

President's Message

By Brian Lemke, Board President

Hello Tatum Highlands Neighbors,

I hope this message finds you well as we experience some relief from the summer. As we move into fall and cooler weather, I hope many of you get out in the neighborhood to enjoy our great Tatum Highlands community.

As you may or may not know, First Service Residential recently assigned the fourth Community Manager, Alicia Garmon. Your HOA Board of volunteers continues to work with FSR on many items to ensure your community runs smoothly. One of the Board's priorities is to improve the communication all homeowners deserve. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Alicia with the community email TatumHighlands.AZ@fsresidential.com.

I would like to invite every Tatum Highlands homeowner to become more active in your community and attend the open Board meetings held online on the second Tuesday of each month. The meetings are homeowners' opportunities to hear what the HOA is currently working on and to voice your thoughts.

Your board is always open to input to better serve the Tatum Highlands community.

I want to thank 99.5% of Tatum Highlands homeowners for being great neighbors and following the rules of the governing documents. It is our goal to work closely with the additional .5% of homeowners to bring all 1434 homes into compliance. As a reminder, each Tatum Highlands homeowner agreed to follow the rules of the governing documents when we purchased our homes. Let us work together to maintain a community we can all be proud to live in.

All governing documents can be found on the FSR Tatum Highlands portal at:

<https://tatumhighlands.connectresident.com/>

In the upper left corner of the home page, select the three dash lines and select Community. Then on the Community page at the top, select Documents. This page should be displayed:

<https://portal.connectresident.com/#/community/documents>

I hope you were able to enjoy the recent Fall Festival at John Teets Park. Those of you who are decorating their homes for Halloween are automatically entered into our first [Halloween Decorating Contest](#). See the details in this newsletter.

Sincerely,

Brian

Tatum Highlands Halloween Decorating Contest

By Sarah Skaggs,
Director and Social Committee Chair

Get into the Halloween spirit and show off your creativity! Residents are invited to participate in our annual Halloween Decorating Contest.

Contest Rules

1. Eligibility

- All homeowners are eligible
- Decorations must be located on the exterior of the home and visible from the street.

2. Entry Requirements

- No registration is required. All decorated homes visible from the street will be automatically entered.
- Decorations must be completed by October 25

3. Judging Period

- Judging will take place between October 26 and October 29.
- Judges may view homes during both daylight or evening hours.

4. Judging Criteria

Each home will be scored on a 100-point scale using the following criteria:

- **Creativity & Originality (25 points)**
 - Unique ideas and imaginative displays.
- **Halloween Spirit (25 points)**

- Overall festive and seasonal impact.
- **Curb Appeal & Presentation (25 points)**
 - Neatness, organization, and visual attractiveness.
- **Use of Theme & Decorations (25 points)**
 - Effective use of decorations, lighting, props, and special effects.

Our FSR account manager and the chair of our social committee will judge and average each home's score.

5. Awards

Three winners will be selected:

- 🏆 1st Place – \$250
- 🥈 2nd Place – \$200
- 🥉 3rd Place – \$150

6. General Guidelines

- Decorations must comply with all HOA governing documents and community rules.
- Displays must remain on the homeowner's property and not obstruct sidewalks, streets, traffic signs, or neighboring lots.
- Decorations may not create excessive noise or light disturbances to neighboring homes.
- The HOA reserves the right to disqualify any display that violates community standards or applicable regulations.

Tatum Highlands 2026⁺
**ANNUAL HALLOWEEN
DECORATING CONTEST**

Get into the spirit and show off your creativity!



1. ELIGIBILITY

All homeowners are eligible. Decorations on exterior & visible from the street.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

No registration required. All decorated visible homes entered. Must be complete by OCT 25.



3. JUDGING PERIOD

Judging OCT 26-29. Daytime & evening views.

AWESOME PRIZES!

-  1st Place – \$250
-  2nd Place – \$200
-  3rd Place – \$150

DEADLINES!

Decorations completed
by **OCT 25**

Judging period:
OCT 26-29



4. JUDGING CRITERIA

- **Creativity & Originality** (25 pts)
 - Unique ideas and imaginative displays.
- **Halloween Spirit** (25 pts)
 - Overall festive and seasonal impact.
- **Curb Appeal** (25 pts)
 - Neatness, organization and visual
- **Use of Theme** (25 pts)
 - Effective use of decorations, lighting.

FSR account manager and Social Committee Chair judge & average scores.



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Let's make this
the BEST year yet!



Planning to paint? Submit your application first!

