



Grayhawk Flight

January 2020

Inside:

*December 2019...
a month in pictures!*

*Kick off a healthy 2020
at Bowl of Greens*



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 3 Bedroom | 2.5 Bath | 2,930 Sqft | Grayhawk
Offered at \$949,500
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8055 E Windwood Lane Scottsdale AZ 85255
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UNDER CONTRACT

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8206 E Gilded Perch Drive Scottsdale AZ 85255
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19816 N 83rd Place Scottsdale AZ 95255
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19700 N 76th Street 2142 Scottsdale AZ 85255
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"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



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Grayhawk Community Association

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Suite 102
Scottsdale, AZ 85255
www.grayhawkcommunity.org

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(480) 563-9708

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Talon Guardhouse/Roving Patrol
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Raptor Guardhouse
(480) 502-5078

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

GRAYHAWK STAFF



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Maintenance Assistant



Martha Castaneda
Maintenance Assistant

Manager's Corner



With the beginning of a new year, many of us will make resolutions for the upcoming year. If you are like me, some will fall by the wayside before the end of January. However, hopefully the more important and meaningful resolutions will not only make it through 2020, but for many years in the future.

The thought of New Year's resolutions got me thinking of resolutions that you, as homeowners, might want to consider for 2020 as members of the Grayhawk Community Association. Here are a few of the resolutions I came up with for Grayhawk homeowners in 2020:

- Take an active role in your association by volunteering to serve on a committee, attending or participating in the many social events/activities offered by the association, or running for election to the Board of Directors.
- Be considerate of your neighbors and your community by abiding by the restrictive covenants and community regulations that you agreed to when you purchased your home.
- Get to know your neighbors.
- Keep your homeowner information up-to-date with the association office (i.e., billing address, phone number, e-mail address, emergency contact information).
- Invoke the "Golden Rule" (treating others as you would like to be treated) when dealing with association staff members and the association's contracted service providers, such as security and landscaping personnel.

These are just a few suggested resolutions for you to consider as a member of the Grayhawk Community Association. Many of you already subscribe to most or all of these recommended resolutions and the association thanks you for being a good neighbor and association member. For those of you that do not abide by some or all of the resolutions listed above, please make 2020 the year that you make the most out of being a member of the Grayhawk Community Association.

On another topic, at the March 24, 2020, Grayhawk Community Association (GCA) and Retreat Village Association (RVA) Annual Meetings, you as homeowners in Grayhawk will elect three GCA Board members and, if you live in the Retreat Village, two RVA Board members to serve your community for the following two years.

During the past several years, the association has made a strong effort to get greater community involvement in the election process and improve attendance at the Annual Meeting. Our efforts have proved to be successful, resulting in an increase of over 20% in homeowner ballots submitted in the past three elections, but we know we can do better. We would like to thank all of you for your participation in past Board of Director elections.

In a community the size of Grayhawk, we know that there is a wealth of talented homeowners who would make excellent Board members and we are encouraging you to seriously consider serving your community by becoming a candidate for election to either the GCA or RVA Board of Directors. This month you will be mailed information regarding the Annual Meeting and how to become a candidate for election to either of these Boards.

Happy New Year. 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 – JANUARY 2020

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

Grayhawk Board of Directors

Mon., Jan. 6 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., Jan. 6 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., Jan. 7 and 21 at 4:30 p.m. at the
GCA office.

OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

Avian Condominium Association Annual Meeting

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

Cachet at Grayhawk Condominium Association Meeting

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., Jan. 9 at 6 p.m. in the Encore
Clubhouse. Call Amcor Property Management
at 480-948-5860 for details.

Tesoro Condominium Association Board Meeting

Mon., Jan. 27 at 6 p.m. in the Tesoro
Clubhouse. Call Kinney Management at
480-820-3451 for details.

Venu Condominium Association Annual Meeting

Tues., Jan. 21 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

Thur., Jan. 16 at 6 p.m. in the Talon Room,
GCA office. Call FirstService Residential at
480-551-4300 for details.

