

December 2019

2019 Book Club Recommendations

Safety During the Holidays

BVO Luxury Group is proud to sponsor the following events

Santa Party

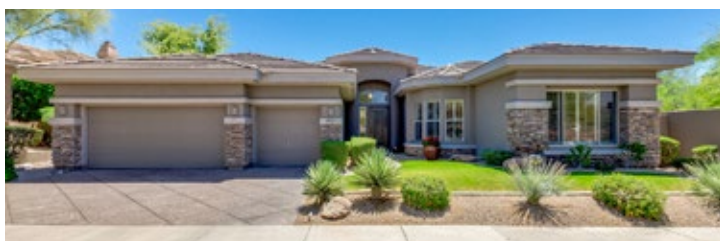
Breakfast for Dinner & Pajama Party
Tuesday, December 3 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm
Fairway House at the Grayhawk Golf Club

Chanukah Celebration

Wednesday, December 18 from 6pm to 8pm
Avian Clubhouse in Desert Ridge
22500 N Aviano Way Phoenix AZ 85050

Holiday at the Hawk

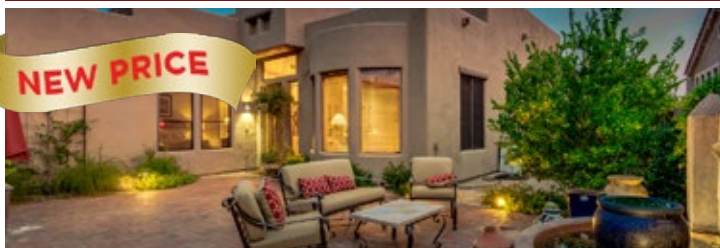
Thursday, December 5 from 6:30pm to 9pm
McDowell Room at the Grayhawk Golf Club
8620 E Thompson Peak Pkwy Scottsdale AZ 85255



7921 E Tailfeather Lane Scottsdale AZ 85255
3 Bedroom | 2.5 Bath | 2,930 Sqft | Offered at \$949,500
Contact BVO at (480) 999-5460



21122 N 75th Street Scottsdale AZ 85255
5 Bedroom | 3.5 Bath | 3,841 Sqft | Offered at \$939,500
Contact BVO at (480) 999-5460



8055 E Windwood Lane Scottsdale AZ 85255
2 Bedroom | 2.5 Bath | 2,937 Sqft | Offered at \$865,000
Contact BVO at (480) 999-5460



19816 N 83rd Place Scottsdale AZ 95255
3 Bedroom | 2.5 Bath | 2,704 Sqft | Offered at \$669,900
Contact BVO at (480) 999-5460



19700 N 76th Street 2142 Scottsdale AZ 85255
2 Bedroom | 2 Bath | 1,843 Sqft | Offered at \$399,500
Contact BVO at (480) 999-5460



19550 N Grayhawk Drive 1117 Scottsdale AZ 85255
3 Bedroom | 2 Bath | 1,834 Sqft | SOLD FOR \$500,000

"Anyone who dreams of an uncommon life eventually discovers there is no choice but to seek an uncommon approach to living it." - Gary Keller, The ONE Thing



Andrew Bloom
REALTOR®,
Senior Partner
Andrew@BVOLuxury.com



David Van Omen
Associate Broker,
Senior Partner
David@BVOLuxury.com



(480) 999-5460 | www.BVOLuxuryGroup.com

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Grayhawk Community Association

Professionally Managed By



7940 E. Thompson Peak Pkwy.
Suite 102
Scottsdale, AZ 85255
www.grayhawkcommunity.org

Phone
(480) 563-9708

Fax
(480) 563-9709

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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caustin@ccmcnet.com



Richard Dearo
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rdearo@ccmcnet.com



Chantel Martin
Maintenance Assistant



Martha Castaneda
Maintenance Assistant

Manager's Corner



At the November 4, 2019 Grayhawk Community Association (GCA) and Retreat Village Association (RVA) Board meetings, the Board of Directors of both associations approved the Budget/Finance Committee's recommended 2020 operating budgets. The approved budgets result in a \$1.00 per month increase in the GCA assessment and a \$5.00 per month increase in the RVA assessment, if you are a member of the Retreat Village. The neighborhood assessments in the Retreat Village and the Pinnacle neighborhood were all approved with no increase in 2020. Both the GCA and the RVA Board of Directors approved the funding level for each association's capital reserve fund to the recommended funding level in the GCA and RVA updated reserve studies.

Did you know that the GCA assessment rate has increased by approximately 1.75% per year since 2002? The monthly assessment in 2002 was \$49.00 per month and the 2020 assessment rate is \$64.00 per month. This equates to an increase of less than \$1.00 per year over the past 18 years. This type of fiscal prudence with your assessments is not always the norm in community associations. Generally, the cost of goods and services increases annually, which results in the contract services expense, administrative costs, and maintenance/repair expenses increasing each year. Maintaining your monthly assessment at its current monthly rate is a result of the GCA and RVA Board of Directors finding ways to increase revenue while reducing expenditures.

Your monthly GCA assessment is used to pay for a wide range of services that affect all of you including the landscape maintenance throughout the community, the GCA office staff, 24-hour community patrol, maintenance of the community and neighborhood amenities such as ramadas and playground areas, and community events and activities.

The GCA's operating budget for 2020 includes the following increases:

- The patrol service expense is projected to increase by \$22,970 which reflects a \$1.00 per hour increase in the wage rate for the patrol officers with Trident Security Services that was previously approved by the GCA Board

of Directors due to the Arizona state mandated increase in the minimum wage rate in 2020.

- The landscape maintenance expense is projected to increase by \$26,148 which reflects a 3.4% increase in the landscape maintenance contract that was previously approved by the GCA Board of Directors due to the Arizona state mandated increase in the minimum wage rate in 2020.
- The salaries and benefits expense is projected to increase by \$25,955 to fund the Board-approved anticipated staff salary increases.
- There are several other increases in budget line items including a projected \$8,232 in the GCA office lease expense and an increase of \$10,000 in the water expense in 2020.