By Sarah Skaggs, Director and Architectural Committee Chair

The Architectural Committee would like to remind all homeowners that an **Architectural Application must be submitted and approved before any exterior painting begins.**

To help keep the process quick and efficient, please ensure your application is complete when submitted. In most cases, the Committee can review and approve painting requests **within just a few days** when all required information is provided.



Important: When completing your application, please list **all colors included in your paint scheme**, even if you are only repainting or touching up a portion of the home.

This includes:

- Main body color
- Trim color
- Accent colors
- Doors, shutters, or other painted features

Providing the complete paint scheme allows the Committee to verify compliance with community standards and helps avoid delays in the review process.

If you are considering an exterior painting project, please submit your application before scheduling work with your contractor.

Thank you for helping maintain the appearance and value of our community.

10/14/26, 9:57 PM

Planning to paint? Submit your application first!

Best,
Sarah

Local Events

By Karen Blue

Arizona State Fair: October 1 – November 1

Arizona State Fairgrounds

1826 W. McDowell Rd

Phoenix, AZ, 85007

For tickets and more information: azstatefair.com/events/arizona-state-fair/

MacDonalds Ranch Pumpkin Patch: October 3 – October 31, closed Tuesdays

MacDonalds Ranch

26540 North Scottsdale Road

Scottsdale, AZ 85255

We have a variety of pumpkins available throughout the entire month! Petting zoo, gold mining, hay-bale maze, train rides, mechanical bull, cornhole and horseshoe games, and food! For more information: macdonaldsranch.com/pumpkin-patch



Frontier Wild West Oktoberfest: October 17 (11 am – 6 pm)

Frontier Barbeque & Beer Garden

730 West Route 66

Williams, AZ

Local wine, live music, line dancing, local vendors, food, games and plenty of Western fun for one big day on Historic Route 66.

For more information: eventbrite.com/e/frontier-wild-west-oktoberfest-tickets-1998019659587

Desert West Nights: October 17 & 24 (5pm – 9 pm)

October 17 – Trunk or Treat Car Show



October 24 – Movie Night

Peoria Sports Complex

16101 N 83rd Ave.

Peoria, AZ 85382

The Peoria Sports Complex has invited us to keep the Night Market going through October, and with cooler evenings, fall vibes, and some exciting new activities, these are going to be nights you won't want to miss! For more information: allevents.in/peoria/desert-west-october-nights-10-3/200030536793030

Spooktacular Hot
Air Balloon



Festival: October 23-25 (5-9 pm)

Salt River Fields at Talking Stick

7555 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale 85258

20 hot air balloons lit at night, trick or treat station at each balloon, 4,000 lbs. of candy, some tethered balloon rides, bouncy house. Info at azspooktacular.com

Four Peaks Brewing Haunted Brewery Tours: September 20 – October 21

Four Peaks Brewing Company

1340 East 8th Street

Tempe, AZ 85281

A guided tour of the haunted Four Peaks Brewery, where chilling stories and chilled pints go hand-in-hand. For more information: (480) 303-9967

Heroes vs. Villains Candy Crawl: October 23 (6 pm – 8 pm)

Desert Ridge Marketplace

Phoenix, AZ

Trick-or-treat throughout The District and snag sweet stash from all your favorite brands at Desert Ridge Marketplace. For more information: shopdesertridge.com/event/creepy/



USA Today Wine & Food Experience: October 24 (12 pm – 4 pm)

5415 High Street, Phoenix, AZ

Taste foods from acclaimed local chefs, emerging talent and culinary leaders. Sip premier wine, beer and spirits from the best regional and national brands. For more information: highstreetaz.com/event/wine-and-food-experience/

Oktoberfest @ Haus Murphy's

October 9 & 10

October 16 & 17

October 23 & 24

Haus Murphy's

5739 W. Glendale Avenue

Glendale, AZ 85301

Reservations fill up quickly, so be sure to book your table early. For more information: hausmurphys.com

Cave Creek Wicked: October 24 @ 5pm & October 25 @ 2 pm

Town wide Halloween Bar Crawl

Cave Creek, AZ

For more information: cavecreekguide.com/event/cave-creek-wicked/

2026 Komen Virtual Walk Where You Are More Than Pink Walk: October 24

Walk Where you Are, Any City, Any State



Choose your date

Pick your time

Create your own schedule

Whether you'd like to register as an Individual Participant, Team Member or Team Captain, we invite you to register and fundraise. For more information: secure.info-komen.org/site/TR?fr_id=11275&pg=entry

New River Farmers Market @ Peaks & Valleys Restaurant

(10 am – 2 pm)