Vintage Condominium Association Board Meeting

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 – December 2, 2019

A resident in attendance asked about whether or not the GCA Board of Directors had any information regarding a possible change to the law that prohibits cities from restricting short-term rental properties enacted several years ago. The Board discussed their position and asked management to provide residents with the appropriate contact information for sharing their concerns if the Arizona state legislature considers revising this law.

Development Committee

David Van Omen reported that construction was underway at the Cavasson development on the Nationwide Insurance building and parking complexes.

There was a question as to whether or not anyone knew what was replacing the Poke restaurant or Tavern Americana. No one had a definitive answer.

Operational Review Committee

Richard Zielinski reported that Trident Security Services had presented at the recent meeting regarding the minimum wage

increase and a subsequent contract increase.

Guardhouse renovation project manager Barry Ebert introduced Keith Zollman from Studio KZ. Keith updated the Board on the Design-Build Agreement for the renovation of the Raptor and Talon guardhouses and answered questions from the Board of Directors. The Board agreed to a Letter of Engagement with Studio KZ to begin the process of developing the scope of work for specific phases of the project and to begin to solicit bids from contractors for these phases.

Landscape Committee

Arlene Smith reported that the committee did meet on November 19 and discussed the 2019 overseeding project, recent storm damage, seasonal cutbacks, traffic site line trimming, fall planting and the Butterfly Garden.

DLC is creating and donating a table top sign to be placed at the entrance of the Butterfly Garden with information about monarch butterfly habitat. Plant markers

have also been ordered to identify various plants used in the area.

The Landscaping Committee is sending various proposals to the Community Enhancement Committee for funding approval.

A motion was made and approved to approve funding for fall planting prior to the next Community Enhancement Committee meeting due to time sensitivity. Funding totals \$21,500 and includes (220) 5 gallon plants, (64) 1 gallon plants, (11) 24" box trees, (34) cactus/specialty plants and (2) 36" Ironwood trees.

The landscape committee also toured several neighborhoods in the Talon Retreat to look at the monument sign renovations and discuss integrating similar plants surrounding each monument sign from a plant palette for color, texture and continuity.

Community Enhancement Committee

Stacey Harvey reported that the Community Enhancement Committee did not meet.

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Event Planning Committee

Sarah Van Duyne reported that the Mistletoe Market in November had been a big success. Most vendors were very happy. She did feel that some vendors were a bit overpriced for the event and will take that into account if doing this event again in the future.

There are approximately 130 people signed up for the Santa Party and 125 signed up for Holiday at the Hawk. The Holiday Hayrides are full with a waiting list.

Upcoming events include 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. The committee reviewed a mock up of a revised application and instructions and made various suggestions

and changes. The committee will not be meeting in December and will continue to work on this in 2020.

The committee also started to discuss the 2020 Annual Meeting and thought it might be nice to have the Scottsdale Police Department representative speak briefly at the meeting. The committee will discuss further in January.

Architectural Review Committee

Paul Alessio reported there were a total of 26 submittals in November ranging from window and door replacement to new patio enclosures. The majority were approved.

Budget/Finance Committee

Jeanette Griswold reported that the committee did not meet but plans to meet in early 2020 to discuss the reserve study update with the reserve analyst.

Executive Committee

David Van Omen reported that the committee did not meet.

New Business

A motion was made and approved to accept the Ballot Box proposal for ballot printing, distribution and counting services for the 2020 Annual meeting for a total of \$6,990.00.

Treasurer's Report

Jeanette Griswold reported that year-to-date income is over budget. Major contributors of the overage are collections and special events.

Over \$635,712.00 has been deposited to the Community Enhancement Fund this year.

Management Report

Michael Fee reported that the monument signs in the Talon Retreat are now done. Advanced Painting has completed the stucco repairs and painting of the exterior common area walls in the Ridgecrest and Montevina neighborhoods.



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"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

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*Thanks to David Van Omen and Andrew Bloom
for sponsoring this year's Howl at the Hawk holiday party*



Thanks to David Van Omen and Andrew Bloom with Keller Williams AZ Realty for sponsoring the 2019 Hanukkah Party



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Ice Den Happy Hour

Thurs., Jan. 16 from 5-7 p.m.