Several of the budget line items are anticipated to decrease or have no increase in the 2020 budget including a \$9,600 decrease in the newsletter expense and a \$2,400 decrease in the professional fees expense.

The Board of Directors of both the GCA and the RVA continue to adhere to their responsibility as fiduciaries of these non-profit corporations and expend the association's funds as prudently as possible. The Budget/Finance Committee and both the GCA and the RVA Board of Directors are to be commended for continuing to display fiscal responsibility with your assessment funds.

On another note, please join your Grayhawk neighbors by participating in some or all of the holiday programs scheduled in December. These include the Santa Party/Breakfast or Dinner Pajama Party on December 3, Holiday at the Hawk Dueling Pianos event on December 5, the Holiday Hayrides on December 11 and 12, and the Chanukah Celebration on December 18. Also, please remember to stop by the cocoa shack in Montevina.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.

We'll talk again soon.

Michael Fee

Grayhawk Community Manager

GRAYHAWK ADVERTISING

The Grayhawk Community Association (GCA) offers advertising as a service to our community and does not support or endorse the products, persons or services advertised in the Flight. GCA shall not be held liable or responsible for any misleading or incorrect advertising.

BOARD MEETINGS – DECEMBER 2019

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

Grayhawk Board of Directors

Mon., Dec. 2 at 5:30 p.m. in the Talon Room,
GCA office
Grayhawk_board@grayhawkcommunity.org

Grayhawk Board of Directors Executive Session Meeting

The Board of Directors will be meeting in
Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. Section
33-1804 (A)(3) at 5:00 p.m. in the GCA office.

Retreat Village Board of Directors

Mon., Dec. 2 following the GCA meeting in
the Talon Room, GCA office
Retreat_board@grayhawkcommunity.org

Retreat Village Board of Directors Executive Session Meeting

The Board of Directors will be meeting in
Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. Section
33-1804 (A)(3) at 5:00 p.m. in the GCA office.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Communications Committee

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

Event Planning 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 Stacey Harvey at 480-563-9708 for more
information.

Architectural Review Committee

Tues., Dec. 3 and 17 at 4:30 p.m. at the
GCA office.

OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

Avian Condominium Association Annual Meeting

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

Cachet at Grayhawk Condominium Association Meeting

Tues., Dec. 17 at 6 p.m. at the Cachet
Clubhouse. Call FirstService Residential at
480-551-4300 for details.

Crown Point Board Meeting

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

Edge Condominium Association Board Meeting

Visit www.theedgegrayhawk.com or call
480-584-4647 for details.

Encore Condominium Association Board Meeting

Thur., Dec. 12 at 6 p.m. in the Encore
Clubhouse. Call Amcor Property Management
at 480-948-5860 for details.

Tesoro Condominium Association Board Meeting

No meeting scheduled. Call Kinney
Management at 480-820-3451 for details.

Venu Condominium Association Annual Meeting

Tues., Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. in the Venu Great
Room. Call Associated Property Management
at 480-941-1077 for details.

Village at Grayhawk Condominium Association Board Meeting

Tues., Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. in the Talon Room,
GCA office. Call FirstService Residential at
480-551-4300 for details.

Vintage Condominium Association Board Meeting

Mon., Dec. 9 at 10 a.m. in the Talon
Room, GCA office. Call Associated Property
Management at 480-941-1077 for details.



Grayhawk Community Association Board Members

David Van Omen
President

Paul Alessio
Vice President

Richard Zielinski
Secretary

Jeanette Griswold
Treasurer

Lou Ender
Director

Derek Moore
Director

Bob Mann
Director

Retreat Village Association Board Members

Arlene Smith
President

Ira Mallin
Vice President

Alan Fernandez
Secretary

Barb Nelson
Treasurer

Michael Loya
Director

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 Master Association Board of Directors Meeting – November 4, 2019

Resident in attendance asked about Trident Security's responsibility when there are loud parties. Management stated that after 9 p.m. patrol typically does not approach the party due to safety concerns and residents should call the Scottsdale Police Department. Scottsdale Police ultimately enforces the noise ordinance.

A second resident in attendance inquired as to the status of the monument sign project. Staff updated the resident on the project and the multiple phases being worked through.

Development Committee

David Van Omen reported that a new cake shop would be opening in the Grayhawk Plaza near the veterinary office.

Operational Review Committee

Richard Zielinski reported that the committee did not meet.

Landscape Committee

Arlene Smith reported that the committee did not meet but committee members and DLC Resources staff would be doing a drive on November 15 to look at the current status of the monument signs. The Landscape Committee will be meeting on November 19 to look at fire mitigation in the Deer Valley wash, butterfly garden signage, erosion repair and a few other upcoming projects.

DLC Resources continued to work on routing maintenance this month. They also focused on water usage, and decreased water to turf areas with the completion of the overseeding project.

The on-site crew is continuing to remove tree been pods and plant debris throughout the community. They are also removing tree blooms and raising low hanging branches along sidewalks.

Community Enhancement Committee

Stacey Harvey reported that the Community Enhancement Committee did meet to review a request from the Communications Committee to fund up to \$10,000 for the Civic Rec module for the GCA website. Civic Rec is a stand alone add-on to the website that manages registration, volunteers and ticketing. This add-on will maintain the look of our current website, but will correct many issues staff is currently having with the registration process.

The Community Enhancement Committee made a recommendation and a motion was made and approved to pay up to \$10,000 from the Community Enhancement Fund for the Civic Rec module.

Event Planning Committee

Sarah Van Duyne reported that October events had been very successful. Paws in the Park, sponsored and planned by Sally Cashman with Russ Lyon Sotheby's, was very popular. Many

North Scottsdale is our home, too. *Values matter.*

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residents brought their dogs out to enjoy the festivities and a good number of rescue dogs were adopted at the event.

Pumpkin Patch is always a favorite event and this year was no different. Over 350 attended for pumpkin decorating, crafts, games, food and fun.

