



# Ancala Home Times

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September/October 2019

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## Open Board Meetings

Held monthly at 4:00pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Executive meeting follows immediately.

### Location:

St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic Church  
10755 N 124th St, Room 203  
Scottsdale, AZ 85259

## Board Members

Tim Young, President  
Freda Hartman, VP/Secretary  
Rachel Wilmet, Treasurer  
Neela Bhavnani, Director  
Floyd Hoffman, Director  
Nick Kissel, Director  
Doug Peters, Director

## Contact Information

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**FIREWISE USA®**  
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

Ancala is officially the largest Firewise certified community in the City of Scottsdale and has successfully completed the criteria to become a nationally recognized Firewise USA® program participant! The City of Scottsdale Fire Chief has received our placards and signs and will formally award us with our Firewise USA® certificate next month.



Part of being a Firewise community requires the designated committee to develop an action plan that will include educational events and activities that owners will complete annually. We mailed a letter to all owners in July to comply with this requirement. Many of you have cleaned out areas that have been untouched for years and we want to thank all who have participated and returned your abatement forms.

We will continue to communicate with all owners to comply with our action plan outlined in our July letter to 1. manage fuel

loads, 2. establish a defensible space around your home and 3. continually maintain your NAOS and wash areas. If you have not complied with the requirements, the July letter and instructions are available on the Ancala home page at [www.ancalahoa.org](http://www.ancalahoa.org).

We are excited to be part of the growing number of Firewise sites throughout the nation and thank you in advance for your assistance in making Ancala a safer place to live for all residents.

Click here for more information on wildland prevention.

<https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/fire/wild-fire-prevention/tips-for-wildland-fire-prevention>

## ANCALA IS PATRIOTIC!

Ancala has ordered a subscription from our local Boy Scout Troop #649, for American flag placement at our front entrances on Labor Day, Veteran's Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, and Independence Day!

If you would like to have American flags placed in your front yard, check out the troop website [WWW.TROOP649FLAGS.COM](http://WWW.TROOP649FLAGS.COM) for more information and to order your American flag subscription.







LANDSCAPING TIPS brought to you by the Arizona Landscape Contractors' Association, the Sustainable Landscape Management (SLM) and the Arizona Certified Landscape Professional (ACLCP) programs

[www.ALCA.org](http://www.ALCA.org).

## Get to Know Your Soil

The soil beneath your landscape plays a large part in the success or failure of the plant materials. Soil in the valley is often dismissed as terrible — something to be tolerated - rather than the asset it can be if understood and managed properly.

- Sustainable Landscape Management principles tell us that using native plants that are naturally adapted to our soils is the best way to deal with our salty, alkaline, clay-based soils.
- Many commonly used (non-native/non-adapted) plants won't thrive in our soils without amendments and special treatment. Conversely, adding amendments to soils for native plants is usually not recommended.
- Our soils are naturally high in salt, so leaching soils to move salts below the root zone can be helpful. Your landscape professional may recommend a quarterly leaching schedule whereby irrigation runtimes are increased to flush these salts below the root zone.
- Soil compaction is a big problem in urban soils, especially our clay-based soils that are already low in pore spaces where oxygen and water can penetrate. Care should be taken to identify and prevent compaction, especially during construction and near the root zone of trees.
- Our desert urban soils are naturally low in organic matter, a crucial component of healthy soil. SLM directs us to leave some leaf litter under shrubs and trees and mulch lawn clippings whenever possible to retain organic matter rather than blow, bag and cart it away.
- Our alkaline (high pH) soils can cause nutrients to be unavailable to plants. Consider that a soil test from a trusted, local lab could be helpful before making corrections to site soils.
- Soil isn't just dirt - it is alive. It is an ecosystem that supports the growth of our landscape plants. Do not allow the disposal of waste materials, chemicals, or washout from construction-related activities into the landscape soil.
- Do not make assumptions regarding how soil may be impacting plant health. Your landscape professional has developed a sound knowledge base and will conduct proper field investigations to determine soil needs.



Consult with your landscape professional who can help identify and treat plant problems that may arise.