18 Degrees at the Ice Den, 9375 E. Bell Rd.

Lets be grateful our weather isn't cold like the rest of the country and celebrate at 18 Degrees, the new restaurant at the Ice Den. Start off the New Year off right with neighbors and friends while enjoying some tasty eats and cold drinks. The Ice Den is only a few miles away from Grayhawk and has a great happy hour menu and ambiance. Thank you to David Van Omen and Andrew Bloom with Keller Williams AZ Realty for sponsoring everyone's first drink! Space is limited. Register and pay online at www.grayhawkcommunity.org by Tuesday, Jan. 14.

FREE LIVING TRUST SEMINAR:

Learn The Latest Strategies To Protect Your Estate

Mon., Jan. 20 from 10-11 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 www.grayhawkcommunity.org to reserve your seat!

New Resident Orientation

Wed., Jan. 22 at 6 p.m.

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

Join us to learn more about living in Grayhawk and all that your new community has to offer. Meet your neighbors, learn a bit about the association and win prizes! Bring your appetite- appetizers, desserts and water will be served. Kids are welcome. RSVP online at www.Grayhawkcommunity.org by Monday, Jan. 20.

Concert in the Park

Sun., Jan. 26 from 3-5 p.m.

Grayhawk Greenbelt at 78th Pl. and 78th Way

Come join your neighbors for the first live music concert of the year in the Grayhawk Greenbelt! We are excited to have the Americana and Celtic band, Switchback, joining us all the way from Chicago. Their Celtic music is authentically Irish and they are known for powerful performances. Bring a chair or blanket to sit in the lawn, purchase eats from one of the many food trucks and enjoy a nice afternoon with neighbors. There is no registration fee for this event, but tipping the band is encouraged! Thank you to John Doering with 4Salearizona for sponsoring this event. RSVP online at www.grayhawkcommunity.org.

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SAVE THE DATE

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Grayhawk Elementary School MPR

Bunco Night

Tues., Jan. 28 at 6 p.m.

Raptor Room, GCA Office, 7940 E. Thompson Peak Pkwy. #102

Join neighbors for a night of games, food and fun! 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. Space is limited and spots will fill up fast. Register on www.grayhawkcommunity.org and prepay \$5 in the GCA office by Friday, Jan. 24. Thank you to our wonderful sponsors: Kathy Craig- Skin Care Consultant with Rodan + Fields, and Kelley Carter, Realtor with Kelleysfinehomes and founders of Scottsdale Life for providing food and wine and making this a bunco night to remember!



Robotics Workshop

Sat., Feb. 8 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

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

Whoever says, "Science, technology, engineering, and math can't be fun", has never played with robots. This robotics workshop is "programmed" fun for all. No need to be an expert in STEM or robotics to enjoy this class. This is a great opportunity to feel the exhilaration of sport and the challenge of science, technology, engineering, and math. Working as a member of a team, children and a parent will use their imaginations and problem-solving skills to design, build, and test robots to participate in a robotics challenge. This two-hour camp is designed for children ages 7 - 13 and a parent. A parent is required to attend with their child. Cost to participate is: \$10 per child. RSVP on www.grayhawkcommunity.org by Wednesday, Feb. 5.

Internet Safety Class

Tues., Feb. 11 at 6 p.m.

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

Internet safety or "e safety" has become a popular topic in our digital world today. Many of the large companies that people use online, such as Facebook and Google, are not automatically keeping your information safe. On this 'Safer Internet Day' Jeff Toomey will show you best practices on how to help protect your online privacy and stay safe across the major websites and social media apps people use everyday. This is a great opportunity to learn how to keep you and maybe even your children's online information safe and private. This is a free class, but please RSVP online at www.grayhawkcommunity.org by Monday, Feb. 10 to reserve your seat!

HIKING CLUB- JANUARY 2020

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.

Browns Ranch, Hawknest

Sat., Jan. 24 at 8 a.m.

Join the Hiking Club for a moderate to strenuous 12 mile hike in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. This hike is ideal for hikers who are accustomed to this distance experience and has an estimated hiking time of approximately 4-5 hours.

