

A close-up, low-angle shot of the American flag waving in the wind. The flag is positioned diagonally from the bottom left towards the top right. The stars and stripes are clearly visible. In the background, a bright sunset or sunrise is visible, with a large, glowing sun partially obscured by dark, silhouetted trees. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue.

Grayhawk Flight

July 2020

Inside:

*A New Look for Grayhawk Drive
Fun Ideas for a Stay-at-Home 4th*

#1 Team in Grayhawk 20+ Years

Virtual Tours Available



23006 N 86th Street Scottsdale AZ 85255
4 Bedroom | 3 Bath + (2) 1/2 Bath | 3,919 Sqft | La Vida
Offered at \$899,888



7647 E Windwood Lane Scottsdale AZ 85255
4 Bedroom | 4.5 Bath | 4,461 Sft | Grayhawk
SOLD FOR \$740,000



7608 E Phantom Way Scottsdale AZ 85255
4 Bedroom | 2 Bath | 2,500 Sqft | Grayhawk
Offered at \$699,500



8206 E Gilded Perch Drive Scottsdale AZ 85255
3 Bedroom | 2.5 Bath | 2,612 Sqft | Grayhawk
SOLD FOR \$632,000



19700 N 76th Street 2175 Scottsdale AZ 85255
3 Bedroom | 2 Bath | 1,795 Sqft | Grayhawk
Offered at \$410,000



19550 N Grayhawk Drive #2053 Scottsdale AZ 85255
3 Bedroom | 2 Bath | 1,795 Sqft | Grayhawk
Offered at \$399,500

"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
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David Van Omen
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at Home



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Our Home

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Grayhawk Community Association

Professionally Managed By



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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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Chantel Martin
Maintenance Assistant



Martha Castaneda
Maintenance Assistant

Manager's Corner



This month I would like to address community safety throughout Grayhawk and how you can help the on-site management team to continue to provide a safe environment. However, I would first like to commend Grayhawk's community patrol and guardhouse staff for the outstanding job they do and for the great service they provide to all of you as homeowners. Grayhawk is a very large community and, due to its size, the community patrol staff deals with a wide range of safety concerns – some of these they are able to resolve while others require involvement from outside entities, such as the Scottsdale Police Department, APS, or the City of Scottsdale.

Grayhawk's community patrol staff provides a wide range of services throughout the community and for the residents, including snake removal, jumping dead car batteries, helping to find lost pets, and assisting with community events.

When dealing with safety/security issues, the primary responsibility for the community patrol officer is to observe and report what has occurred, and, if possible, attempt to resolve the problem or situation. This is often not possible because, as I am sure you are aware, Grayhawk's community patrol staff does not perform police duties or functions, and they have been instructed to never put themselves in harm's way.

However, Grayhawk's security personnel have been effective in addressing many, mostly minor, types of issues that occur within our community. If you observe any suspicious activity in your neighborhood or in a common area located in Grayhawk, please report this to the Grayhawk Community Association (GCA) office at 480-563-9708 during business hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.) or the on-site security staff by calling either the Raptor guardhouse at 480-502-5078 or the Talon guardhouse at 480-502-7685, and a community patrol officer will be dispatched to the area. You are also encouraged to report any mischievous or inappropriate behavior by children within the community such as skateboarding or bicycle riding on the tennis courts; driving a motorized vehicle on the community trail system or in the greenbelts; or graffiti/ defacing neighborhood monument signs, ramadas, picnic tables, community walls, or mailbox structures. I mention these examples because they have all occurred in the past and with your help, hopefully we can prevent them from happening in the future.

Our community patrol does a good job of detecting this type of activity when driving through the community, but they cannot be everywhere at once and we appreciate your help in our attempts to reduce incidents of this nature. Finally, please notify the GCA office or the security staff as soon as you can after observing the type of activity described above and try to be as detailed as possible regarding the location and type of incident. With your help, together we can make Grayhawk an even better and safer community.