**PROTECT YOUR LANDSCAPE INVESTMENT**  
**Is your landscape SLM Certified?**





## Why You Should Run for the Board

Our community has a board of directors to help our HOA run smoothly. The board consists of volunteers who execute a wide variety of tasks you may not be aware of; however, their work affects every single resident. In January, there will be three positions up for election so maybe it's time to consider running for the board. Here are some reasons to consider becoming involved:



- Protect your self-interests. Protect your property values and maintain and improve the quality of life in your community.
- Be sociable. Meet your neighbors, make friends, and exchange opinions.
- Give back. Repay a little of what's been done for you.
- Have some fun. Association work isn't drudgery. It's fun accomplishing good things with your neighbors.
- Get educated. Learn how it's done—we'll train you.
- Try some altruism. Improve society by helping others.

While it may seem like a big job, board members are happy to serve the residents and help make the community a great place to call home. So, is it time for you to run for a seat on the board during the next election? The more people we have looking out for our association, the stronger it will be.

## History of Halloween

Halloween is a popular holiday that takes place on October 31. In the United States and Canada, children dress in costumes and go trick-or-treating. Many people carve jack-o'-lanterns out of pumpkins. Halloween



parties for children feature fortunetelling, mock haunted houses, scary stories, and games, such as bobbing for apples. People

decorate their houses and yards with images of ghosts, skeletons, witches, black cats, bats, and other symbols of Halloween. Many communities across the United States also hold parades and other celebrations for Halloween.

Halloween developed from an ancient pagan festival celebrated by Celtic people over 2,000 years ago in the area that is now the United Kingdom, Ireland, and northwestern France. The festival was called Samhain (pronounced SOW ehn), which means "summer's end." The festival marked the beginning of the dark winter season and was celebrated around November 1. In the 800's, the Christian church established a new holiday, All Saints' Day, on this date. All Saints' Day was also called All Hallows'. Hallow means saint, or one who is holy. The evening before All Hallows' was known as All Hallows' Eve, or as it came to be abbreviated, All Hallow e'en. This name was eventually shortened to Halloween.





ADVANCING THE WAY WE BUILD AND LIVE

August 2019

Dear Ancala Owners,

Thank you for your patience as we repaved the portion of Taliesin Drive from Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd. to the entrance to the Ancala and Ancala West communities earlier this summer. We were happy that this work could be completed efficiently and with minimum disruption to residents, visitors, and staff in your communities and at Taliesin West.

We also hope that you appreciate the new entry gates to Taliesin West. We selected the new location to enhance the entry experience for our visitors, who now understand that Taliesin West comprises both Frank Lloyd Wright's buildings and the surrounding desert landscape. At the same time, we believe that the new gates also enhance security for Taliesin West and for your communities by discouraging off-hour activities along Taliesin Drive.

The Foundation considers safety paramount to our culture. As a result of a conversation with an expert representative from the City of Scottsdale, a traffic calming speed table has been installed at the intersection between the Ancala entry and Taliesin Drive, affecting all traffic along Taliesin Drive, including traffic entering and leaving the Ancala communities. This is designed to reinforce the stop sign at the exit from Ancala. While many drivers exiting the gate respect the need to stop, this stop sign is routinely ignored by some drivers exiting from Ancala, resulting in at least one severe collision in recent years, and many near-misses.

We will also continue to monitor pedestrian activity along Taliesin Drive to address safety issues that affect both pedestrians and drivers. In particular, pedestrians walking or running down to Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd. in the morning create special safety hazards due to limited visibility resulting from the rise of the road, the curve of the road, and position of the sun in the morning. Adding to these concerns are animals, on- or off-leash, which are sometimes in the middle of the traffic lane. On more than one occasion, drivers have had to swerve into the opposing lane to avoid hitting a pedestrian/animal, creating a risk of head-on collision. We urge you to use caution if you are walking or bicycling along the roadway, and we are investigating installing caution signs along the road.

We realize that these safety improvements will take some getting used to, and we appreciate everyone's patience as we create a shared space that is safe for residents, visitors, and staff.

Best regards,

Stuart Graff  
President and CEO



## What Does Our Assessment Pay For?

At bill paying time we take out our check books and pay a multitude of monthly bills: credit cards, car payment, mortgage, etc. However, one of the least understood bills that we pay is our association maintenance assessment.

