

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Brian Lemke, Board President

Hello Tatum Highlands Neighbors,

As I start my fifth-year volunteering on the Tatum Highlands HOA Board, I would like to THANK the previous three Presidents I have had the privilege of serving under as VP to help make Tatum Highlands a wonderful community to live in:

Sam Schwartzberg for his work to reach out to get more Tatum Highlands homeowners involved in the community and planning amazing social events.

Kevin Hufnagel for his work on landscaping to implement the 5 phase \$456,745.00 Irrigation Retrofit Project over a four-year plan to help Tatum Highlands to save water and update existing landscaping.

Pat Diaz for working hard to improve the underlying financial health of our HOA to ensure our property values remain high and our amenities stay beautiful.

Over the last four years of volunteering for the Tatum Highlands HOA Board, I have learned more about the Tatum Highlands Governing documents (CC&Rs, Bylaws, ARC Guidelines) than I ever thought I would. One duty of all the previous boards I have served has remained the same: we do our best as a team to consistently uphold these governing community rules. I believe that this board will continue to maintain these same principles.

Moving forward I would also like to remind homeowners that the President of the HOA does not have any more authority than any other board member. As Pat said in her President's message at the Annual meeting, the President has one vote on all board issues just like all seven board members. The main duties of the President as outlined in the Bylaws are to preside at all meetings and see that orders and resolutions of the board are carried out.

My wife and I have lived in Tatum Highlands for 25 years and we love this neighborhood. We were out walking our dog this morning and commented on how many homeowners were out enjoying the community even on a hot June day. We feel fortunate to live in such a great neighborhood. I look forward to working together with all 1434 Tatum Highlands homeowners to maintain a community we can all be proud of living in.

Thanks,

Brian

INTRODUCING THE NEW CHAIRPERSON OF THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC)

Sarah Skaggs has been a proud resident of Tatum Highlands since 2016 and brings both dedication and insight to her role as Architectural Committee Chairperson. Through years of thoughtfully improving her own home, she has developed a deep understanding of the community's architectural standards and the importance of maintaining its quality and character. Sarah recognizes how timely, well-informed decisions impact homeowners—especially when it comes to financing, planning, and contractor scheduling.

She is committed to supporting her neighbors with fairness, efficiency, and care, and looks forward to serving the community her family proudly calls home.



YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Board of Directors

Brian Lemke, President

Chris Stanford, Vice President

Melissa Palopoli, Secretary

Tom Davey, Treasurer

Jeff Hirsch, Director

Dave Hoffman, Director

Sarah Skaggs, Director

Committee Chairs

Architectural Control Committee (ARC)

Sarah Skaggs

Landscape Committee

Chris Stanford

Social Committee

Sarah Skaggs

Communications Committee

Pam Albo

Why Tree Trimming and Adjusting Watering Before Monsoon Season Is Essential in Phoenix

By Chris Stanford, Landscape Committee Chair

Tree Trimming

Phoenix homeowners know that monsoon season can bring powerful winds, heavy rain, and sudden dust storms. One of the best ways to protect your property before summer storms arrive is by having your trees professionally trimmed.

Overgrown branches can become dangerous during high winds, breaking off and causing damage to roofs, vehicles, fences, and power lines. Proper pruning helps reduce wind resistance, allowing air to move more freely through the canopy and decreasing the likelihood of storm damage.

Tree trimming also improves the overall health of your trees by removing dead, diseased, or weak limbs. Healthy trees are better equipped to withstand the stresses of extreme heat and monsoon weather common throughout the Phoenix area.



Scheduling tree maintenance before monsoon season offers another advantage: professional arborists are often less busy in the spring and early summer than after storms have already caused damage. Preventive trimming can save homeowners thousands of dollars in repairs while helping preserve the beauty and safety of their landscape.

If you haven't inspected your trees recently, now is the perfect time to prepare your property for Phoenix's monsoon season and enjoy greater peace of mind when the storms roll in.

