

## Jenna Kohl named Executive Director for the Community Council and Ranch Association

The Ranch Association Executive Director Michele Ray-Brethower announced her departure in December. DC Ranch thanks her for her service and wishes her well in her future endeavors. With the departure, the Community Council and Ranch Association Boards have agreed, subject to completion of definitive documentation, to consolidate staff leadership under one executive director serving both the Community Council and Ranch Association and have named Jenna Kohl to that role. Ms. Kohl has over twenty-five years of experience in community management, including service as the executive director for the Community Council for the past six years. The Community Council, Ranch Association and Covenant Commission will remain as three independent governing entities, now supported by one executive director. This change will foster increased efficiencies, improved collaboration, and enhanced service delivery to the community.



## Landscape & Maintenance Employees of the Year

Congratulations to Ruben Aranda, Landscape Employee of the Year, and Jaime Espinoza, Maintenance Employee of the Year. Both employees exemplified DC Ranch values throughout 2023, as well as going above and beyond during the monsoon season and holiday decorating. Join us in appreciation of their dedication to the community.



Aranda (left) and Espinoza (right)

## Meet Omar Conchas-Acuna, Administrative Coordinator

The Ranch Association welcomes Omar Conchas-Acuna to The Ranch Offices. He is responsible for management of the Neighborhood Voting Member program, Realtor program and events such as the Home and Landscape Expo and Safety Forum. He also oversees short-term rentals, open houses and speeding violations. Omar is a recent graduate of ASU.



## Board of Directors call for candidates

Looking for an opportunity to get involved and give back to the community? Applications are now open to fill two positions on the Community Council Board. [Learn more](#) and apply by Feb. 1. Applications for two open seats on the Ranch Association Board will be accepted starting Feb. 1. [Learn more](#) and apply by March 1.

## Community Council team member promotion

Lynette Whitener became Events and Recreation Director effective Jan. 1. Since joining DC Ranch in 2010, Lynette has succeeded in many roles and brings extensive experience with event planning, customer service and DC Ranch knowledge to oversee the events and recreation team.



## Construction on Loop 101

The Arizona Department of Transportation, in partnership with the city of Scottsdale, is widening Loop 101 (Pima Freeway) between Princess Drive/Pima Road and Shea Boulevard by one general-purpose lane in each direction and modifying existing interchanges to improve traffic flow on Loop 101 and the cross streets. Construction is expected to take two years to complete. Visit the ADOT [project website](#) for weekly closures and up-to-date information.

## Mack Project Update

On Jan. 4, the [Mack Industrial Project](#), which is adjacent to but not in DC Ranch, was approved to be built by the Scottsdale Development Review Board (DRB). DC Ranch was not in favor of the project as presented and requested changes that were within DRB's purview (which does not include traffic issues). Per DC Ranch's request, the DRB approval included several design stipulations to help block the view of the truck docking bays, changes to the parapets to better screen rooftop mechanical and a building recess on the front and back to break up the mass. 91st Street near DC Ranch will be designated as a no truck zone in both directions. Traffic concerns may be emailed to [mmelnychenko@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:mmelnychenko@scottsdaleaz.gov).

## City of Scottsdale volunteer opportunities

The city of Scottsdale has several openings on various boards and commissions to be filled in early 2024. Information about boards and commissions functions can be found at [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov), search "Boards and Commissions." Applications must be submitted by Friday, Jan. 26.

## *Living Connected*

The Silverleaf Cookie Stroll has been organized by resident and Neighborhood Voting Member Katherine Thatcher to spread good cheer since 2020. About 70 neighbors gathered in December for a festive stroll through the Silverleaf parks to enjoy hosted stops with food and drink.



*In case you missed it!*



Families enjoyed a DC Ranch holiday tradition during the Cookies with Mrs. Claus event. Jolly fun was had by youngsters under the age of 10 singing holiday carols, watching magic tricks, coloring, writing letters to Santa and getting pictures with Mrs. Claus herself.

## Desert Camp Site Improvement Project Update

The project is in the final stages of design review with the City of Scottsdale. During this time, Haydon-Architekton has been getting ready for construction start, preparing for internal demolition, securing sub-contractors, and refining the furniture and fitness equipment selection with the DC Ranch team. The City has required that Acoustifence be installed on the pickleball court fencing as a sound mitigation measure. At a special meeting on Dec. 5, the Community Council Board of Directors voted to approve the installation of the Acoustifence during construction to meet the requirement.

Residents will continue to have key fob access to the fitness center and pool until construction begins. One nearby alternative facility trial option has been extended. Residents can drop-in for 8 visits at McDowell Mountain Ranch Aquatic and Fitness Center through Jan. 31. For more information, visit [DCRanch.com/DCSIP](http://DCRanch.com/DCSIP).

## Around the Ranch Photo Contest

Residents are invited to share their photos of life at DC Ranch for a chance to be featured in *Ranch News!* Capture a beautiful sunset, a hike with your pup, family enjoying the park, or a get together with neighbors. Share your photos all year by emailing [communications.team@dcranchinc.com](mailto:communications.team@dcranchinc.com).

## Community meetings

- Jan. 23 Modification Committee
- Jan. 25 Community Council Board of Directors
- Feb. 5 Ranch Association Board of Directors
- Feb. 7 Ranch Association Special Board
- Feb. 13 Modification Committee

## EVENTS AND PROGRAMS



### DC Ranch Day

Saturday, Jan. 20 | 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

The Homestead Lawn

All ages | [RSVP](#)

Join the annual community-wide celebration of DC Ranch. Residents are invited to wear their cowboy best and enjoy live music, BBQ dinner, a petting zoo, casino games for the adults and a "pony" craft for the Lil' Wranglers.

### Spring Production Auditions: *Beauty and the Beast, JR.*

Tuesday, Jan. 23 and Wednesday, Jan. 24 | 4 to 7 p.m.

The Homestead

Ages 8-18 | [Register](#)

Residents, neighbors and friends are invited to audition for a role in this enchanting classic featuring everyone's favorite characters and songs from the animated film, plus new songs written for the Broadway production.

### Food Truck Night

Tuesday, Jan. 23 | 5 to 7 p.m.

The Homestead Veranda

Step away from the stove and pick up dinner from Bro's Seafood or Rosie's Kitchen. The Griffins acoustic duo will provide live entertainment.

### Comedy Night

Friday, Feb. 2 | 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The Homestead

Ages 21+ | [\\$23](#)

Join neighbors for a night filled with laughter as comedian Jim Tavare takes the stage. Light bites and beverages provided. Doors open at 6 p.m., performance begins at 6:30 p.m.

### Yappy Hour

Monday, Feb. 12 | 5 to 6 p.m.

The Homestead Lawn

All ages | [RSVP](#)

Bring your leashed four-legged friend to enjoy a casual gathering with other residents. Beverages, light bites and pup treats provided.

Please visit [DCRanch.com/calendar](http://DCRanch.com/calendar) for a full listing of events.

**Desert Camp Community Center**  
9260 E. Desert Camp Dr. | 480.342.7178

**The Homestead Community Center**  
18600 N. 98th St. | 480.585.1641

**The Ranch Offices on Market Street**  
20551 N. Pima Rd., Suite 180 | 480.513.1500

Visit [DCRanch.com](http://DCRanch.com) for more community updates, news and information.

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