November 1

December 6

January 3

711 E Carefree Hwy, Unit 160

Phoenix, AZ 85085

For more information: newriverfarmersmarket.com/

Blood Cancer United's Light the Night (Walk): November 6 @ 5:30 pm

Salt River Fields at Talking Stick

7555 N Pima Road

Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Your generosity (via registration) helps us in our mission to cure blood cancers and improve the quality of life for patients and their families. For more information: lightthenight.org/events/greater-phoenix

Walk to End Alzheimer's: November 7 @ 7:30 am

Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza

Phoenix, AZ 85007

For more information: allevents.in/phoenix/walk-to-end-alzheimers-phoenix/200029685481051

Foodie Fest Fall Edition: November 7 (4pm-10pm)

Peoria Sports Complex
16101 N 83rd Ave.
Peoria, AZ

For more information: happeningnext.com/event/foodie-fest-west-fall-edition-11-7-eid3a0dfjn9p6

11th Annual Scottsdale Italian Festival: November 7 & 8

Scottsdale Civic Center
Old Town Scottsdale
2nd Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Celebrating Italian heritage in the heart of the desert. For more information: italianassociation.org/scottsdale-italian-festival-26

Glendale Fall Senior Expo: November 12 (10am – 1 pm) Free

Martin Auto Museum & Event Center
4320 W. Thunderbird Rd.
Glendale, AZ 85306

Connect with dozens of local organizations dedicated to helping seniors and their families in Glendale and surrounding communities. Free health screenings. For more information: seniorexpousa.com/expos/arizona/2026-glendale-fall-senior-expo/






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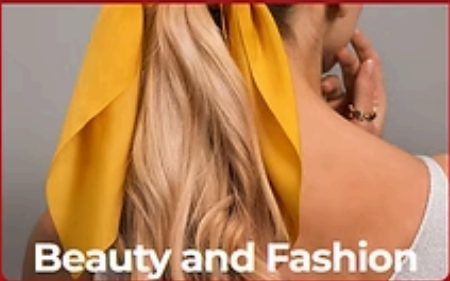





November 13-14, 2026
WestWorld of Scottsdale
Fri 9am - 8pm | Sat 9am - 7pm


DIY


Food Arts


Beauty and Fashion


Party Planning


Crafts


DIY Home & Holiday


Sewing and Quilting


Painting and Watercolor

Arizona Pinnners Conference: November 13 & 14

Westworld of Scottsdale

16601 N Pima Road

Scottsdale, AZ 85260

Come learn, create, connect and shop at Pinnners Arizona. For more information: pinnnersconference.com/pages/arizona

Copper State Whiskey Festival: November 14

Sloan Park

2330 West Rio Salado Parkway

Mesa, AZ

Explore premium tasting experiences throughout the stadium, discover luxury suites reserved for VIP guests, relax in our brand-new Cigar Lounge, and enjoy one-of-a-kind experiences found nowhere else. For more information: allevents.in/mesa/copper-state-whiskey-festival-2026-sloan-park/100001996064032253

Margarita Madness: November 14 (4pm – 10pm)

Mark Coronado Park

15960 N Bullard Ave.

Surprise, AZ 85374

Margaritas, food, music, shopping, and fun. What more can you ask for? For more information: happeningnext.com/event/margarita-madness-11-14-eid3a0dqdqoin



Arizona Bridal & Wedding Expo: November 15 (12pm – 5pm)

Arizona State Fairgrounds

1826 W. McDowell Rd

Phoenix, AZ, 85007

For more information: azstatefair.com/events/arizona-bridal-wedding-expo/

Hidden in the Hills: November 20-22 and November 27-29 Free

Presented by the Sonoran Arts League

Carefree, AZ

Visit the workspaces of dedicated artists in the Sonoran Foothills to learn about the artists' methodology and processes. For more information: sonoranartsleague.org/hidden-in-the-hills/



Thriftapalooza: November 21 & 22

Arizona State Fairgrounds

1826 W. McDowell Rd

Phoenix, AZ, 85007

Desert-cool vintage, statement pieces, icy mimosas, and nonstop treasure hunting. For more information: thriftapalooza.org/events/phoenix-2026

Candy Cane Lane-A Holiday Experience: December 11 & 12

Peoria Sports Complex

16101 N 83rd Ave

Peoria, AZ

This 2-Day Festival will be held at the beautiful Peoria Sports Complex and will be packed full of Christmas fun! For more information: allevents.in/peoria/candy-cane-lane-12-11-and-12-12/200030413179404

Check out additional events listed at the websites below ...