Summer Watering

Properly watering trees in Summer is a critical factor for trees to survive the high winds of the Monsoon Season. Many people change their summer irrigation schedules to simply increase the frequency of watering. For example, their trees are watered twice a week in winter, and they

change it to 4 times a week in Summer - **without changing the length of each watering cycle.** To develop a deep root system that anchors the trees to withstand the Monsoon winds, it's much better to keep the frequency at 2 times per week but increase the duration of the cycle. This allows a deeper penetration into the soil, and the roots will seek out the water and grow deeper. It's also important to place the drip nozzles away from the base of the trees since the root structure generally exceeds the diameter of the canopy. More nozzles at low gallons per minute (GPM) are better than fewer at high GPM. It takes time to penetrate our desert soil. If you see water running off onto your sidewalk, split the lines and add drippers at lower GPM. Deep roots anchor your trees and make them more likely to survive.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS WANTED

Sarah Skaggs has recently been appointed Chairperson of the Social Committee. She is currently seeking new members to help plan special events for the Tatum Highlands community.

If you are interested in joining Sarah on the Social Committee, please navigate to the Feedback section near the bottom of this newsletter and indicate your interest in the Social Committee. Or click [here](#).

GET HELP from First Service Residential Management Company

Dedicated email and phone number for all Tatum Highlands inquiries:

Email: TatumHighlands.AZ@fsresidential.com

Phone: (480) 551-4524

Contact: Delany Gazaille, Regional Manager

General notifications and architectural requests

Connect Resident Portal: tatumhighlands.connectresident.com

Violation appeals and fee waiver requests

Requests must be submitted in writing via certified mail. Include your request along with any supporting details for Board consideration:

Mail to:

First Service Residential Scottsdale
Attn: Corporate Office
9000 E. Pima Center Parkway, Suite 300
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Architectural (ARC) Requests

Submit requests through the Connect Resident Portal at tatumhighlands.connectresident.com or by mailing the application to the above address. Please include a \$10 check payable to Tatum Highlands. Once received, your request will be submitted to the Board of Directors for review.

Make a payment

Connect Resident Portal at tatumhighlands.connectresident.com Navigate to ClickPay, or you may mail your payment to the above address.

[Access to governing documents, approved plants, architectural guidelines, paint application, CCRs, meeting minutes, and more.](#)

Connect Resident Portal at tatumhighlands.connectresident.com

KNOW THE RULES: E-BIKES, E-SCOOTERS AND MOTOR-DRIVEN CYCLES

As electric-powered personal transportation becomes increasingly popular in Phoenix, riders must understand the laws that apply to electric bikes (e-bikes), electric scooters (e-scooters) and motor-driven cycles.

The Phoenix Police Department reminds all users that these vehicles are not toys and they're governed by specific laws and ordinances to keep everyone safe on our streets and sidewalks.

It is the goal of the Department to educate the community on the regulations and safety concerns of these popular modes of transportation.

Electric Bicycles (E-Bikes)

Defined under Phoenix City Code (PCC) 36-500 to 36-514, e-bikes are bicycles with **fully operable pedals** and an **electric motor**.

Key Rules for E-Bikes:

- **Sidewalk Use Prohibited:** Riders may not operate e-bikes on sidewalks. (PCC 36-504)
- **Minimum Age:** Operators must be at least **16 years old**. (PCC 36-510)
- **Traffic Laws Apply:** E-bikes must follow all traffic regulations and signals.
- **Speed:** No person shall operate an electric bicycle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent

Electric Scooters (e-Scooters)

Per **PCC 36-300 to 36-313**, e-scooters are defined as having **two or three wheels, handlebars, a floorboard** and powered by an **electric motor**.

Key Rules for e-Scooters:

- **No Sidewalk Riding:** Riding on sidewalks is not permitted. (PCC 36-304)

- **Minimum Age:** Operators must be at least **16 years old**. (PCC 36-308)
- **Obey Traffic Laws:** Just like bicycles, e-scooters are subject to road rules.
- **Speed:** No person shall operate an electric scooter at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent

Motor-Driven Cycles

Defined in ARS 28-101(48), motor-driven cycles are treated similarly to motorcycles under Arizona law.

Important Regulations:

- **Driver's License:** A **motorcycle endorsement** is required. (ARS 28-3151A)
- **Equipment Requirements:** Riders under 18 must wear helmets; all riders must use eye protection. (ARS 28-964.A)
- **Registration & Insurance:** These vehicles require a **license, registration, and insurance**, just like other motor vehicles.

Enforcement and Impound

Violations of traffic laws can result in enforcement actions. Vehicles may be subject to **impound under ARS 28-3511**, pending **supervisory approval**.