Stay cool this summer and 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 – JULY 2020

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

Grayhawk Board of Directors

No meeting scheduled in July.
Call the GCA Office at 480-563-9708 for more information.
Grayhawk_board@grayhawkcommunity.org

Grayhawk Board of Directors Executive Session Meeting

No meeting scheduled in July.
The Board of Directors will not 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

No meeting scheduled in July.
Call the GCA Office at 480-563-9708 for more information.
Retreat_board@grayhawkcommunity.org

Retreat Village Board of Directors Executive Session Meeting

No meeting scheduled in July.
The Board of Directors will not 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., July 7 and July 21 at 4:30 p.m. Call Stacey Harvey at 480-563-9708 for more information.

OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

Avian Condominium Association Board 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

Call Amcor Property Professionals at 480-948-5860 for details.

Tesoro Condominium Association Board Meeting

Call Kinney Management at 480-820-3451 for details.

Venu Condominium Association Board Meeting

Call Vision Community Management at 480-759-8683

Village at Grayhawk Condominium Association Board Meeting

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 – June 1, 2020

A resident inquired as to how long another resident has to complete construction. Stacey Harvey noted that she has already reached out to the homeowner in question, who had issues with their contractor and is looking for a new contractor to finish the work.

Linda Shaw addressed the Board of Directors regarding the guardhouse remodeling project. She was the Grayhawk Community Association Board President when this project was in its beginning stages and wanted to offer insight from the project's inception. She noted that the main points she remembered were that traffic was backing up on to Thompson Peak Parkway, that technology needed an update, that there was not efficient space for staff to work in and that the roof needed to be raised so that box trucks did not need to use the Resident lane.

Development Committee

David Van Omen reported the new subdivision on Pinnacle Peak Road and Pima Road now has model homes being built. He noted that the real estate market has been very busy and homes continue to sell quickly despite Covid-19.

Operational Review Committee

Dick Zieinski reviewed previous community enhancement projects, including the monument sign project, which had been designed to improve an aging community. He feels that the guardhouse remodel project is no different.

Bob Mann suggested finishing the remaining Architectural Plans for Option A, the complete rebuild. Although the gate more directly benefits Retreat Village Association residents, they do pay into the Community Enhancement Fund and the project will aesthetically benefit the entire community.

Jeanette Griswold stated that she is not sure she is prepared to vote to spend the amount of money being asked. Lou Ender noted that this vote is not to approve the work itself, only to complete the plans. Paul Alessio inquired about the possibility of just remodeling the guardhouses and had concerns regarding the potential cost

of the project and the amount of possible funding through the Grayhawk community enhancement fund.

Other Board members provide their opinions in a lengthy discussion regarding this project and proceeding with completing the final phase of the architectural plans to rebuild the guardhouses. A motion was made to fund the remaining \$38,000 for the architectural services contract through the Grayhawk community enhancement fund. The motion was seconded but failed on a 4-3 vote.

****Note:** At the Retreat Village Association Board meeting on June 1, the Retreat Village Association Board of Directors approved funding the remaining \$38,000 of the architectural services contract through the Retreat Village community enhancement fund which was subsequently approved by the Grayhawk Community Association Board of Directors at a Special Board meeting held on June 8.

Landscape Committee

Arlene Smith reported that the committee did not meet.

Community Enhancement Committee

Bob Mann commented that there had been some questions regarding short-term rentals. He would like to engage in a conversation with the Grayhawk Community Association legal team in order to determine what, if anything, the association might be able to do.

Event Planning Committee

Jennifer Sheets reported that various virtual events had been a great success. The Virtual Trivia was very popular, with one lucky winner taking home a \$300 gift card. Trivia is something that Lifestyle Director Sarah Van Duyne plans to keep doing as it was so well received.

The Virtual Wine Run also went well with about 70 people participating.

The Grayhawk Community Association also hosted a Kurbside Kona event and gave away 100 sweet treats to cool residents off on a hot day.

Communications Committee

Jennifer Sheets reported that advertising has slowed down for the summer as it always does. Communication continues to be sent out regarding Covid-19 as necessary.

Architectural Review Committee

Paul Alessio reported that the committee had two meetings the previous month, with a total of 14 submittals. All but one submittal were approved.

Budget/Finance Committee

Jeanette Griswold reported that the committee did not meet. The committee would like to add Rick Milburn as a member. A motion was made and approved to add Rick Milburn to the Budget/Finance Committee.

Executive Committee

David Van Omen reported that the committee did not meet. Michael Fee gave an updated on the previous strategic plan and noted that we would likely hold the next strategic planning meeting in September or October.

