

FRIENDS IN THE HILLS

OCTOBER 2026 ACTIVITY BULLETIN

Hello
Fall

Website: friendsinthehillsaz.org

Editor: Sally Gibbs sallygibbs@cox.net

OCTOBER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I can't believe it's already October! Fall is in the air - witches, goblins, ghosts and Pumpkin Spice Lattes! I hope you like the new look of the bulletin! Thank you, Gina Waldo, Sally Gibbs and ChatGPT for changing it up!

Be sure to look over the bulletin for all the exciting things happening in the coming months! Start planning your costumes for our first evening social of the season on October 31st and dig in your closet for your fancy duds and RSVP for our Holiday event on December 12! And of course you can always meet your friends at a luncheon or two. If you happen to see me on October 16, wish me a happy birthday and I might have a birthday gift for you!

We will be having our yearly food drive for the Extended Hands Food Bank at our October luncheon. Please remember to bring items or donations in the form of cash or checks to the luncheon on October 14.

Hope to see you around!

Stephanie Harris

FITH President

SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT

If you know of any ill member or death in the immediate family of a member of Friends, please inform President Stephanie Harris at [805-368-2940](tel:805-368-2940) or email her at fithprez@gmail.com, or Martha Craner at [480-837-2183](tel:480-837-2183) or email her at marthab911@gmail.com.

*In this season
of gratitude, we are stronger
together.*

IT'S TIME TO RSVP!

FRIENDS IN THE HILLS

Holiday Party

CELEBRATION

Get Ready to Dance!

Great Friends, Great Food, Great Music!

12/12/26
5 PM TO 9 PM

EAGLE MOUNTAIN GOLF RESORT

\$55.
CASH BAR

RSVP ON WEBSITE
— BEFORE 12/4/26 —

FOUNTAIN HILLS, ARIZONA

Good Friends • Brighter Days • Beautiful Tomorrows

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS INFORMATION

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 | Doors open 11:00 AM | Lunch served 12:00 PM
Sue Manning Reservations Coordinator

sgmmanning@gmail.com 480-226-2187

The October luncheon will be held at the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$30. All luncheon reservations must be made and paid for NO LATER THAN the **FRIDAY BEFORE THE LUNCHEON**.

Reservations received after **October 9** will NOT be accepted.

If you would like to bring a guest, please contact the Luncheon Reservations Chairperson, Sue Manning.

HOW TO PAY

Go to the website, www.friendsinthehillsaz.org luncheon.

Mail a check (made out to "Friends in the Hills Welcome Club" or "FITH") and mail to Friends in the Hills, ATTN: Luncheon, P.O. Box 17358, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269. The deadline to reserve and pay is October 9. Cancellations must be made by 5 PM on Friday, October 9th or your money cannot be refunded. We will NOT be doing any carry over to the next luncheon. On-line payments will be credited to your card and checks will be returned. **NOTE:** If you want to pay forward (with cash) for the November luncheon while attending the October luncheon, please have the **exact amount**

OCTOBER LUNCHEON MENU

SALAD BUFFET

Spring Mix /Chopped Romaine W/ranch, Italian dressing

Toppings: Sliced Onions, Sliced Green Peppers, Sliced Blk Olives, Sliced Cucumbers, Shredded Carrots, Croutons, Broccoli Florets, Diced Tomatoes, Feta Cheese, Shaved Parmesan Cheese, Shredded Cheddar/Jack Cheese, Diced Chicken Breast

White & Multi grain Bread & Butter

Dessert

OCTOBER LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Dan Cafaro is the owner of Atticus Books & Music in Fountain Hills, Arizona, and the founding publisher of the trade imprint Atticus Books and the literary journal Atticus Review.

In June 2026, Dan opened Atticus Music and The Listening Room, a record shop and 35-seat music venue at Plaza Fountainside.

Before opening Atticus Books in 2022, Dan worked as a writer, editor, bookseller, and publisher for 35 years with newspapers, magazines, and professional associations. He recently accepted an appointment to the Board of Directors at MusicaNova in Phoenix.