The Phoenix Police Department urges all riders to operate responsibly, follow applicable laws and prioritize safety. Understanding your vehicle and your responsibilities as a rider is essential to keeping our roadways and sidewalks safe for everyone. For further details on the relevant city codes and statutes, visit the following links:

- [Electric Bicycles – PCC 36-500 to 36-514](#)
- [Electric Scooters – PCC 36-300 to 36-313](#)
- [Arizona Revised Statutes Title 28 \(Transportation\)](#)

The above article appears on the City of Phoenix Newsroom page at:

<https://www.phoenix.gov/newsroom/police-department-news/know-the-rules--e-bikes--e-scooters-and-motor-driven-cycles-.html>

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

by Karen Blue

Phoenix Summer Entertainment Ideas

Splash Pads - Splash pads offer a cooled off play area for the entire family. Here are some great spots for the kids to cool off:

- Desert Ridge Marketplace, 21001 N. Tatum Blvd, Phoenix
- The Quad at Scottsdale Quarter, 15059 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale
- Fountain Park, 12925 N. Saguaro Blvd., Fountain Hills
- Tempe Marketplace (near Barnes & Noble), 2000 E. Rio Salado Pkwy, Tempe
- Riverview Park, 2100 W. Rio Salado Pkwy, Mesa
- Fountain Park 2 Westgate Entertainment District, 6751 N. Sunset Blvd., Glendale



Rooftop Pools - Resorts in Greater Phoenix are known for having the most spectacular pools. these hotels have created ideal spots for swimming, sunning and sipping upon their rooftops (or close to the roof, at least). For more information:www.visitphoenix.com/stories/post/best-rooftop-pools-phoenix/

Water Parks - Arizona may be known for its endless sunshine. You can make a splash this summer by visiting some of the water parks these destinations have to offer. For more information:

www.visitphoenix.com/stories/post/make-a-splash/

What Else Is There to do in Phoenix During the Summer?

Check out the events listed at the websites below:

- For Local Event Information for Phx-June 2026: phoenix-az.events/june/
- For Local Event Information for Phx-July 2026: phoenix-az.events/july/

o For Local Event Information for Phx-August 2026: phoenix-az.events/august/

RECIPE OF THE MONTH: STRAWBERRY ALMOND FLOUR CAKE

By Valeria Miraglia, a Tatum Highlands Homeowner

"This is a perfect cake recipe for summer served with sliced strawberries! And it's gluten free. I like to slice the berries with a little sugar to bring out the juice and spoon them over the cake slices like a shortcake."
-Val

Prep time: 15 minutes; cook time: 30-35 minutes; yield: One 8" cake (8-12 servings)

Ingredients

- 4 large eggs, separated, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons (124g) granulated sugar, divided
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1/4 tsp almond extract
- 1 1/4 cups (120g) flour
- 1 tablespoon coconut flour*
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon table salt
- 1-1/2 to 2 cups (248g to 333g) strawberries, sliced, for topping (or sprinkle with a little sugar to bring out the juice to make it more like a strawberry shortcake)

*Replace the 1 tablespoon coconut flour with 1/4 cup almond flour, if desired.

Instructions

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Lightly grease an 8" round pan with melted butter (1-2 Tbs). Swirl it in the pan and make sure it goes up the sides. Sprinkle 2 tablespoons of the sugar listed in the ingredients into the bottom of the pan.



In a large mixing bowl, beat together the egg yolks, 1/4 cup of the sugar, and the vanilla until smooth.

Using an electric mixer or stand mixer, whip the egg whites until they form soft peaks. Slowly beat in the remaining 1/4 cup sugar. Set aside.

Whisk together the dry ingredients — flours, baking powder and salt — and add to the egg yolks. Stir together to form a thick dough.

Fold in the egg whites, 1/2 cup at a time, incorporating them fully between each addition. The final addition should result in a smooth, fluffy batter.

Pour the cake batter into the prepared pan. Bake the cake on the center rack for 30 to 35 minutes, until it's golden brown and a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.

Remove the cake from the oven and allow it to cool in the pan on counter for 5 minutes. Run a knife around the edge of the pan to loosen the sides, then turn the cake out onto a serving plate.

Allow the cake to cool fully before topping with sliced strawberries, or the fruit of your choice.

IN YOUR GARDEN

By Pam Albo

July and August

July begins the monsoon season. This is the time to trim trees to protect them from the high monsoon winds. (See Tree Trimming article in this newsletter.)

Now is a good time to transplant tropical favorites such as adeniums, plumeria, and palm trees. Fertilize these regularly throughout the summer.

Check all plants to make sure they're getting enough water.