Treasurer's Report

Jeanette Griswold reported that the revenue was under budget mainly due to room rentals and special events, which have been largely on hold due to the pandemic. The GCA Community Enhancement Fund was funded by \$64,226 in April, with a year-to-date total (through April) of \$317,292. The total balance is \$2,456,290.

Management Report

Staff has been meeting weekly via Zoom to discuss scheduling, virtual lifestyle events, reopening of amenities (including disinfecting those amenities) and more. This has been helping to keep staff on the same page while they work a modified schedule to include working from home.

DLC has begun the fire mitigation project along the south side of the Deer Valley Wash east of Hayden Road and has completed the erosion project along the sidewalk in the Coventry at the Park neighborhood.

TRASH AND RECYCLING REMINDER

Every week, Grayhawk residents roll out their trash and recycle cans to the street to be picked up by the City of Scottsdale garbage collectors. But did you know that you could be leaving your bin out in the wrong spot and breaking the law?

Many residents rely on wheelchairs to get around. Unfortunately, they sometimes run into trash and recycle bins that make it impossible to get through the neighborhood on the sidewalks. Those obstacles force anyone with a wheelchair, stroller, etc. to go into the street, which pose an obvious threat to their safety. Often times, even those simply walking down the sidewalk face the same problem. So while you may never have considered the importance of your trash and recycle bin placement, it has become a safety issue for many of our neighbors.



Please observe the City of Scottsdale guidelines regarding trash/recycle collection as outlined below:

- Place your container on the street with wheels against the curb by 5:00 a.m. on collection days and remove it the same day
- Keep your container at least four feet from parked cars, mailboxes and other obstacles that may prevent city crews from picking it up
- Don't overfill your container – the lid must close per Maricopa County Health Department standards
- If your city-owned container needs repair, please call 480-312-5600 or email Scottsdale Solid Waste

Garbage and trash specifics include:

- Bag and tie garbage and grass before placing it in your black trash container
- This helps control odors and pests and is required by law
- Don't place rocks, dirt, building materials, electronics or hazardous waste in your trash container
- Scottsdale Solid Waste collects brush and bulk material once per month
- Scottsdale Solid Waste offers Household Hazardous Waste collection services
- Scottsdale Solid Waste offers an Electronics Recycling drop-off event
- If you need an additional black trash container, you can purchase one and pay for additional service-please call 480-312-5600

Recycling specifics include:

- Only put accepted materials in your recycling container
- Don't place plastic bags or liners in your recycling container as they can damage the equipment used at the sorting facility
- Instead, many local grocery stores offer plastic shopping bag recycling drop-off containers
- Make sure your recyclable materials are clean, dry and empty
- Break down or cut-up cardboard boxes to keep them from getting stuck in your container
- If you need an additional mauve recycling container, the City of Scottsdale will provide one at no charge-please call 480-312-5600



Your 4th of July celebration might be a bit different this year, but that doesn't mean you can't still have fun! Check out these great ideas for creating an easy and festive 4th.

Host a not-so-basic BBQ. Invite family and close friends over for one thing just about everyone loves, food! Take it up a notch with a cook off. Have friends bring their favorite dish in a category then have prizes ready for your winners. Or keep it low key and just have everyone bring a favorite dish to share- like the easy, kid-friendly berry salad recipe on the next page, sure to be a crowd pleaser.

Enjoy a movie...in the pool. Grab a few floats and hit the water after you've demolished your burgers and hot dogs. Pick a family favorite and use an inflatable screen, sheet or even a wall to watch. All you'll really need is a projector, a dvd player or laptop and speakers and you're all set!

Create the fun. Have a family hot dog eating contest, hook up some sprinklers in the backyard or make a festive craft like the cupcake liner fireworks on the next page. Create a make-shift family band and belt out some patriotic tunes and enjoy sparklers once it's dark. It's all about creating memories!