NEWCOMER'S COFFEE

Nancy Jones jonesnphnx@aol.com 602-770-9829
Barbara Cardinal brc39@aol.com 847-987-2211

We are pleased to invite you to our Friends in the Hills Newcomer's Coffee. Come and share a cup of coffee and a snack with us while we introduce you to all the activities FITH has to offer. You will also be able to join our club that morning if you wish. Also, if you have a friend or neighbor who might be interested, bring her along.

DATE: Wednesday, October 21, 2026

TIME: 10:00 AM

PLACE: 16450 E Avenue of the Fountains, Unit 2, Fountain Hills

Please RSVP to Nancy Jones. Jonesnphnx@aol.com. 602-770-9829

Vicki Johnson

Phone: 316-644-4774

Email: fithwebmaster@gmail.com

The Friends in the Hills website is <https://www.friendsinthehillsaz.org>. You can register online for some of our events and get the current and previous Bulletins on the website.

We have a YouTube Channel with videos providing how to do things on the website. The link is:
<https://www.youtube.com/@FriendsintheHillsAZ>

The current help videos include the following:

1. Request Help from Webmaster
2. Change Password on Friends in the Hills Website
3. Renewing Dues
4. Getting the Bulletin

We also have handouts on how to accomplish the following things on the website:

1. How to Reset or Change Your Password
2. How to Register for Ladies Night Out
3. How to Renew Your Membership Dues
4. Managing Registrations in MembershipWorks (for activity chairs)

If you're having trouble opening the Bulletin, you can download Adobe Acrobat Reader for free at:
<https://get.adobe.com/reader/>

If you have any questions or need help getting something done on the website, please send me an email or give me a call

Thanks,
Vicki

THE FOUNDERS- 1ST WEDNESDAY

Rosemary Bonaguidi
rosemary.bonaguidi@cox.net 480-209-8601

Heidi Pearson heidipearsonaz@gmail.com
480-816-1088

Wednesday, October 7th, at 11:30 AM

NICK'S

13910 North Frank Lloyd Wright

Please email Heidi for a reservation!

OUT TO LUNCH!

Join us for Lunch on Tuesday, Oct 20th at noon
at:

NICK'S Italian Restaurant

13910 N. Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd, Scottsdale
85260

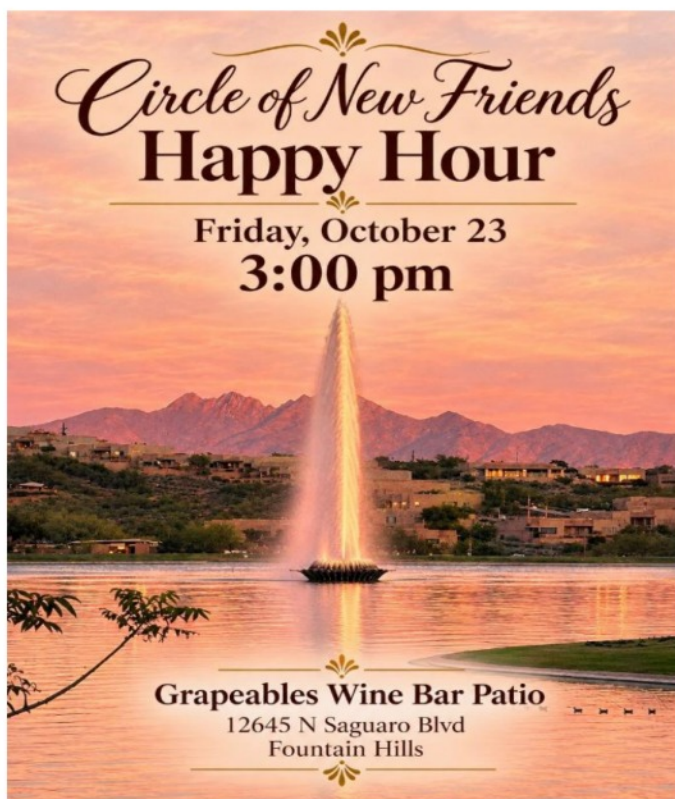
Please RSVP. Limit 12.

Myra Smith

myra3mia@gmail.com

Circle of New Friends

Fourth Friday Meetup



Patio time, cooler temps, good friends with great views!!