Sunday in the Park was a big hit again this year. Everyone loved the food and staff has already received positive feedback from restaurants. The zip line was a big hit this year, as was the band.

Upcoming events include Mistletoe Market on November 16, the Santa Party on December 3, Holiday at the Hawk on December 5, Holiday Hayrides on December 11 and 12, and the Chanukah Party on December 18.

Communications Committee

Jennifer Sheets reported that the committee continued discussions regarding the Architectural Review Committee partnership. Stacey Harvey attended a portion of the last meeting to give an overview of the process to the Communications Committee and answered questions.

The committee reviewed the current forms required for the Architectural Review process and made multiple suggestions for improvement. Staff will start working on those documents and a mock-up website for the next meeting.

Architectural Review Committee

Paul Alessio reported there were a total of 8 submittals in October.

Stacey Harvey gave an update on the monument sign project, including the next phases and what that entails.

Budget/Finance Committee

Jeanette Griswold reported that the Board of Directors had previously approved increasing the GCA assessment rate by \$1 per month to \$64 per month. The GCA Board of Directors also approved funding a portion of the GCA reserve contribution.

A motion was made and approved to accept the 2020 GCA operating budget and the 2020 Pinnacle neighborhood budget.

Executive Committee

Michael Fee reported that the committee did not meet.

Treasurer's Report

Jeanette Griswold reported that year-to-date income is over budget, but that year-to-date expenses are over budget as well. Major contributors of the overage on the expenses side are water usage and collections.

Over \$559,000 has been deposited to the Community Enhancement Fund this year.

Management Report

Michael Fee reported that the common wall painting project is complete for 2019. Holiday lights are usually turned on Thanksgiving weekend but may be turned on a little earlier this year due to the Thanksgiving holiday being so late.



CREATING A HOLISTIC FINANCIAL PLAN FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE GRAYHAWK COMMUNITY

Mike Kelley, a homeowner in the Grayhawk Community, is a Financial Advisor with Northwestern Mutual, A Wealth Management Company.

Mike provides a unique personal and/or business planning analysis to deliver and implement a financial plan that integrates a wide spectrum of world-class insurance products such as life insurance, long-term care insurance, disability income insurance as well as annuities, investment products, and investment advisory products & services.



"I'm excited to be living in the Grayhawk Community! I look forward to meeting with you soon and am eager for the opportunity to earn your business" ~ Mike Kelley

MIKE KELLEY | FINANCIAL ADVISOR
406-270-5030 | michael.kelley@nm.com
michaelkelley.nm.com

Northwestern Mutual is the marketing name for The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, Milwaukee, WI (NML) (life and disability insurance, annuities, and life insurance with long-term care benefits) and its subsidiaries. Michael Scott Kelley is an Insurance Agent of NML and Northwestern Long Term Care Insurance Company, Milwaukee, WI, (long-term care insurance) a subsidiary of NML, and a Registered Representative of Northwestern Mutual Investment Services, LLC (NMIS) (securities), a subsidiary of NML, broker-dealer, registered investment adviser and member FINRA and SIPC.

WHY NOT TONIGHT?



THE KEG
STEAKHOUSE + BAR

21001 N. Tatum Blvd. | 480.419.7772 | kegsteakhouse.com

desertridge@kegrestaurants.com



SANTA PARTY

SPONSORED BY DAVID VAN OMEN AND ANDREW BLOOM WITH KELLER WILLIAMS AZ REALTY AND JEREMY MUELLER WITH STATE FARM

BREAKFAST FOR THE KIDS
APPETIZERS AND CASH BAR FOR ADULTS

\$15 /ADULT
\$12 /CHILD

PRICE INCREASES ON NOV. 25 RSVP ON GRAYHAWKCOMMUNITY.ORG BY NOV. 27.

FAIRWAY HOUSE AT THE GRAYHAWK GOLF CLUB
DEC. 3 FROM 5:30-7:30 P.M.

GRAYHAWK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION and DAVID VAN OMEN AND ANDREW BLOOM WITH KELLER WILLIAMS AZ REALTY PRESENT

HOLIDAY AT THE HAWK

FOOD. DRINKS. MUSIC. FUN.

DEC. 5
6:30-9 P.M.
GRAYHAWK GOLF CLUB

ENJOY:
-HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES
-TWO DRINK TICKETS
-LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

RSVP ON GRAYHAWKCOMMUNITY.ORG BY DEC. 2


\$45 PER PERSON



HOLIDAY HAYRIDES

Sponsored by: PR Partners Julie Pelle and Christina Rathben with Realty One Group and Jeremy Mueller with State Farm


COOKIES, COCOA, CAROLING AND LIGHTS!



11 & 12 DECEMBER
6, 7 & 8 PM
\$5/CHILD & \$10/ADULT

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

REGISTRATION OPENS ON GRAYHAWKCOMMUNITY.ORG AT **9 AM** ON **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20.** SPACE IS LIMITED AND SPOTS WILL FILL UP FAST! **REGISTRATION IS ONLY BEING TAKEN ONLINE!**



HANUKKAH CELEBRATION

Sponsored by David Van Omen and Andrew Bloom with Keller Williams AZ Realty and Kristin Evans with Edward Jones

AVIANO DESERT RIDGE CLUBHOUSE

DEC 18 FROM 6-8 PM

ENJOY LATKES, A LIGHT MEAL FROM JJ'S DELI, SWEETS, MUSIC AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE KIDS. COST IS \$5 FOR KIDS 3 AND OLDER AND \$10 FOR ADULT. EVERY ADULT THAT BRINGS A BOTTLE OF WINE TO SHARE PAYS JUST \$5!

RSVP BY DEC. 11 on GRAYHAWKCOMMUNITY.ORG.