Just where does our money go?

Every year the Board approves a budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The budget lists all the anticipated expenditures for our association. Those expenditures include security services, insurance, common utilities, common area maintenance costs, and administration costs such as professional management, postage, etc.

In addition, a portion of the assessment is set aside to fund the reserves. The reserve fund pays for the repair and/or replacement of the capital assets owned by the association. An adequately funded reserve reduces the chance that a special assessment will have to be passed in order to pay for repair or replacement of those assets.

Assessments are due quarterly on the first of January, April, July, and October.

When you write out that assessment check, remember that it covers many items necessary to ensure that the association maintains, preserves and enhances property values.

## Shred It

Shred It events are starting up again and here's what you need to know:

**Cost:** \$4 per box/bag

**Where:** South side of the Walmart parking lot at  
15355 N Northsight Blvd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260 (north of Raintree)

**When:** 7:00am - 10:00am, Saturday, September 7, 2019

**Description:** Shred event runs from 7-10am or until the trucks are full. Those needing special accommodations can contact POSA at the number listed above.

**Recurring:** On the 1st Saturday of every month until May 2, 2020

**Details:** Remove binder clips, but it is ok to leave paper clips, staples, plastic or metal spirals, and metal fasteners

**More Info:** <http://myposa.org/>

**Future Events:**

**Wine Tasting**  
9/26/19 and 11/21/19

**Halloween Fun Family Event**  
10/30/2019

**Breakfast with Santa**  
12/01/2019

**Holiday Coffee**  
12/13/2019



## What the Architectural Committee Does for You

Are you getting ready to make an addition to your house or build a new shed or fence in your back yard? Before you break out the miter saw, make sure to get your plans approved by our association's architectural committee.

While it may seem arbitrary from an individual homeowner's standpoint, the architectural committee looks out for the entire community. Aside from stopping residents from painting pink polka dots on their houses, the committee's job is to make sure that the size and style of the project, the type of building materials being used and the overall look of the new structure adhere to the association's design requirements. Not only does this keep the community looking cohesive, it also helps to keep property values up by preventing individual structures from standing out. Of course, it's also important to note that unapproved structures might legally have to be removed at the owner's expense, so save yourself money and headaches by getting approval before building.

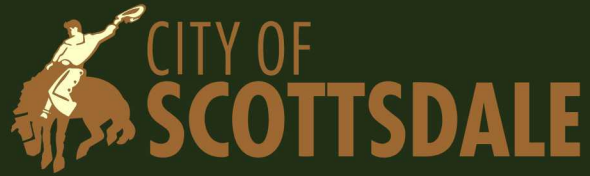
So when you're ready to start your new project, or if the design of your project changes midway through building it, send your plans to the architectural committee first so that we can make sure they're in compliance with the association's design standards. If we do find any issues, we'll let you know what they are and try to help you come up with other options. We appreciate all the hard work residents have done to make their homes and this community beautiful—help us keep this association looking great by keeping us in the loop of all your building projects.

**Real Estate Stats**  
as of August 14, 2019

Actives.....15  
Homes Under Contract .....3  
Homes Closed YTD .....21



# September & October Events Around Scottsdale



**September is National Preparedness Month.** Create a plan that outlines each family member's responsibilities in case of an emergency. Make a "Go Kit," which can include food and water, medication, money, contact information and locations to meet. [Ready.gov](http://Ready.gov), search "September".

**Downtown ArtWalks are always in season.** The nights begin to cool in September, so why not enjoy a Thursday night ArtWalk? They run 7-9 p.m. Thursdays year-round in Old Town Scottsdale. [ScottsdaleGalleries.com](http://ScottsdaleGalleries.com).



**Last day for public swim is Labor Day, Sept. 2.** Here's your last chance to take a dip at McDowell Mountain Ranch, Cactus and Eldorado

aquatic centers. Chaparral Pool will be open for lap swim from 6 a.m. to noon Labor Day. Fees and times vary by location. [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](http://ScottsdaleAZ.gov), search "aquatics".