Cholla Loop, Thunderbird Conservation Area

Sat., Jan. 11 at 8:30 a.m.

Join the Hiking Club in Phoenix's Thunderbird Conservation Area. This 4 mile loop trip hike is ideal for intermediate hikers and is a loop hike new to the club. Estimated hiking time is approximately 2 hours.

Bell Pass/Windgate Pass Loop

Sat., Jan. 18 at 8 a.m.

Join the Hiking Club for a strenuous 10 mile loop in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. This hike for experienced hikers. Estimated hiking time is approximately 5 hours.

Walking Jim Loop Hike near Lake Pleasant

Sat., Jan. 25 start time TBD

Join the Hiking Club for a moderate 8.5 mile loop hike. In addition to the one hour drives to and from the trailhead, estimated hiking time is approximately 3 - 4 hours. This hike is ideal for intermediate or experienced hikers.



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January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WHO TO CALL ROVING PATROL (480) 502-7685 GRAYHAWK ASSOCIATION (480) 563-9708 SCOTTSDALE POLICE (480) 312-5000			1 Happy New Year	2	3	4
5	6 GCA and RVA BOD Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Talon Room	7 ARC Mtg. 4:30 p.m. GCA Office	8	9 Encore BOD Mtg. 6 p.m. Encore Clubhouse	10	11 Hiking Club 8:30 a.m.
12	13	14	15	16 Ice Den Happy Hour 5-7 p.m. Ice Den Village BOD Mtg. 6 p.m. Talon Room	17	18 Hiking Club 8 a.m.
19	20 Living Trust Seminar 10-11 a.m. Talon Room	21 ARC Mtg. 4:30 p.m. GCA Office Venu Board Mtg. 6 p.m. Venu Great Room	22 New Resident Orientation 6 p.m. Talon Room	23	24 Hiking Club 8 a.m.	25
26 Concert in the Park 3-5 p.m. Grayhawk Greenbelt	27 Tesoro BOD Mtg. 6 p.m. Tesoro Clubhouse	28 Bunco Night 6 p.m. Raptor Room	29	30	31	



Thanks to David Van Omen and Andrew Bloom with Keller Williams and Jeremy Mueller with State Farm for helping to provide a magical Santa Party



Dormant Plants: Red Bird of Paradise

By John Eubank, DLC Resources Field Manager

The winter months are upon us and you will start to notice some of the bright, vibrant plants in your yard shift into their dormant state. Dormancy in plants is similar to hibernation for animals. It is a time when growth and development stop in order to conserve energy. However, it does not mean that your plants are dead. In Grayhawk's common area you will notice some of your community's plants become brown. When this happens they will be renovated to help promote their regrowth in the spring.

Plants in your backyard will most likely follow suit and go dormant as well, including the Red Bird of Paradise. This plant supplies colorful blooms through the spring and summer but it is important to allow them to go dormant so they can come back strong in the next blooming season.



Red Bird of Paradise is a favorite centerpiece in desert landscaping and for good reason— during its blooming season in the warmer months, its brilliant red-orange flowers are hard to miss. It reaches between roughly 4 and 10 feet tall and 4 to 6 feet wide and thrives best in areas of full sun or light shade.

During the blooming season, you'll generally water your red birds once a week. However, during dormancy, they only need to be watered about once a month. In addition, you should also trim them down to roughly 8-12 inches in early winter. This sustainable practice, called seasonal pruning, helps the flowering shrub stay at a manageable size.



You will see our crews prune shrubs down the same way throughout Grayhawk's common areas. This practice does not harm the plants. In the case of the Bird of Paradise, once the foliage starts to brown the stems will harden and become difficult to manage. New foliage will also not grow from the old stem, but will sprout from the ground. When temperatures heat back up, your plant will grow back to its original size and bloom from the small base of the plant and continue to grow and show color throughout the spring and summer.