- For Local Event Information for Phx-October 2026: phoenix-az.events/october/
- For Local Event Information for Phx-November 2026: phoenix-az.events/november/
- For Local Event Information for Phx-December 2026: phoenix-az.events/december/

Recipe of the Month – Strawberry Ghosts

Recipe of the Month – Strawberry Ghosts

By Danielle Morales

Ingredients

- Ghirardelli's vanilla flavored melting wafer or almond bark
- Chocolate melting wafers
- Strawberries
- 1 gallon water
- 4 oz. white vinegar
- Baking sheet
- Parchment paper
- Toothpicks (optional)
- Cup

Directions

Prep strawberries. In a large bowl mix together cold water and vinegar. Submerge your strawberries in the mixture and set aside for 10 minutes.

Rinse the strawberries off with water and use paper towels to completely dry off each berry. Insert toothpicks into the cap of the strawberry. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper to lay dipped strawberries on while they dry.

Melt vanilla wafers or almond bark by following instructions on the package I recommend using a container shaped like a cup for easiest dipping. Mix the wafer or bark very well and make sure it is completely melted and there are no lumps or chunks.



Take your strawberries one by one holding onto the toothpick, and dip straight down and pull straight back up while gently shaking the berry. Wipe off the excess chocolate on the bottom of the strawberry using the rim of the cup. Place the strawberries on the parchment paper lined baking sheet and let harden. When dry, you may dip a second time if desired.

Decorate their faces using chocolate melting wafers. Melt a small amount of the chocolate wafers and transfer to a sandwich bag, Cut the tip of the bag off and pipe on two eyes and a mouth. Once the faces dry you can remove the toothpicks and serve.



Garden Calendar

By Pam Albo

October-November

October is the best month of the year to plant in the low desert, with November close behind. Once daytime temperatures have eased and nights are noticeably cooler, you can begin planting, pruning, and feeding again.

Plant vegetable transplants: asparagus, broccoli, Brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, and lettuce.

Plant herbs: rosemary, thyme, sage, chives

Plant cool weather plants: pansies, alyssum, celosia, coreopsis, lavender, marigolds, petunias, salvia, snapdragons

Reduce watering frequency.

December

Have frost cloth, or sheets and towels, on hand for covering plants on nights with winter frost.



ATTRACT HUMMINGBIRDS TO YOUR GARDEN

By Pam Albo

You can create a hummingbird habitat in your landscape with plants that will not only grow well in our climate but that will be appreciated by our pollinating friends. Since hummers are attracted to colors rather than smells, they most often prefer plants with reds, oranges, and dark pinks.

Many of these plants also have tubular-shaped flowers designed specifically for their beaks.

Plants Hummingbirds Love:

Angelonia/Summer Snapdragon

Salvia like flower spires are covered with snapdragon-like blooms in pink, purples, or white and blooms spring through fall. Full sun and drought tolerant.

Baja Ruellia (*Ruellia peninsularis*)

This evergreen shrub produces masses of dense deep blue-purple petunia-like flowers. Enjoys partial to full sun and needs only occasional watering once established.

Bottlebrush (*Callistemon*)

This easy-care evergreen shrub boasts masses of scarlet, bottle brush-shaped flowers. Prefers full sun. Is mildly drought tolerant and requires occasional watering.



Valentine Red Emu Bush (*Eremophila maculate*)

A dense, evergreen shrub that has small, dark green leaves that get redder in the cold. Boasts masses of hot-pink to red tubular flowers in late winter. Enjoys full sun, reflected heat, and low to moderate water.

Coral Fountain/ Firecracker Plant (*Russelia equisetiformis*)

This semi-evergreen perennial has slender, lush-like stems that eventually fall over into showy cascades covered in clusters of small firecracker-like tubular scarlet flowers spring through fall. Prefers partial shade to full sun and regular watering.

Firebush/Hummingbird Bush/Texas Firecracker Bush (*Hamelia patens*)

Lush oval leaves are complimented by clusters of red-orange tubular flowers, followed by a dark-purple fruit. Foliage turns copper-red in fall. Enjoys full sun to part shade and moderate watering.

Mexican Honeysuckle (*Justicia spicigera*)

This lush evergreen shrub boasts bright orange tubular flowers that bloom in clusters. Prefers filtered sun and moderate irrigation.

Red Yucca (*Hesperaloe parviflora*)

Tall spikes hold deep rose-pink flowers atop clumps of slender, green, drought tolerant foliage. Blooms nearly year-round.

Salvia (*Lamiales*)

Produces attractive flowers spikes in colors of red, purple, blue, or white. These water-wise drought tolerant plants enjoy full sun and bloom spring into summer. Needs only occasional watering.

Red Yucca (*Hesperaloe parviflora*)

Tall spikes hold deep rose-pink flowers atop clumps of slender, green, drought-tolerant foliage. Blooms nearly year-round.