**TO BEST SELL THE VIRTUES OF GRAYHAWK
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SUMMER BERRY CHEESECAKE SALAD

From **Slow Roasted Italian** (theslowroasteditalian.com)

- 1 pound strawberries, hulled and cut into quarters
- 1 (9 ounce) container blueberries, washed and dried (remove stems)
- 1 (9 ounce container) raspberries, rinsed and dried
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese
- 1/2 cup Simply Pure Vanilla Coffee Creamer

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Prepare berries and lay them on paper towels to dry.
2. In a medium using an electric mixer, whip cream cheese until it becomes smooth. It may bind up in the beaters, but continue as is and it will loosen up.
3. With mixer running slowly add creamer to the cream cheese. Add it about a tablespoon at a time and then mix until it becomes a smooth mixture and all of the creamer has combined into the cream cheese. Continue until all of the creamer has been added to the cream cheese. Whip until smooth.
4. Combine berries in a large bowl. Gently fold in cheesecake mixture until combined.
5. Chill until ready to serve or serve immediately.



CUPCAKE LINER FIREWORK CRAFT

A Little Pinch of Perfect (alittlepinchofperfect.com)

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Cupcake liners in various colors
- Scissors
- Glue
- Black craft paper

1. Flatten cupcake liners and make cuts (fringe) on the ribbed part of the liner. Stop cutting when we reached the inside circle of the cupcake liner.
2. Glue the cupcake liners on a black piece of cardstock or construction paper.



Virtual Mixology Class – 2 Part Series

Thursdays, July 2 and July 9

Join us in learning how to mix some consciously created cocktails at home via Zoom! We will be making cocktail creations that utilize anti-inflammatory, immune boosting, and electrolyte boosting ingredients. You will be emailed the ingredient list prior to each class so you can engage and follow along in real time. Bonus recipe cards will be e-mailed after each session as well! Last but not least, we will be sending a little liquid therapy with a liquid caterer cocktail infusion kit to each participant. The infusion kits are composed of all natural ingredients and are designed to pair perfectly with your favorite spirit. Each week a new spirit will be highlighted and three drinks will be mixed each session.

Space is limited to 25 participants for each session and will be honored on a first come first served basis. Cost to participate is only \$5 per class! Register today on www.grayhawkcommunity.org to reserve your space.

WEEKLY
SPIRIT LIST:

July 2 - Rum

July 9 - Bourbon

Breakfast with MF Koffee

Sat., July 18 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Corner of 78th Pl. and 78th Way at event greenbelt

Walk, bike, or drive down to the greenbelt to get your morning started with delicious coffee drinks, teas, smoothies, or breakfast baked goods and bagels. Check out the menu at <https://www.mfkoffee.com/>. You can also preorder on the website and easily pick up the day of the event. There will be no parking on the street. Please park in the offices at Grayhawk parking lot located at 7940 E. Thompson Peak Pkwy. and take the path to the greenbelt. Then feel free to enjoy your goodies under shade trees in the greenbelt or while walking the path with family and friends.

The Painters Lounge Paint Class

Weds., July 15 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Virtual via Zoom

Grab your beverage of choice and join us with the Painters Lounge for a night of fun and creativity! We will be painting a picture of a colorful decorative Prickly Pear on a 16 x 20 inch canvas. Register on The Painters Lounge website at www.thepainterslounge.com. Go to the calendar and look for the private event labeled “Grayhawk Community Association” and pay directly on the website. This event is exclusive to Grayhawk residents and is at a discounted price of \$26 per person. This price includes all the necessary supplies, and supplies will be dropped off at your home the day of the event. This class will be virtual via Zoom and is a great opportunity to have a small gathering of family or neighbors to participate in your own private painting class from your home. The Zoom link will be emailed out to all registered participants an hour prior to the class. If you are unfamiliar with Zoom, don't worry...we can help you! To participate you must register by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 14.



Disney Trivia Night

Thurs., July 23 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Virtual via Zoom

Want to test your Disney knowledge and interact with your neighbors without having to gather in person? Grayhawk families and teams from multiple cities, time zones, and countries can come together for an action-packed and team-building experience with exciting Disney trivia content that even the kids can enjoy. There is no limit to the amount of participants who can join and we have a great prize for the winning team! Thanks to our sponsor, David Van Omen and Andrew Bloom with Keller Williams AZ Realty, we will be giving away a \$100 Amazon gift card to the winner of our Disney Trivia night. Register now at www.grayhawkcommunity.org and we will send a Zoom link to your e-mail to participate.