*Thanks to David Van Omen
and Andrew Bloom with Keller
Williams AZ Realty, Trident
Security and DLC Resources for
sponsoring another successful
Pumpkin Patch event.*



Jeremy Mueller Ins Agcy Inc
Jeremy R Mueller, Agent
23341 N Pima Rd Suite D139, AJ's Shopping Center
Scottsdale, AZ 85255
Business: 480-515-5223
www.jeremymueller.com

May the magic of
the season bring you
peace, love and joy.
Happy Holidays to an
incredible community!

Here to help life go right.®



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State Farm
Bloomington, IL

Santa Party: Breakfast for Dinner and Pajama Party

Tues., Dec. 3 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Fairway House at the Grayhawk Golf Club

Ho! Ho! Ho! It's time for Santa's annual visit to Grayhawk. Kids are encouraged to be dressed in their most adorable holiday pajamas. We will give a special prize for the best dressed! The evening will be full of magical holiday cheer including crafts, gifts, treats and more. The meal portion will feature breakfast for dinner for the kids, plus a selection of appetizers and a cash bar for the adults. There will be a hot chocolate station to warm you up and get you in the holiday spirit! Cost is \$15 for adults and \$12 for kids if registration is received by Nov. 25. RSVP's made after Nov. 25 pay \$18 for adults and \$15 for kids. Space is limited. Last day to RSVP on grayhawkcommunity.org is Nov. 27 (if spots are still available). Parents should drop off a wrapped gift at the GCA office for Santa to give your child by no later than Nov. 27. Clearly mark your child's first name, last name and age on the gift.. Thanks to David Van Omen and Andrew Bloom of BVO Luxury Keller Williams AZ and Jeremy Mueller with State Farm for sponsoring this event.

Holiday at the Hawk

Thurs., Dec. 5 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

McDowell Room at the Grayhawk Golf Club

8620 E Thompson Peak Pkwy.

Tis the season to eat, drink, dance and be Merry! Celebrate the Christmas season with our Dueling Piano entertainment, Premier Piano Shows. Enjoy cold drinks, warm hors d'oeuvres and sweet treats with your neighbors, family and friends. Premier Piano Shows, performing some holiday classics, everyone's favorite top hits, and all your requests! Because of the concept's focus on audience engagement and interaction, the dueling piano musical repertoire generally consists of up-tempo pop and classic rock music that is easy to "sing along with." Don't forget your dancing shoes and song requests! Cost to participate is \$45 per person and includes incredible entertainment, delicious apps, dessert, two drink tickets and great photo opportunities with friends. A big thanks to our sponsor David Van Omen and Andrew Bloom with BVO Luxury Keller Williams AZ for going above and beyond each year. RSVP and pay online at grayhawkcommunity.org by Dec. 6

HIKING CLUB - DECEMBER 2019

To learn more about these hikes and/or RSVP, go to <http://www.meetup.com/Grayhawk-Hiking-Club/>. To participate, you must have joined the club online (if you have not already done so) and RSVP'd "YES" to this event. On the website, you can review many other upcoming hikes and email the organizers with questions

Afternoon Holiday Hike and Social

Sun., Dec. 15 at 1 p.m.

Join the Hiking Club for their annual Holiday Hike and post hike social. The moderate 4.5 mile loop hike starts from the Gateway Trailhead in McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Estimated hiking time is 2 hours. After the hike the club will gather for a post hike social at the Vig McDowell Mountain Ranch

Marcus Landslide

Sat., Dec. 21 at 8 a.m.

Join the Hiking Club for an easy/moderate hike in the north central part of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve in Scottsdale. This 4.5 mile hike is best suited for any hiker who wants to enjoy beautiful views. Estimated hiking time is approximately 2.5 hours.

Holiday Hayrides

Wed., Dec. 11 and Thurs., Dec. 12 at 6 p.m., 7 p.m., and 8 p.m.

GCA Office. **RSVP's will begin on Wednesday, November 20 at 9am and close once each time slot is full. We are ONLY taking online RSVP's. Call ins and drop ins will not be accepted.**

Mrs. Claus and Ice Princess Elsa will lead one of the horse-drawn through the Grayhawk community and assisting in singing Christmas Carols. Families will enjoy the beautiful holiday light displays, sing carols along the way and read along 'Twas the Night Before Christmas. The group will make a stop at the Montevina neighborhood Cocoa Shack for hot cocoa and cookies before heading back to our North Pole drop off at the GCA Office. Price is \$5 per child and \$10 per adult (lap children 2 and under are free). We ask that everyone bring one non perishable food item per person that we will donate to St. Mary's Food Bank. RSVP online at grayhawkcommunity.org on or after **November 20** to save your spot. Thank you to PR Partners Julie Pelle and Christina Rathbun with Realty One Group and Jeremy Mueller with State Farm for sponsoring this incredible Grayhawk tradition!

DUE TO THE POPULARITY OF THIS EVENT, NO MORE THAN 6 PEOPLE PER RESERVATION and NO MORE THAN 2 NON-RESIDENTS GUESTS ALLOWED PER PARTY. MANDATORY PRE-PAY BY 12/4 OR YOUR RESERVATION WILL BE MOVED TO THE WAIT LIST.



Chanukah Celebration

Weds., Dec. 18 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Aviano Clubhouse in Desert Ridge, 22500 N Aviano Way, Phoenix

Happy Chanukah! All residents are invited to enjoy a pre-Chanukah celebration at the beautiful Aviano club house in Desert Ridge. We are teaming up with Aviano this year in an effort to have enough space for our growing Chanukah celebration and to give the kids a place to enjoy as well. Since we are celebrating early there will not be a traditional lighting of the Menorah, but you can expect delicious latkes, a light meal from JJ's Deli, sweets, great music, and fun activities for the kids. Cost to participate is \$5 for kids 3 and up and \$10 per adult. If you bring a bottle of wine to share, the adult cost goes down to \$5. Thank you to our wonderful sponsors David Van Omen and Andrew Bloom with BVO Luxury Keller Williams AZ for supporting Grayhawk events. RSVP and pay online at grayhawkcommunity.org by Wed., Dec. 11.