Although it is a mostly easy-to-maintain plant, there is one possible downside to the Red Bird of Paradise—its relative susceptibility to frost damage. The Red Bird of Paradise foliage cannot withstand any temperatures lower than 32 degrees Fahrenheit which is why we recommend to cut them back when you lose the foliage or flowers. While winter temperatures normally don't reach this low at Grayhawk, it is still good to cut them back once they start to go into dormancy in the fall.

There are many plants that are adapted to thrive and enjoy the intense heat of the desert summers, but many are not adapted to bloom in the desert's cooler months. It is important to allow these natural progressions to occur to keep your landscape healthy and producing full, colorful blooms in their season.



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GHFM2019



a Vi and PLAZA Community

CC/PDR Scottsdale, L.L.C. is the sole entity responsible for the performance of the continuing care contracts at Vi at Grayhawk.



Thanks to Julie Pelle and Christina Rathbun with Realty One Group and Jeremy Mueller with State Farm for sponsoring another year of Holiday Hayrides



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In 2019 a total of 202 snakes were caught by Trident Security staff members after responding to calls from residents. That is a new record! Snakes are released into the desert after capture.

Congratulations to Tim Baumer with Trident Security for being presented the 2019 Snake Handler Extraordinaire award. Trident Security recognized him for his outstanding snake catching (and releasing) skills following the 2019 season. Tim was responsible for the capture of 72 snakes. Thomas Day relocated 24 snakes, making him the second most successful snake wrangler.



Since 2008, the Trident Security staff at Grayhawk has captured and released 1,261 snakes, saving the City of Scottsdale approximately \$635,000 by reducing the number of calls to the Scottsdale Fire Department. In 2019 alone Grayhawk save the City of Scottsdale \$101,000.

Trident Security staff members have been trained by the Scottsdale Fire Department in snake removal. If you encounter a snake on your property, you can call 480-502-7685 or 480-502-5078 and request that patrol come to aid in removal.



Winter Bloomers

By Victoria Kauzlarich, Volare

Winters are the best here, aren't they? Just ask Barrett Jackson, the Waste Management Open and the Desert Botanical Garden.

If you're only here during the winter months, you want the payoff of warmer weather which is to say you also want to see plants in bloom.

There are lots of public spaces that are more than happy to accommodate by planting red geraniums, petunias of every conceivable color and more sweet potato vine than you can shake a stick at.

From my corner of the plant world, all those annuals just look like way too much work. They need to be planted every year, they don't like the frost or the heat and you need to keep tending them (frequent watering, pruning, dead-heading and thinning) to keep them looking their best.

What if you could rely on native plants that don't mind the frost or heat, that only need to be planted once (or at most every 3-5 years), and that only required occasional pruning?

Well, you can. And, there are lots of choices in a variety of plant types and colors. Just a few days ago, I took a stroll through my yard to see at least 6 different species of plants in bloom. Every one of them thrives here with relatively little human intervention. Let's take a closer look, shall we?



Valentine Bush

Shrubs

My all-time favorite in this category is the Valentine Bush (*Emerophila maculata* 'Valentine'). These start setting their blooms in November and don't stop until early summer.

They easily bloom for five months, non-stop. And, as a bonus, hummingbirds love them so you can be confident of providing your hummers with a food source all winter long.



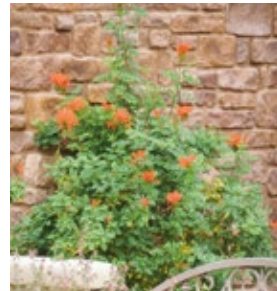
Blue Emu Bush

A close second in this category is the Blue Emu Bush (*Eremophila hygrophana*). These bloom throughout the year, are a good substitute for sage bushes and require little maintenance.

Both of these shrubs are native to Australia. They both do well in our desert.

They don't mind the cold or the heat and reliably bloom for months on end. Hummers like them both.

Another winter blooming hummingbird favorite is the Cape Honeysuckle (*Tecoma capensis*). This versatile plant can be grown as a shrub or as a vine as you see it here. This one is a bit frost-sensitive but if you wait until mid-February and prune back any frost-damage, this is a plant that recovers quickly.