Youth Etiquette Classes

Mon., July 27 through Thurs., July 31

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.- Your Manners Matter (6-10 years old)

1 p.m. to 2 p.m.- Civil Savvy Society (11-15 years old)

Virtual classes via Zoom

As a parent, your children will be your greatest legacy to the world. So, providing them with the skills necessary to embark in this life with confidence and self-esteem is one of the most important gifts a parent can give. Educating your child about the importance of civility in today's world will guide them today, so they will contribute positively to our world tomorrow. These lessons are interactive and fun, and will have your children returning to you so proud of what they learned. The concepts in this program will also help them develop self worth, self respect, respect towards others and leadership qualities. Topics covered in these classes will include: Proper Introductions, Thank You Notes, Dining Etiquette and Deference. Cost to participate is \$40 per child. Register and pay online at www.properprotocolandetiquette.com/enroll by Friday, July 24 to hold your spot. A Zoom link will be emailed upon enrollment. Please be sure to choose the private Grayhawk event in the drop down box.

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A New Look Along East Grayhawk Drive

By Matt Jacobson, DLC Resources Director of Special Projects

It's the time of year when Bermuda turf is finishing up its transition out of winter hibernation and starting to green up. Your on-site DLC Resources crews work each day to support the health of Grayhawk's Bermuda crop by adjusting irrigation and applying fertilizer.

However, despite our best efforts, there are simply some areas throughout Grayhawk where Bermuda grass will never thrive. This is because Bermuda grass is a full-sun plant; it will never grow well in areas with heavy shade or on slopes where irrigation water runs off and never reaches the grass's roots. You may have seen a few of these areas where the grass looks thin, sparse or muddy.



ONE AREA FOR CONVERSION

This is one of the three areas chosen for conversion; the Bermuda turf looks brown and spotty due to heavy shade and slopes.

This summer, DLC Resources, the Grayhawk Community Association and management team, and the Grayhawk Landscape Committee have worked together to implement a solution: remove the struggling turf and replace it with shrubs and decomposed granite.

The benefits are two-fold. Shrubs are less water-hungry than turf, so it will mean a slight reduction in Grayhawk's overall water bills. It also creates a more polished look than weak Bermuda will ever be able to provide.

DLC, the Grayhawk Landscape Committee, and the Grayhawk management team worked together to identify areas suitable for conversion, and chose three areas along East Grayhawk Drive between N. 74th and N. 76th Streets. These narrow strips of turf (a total of approximately 10,260 square feet) are too small for residents to enjoy, play or picnic on, so converting them to decomposed granite won't take valuable turf away from resident enjoyment.

The first step is suppressing the Bermuda turf. Even though it's struggling in these areas and doesn't look great, it is still a generally hardy grass. As such, crews use herbicide to kill the turf. This is done in late June and again early July, and you will see the grass



RENDERING

A Photoshop rendering shows how the area will generally look following conversion; plant placement, species and size will vary.

die and turn brown. It might look drastic for a couple weeks, but once the grass is fully dead, DLC crews can begin the next phase of the project.

Beginning July 13, we will remove the dead turf, and then start the actual conversion work. This includes regrading the area so it will drain properly and removing concrete curbing that previously separated the turf from the existing granite area. Then, crews will convert the existing turf irrigation system to a drip irrigation system suitable for the new plants. The last steps are planting 115 new shrubs and agaves — specifically chosen to fit into Grayhawk's plant palette — and installing decomposed granite for a finished look.

Work should wrap up in late July. DLC is working with Grayhawk Community Association management in providing plans and information to help qualify for a potential rebate from the City of Scottsdale.

DLC is excited to be a part of this project at Grayhawk, and we hope it helps give your community a brighter, more polished look for years to come.

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Our Desert, Our Home

By Victoria Kauzlarich, Volare

On the Deer Valley Wash Trail

Nature's Altered State

Did you notice? The pandemic brought our ecosystem into full relief.

I thought I was imagining it at first. Birdsong. It was louder than usual, as if someone had turned up the volume. Were the birds really louder? Were there more of them?

There had been a transformation. What was in the background or, at best, running alongside us became a three-dimensional visual show complete with surround sound. This was especially apparent early in the morning. But, why?

It's true that spring played a role but that's not the whole story.