Save the Date:

FREE LIVING TRUST SEMINAR: Learn The Latest Strategies To Protect Your Estate

Mon., Jan. 20 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Talon Room, GCA Office, 7940 E. Thompson Peak Pkwy. Ste. 102

Planning Is Essential – Do You Have A Plan? Everyone should attend this seminar – Even if you have a Will or a Trust. A good estate plan coordinates what happens to your home, savings, business, and your retirement accounts. Learn how to appoint someone to make healthcare and financial decisions for you when you are unable to do so. If you do not, a court may decide for you. Why a will is not enough. Why many people with living trusts will end up in probate. Learn how to avoid it. If you have your plans finalized, find out what may have changed, needs updating or is still applicable in Arizona. Guests will have an opportunity for questions after the seminar with Attorney Richard M. Dwornik. Presented by: Dwornik Law Firm. RSVP by Friday, Jan. 17 online at grayhawkcommunity.org to reserve your seat.



Support Arizona Helping Hands This Holiday Season

BE A TAX CREDIT HERO

The end of the tax year is quickly approaching, and it's time to start thinking about taking advantage of the Arizona State Tax Credit. The tax credit is available to all individual taxpayers. Foster tax credit limits are \$1,000 for married filing jointly or \$500 for single taxpayers. Your gift will provide beds, hygiene kits, clothing, diapers, birthday dreams and more!

For more information or to complete a tax credit form, visit <https://azhelpinghands.org/aztaxcredit-html/>

HELP COLLECT 30,000 TOYS

Arizona Helping Hands is collecting toys for the holiday season and there is a drop box right here in Grayhawk! You can download a list from azhelpinghands.org or on grayhawkcommunity.org, or you can view a wish list for Arizona Helping Hands directly through Amazon. Toys can be dropped off through Dec. 20 at the GCA Office (7940 E. Thompson Peak Pkwy., Ste. 102) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Grayhawk Book Clubs Help with Your Shopping List



In November, Grayhawk's seven book clubs got together for their annual social.

These Grayhawk women, all intelligent, interesting, funny individuals who have a passion for reading, attended the event. They ate, drank and shared their favorite reads of 2019. The women compiled a list of their picks in hopes that their Grayhawk neighbors would be able to use the list to find their next book or a wonderful holiday gift. Barb Nelson, a member of the original Grayhawk book club, summarized their selections best:

There's a lot of variety; both fiction and non-fiction. The stories span different time periods, countries, and continents. Many of the books are about women who are strong, courageous, inspiring, resilient, resourceful, and at times flawed or eccentric. Some were inspired by true stories.

Some might surprise you. Who knew that during WWII a German U-Boat torpedoed and sunk a ship in the Gulf of Mexico just 50 miles off the coast of New Orleans?

This year's most highly recommended book was "Where the Crawdads Sing". Reese Witherspoon founded the Hello

Sunshine Book Club company with the goal of promoting female-driven projects. She focuses on women's stories and specific issues in underrepresented communities. Each month she chooses a story she loves and announces it as her book pick. She champions these books and is known to partner in the production of film adaptations. Her current collaboration is the production of "Where the Crawdads Sing".

Reading is a wonderful gift. It exposes us to so many things and it's a joy to share our enthusiasm with each other. It's also a joy to pass on that gift to others.

Book recommendations

Mystery / Thriller

Behind Closed Doors, B.A. Paris

Contemporary Fiction

Little Fires Everywhere, Celeste Ng

**Where The Crawdads Sing*, Delia Owens

**Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine*,
Gail Honeyman

**Beartown*, Fredrick Backman

The Overdue Life Of Amy Byler, Kelly Harms

A Dog's Purpose, W. Bruce Cameron

Breaking Out Of Bedlam, Leslie Larson

The Bookish Life Of Nina Hill, Abbi Waxman

Historical Fiction

Year Of Wonders, Geraldine Brooks

The Secret Wife, Gill Paul

The Alice Network, Kate Quinn

The Huntress, Kate Quinn

**The Other Einstein*, Marie Benedict

**Before We Were Yours*, Lisa Wingate

Paths Of Glory, Jeffrey Archer

**All The Light We Cannot See*, Anthony Doerr

A Dictionary Of Mutual Understanding,
Jackie Copleton

Pachinko Min, Jin Lee

The Song Of Jade Lily, Kirsty Manning

**The Island Of Sea Women*, Lisa See

The Book Woman Of Troublesome Creek,
Kim Michele Richardson

**These Is My Words:*
The Diary Of Sarah Agnes Prine,
Nancy E. Turner

Teatime For The Firefly, Shona Patel

Flame Tree Road, Shona Patel

Historical/Fantasy Fiction

Circe, Madeline Miller

The Enchanted Life Of Adam Hope,
Rhonda Riley

Other Fiction

Last Bus To Wisdom, Ivan Doig

Biography/Memoir

Clementine: The Life Of Mrs. Winston Churchill,
Sonia Purnell

*Appealing For Justice: One Lawyer, Four
Decades and The Landmark Gay Rights Case*,
Susan Berry Casey

*Born A Crime: A South African Childhood
Stories From Trevor Noah*,
Trevor Noah

Nonfiction

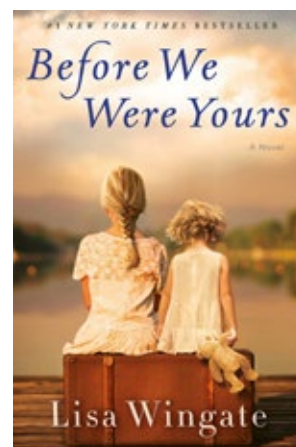
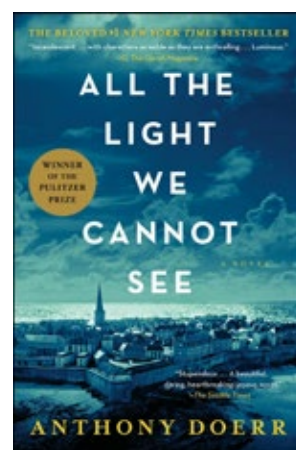
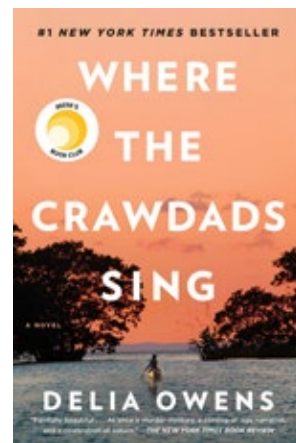
*So Close To Home: A True Story Of An American
Family's Fight For Survival During World War II*,
Michael Tougias /Alison O'Leary

*Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life Of Beavers
And Why They Matter*,
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December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 GCA and RVA BOD Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Talon Room	3 ARC Mtg. 4:30 p.m. GCA Office Santa Party 5:30 p.m. Grayhawk Golf Club	4	5 Holiday at the Hawk 6:30 p.m. Grayhawk Golf Club	6	7
8	9 Vintage BOD Mtg. 10 a.m. Talon Room	10 Venu BOD Mtg. 6 p.m. Venu Great Room Village BOD Mtg. 6 p.m. Talon Room	11 Holiday Hayrides 6 p.m. GCA Office	12 Encore BOD Mtg. 6 p.m. Encore Clubhouse Holiday Hayrides 6 p.m. GCA Office	13	14
15 Hiking Club 1 p.m.	16	17 ARC Mtg. 4:30 p.m. GCA Office Cachet BOD Mtg. 6 p.m. Cachet Clubhouse	18 Chanukah Party 6 p.m. Aviano Clubhouse	19	20	21 Hiking Club 8 a.m.
22 Hanukkah	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27	28
29	30	31	WHO TO CALL ROVING PATROL (480) 502-7685 GRAYHAWK ASSOCIATION (480) 563-9708 SCOTTSDALE POLICE (480) 312-5000			

*Thanks to the following businesses for
their participation in Sunday in the Park*





Enjoy a Safe Holiday Season, and Beyond

By Trident Security Services

As the holidays approach, Trident Security would like to offer some helpful hints to keep our community as safe and secure as possible during this festive season. Whether you may be leaving the community to spend time with family and friends or hosting your own "winter" wonderland, there are some key proactive security measures we would like to suggest in order to prevent a Grinch from ruining your holiday season.

Harden the Target

Make your home more difficult to enter. Remember, the criminal will simply bypass your home if it requires too much effort, skill and time than they possess. Most burglars enter via the front, back or garage doors. Believe it or not, a common mistake a homeowner usually makes is leaving the garage door open and unattended. Not only does this dramatically weaken your home's barrier, it also creates a contained space for a burglar to work on your vehicle and any personal belongings found in your garage.

Burglars know to look inside your car for keys and other valuables so keep it locked, even when parked inside your garage. Please don't keep an extra key outside "under a rock"; even non-criminals know to look there.

TRIDENT SECURITY



Secure sliding glass doors

These points of entry are secured by latches not locks. They are vulnerable to being forced open from the outside because of these inherently defective latch mechanisms. This can easily be prevented by inserting a wooden dowel or stick into the track thus preventing or limiting movement. Other blocking devices available are metal fold-down blocking devices called "charley bars", as well as various track-blockers that can be screwed down into the door's track.

Be mindful

Windows are left unlocked and open at a much higher rate than doors. Ground floor windows are more susceptible to break-ins for obvious reasons. Upper floor windows become attractive if they can be accessed from a stairway, tree, fence, or by climbing on balconies. Windows also have latches, not locks, and therefore should have secondary blocking devices to prevent sliding them open from the outside. In sleeping rooms, these window blocking devices should be capable of being removed easily from the inside to comply with fire codes. As a deterrent, place highly visible decals on the glass door near the latch mechanism that indicates that an alarm system, a dog or block watch/operation identification system is in place.

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Holiday Gate Access in the Retreat Village

If you live in the Retreat and will be hosting parties during the holiday season, please remember to drop off a complete guest list to the guardhouse if you are not adding those guests to your ABDI account. The guards will call on every guest that they have not been notified of prior to the party. If you are busy having fun and don't hear your phone ring, your guest may be denied admittance, and that is no way to spread holiday cheer!

If you are not sure how to log in to your ABDI account, you can find more information on grayhawkcommunity.org under Resident Services/ABDI Gate Access.

Keep the lights on

Interior lighting is necessary to show signs of life and activity inside a residence at night. Night after night, a quiet and dark home sends the message to burglars that you are away on a trip. Inexpensive light timers can be utilized to randomly portray activities inside a vacant house. The same light timers can be used to turn on radios or television sets to further enhance the illusion of occupancy.

The most effective prevention attempt for crimes to your home may be the most intangible method of all—being a good neighbor. Get to know your neighbors on each side of your home and all around you, for that matter. Invite them into your home and communicate intent to watch their home while they're away. Ultimately, attempt to establish a sincere trust. Truly good neighbors will watch out for your home as if it were their own. They can report suspicious activity to both you and the police while you are away. Good neighbors can pick up your mail and newspapers, feed pets, and inspect the outside or inside of your home periodically to see that all is well. They can even occasionally park in your driveway to give the appearance of occupancy while you are on vacation. Ideally, it should be a goal for all of us to create a positive relationship with our neighbors so that in the big picture this request will only be a small favor to ask.

We hope these tips can assist you in your many preparations for the upcoming holidays. We look forward to being in partnership with the Grayhawk community and keeping your assets safe.

If you see any persons or vehicles in the neighborhood that you are not familiar with, please call the community patrol and we will respond to verify whether the person or vehicle belongs in the area. Patrol can be reached at the numbers below:

**Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm:
Grayhawk Community Association Office at 480-563-9708**

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Talon Guardhouse at 480-502-7685**

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Grayhawk Elementary Wrap-Up

Purchase a Commemorative Brick

With spring just around the corner, the school is working towards building a "Path to the Future," and Grayhawk Elementary School invites you to participate in our latest project. We are commemorating over 20 years since the opening of Grayhawk Elementary School and are very excited to invite past or present connections to Grayhawk Elementary to participate.