Cape Honeysuckle

Cape Honeysuckle is a star performer during the winter months. It blooms from November through January and is a favorite for its deep green foliage and intense orange blossoms.

Our discussion of winter-blooming shrubs would not be complete without highlighting the Red Fairy Duster (*Calliandra californica*). This shrub can get large - up to 4'x6' but it is easy to tame through occasional pruning.

Pruning is made easy on this plant because it has an open growth habit - its branches have space between them. This makes it easy to see what you're doing and where to prune next. It is also a slower growing plant. Pruning about once a year should do it.

Hummingbirds love this plant, too. Are you detecting a pattern, here?



Red Fairy Duster



Red Hat Aloe

Aloes

You cannot beat Aloes for their winter blooms. That said, most of them bloom just once a year, for about a month.

But, we want more than that, don't we? Of course we do.

Consider the Red Hat Aloe (*Aloe rudikoppe*). This aloe blooms at least a half dozen times a year and the blooms last for well over a month each time. And, the blooms look like a pyramid of candy corn from the side. But, take a look for yourself, the birds-eye view is best.

The other distinctive feature of this plant is that it has dark green leaves. It requires some shade but other than that, it tolerates the heat and the cold and just keeps blooming. These also do well in pots. And as an added bonus, Hummingbirds like these, too.

Perennials

If you've grown perennials in a cold weather climate, you know they have a season and they'll bloom during that period and no other. Here in the desert, we have perennials that bloom throughout the year. Here are two of my favorites.

Behold the Desert Marigold (*Baileya multiradiata*). Sure, these don't bloom for 12 months non-stop but they come awfully close. Their bright yellow flowers perch atop long stems above their gray/green foliage.

They are perfectly comfortable in both the heat and the cold and don't mind a severe cutback when they get a bit leggy. These



Desert Marigold

plants will die out after about 3-5 years but they also self seed, so you never know where the next one will pop up, all on its own.

Last, but certainly not least in this line up, here is a plant that does double color duty: the Purple Heart (*Tradescantia pallida*).

Its foliage stays deep purple all year (becoming nearly black in the spring) AND it blooms; only for a single day, but frequently. With rainfall or an increase in humidity, these can bloom as often as three times in a week.

The deep purple foliage color contrasts beautifully with cacti, succulents and shrubs. These are also super easy to propagate. Cut them where the leaves join the stem and gently plant them. Their stems are full of moisture, so they settle in without a fuss.



Purple Heart

These plants need a bit of shade but they are real troopers in my excessively hot side yard. If they begin to look leggy, cut them back. If they've gotten sunburned, cut them back. If they're taking up too much space, cut them back. They're tolerant, reliable and will reward you almost endlessly, but especially during the winter.

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Chicago-Style Beef Chili

By Lori Bosch and daughter, Stephanie, Cachet at Grayhawk



As you may know, my daughter Stephanie and I love to make easy, healthy one-pot meals that last a couple of days. I've been making this Chicago-style beef chili for many years and sometimes use this Midwestern tomato-based dish as a centerpiece of a Chili Bar and surround it with lots of extra toppings. Steph recently asked for this recipe which was the perfect opportunity to write it down for the first time and share it with all of you. I rarely follow recipes and usually just toss together favorite ingredients to make a meal. One of the things that I love about writing this recipe column every month is that it compels me to write down all of my recipes so I can easily share them with others.

This recipe is not spicy, but feel free to add as much heat as you like. Steph likes her chili extra spicy so she adds a few tablespoons of Cholula Hot Sauce, chopped fresh jalapenos, cayenne pepper, and red pepper flakes to taste. And as you can see from the photo

she took, she likes to garnish it Chicago-style with lots of freshly grated cheddar cheese, chopped red onions and tortilla chips. Sour cream and pickled jalapenos are also delish toppings especially if you are setting up a Chili Bar. We have always thought that this pot of goodness tastes even better on the second day, and it also freezes well. It's about the only time of year in Arizona when a hot bowl of chili hits the spot...so from our family to yours...please enjoy our favorite chili recipe!