Grapeables now has food available from Streets of New York and Arrivederci.

Please RSVP to annvan@gmx.com by October 16th.

SINGLES SUPPER CLUB

Singles Supper Club will be on hiatus while their leader is unavailable.

Elaine Jellock elainejellock@hotmail.com or 570-430-1472

Ladies Night Out

Vicinos Local Italian

10999 N. Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd

Scottsdale, AZ 85259



\$8

Monday, October 26, 2026 4:00-6:00 PM

(deadline is October 19th, **Noon**) **Limit 40 – no refunds**

Please join us for an evening to gather with friends, meet new people and great conversation, beverages, and food. Make your reservation soon.

Cost \$12/person for food, drinks on your own, \$8 Martinis

Pasta, Caesar Salad, Cookies [How to sign up and pay with credit card and check below](#)

www.friendsinthehillsaz.org

login (go to 3 bars on top)

go to **Events** page (scroll down)

Problems with sign-up?

All checks to be received by Monday, October 19th to: Friends in the Hills, P.O. Box 17358, Fountain Hills, 85269 (include your e-mail address and guest name)

Susan Slapke and Sheri McCurdy, Chairs

And as always....Mingle, Mingle...Mingle



WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON TEA

October 21, 2026

3:00 PM

Join us for “Afternoon Tea!” and more!

Bring home a dinner item or two as well.

PLACE: Euro Café

12625 N Saguaro Blvd

RSVP to Sally Elam if you can come.

sallyinarizona@gmail.com

MONDAY MORNING COFFEE

OCTOBER 26, 2026

10:30 AM

Join us for a morning out with “friends.”

Have some coffee, tea, or a whole good breakfast.

PLACE: Phil’s Filling Station

16852 E. Parkview Avenue

RSVP to Sally Elam if you can come.

sallyinarizona@gmail.com

OFF TO THE SHOW!

WE WILL BE ON HIATUS UNTIL THE FALL!

EUCHRE

Join us to play Euchre on Friday, Oct 30th at:

Cafe Bliss

16425 E. Palisades Blvd FH

Come for lunch at 11:30, play til 2pm

Please RSVP so I can have a count for play.

Myra Smith

myra3mia@gmail.com

BIRTHDAY BASH

Margarete Ripps
msripps@yahoo.com
Gina Waldo

Come celebrate your birthday with friends in the Hills! Each year, we host four special birthday celebrations. Join us on **November 2nd from 4:00–6:00 PM** as we celebrate everyone with birthdays in October, November and December, now at a new Happy Hour time! Registration opens October 1st. Sign up and pay through the Friends website under Members Login → Events. Your \$5.50 ticket includes delicious appetizers, beverages, and of course, birthday cake! To add a little extra excitement please bring a \$10 wrapped gift and take part in our always fun gift exchange. Location will be emailed to everyone registered.

Come laugh, celebrate, and enjoy a festive Happy Hour with friends—we can’t wait to celebrate YOU!





BUNCO

OCTOBER 28 AT 11:30 AM

Sue Manning sgmmanning@gmail.com

480-226-2187

PHIL'S FILLING STATION

16852 E. Parkview Avenue

You should bring \$5 for Bunco and \$3 in one dollar bills for LRC.

MAH JONGG PLAY-EVERY THURSDAY

(Beginner /Intermediate)

Gloria Hachikian hshglo@gmail.com 847-420-0876

Sheila Hagan snhagan55@gmail.com 312-206-8730

We ask players to arrive by 12:15 PM so we can begin play at 12:30 PM.

This group is oversubscribed at this time and shall remain closed until further notice.

We would love to encourage anyone interested in forming a second group of beginners/intermediates to please do so.

POKER CLUB—1ST THURSDAY

Thursday, October 1, at 2:00 PM

Kathleen Sauser kschireb@cox.net
480-836-1293

This group meets monthly at the home of Kathleen Sauser, 17345 E. Baca Drive. Please call Kathleen if you are interested in attending.

