



# The Trails at Scottsdale

## No Increase in Dues in 2018

The Board members of The Trails have voted to not increase the annual dues by 5% as provided for in the CCR's. The yearly dues will stay at \$210.00 or \$52.50 quarterly. We will still give a \$20 discount to anyone who pays their dues for a full year by February 15th. That cost would be \$190.

On another note, as you know we had quite a wet monsoon season and the weeds have been overwhelming. Please be sure to spray/pull the weeds in your yard, even those with desert landscaping. The seeds can spread into the neighbor's yards, so please be sure to stay on top of this problem.

### Board members:

Brenda Breit	480-970-0079
President	
Frank Mapes	480-242-6310
Vice-President	
Dennis DeGutes	480-970-4701
Treasurer	
Sandy DeGutes	480-970-4701
Secretary	
Elizabeth Welch	480-990-2868
Landscape Chair	
Lois Schneberger	480-946-8373
Historian	
Walter Rivera	480-332-8024
Public Relations Chair	
Jim Nowatzki	602-499-8088
Architectural Chair	
Bill Hooper	480-267-5478
Projects/Improvements	

If you have any questions, please call the appropriate Board member listed above.

### Emergency Numbers:

Police: 911 or 312-5000  
Graffiti: 602-320-8243  
Silent Witness: 602-261-8600

## Annual Meeting Notification

The Annual Meeting of The Trails HOA will take place on **Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Granite Reef Senior Center on Granite Reef Road, north of McDowell. Discussion will center on Board member elections and the proposed budget for the 2018 fiscal year. We have three seats up for election, so if anyone is interested in becoming a Board member, please notify any current member immediately so we can place your name on the ballot which will be mailed to you in mid-January. Please return your ballots by mail or give them to any Board member if you cannot attend this meeting.

## Thank you Kathryn, Welcome Bill and goodbye Mary!

Kathryn Derezinski has resigned her position on the HOA Board and we thank her for her service to the Community. We welcome Bill Hooper who has agreed to fill the position.

We have also lost a Guardian Angel who watched over our community for many years. Our postal carrier, Mary Woosley has officially retired as of 12/10/18. We will miss her smiling face and watchful eyes.

### Next Meeting Dates

- January 9, 7:00 p.m.
- **Annual Meeting**—February 13, 7:00 p.m.
- March 13, 7:00 p.m.

The Board meets every second Tuesday of the month. The location for these meetings is the Granite Reef Senior Center on Granite Reef and McDowell. All residents are encouraged to attend.

## How Does the New Tax Bill Affect Homeownership?

The current tax code bill has passed both the Senate and House and will inevitably be signed by The President in the next week or so. There were many parts of the tax bill that would have been detrimental to homeownership however through the lobbying of The National Association of Realtors and thousands of calls from real estate professionals themselves, many of the negative consequences were modified. Here is a brief overview of the most important parts related to homeownership:

- *Capital gains exclusion.* In a huge win for current and prospective homeowners, current law is left in place on the capital gains exclusion of \$250,000 for an individual and \$500,000 for married couples on the sale of a home. Both the House and the Senate had sought to make it much harder to qualify for the exclusion.
- *Mortgage interest deduction.* The maximum mortgage amount for households deducting their mortgage interest has been decreased to \$750,000 from the current \$1 million limit. The House bill sought a reduction to \$500,000.
- *State and local tax deductions.* Both property taxes and state and local income taxes remain deductible, although with a combined limit of \$10,000. Both the House and Senate bills sought to eliminate the state and local income tax deduction altogether. The National Association of Realtors' work will not stop. Says President Elizabeth Mendenhall, "Enactment of the bill does not end NAR's effort to reduce the negative impact on homeowners. "REALTORS®' work on tax issues will continue, and we look forward to joining members of Congress from both sides of the rotunda on that endeavor."
- ♦ The Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, begins in Tempe, January 12-14

By Alyssa Samuelson, Success Real Estate Group/Apartment Source, Fellow Trails Neighbor  
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## What's Happening!

- ♦ Barrett-Jackson Auto Auction, West World, January 13-21st.
- ♦ Russo and Steele Auto Auction, Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, January 18-21st.
- ♦ See Gary Sprague, the Singing Cowboy, ride his trusty steed "Dusty" into the Rusty Spur in Old Town Scottsdale on Saturdays at 3:45 pm (Nov - April) and catch a tune or two.
- ♦ Waste Management Phoenix Open Golf Tournament, TPC Scottsdale, January 29 - February 4th.
- ♦ Cavalia, the Cirque du Soleil-style equestrian extravaganza, begins Feb. 21st. The big tent is located on McClintock Rd., next to the soccer field, across from Big Surf.