If you were an employee, family, student or volunteer, we would like to extend this invitation to leave your mark on Grayhawk with a personalized brick to be placed in a new brick path being built in the front of our school this Spring. The path will include two different sizes of memory bricks. Our 6" x 6" brick includes three lines of text with up to 15 characters per line for \$60. Our 6" x 9" brick includes 5 lines of text with up to 15 characters per line for \$80. For an additional \$5 you may select to add a special character to the larger brick. Characters available are a paw print, graduation cap, and schoolhouse. Teachers and staff may add an apple to their brick if they choose.

If you would like to purchase a commemorative brick, please visit our PTO website, grayhawkpto.com, <https://grayhawkespto.membershiptoolkit.com/home>, or stop by the office to pick up an order form!

1, 2, 3...Break!

Grayhawk Elementary School is getting ready for winter break, but there is still unfinished business which needs to be taken care of before our families go off to celebrate the holidays! Papers and projects need to be completed, grades need to be finalized, and fun needs to be had by all. Teachers and students will be on break from December 23, 2019 through January 5, 2020. Classes resume Monday, January 6, 2020! Please help keep our students safe as you see them throughout our community during break time.



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Honoring Heroes

Last month, Grayhawk Elementary School honored our veterans, active duty military, and community heroes with a Heroes Day celebration. Family, neighbors, friends, and members of the community who have served or are serving in any military branch or reserves, governmental office, fire or police department, or the Red Cross were invited to attend our annual celebration and luncheon. It was a great success, and the Heroes and students had a blast!

Please visit our website, grayhawkpto.com, for the most up-to-date information regarding Grayhawk Elementary School and the variety of ways that you can help your neighborhood school. We wish all of our Grayhawk families and teachers and our Grayhawk neighbors a fun and safe holiday season!





Swoon for Spoons

By Victoria Kauzlarich, Volare

I was recently helping a friend decide how to renovate her HUGE backyard when it happened.

Out near Fountain Hills, this backyard is larger than all of the total back yards on some Grayhawk streets. The not-small swimming pool takes up less than 1/4 of the total footprint and is off to the side. The rest was in lawn; flat brown lawn.

This open-to-the-sky back yard needed trees; lots of them. A small Mesquite bosque (mini-forest) came to mind.

It also needed berming, large boulders and an understory. So, the big things, trees, rocks and shaping were obvious. Once revealed to them, my friends got it immediately. There was a big blank space that has the potential to be drop-dead gorgeous.

Trees, rocks and shaping create a framework. They do not make a landscape. My friends needed an understory and the plants needed to be big enough to hold their own in a landscape as large and rugged as the one they envisioned.

How do you fill a space that seems the size of a football field? I solved this problem by going for a walk.

What Works?

It's where I do some of my best problem-solving. No earbuds or other distractions. Just me and the sounds of nature on my daily walk and my imagination runs free.

That day, I paid particular attention to Mesquites and their under-stories. And, I noticed for the first time how many Desert Spoons were planted under or near Mesquite trees.

That's when it happened. It was the beginning of my swoon.

Mesquites and Spoons are a natural and lovely combination. Both are Sonoran natives and they compliment one another beautifully.

It is truly remarkable how often that happens. Plant a couple of natives near one another and 10 times out of 10, you'll create an effect that seems, well, natural.

Another reason this combination works is one of scale. Mesquites can easily get to 30' x 30' and Desert Spoons can reach 4-5' high and wide.

If you were to plant two or three Desert Spoons beneath a Mesquite tree, you would have no need for other plants. Both are low water use and both are fit to endure our harsh climate with little additional attention from us. Even better? These Spoons easily tolerate a bit of shade.



Desert Spoon
Dasylirion wheeleri



Desert Spoon Leaf Detail

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Desert Spoon Flower Stalk

And, They Bloom

As a bonus to their being carefree and durable, Desert Spoons bloom every year, sending up a single flower stalk, much like an Agave or a Yucca. The skyward spire pictured here is flanked by an Ocotillo and an Ironwood Tree. Its rust-colored flowers make it a standout against the blue sky.

As with all desert plants, Desert Spoons have adapted to make maximum use of whatever water comes their way. They take their common name from the fact that their leaves, right at the base of the plant are spoon-shaped to pull as much rainwater into their base as possible. Spoons have long, narrow leaves with teeth lining the margins which sets them apart from another species in their genus.

Toothless Spoons

The *Dasyllirion quadrangulatum* is a sister plant to the Desert Spoon and is also a good accent plant, but not under trees.

This plant needs full sun, little water and room to grow because at full size it will get 6'-9' x 6'-9'! Holy cow. That's a big plant.

But, it is so delicate looking, it doesn't appear to take up as much space as its size implies.

Here is a photo of mine. This one was planted about 5 years ago and has done great but it will need to be moved soon, to a spot where it can grow to its full potential.



Toothless Spoon
Dasyllirion quadrangulatum

The Look

Both Desert and Toothless Spoons serve a useful purpose. They fill a space with little fuss and are a spectacular addition to any landscape.

Just take a look at this. Isn't it lovely? And, you know what else? I'm pretty sure I just heard you swoon.



Five Desert Spoons as a Mesquite Understory

Warm Up with Lentil Soup

By Lori Bosch and daughter, Stephanie, Cachet at Grayhawk



Have you ever had homemade lentil soup? If so, you probably have a relative from Germany, Italy or the Mideast who carried on the tradition of making this hearty and healthy soup. In Germany, lentil soup is traditionally served on New Year's Eve to promote good luck. There is a saying that

goes: "Serving lentil soup on New Year's Eve will ensure you don't run out of pennies in the coming year." This lentil soup recipe is a European spin on traditional American bean soup and is just as easy to make.