**Library presents "Scottsdale – A City of Good Sports."** Scottsdale Historian Joan Fudala presents a photo-rich presentation on Scottsdale's evolution as a sports destination, from spring training and Fall League baseball, to tennis, golf, biking, marathons and school sports. The free program, part of the Heritage Collection Salon Series, runs from 6-7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12, in Civic Center Library's Copper Gallery. [ScottsdaleLibrary.org](http://ScottsdaleLibrary.org).

**Let your students thrive after three at an after-school program this fall.** Register your kiddos for the city's After-School Program. Trained recreation leaders conduct fun daily activities including arts and crafts, sports, fitness, gardening, drama and nutrition. [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](http://ScottsdaleAZ.gov), search "after school".

**City information is just a phone call away by dialing 312-3111.** The city's information line connects you with live operators who know about event, traffic and meeting information that you want, or they'll connect you to the right people for further assistance.



**No need to over-seed for a winter lawn.** Warm season grass – Bermuda – stores energy and becomes dormant in the winter, then uses its stored energy for spring regrowth. This

cycle gets interrupted when a temporary winter lawn is installed and causes less vigorous spring regrowth. Skip over seeding and save water and maintenance costs. [WaterUseItWisely.com](http://WaterUseItWisely.com).

**Register to vote by Oct. 7 for the city's November Special Election.** The city will hold a Special Election by mail to seek approval for the issuance of bonds for parks, recreation, and

senior services; community spaces and infrastructure; and public safety and technology in the principal amount up to \$319 million. The estimated average annual tax rate for the proposed bond authorization is \$ 0.2877 per \$100 of limited assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes. If you're not already registered to vote, you can do so here. [Recorder.Maricopa.gov](http://Recorder.Maricopa.gov), search "elections".

**Explore the unique districts that make up Old Town.** Hop on the free Local Motion Trolley Tour the second Saturday of each month. Meet at the Old Adobe Mission where you'll learn about the rich history of Scottsdale's oldest standing church before boarding the trolley to discover more charming information.



**Celebrate the McDowell Sonoran Preserve's 25th anniversary this October.** On Oct. 3, 1994, the Scottsdale City Council formally dedicated the first lands for the preserve. The "Day One" preserve was 4.5 square miles consisting of three parcels of city-owned land. Today, this permanently protected, sustainable desert habitat encompasses 47 square miles ... about one-third of Scottsdale's land area. Details coming soon on the various ways to commemorate this anniversary. [McDowellSonoran.org](http://McDowellSonoran.org).

**Veg out at Old Town Scottsdale Farmers Market.** Buy food and specialty items supplied by locals. There is a large variety of organic and pesticide-free produce, as well. The market runs from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, October through May, at 3806 N. Brown Ave. [ArizonaFarmersMarkets.com](http://ArizonaFarmersMarkets.com).

**Let's bake a fall pumpkin cake.** Join a professional chef and learn the basics of layer cakes from 1-5:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, at Horizon Park. This class is tailor-made and structured for all levels of learning, including the at-home baker, curious-cooking-channel-lover or trained professional looking to expand their skills. [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](http://ScottsdaleAZ.gov), search "recreation"



**Find fall break fun, Oct. 7-11.** School's barely started, but it's still not too early to think about fall break. The city hosts camps that offer various activities including sports, crafts and games. They run from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at both Mountain View and Horizon parks. [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](http://ScottsdaleAZ.gov), search "recreation"



*Experience...*

*Family friendly ambience and world class*



## Membership Specials

*Enjoy a..*

**Full Golf** (over 40 years of age) \$14,000 Initiation. You pay 33% down, 33% in 12 months and the Final 33% in 24 months.

**Young Professional Membership** (under 39 years of age) is \$8,500 initiation. You pay 33% down, 33% in 12 months and the

Final 33% in 24 months.

### Additional Incentives

NO Dues through December 2019.

Free carts for 12 months.

4 Guest Passes

Either Free Bag storage or a Free Locker for 1 year.



Contact Jamie Wray, Director of Membership at 480-391-1096 or  
[jwray@ancalacc.com](mailto:jwray@ancalacc.com)