Add mulch to potted plants to help keep water moisture from evaporating in the hot summer months. Organic mulch also improves soil over time. Choose wood chips, bark mulch, or compost blends.

Water cacti and yucca plants more frequently from now through September. Smaller cacti and yuccas, such as agaves and prickly pears, can be watered every three weeks.

This is a good time to plant or transplant cacti, agaves, succulents, and other heat-loving plants.

Newly planted cacti and succulents planted in full sun should be shaded with shade cloth to prevent sunburn.

September

Planting can start in late September for spring flowering perennials and cool weather vegetables. Add mulch to protect from frost over the winter. Plant cool weather vegetables such as artichokes, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, lettuce, potatoes, and spinach at the end of the month.

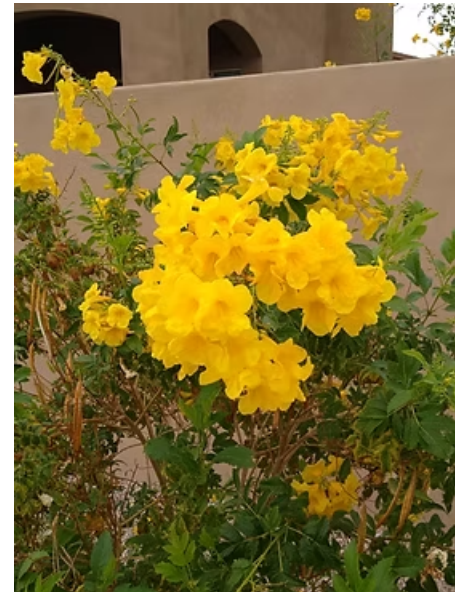
GARDENING WITH REFLECTED HEAT

In greater Phoenix, sunshine is abundant – and so is reflected heat. Block walls, gravel, rock, concrete sidewalks, driveways,

and patios can intensify temperature around your plants far beyond the actual air temperature. Reflected heat happens when surfaces absorb solar energy and radiate it back into the surrounding area. A plant listed as “full sun” may still struggle if it’s planted against a west-facing or south-facing wall that radiates intense heat into the evening.

The Toughest Exposure: West-Facing Areas

West facing walls are often the harshest in the Phoenix area because they receive the most intense afternoon sun during The hottest part of the day. Here are some truly heat-tolerant plants best suited for west-facing and south-facing walls:



Yellow Bells next to block wall

- Red yucca
- Baja fairy duster
- Texas sage
- Lantana
- Aloe
- Yellow bells
- Desert spoon
- Angelita daisy

When planting, leave extra spacing near hot walls to allow room for airflow.

RETREAT FROM THE HEAT

When things heat up in the Phoenix area, it may be time to retreat indoors with houseplants. When you buy new houseplants, it is recommended to transplant them into new containers that are 1-2 inches larger than their existing container so they do not become rootbound. Also pick a container that has holes in the bottom to allow excess water to get out.

Here are some **houseplants** that help cool your home:

Aloe Vera: These plants purify the air and emit oxygen, which helps to cool the indoor temperature of the air.

Snake Plant: (Sansevieria:) This plant emits oxygen at night and cools the air.

Ficus: This classic houseplant increases oxygen levels in the air.

Spider Plant: Another traditional houseplant, this one purifies the air and cools it at the same time.



Pothos

Pothos: Also known as the Money Plant, it removes formaldehyde in the air and is hard to kill.

Dracaena: This low-maintenance houseplant is an all-star at purifying the air and can even help increase humidity levels in your home.



Snake Plant

PLANT OF THE MONTH – BLUE ELF ALOE (Aloe 'Blue Elf')

By Pam Albo

Whether you're looking for a low-maintenance landscape plant, a container specimen, or an addition to your rock garden, Blue Elf aloe is well suited to life in the Phoenix area. These drought-tolerant succulents thrive in full sun, including areas that receive hot, reflected heat. Partial shade also poses no problem for this small aloe hybrid.

The Blue Elf aloe is prized for its upright, silvery blue-gray foliage and vibrant spikes of coral-orange flowers. It blooms from late winter through early spring. Reaching just 12-18 inches tall and 24 inches wide, it is highly versatile, perfect for containers, small gardens, and hummingbird habitats.



Like true Aloe vera, it possesses some healing properties. Its gel can be extracted and applied topically to offer a soothing sensation for sunburns, minor cuts, and skin irritations.