PAPER CRAFTING-LAST TUESDAY

Honi Hershey honi_h2000@yahoo.com
480-628-0680

Martha Craner marthab911@gmail.com
480-837-2183

October 27, 2026 at 2:00 PM

We are a small group with varying levels of experience from beginners to advanced who enjoy getting together each month to make greeting cards. We use stamps, ink, and paper to complete at least three projects each time. NOTE NEW PRICE is \$15 per session. The fee covers the project and supplies. Each session usually meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 2:00 PM. Space is sometimes limited. You may call or email Honi if you are interested in participating, to get more information, or to be placed on their email list.

There will be no Nov & Dec get togethers. We will resume back to our regular schedule in January.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Martha Craner marthab911@gmail.com
480-837-2183

OCTOBER 12, AT 11:00 AM

PHIL'S FILLING STATION

16852 E. Parkview Avenue

We meet at 11:00 AM for lunch and play at noon. Cost is \$1 per person. This is a friendly game where you can compare your score against the people who played the same hands. Please contact Martha to make a reservation or to cancel.





PARTY BRIDGE—3RD MONDAY

Sally Gibbs sallygibbs@cox.net 480-734-3482

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, AT 11:30 AM

QUE BUENO

13207 N. La Montana Drive

We have room for 3 tables. We play bridge for 1/2 hour and then order lunch. The owner would like us to pay cash. Everyone is welcome, but you do need to sign up in advance. Contact Sally Gibbs if you are interested in playing.

THE SAGUARO BOOK CLUB

The Saguaro Book club will re start meeting Wednesday, October 21 at 10:00. The club is currently filled. If you wish to be on the waitlist, please contact Helen Whatmough at hwhatmough@cox.net.

BOOKS IN THE HILLS

After taking a summer hiatus, The Books in the Hills met on Wednesday, September 16th at 1:00pm.

We discussed the book, *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. It was an overall consensus by the group, that the story was enjoyable to read, and a few had even read the book twice!

The next meeting will be held on November 18th at 1:00pm.

If you would like to be put on the waitlist, please email Kelly Echard: kjechard@att.net

FOUNTAIN READERS

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 29 at 3 PM at Sally's house.

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE! We'll discuss *Yesteryear*, by Caro Claire Burke.

Any questions, please contact Sally Kelly at satkelly7@gmail.com. See you then!

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Our mountain biking group will reconvene in November.. Mark Tuesday, November 10 on your calendars. More to come.

SHORT HIKE

Chairperson: [Debbie Wollenberg](#)

(847) 903-2178

NEW DATE-4th Tuesday of the month.

Tuesday-10/27/26-

North Trail at McDowell Mountain Park-This hike will be an easy 3-mile loop through lush desert on the North trail of nearby McDowell Mountain Park. The trail is smooth and wide, with very little elevation and wonderful mountain views. We will meet at 8:15 am at the NW corner of the Safeway parking lot and carpool to the trailhead. The cost to enter the park is \$7.00 per car. Please email Debbie Wollenberg at Debbie.wollenberg116@gmail.com to sign up for the hike and let her know if you will be attending lunch. Lunch spot to be determined.





OCTOBER WORKSHOP
 Join Gloria for a 3 hour fun filled Class.
 Painting an **eerie 3-D**
 Peek a Boo Halloween Tree.
Friday, October 23
 at Phil's Filling Station
 16852 E. Parkview Ave.
4-7pm | \$60
 No experience necessary — all supplies included.
 Accepting Zelle, cash or checks. | For more info. Gloria 7133821010

18 HOLES OR SCRAMBLE GOLF EVERY MONDAY

Cass Ritchey fithgolf@gmail.com 480-580-7992

Starfire Golf Club, Scottsdale

Every Monday, 7:50 AM

We will golf every Monday at 7:50 AM at Starfire Golf Club. The 18-hole was designed by Arnold Palmer and offers golfers a fun round! All levels are welcome, but you must be able to keep up with the pace of play.

Please use our golf email: fithgolf@gmail.com to be placed on our email list or if you have any questions. Additional information can be found on our website.

EVENING SIGNATURE SOCIALS

2nd Annual Halloween Party

GHOULS WITH GATSBY'S

October 31 | 6:00-8:30 PM

Roaring 20's theme - costumes encouraged!
 \$50 per person

Includes a catered Chipotle "Build Your Own Burrito, Taco, or Bowl Bar," beer and wine, a signature cocktail, and gifts for the ladies.