Lentils are a member of the legume family and they are protein-packed. One cup of cooked lentils has 6-18 grams of protein and is also an excellent source of soluble fiber. Lentils cook up quickly, faster than beans which make them a great choice for a speedy meal. This is also a frugal one-pot meal loaded with protein, whether you add meat or not. I did not add meat to this pot of soup but I added lots of extra veggies.

You can find lentil soups in cans at the grocery store. Progressive, Amy's Organic, and even Campbell's has a lentil soup, but I've always found that with store-bought soups, every spoonful tastes exactly the same. Homemade soups are more flavorful and each spoonful tastes a little different. Whenever I make soup I make a large quantity and usually freeze half. So if you follow this recipe you will have plenty to share or freeze for later. Before eating, be sure to add a splash of apple cider vinegar to your bowl. It will heighten all of the blended flavors and vinegar also aids in digestion. Happy Soup Season to you!

And always, always, always make large pots of soup, so you can freeze extra containers and enjoy on any chilly day. We welcome your feedback, suggestions and recipe requests! Please feel free to email us at boschl@me.com.



Lentil Soup *Prep time: 20 minutes • Cook time: 60 minutes • 8 to 10 servings*

Ingredients:

- 1 ½ bags lentils (1 ½ lbs), thoroughly rinsed
- optional: 1 lb sausage, ham, or bacon
- 2 - 32 ounce containers + 1 cup organic beef broth
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 onion (Vidalia or Spanish), chopped
- 3 ribs celery with leaves, chopped
- 2 leaks, thoroughly rinsed and sliced
- 8-10 carrots, peeled and sliced
- 2 large Idaho potatoes, peeled and chopped bite-sized
- 1 ½ cups baby spinach leaves, washed and chopped
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons pepper
- 2 teaspoons beef bouillon (we like *Better Than Bouillon*)
- apple cider vinegar

Instructions:

1. Rinse lentils with water and drain. Repeat a few times.
2. Chop and slice all vegetables. If adding meat to the recipe, cut bite-sized.
3. Heat oil in bottom of large soup pot and sauté onion a minute or two until translucent. Add beef broth, lentils and vegetables to pot and bring to a boil.
4. Reduce heat and simmer, stir in salt, pepper and bouillon.
5. Simmer soup on medium low heat with a lid for about 45 minutes until vegetables are tender.
6. Add a splash of apple cider vinegar before serving.



Sip and Tell

By Sue Lukenbill, Encore Resident

We are about to close the door and say goodbye to 2019. As I look back on the year, I have to smile because I think I might just be the luckiest person in the world. Good family and friends have provided all the riches I need. It's hard not to brag about life in Grayhawk. On December 18, my husband Bill and I will celebrate 23 wonderful years that we have lived in Grayhawk. In almost 51 years of marriage this is the longest we have ever lived on one place (well, technically two different addresses, but you get the idea).

I enjoy reminiscing at this time of the year about all the great restaurants I have been able to enjoy and review with my partner in crime, Grayhawk's Director of Communications and *Grayhawk Flight* editor Jennifer Sheets. What is even more amazing is that I have been writing this column for almost 14 years. Time flies! Someone recently asked how I got so lucky to write about different restaurants. I had to think about that one and go home and research it. Fourteen years is a long time and my memory is not what it used to be.

My love for writing goes back to when I was 19 years old. Over the years I've written for Dental journals, church newsletters and assisted living communities. My *Sip and Tell* articles officially began in July of 2006, when I started writing about places I went with the Ladies Night Out group or for Grayhawk Happy Hours. Jennifer Sheets started joining me for lunch or happy hours the latter part of 2009 when we got serious about checking out the new places in the area and reviewing them to let homeowners know places to go for a quick bite, nice meal or a few drinks.

I can say that over the years I have definitely started cleaning up my plate. In 2019 we visited a good number of healthy restaurants, and I even made some better choices in what I ordered. Believe it! This month we visited **Original ChopShop** in the Promenade. They are committed to serving the freshest foods possible. Everything is made to order. They say "everyone is welcome! Simply come as you are, fuel your well-being."

This is a great counter service spot and a perfect stop on a busy day of holiday shopping or entertaining visiting family and fiends. It also helps to balance out all of the cookies and holiday party appetizers you'll be eating! Their menu has everything from salads to protein bowls, sandwiches to breakfast. The menu also features kid-friendly choices and options for those that are gluten, dairy, lactose and soy free, as well as both vegetarian and vegan options.

I was sure Jenn was going straight for a salad, but she surprised me this month! She ordered the Spicy Korean Steak bowl with roasted broccoli, cauliflower, carrot, mushroom, green onion, sesame seed, and bok choy. With the protein bowls you have a choice of brown rice or sweet potato hash, or for a \$1 you can substitute forbidden rice or quinoa. Jenn chose the sweet potato hash. She loves spice and it's a good thing. She said the sauce was delicious and had a nice kick to it.



I ordered the club sandwich. It was served on 12 grain with turkey, provolone, tomato, onion, house greens, avocado pesto and red wine vinaigrette. The bread for all of their sandwiches is locally sourced and delivered daily. For a small upcharge you can substitute a whole wheat or gluten free wrap. The presentation of both of our lunches was inviting and we both cleaned our plates like good little girls. There was nothing to take home to nibble on.

They serve a variety of drinks including tea, craft sodas, coffee, juices and smoothies. I am looking forward to heading back to try their breakfast. The avocado toast looked amazing!

We both would highly recommend that you check it out next time you are in the Promenade. Until next month, Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah!

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The Grayhawk Group currently has motivated buyers looking for Grayhawk homes.

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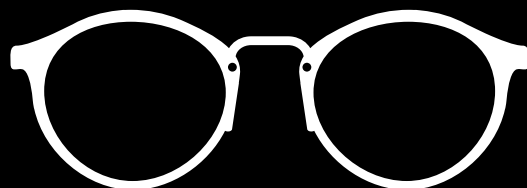


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