And always, always, always get creative with your toppings... use any cheeses, chips or add-ons you like, and turn an ordinary bowl of chili into a festive creation station! We welcome your feedback, suggestions and recipe requests! Please feel free to email us at boschl@me.com.



Chicago-Style Beef Chili

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

Ingredients (organic when possible):

- 2 lbs ground beef
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 - 15 oz can beef broth
- 1 Vidalia or Spanish onion, peeled and chopped
- 1 green pepper seeded and chopped
- 2-3 carrots peeled and chopped (optional)
- 1 - 28 ounce large can stewed tomatoes
- 2 - 15 ounce cans tomato sauce
- 3-5 tablespoons chili powder
- 2 teaspoons cumin
- 1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa
- 1 tablespoon sugar (neutralizes acidity)
- 1-2 shots of vodka
- 4 - 15 ounce cans of beans
- 1 - 6 oz can tomato paste
- Optional heat: jalapenos, hot sauce, cayenne pepper, red pepper flakes
- Optional toppings: cheddar cheese, chopped red or green onions, sour cream, pickled jalapenos, tortilla chips

Instructions:

1. In a large soup pot, brown ground beef on medium high for approximately 5-7 minutes, stirring regularly with a wooden spoon and scraping bottom of the pot. Add salt, garlic salt, and pepper to season meat. Add splashes of beef broth while cooking if beef sticks to the bottom of the pot. Brown meat until fully cooked.
2. Chop pepper, onion and carrots and add to pot, stirring constantly for about 2 minutes. Then add remaining beef broth.
3. Add tomato sauce and stewed tomatoes. (Do not add tomato paste or beans.)
4. Stir in chili powder, cumin, cocoa and sugar.
5. Add a shot or two of vodka (to tenderize meat) and put the lid on. Simmer on low for 45 minutes, stirring a few times.
6. Rinse and drain 4 cans of your favorite beans (we like Pinto) and add to chili.
7. Add can of tomato paste and simmer on low heat for 20 more minutes.



Sip and Tell

By Sue Lukenbill, Encore Resident

Happy New Year to all of you! This is truly a beautiful time of the year here in North Scottsdale with all of the activities and events taking place over the next couple of months. As I stand out in my patio watching the beautiful sunset, I reflect about this time of the year and “Auld Lang Syne.” We have lived here in the Grayhawk Community for 23 plus years that have been filled with wonderful, beautiful memories. We don’t plan on leaving any time soon.

After feasting at all of the parties and family gatherings with endless amounts of rich food and cookies, I decided that everyone needed a little break. Events like the Super Bowl, Waste

Management Open and Spring Training will bring with them plenty of drinks and delicious food, so we might as well take a moment and attempt to cleanse our system of all the junk!

Last January, instead of highlighting one particular restaurant, I wrote about some of the fantastic and healthy options that we have in the area. One of the restaurants was **Bowl of Greens**. It is a fast casual

restaurant located in the Scottsdale Promenade and is a popular place to order to go lunches with our Grayhawk office staff. They insist that it is the place to go because the food is fantastic. The restaurant offers smoothies, salads, wraps, brunch, and entrees including grilled chicken, salmon, veggies and more. They also have a kids menu.

Grayhawk’s Director of Communications Jennifer Sheets and I thoroughly enjoyed our lunches. They had a nice choice of Signature Salads, and also an option to build your own salad. Knowing that Jenn would probably order a salad, I decided to order a wrap. And knowing that whenever a falafel item was on the menu I order it made my decision easy.

I ordered the **Falafel Wrap** which was to die for. I loved it! The wrap was made with croquettes of chickpea, romaine, tomato, parsley, and tahini sauce. I had them hold the pickle. It came with pita chips. I would order this exact meal every time! Jenn had the **Grilled Chicken Caesar**. The salad was made with grilled chicken, romaine, parmesan, and pita chips with Caesar dressing. I was surprised at how generous with the portion of chicken. She said this salad is definitely an office favorite, and judging by the number of Caesar salads I saw in the restaurant, it’s a favorite all the way around.

I would recommend putting **Bowl of Greens** on your list of places to go for lunch. Make it one of your 2020 resolutions.