MENU

Carnitas - Chicken - Fajita Veggies
 Cilantro-Lime White Rice - Black Beans
 Guacamole - Salsas - Lettuce - Cheese
 Flour Tortillas

Be ready for photo opportunities and a special night of ghoulish fun!

Register on the FITH website (under Events List).
 The secret address will be sent out the week of the party.

**Space is limited to 50 attendees. No refunds.
 Each member may bring 1 guest of their choice.**

CONTACTS

Marilyn ten Hope 480-457-9277
mtenhope@msn.com

Patricia Robinson 202-489-3615
patriciacarrollrobinson@gmail.com

A glamorous night of ghoulish fun!





BITS, BAUBLES AND BEADS

Sharron Neyer sharron2001@msn.com

562-833-9447

Jean Peterson onejeanius@gmail.com

916-710-0898

When: October 27th (Tuesday)

Time: 1:00 PM

Cost: \$15.00. (all supplies included)

Address: 14814 E. Crested Crown

We're Stringing Pearls!

Grab a pile of pearls and a ready made clasp and start designing!

Very easy class and no experience necessary.

Only thing you have to do is choose a color scheme you'd like to use. Pictured are examples of what you will be creating.



SIP AND SWIRL WINE -2ND TUESDAY

Linda Tornabene

Judy Crosby judy.crosby@gmail.com

480-225-6927



OCTOBER 13, 2026, 4:00-6:00 PM

GRAPEABLES FINE WINES

12645 Saguaro Boulevard,

(Fountainside Plaza)

NOTE: Sign-up begins with the receipt of the newsletter. Attendance is still being limited to 30, so book ASAP to be on the list. If you do not contact **JUDY** and receive confirmation-you should not attend.

We know that plans change, but please let us know if you are not going to be able to make it once you've been signed up and/or confirmed. Please note that no-shows without advising **JUDY** prior to this event will not be able to attend the following month. We generally have a waitlist, so thank you for understanding.





Texas Hold ‘Em Poker

Attention Ladies Who Love Cards (or are about to)

“I don’t know how to play poker...”

Good. That means you’re perfect for this group.

I teach a chill 2-hour Texas Hold’em class that actually makes sense, then we gather one or more times per month for fun ladies-only tournaments. You pick the date that works best for you.

Zero judgment. Zero intimidation. Just women learning, laughing, and getting hooked on the best game ever. Call or email me if you’re ready to finally say yes instead of “I’ll pass.”

Patty Ross

303-886-3673

nothomeyetmin@msn.com



FRIENDS IN THE HILLS

October 2026 Activity Calendar

A full-page calendar to remove and keep

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Mah Jongg 12:30 PM Poker Club 2:00 PM	2	3
4	5 Golf 7:50 AM	6	7 The Founders 11:30 AM	8 Mah Jongg 12:30 PM	9	10
11	12 Golf 7:50 AM Duplicate Bridge 11:00 AM	13 Sip & Swirl 4:00-6:00 PM	14 October Luncheon 11:00 AM	15 Mah Jongg 12:30 PM	16	17
18	19 Golf 7:50 AM Party Bridge 11:30 AM	20 Out to Lunch! Noon	21 Newcomer's Coffee 10:00 AM Saguaro Book Club 10:00 Afternoon Tea 3:00 PM	22 Mah Jongg 12:30 PM	23 Circle of New Friends Fourth Friday Meetup 3:00 PM	24
25	26 Golf 7:50 AM Monday Coffee 10:30 AM Ladies Night Out 4:00-6:00 PM	27 Short Hike 8:15 AM Bits, Baubles & Beads 1:00 PM Paper Crafting 2:00 PM	28 Bunco 11:30 AM	29 Mah Jongg 12:30 PM Fountain Readers 3:00 PM	30 Euchre: lunch 11:30 AM Play until 2:00 PM	31 Ghouls with Gatsby's 6:00-8:30 PM

Times and activities are taken from the October bulletin; no missing times were invented.

