to bed, early to rise. Kids have been fighting bedtimes for years. Don't cave and let the kids stay up. You'll regret it the next day when you're digging around for a bull horn to wake them up.
- Showers and baths should be taken at night. No one ever got dirty sleeping on clean sheets, but clean sheets have been mucked up many a time by dirty, sweaty kids waiting for a morning wash.
- Look over all homework for completeness before bed; don't assume it's finished.

- Before the kids are in bed, make sure to pack lunches and backpacks. You'd be amazed what notes you'll find. (think: "oh yeah mom, I forgot I'm supposed to bring a snack tomorrow!")
- Give singular instructions. Don't say, "I want you to finish your homework, eat breakfast, get dressed, comb your hair, brush your teeth and be in the car by 8:15." To a child, that sounds like "blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah." Try providing instructions just once per instruction and in smaller pieces.
- Set consequences and stick to them. Leave when you say you're leaving, and take the kids, ready or not, with you. Dropping your 8th grader off in pajamas with uncombed hair might be just what you need to start seeing a more positive attitude in the morning.

If a routine will make your mornings smoother, a system for keeping track of all the things children need will spare you the embarrassment of sending your child to school unprepared. If you leave it to your memory or that of your children, something will slip through the cracks.

Charts are a great tool, both for parents, small and older children. Tasks listed out by line and a spot to check them off are useful both at night and in the morning. But charts aren't the only way to go- searches like "morning routine" on Pinterest will bring up everything from flash cards to checklists on do-it-yourself placemats.

Now that you've got some sort of routine checklist, consider a "command center" where papers being sent home from school are placed and a family calendar is kept. This is a great way to ensure that nothing important is forgotten.

It doesn't really matter what system you use – as long as it works for your family. You may get some resistance when you introduce it. Or you may be pleasantly surprised and the kids will look forward to not only completing their assignments but seeing the acknowledgement for a job well done.

Make sure you catch them doing something right and that you acknowledge it. Your entire family will benefit from well organized bedtime and morning routines!

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