You doubtless noticed during the quarantine/lockdown/self-isolation that there was less outdoor noise. The skies were quiet and so were the streets. Both of these factors had a positive side effect. With less air traffic, there are fewer bird strikes and with less vehicular traffic fewer birds become road kill. With less noise, scientists are concluding that birds can hear one another better and more successfully warn each other of nearby predators (more about this in a second).

The other day, I was struck by a cactus wren who was loudly singing every song she knew. She had a playlist. On repeat.

This quiet also has the effect of letting our human eyes see more or attend to activity we might otherwise overlook.

I have long been fascinated by what I thought was a lone Raven. I first saw this bird years ago in The Village off 76th St. Jet black and looking like a crow on steroids, these birds take up a LOT of visual space. Their 3 ft wingspan makes them hard to miss.

I've only ever seen one at a time in the 8 years I've lived here and those sightings have been rare. About a year ago, I spied one perched atop a Saguaro with its long black wings casually draped down the plant's ribs.

Whenever I see this single Raven, I think of it as the same bird. He's been using our courtyard fountain as his personal watering hole; perched on top with his long black wings casually draped down the fountain's sides.

Seeing him do that for the first time was a real treat but more surprising was an unexpected site during an early morning walk a few weeks back.

Six Ravens were flying together (never seen that before) and they all landed together on the edge of a long, flat roof. Imagine 18 linear feet of wing spread across a roof's edge.

The six paired off and the three couples placed themselves equidistant from the others, all with their backs to me. They quieted down and were quite charming as they lost themselves in their own couple-cuddled world. They let me watch from about 40 yards out. Eventually, they all took off together.



In Halcon

I don't know much about Ravens but I recently learned that they can be helpful members of their community. It seems they're good at raising a fuss when predator birds are nearby (think Owls). Their squawking sounds the alarm to species that might be in danger.

I haven't photographed a Raven yet. Their eyesight is spectacular and when they see a human, they quickly retreat. You can't get close which makes getting the photo a matter of great timing and the perfect long lens.

Back to nature's altered state... Was it real or imagined? I don't know but it felt different and I know I'm not the only one who thinks so.

People from across the globe were reporting similar experiences. Backyard birds they'd never seen before or the reappearance of species not seen in decades. Birds in otherwise empty parks having their own party, like the bears in Yellowstone playing in the absence of humans.

All I know is that I want to hold onto this if I can. Birds will yield back their space to us and we will soon lose the power of their song to a noisier environment. But, I won't soon forget the Cactus Wren and her playlist. She was stunning.

Would you like to learn more? Yeah, me, too. There are two new books I learned of recently. Each has gotten good initial reviews and both are written by experts in the field of ornithology. I plan to read both.

"When you have seen one bird, you have not seen them all."
E.O. Wilson



Purple Finch with Cactus Fruit

Ackerman, Jennifer.
The Bird Way: A New Look at How Birds Talk, Work, Play, Parent, and Think.
Penguin Press, 2020.

Sibley, David Allen.
What It's Like to be a Bird: From Flying to Nesting, Eating to Singing - What Birds are Doing and Why.
Alfred A. Knopf, 2020.

CORRECTION:

Last month's column was meant to have a separate page for the Plant of the Month. This page was overlooked in the final editing of the magazine and, as a result, was omitted. We apologize for the error.



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Protecting Your Home

By Scott Connelly, Trident Security Services

There has been an abundance of information in the news and on social media related to protest events/civil disturbance events. Some of this information specifically targeted gated communities. This information has continued to be unsubstantiated and has mainly only served to cause fear and overreaction. Trident Security continues to monitor this type of information as well as continuing to partner with our local police departments to ensure we have pertinent, and as accurate as possible, information as it relates to our communities. Though we have no specific information related to protests or other notable events near our community, we always recommend that you still follow some simple security tips.

SECURITY TIPS:

- Close garage doors. Double check prior to retiring for the day/evening the door is in fact closed.
- Check all doors, windows, gates, and doggy doors to make sure they are closed and locked.
- Make sure all vehicles are parked inside garages if possible.
- If vehicles are parked outside, ensure they are locked and no visible property is left inside.
- Let the gate staff know if you are going to be out of town so our patrol officer can keep a vigilant eye out for anything out of place at your house.
- Pay attention to your surroundings.
 - If you SEE something, SAY something.
 - If you see anything suspicious please contact the Grayhawk Community Association office at 480-563-9708 or the Raptor guardhouse if it after hours at 480-502-5078.
 - If you feel threatened or have an emergency, call 9-1-1 immediately.