Until next month, Happy New Year!



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Talon Guardhouse	480-502-7685
Raptor Guardhouse	480-502-5078
After Hours Answering Service	602-234-9288

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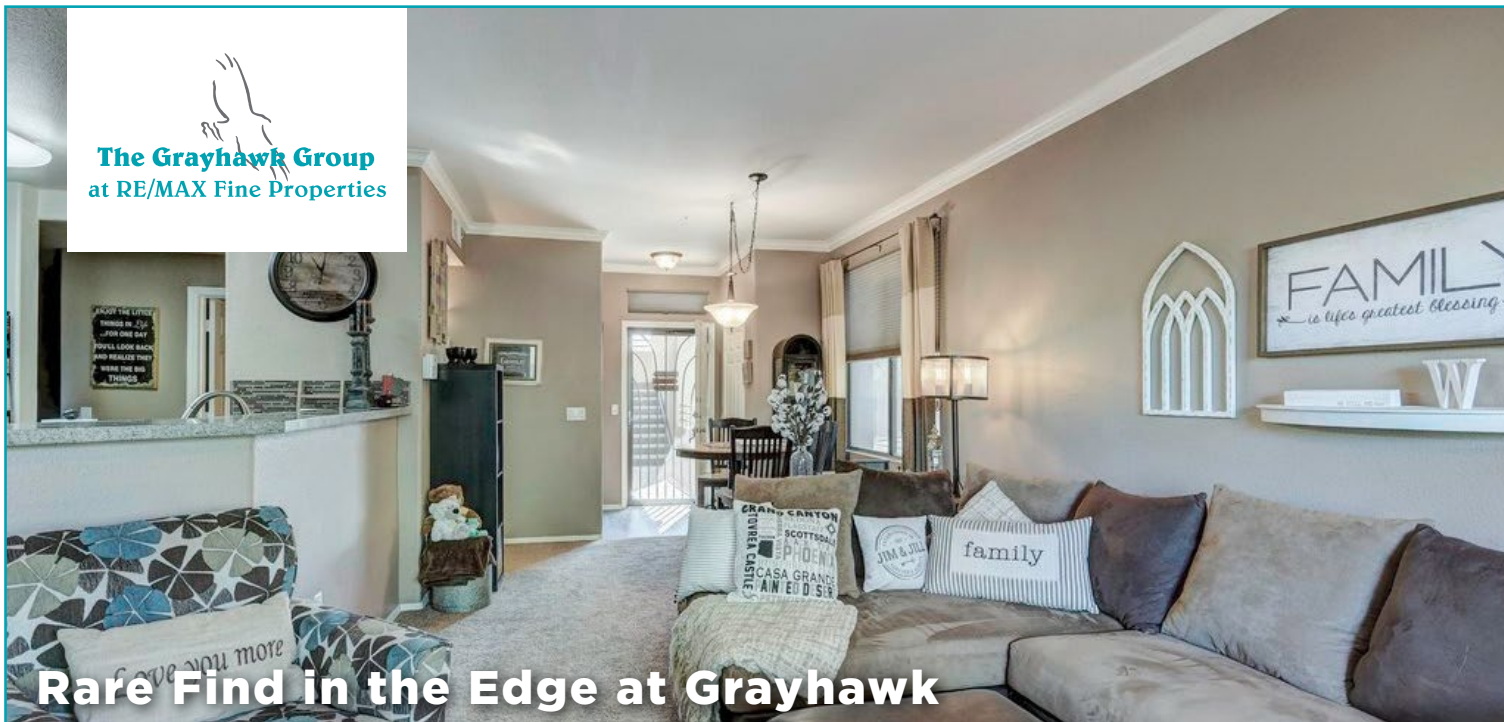
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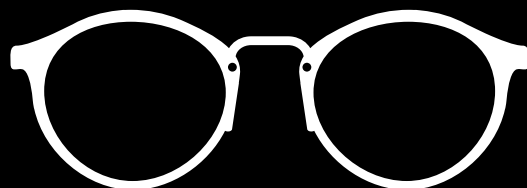


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