I want to take a moment to thank all of you for being so supportive of our staff's safety and well-being. These past couple weeks our team has felt the concern and backing of the community. During these difficult times, we appreciate even as simple a gesture as a smile or a wave. Our security team appreciates every one of you more than you know!



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.

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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

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Sip and Tell

By Sue Lukenbill, Encore Resident

Welcome to the month of July. I hope that my article continues to find all of you staying safe and staying healthy. Arizona summer is officially here along with the monsoons that are mixed in

along with celebrations of freedom, hot dogs, barbeques, and those “dog days” of summer which seem to have me filled with mixed emotions. I love this month except for the temperature.

For us, our plans for the summer are quite different. For the first time in years we had planned a trip to Cabo San Lucas instead of Lake Tahoe. My daughter is turning 50, her oldest son just turned 21 and her youngest just graduated from high school. We felt it fitting to celebrate big time this year. However, COVID-19 had different plans and we’ve had to cancel our trip altogether. We had to get a little creative, but we found a way to celebrate all the good things regardless of the pandemic. Fingers crossed we will still be going to La Jolla for a week in July and also going to a niece’s wedding in July. Hopefully some of you have ventured out to dine in at your favorite restaurants. We have. And yeah! I am so very happy that my lunch partner, Grayhawk’s Director of Communications Jennifer Sheets, joined me last month for lunch and my review. Those two months of eating and reviewing solo was not fun. We had a few places to choose from, but Oregano’s seem to stand out. There is a new location here in North Scottsdale on Pima Road.



If you can believe it, this is only the second time that I have eaten at **Oregano’s** in the almost 24 years that I have lived here. Jennifer and her family have eaten at **Oregano’s** several times and she was able to suggest multiple items on the menu. Her husband loves the pastas, but she did caution me that the portions were huge. She also said the Guaca-Tony is very popular, but way too much for us to share. I looked it up, and it’s actually called the Huge Guaca-Tony, so I guess I believe her! I will have to try it sometime though, because who wouldn’t love an Italian guacamole served with pizza crust chips?

During our lunch, we opted to try the *Bistro Calamari* which was cooked strips of calamari and served with the house marinara sauce for dipping. The restaurant likes to call them the onion rings of the sea. We were not disappointed. They were yummy!

We both ordered from the Midday Menu because the portions are smaller. Since I seem to order pizza all the time, I chose a different route and got the *Big Meatball Sandwich* – two huge homemade meatballs nestled in an Italian roll and topped with marinara and provolone cheese. I ordered the fries as a side instead of the chips that it normally came with.

Jennifer said she almost always orders the same thing- the *Pablo Picasso Mexico Salad* with fajita chicken, fresh Romaine blend, cotija, cheddar and our four cheese blend that was mixed with fresh cilantro, tomatoes and onion and sprinkled with tri-colored corn strips. The salad comes with spicy chipotle ranch dressing, but Jenn also ordered the serrano dressing, which she



said is her favorite. The food was amazing, but even the lunch portion was too much for both of us!

We thoroughly enjoyed our lunch and catching up on what has taken place in the last two months. It was very relaxing. The restaurant had taken precautions to keep us separate from other guests and the service was fantastic.

Be sure to visit **Oregano’s** next time you feel comfortable heading out to eat, or even consider picking it up for a meal at home. From pizza to pasta, they have lots of great choices!

Until next month, stay cool and happy summer!

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Grayhawk Community Patrol	480-502-5078
Talon Guardhouse	480-502-7685
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Police or Fire Emergency	911
Parks and Recreation	480-312-2771
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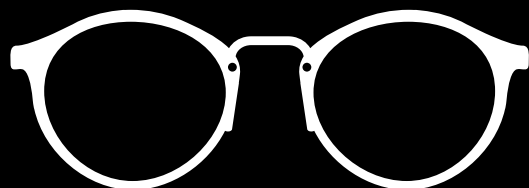

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