



THE FOUNTAIN HILLS TIMES

Your Award-Winning Hometown Weekly Newspaper

Football fundraiser

The Fountain Hills High School football team is hosting a fundraiser on Saturday, March 25, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. They will be grilling and serving up turkey legs donated by Batchelor's Pad for \$10 each, and they will also host a car wash collecting donations.

Organizers invite everyone to head down to

the Fountain Hills football field to grab a bite to eat and get your car sparkling clean for a good cause. All funds raised go toward the cost of the football team's five-day summer camp at Cal Lutheran in July. The football team's goal is to raise enough money so that all players can attend without any additional cost.

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

\$1.50

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Council trims \$540K from capital budget

By Bob Burns
Times Reporter

During a lengthy special work session on the proposed capital improvement budget on March 14, the Town Council trimmed about \$540,000 out of the proposal presented by staff.

A sidewalk infill project on Fountain Hills Boulevard in front of the Church of the Ascension at a cost of \$290,000 was the largest project scratched. This is an expensive project for a sidewalk section due to the need for retaining walls to support an embankment as well as a driveway. The council was split on this plan, but the majority consensus was to eliminate it from the budget.

There was \$125,000 in the budget for a project to install street lighting at some intersections with no traffic signals. This was cut to allow staff to research solar options rather than more expensive hard wiring. Solar is considered less reliable in such applications, according to Town Engineer David Janover, but staff will continue to look into newer technology.

A proposed landscape project on Ashbrook Wash

along Calico Drive was estimated at \$75,000. This was an idea presented by residents of the area but appeared to have almost no support on the council.

Another \$50,000 was removed that was allotted as the Town's share of a potential grant for guardrail replacement. Staff was looking into the grant, as the majority of the Town's 10,000 linear feet of guardrail is aging and no longer meets new federal standards. Janover said that if grant funding comes through, the Town will transfer funds from contingency use to cover the Town's match.

The revised total for proposed capital improvement projects (CIP) for Public Works is \$4,327,652. This includes \$635,000 for a downtown streetscape project, which will see further review before commitment (see separate story).

Discussion

One of the more controversial items in the Capital Budget plan remains in place, although much reduced from what was presented to the council

(cont. on page 8A)

Council to consider downtown lights

By Bob Burns
Times Reporter

The Town Council has included a project for enhancement of downtown streetscape in its capital improvement budget for the coming fiscal year.

The amount of \$635,000 has been allotted for design and construction of pedestrian path light poles and fixtures along Verde River Drive and Parkview Avenue. Each of the poles would have electrical receptacles for use by Community Services.

The poles will also be fitted to accommodate the hanging of banners, promoting the Town, special events and holidays similar to those on Avenue of the Fountains.

This project is supported by the Economic Development Department and will facilitate the expansion of downtown development, according to a staff report. The report claims the

proposed improvements will make the adjacent lots more attractive for development, resulting in increased economic activity. Staff is requesting \$635,000 for design and construction of the pedestrian lighting improvements.

Councilwoman Hannah Toth supports the project, stating that the businesses that front on Parkview and Verde River are deserving of similar amenities available on Avenue of the Fountains.

Councilwoman Sharron Grzybowski agreed.

"These roads have been overlooked for too long," Grzybowski said. "They are part of the downtown and we should treat them like they are downtown."

Councilwoman Brenda Kalivianakis said she is opposed based on the cost. She said the Town should also look into solar as a

(cont. on page 6A)



Times photo by Ryan Winslett

Kite festival takes flight

Pakistan Information and Cultural Organization (PICO) hosted its annual kite festival out of Fountain Park Saturday, March 18, complete with food, music, a henna station, vendors and, of course, plenty of kites. Above, Michael Montoya prepares one of his impressive kites inspired by American artist Patrick Nagel. For additional photos, see page 11A.

Apartments

P&Z recommends approval

By Bob Burns
Times Reporter

The Planning and Zoning Commission is recommending the Town Council approve a proposed 80-unit apartment complex on Mountinside Drive at Palisades Boulevard.

In spite of significant neighborhood opposition to the plan, the commission voted 5-2 to send the recommendation with a long list of stipulations for council consideration.

Commission Chairman Peter Gray said he was torn in considering the plan. He said he believes the stipulations make it an improvement over what the commission saw in January.

"I'm a supporter of this by-in-large," Gray said. "But I can't get past the traffic. I don't think we are giving the traffic patterns enough discussion."

Commissioner Clayton Corey opposed the plan. He made a motion to recommend denial, but that motion did not receive a second. He echoed the neighbors in his comments.

"There is a lot of opposition, and that is reasonable," Corey said. "I believe

zoning is a pledge to future residents. It should only be changed in extreme situations. I see what the developer is trying to do (with the site) but I don't think this accomplishes that."

Corey was joined by Commissioner Rick Watts in opposing the recommendation.

The developer's request is to take two parcels of approximately three acres each (one is zoned R1-10 single family, and the second is R-4 multifamily) and rezone them to a single R-3

multi-family district of 6.3 acres.

The developer, Senderos at Fountain Hills, proposes 80 units in four buildings on the site. Michael Maerowitz, an attorney with the firm of Snell & Wilmer, represented the developer before the commission. Maerowitz said by combining the parcels they are able to reduce the density of the development and provide 60% open space on the site. He noted that 70 units could be developed on the parcel zoned for

multi-family and could be done with only building plan approval. He said they are doubling the size of the development and adding only 10 units.

Maerowitz said it is not a situation of building the proposal for the rezoned property or nothing gets built. He said the developer is fully prepared to build 70 units on the three-plus acres already zoned for multi-family (R-4).

The neighbors were not

(cont. on page 8A)

Eggstravaganza Saturday

Join Fountain Hills Community Services for Eggstravaganza, sponsored by Carol Goyena with MCO Realty, at Four Peaks Park this Saturday, March 25, from 8 to 10 a.m. Watch as hundreds of kids scramble to pick up over 15,000 eggs stuffed with candy and other prizes.

Held on the ballfields at Four Peaks Park, this event is a family-friendly way to begin the spring season. Hoppy Bunny will serve as Master of Ceremonies and will be available for hugs and pictures throughout the event.

The event is open to children up to eight years old, who must be accompanied by an adult. Arrive early, as the Egg Hunt main event



(cont. on page 6A)

Hoppy Bunny greets children at a past Eggstravaganza event.



Gilbert Road closed

Fountain Hills photographer Larry Arbanas took his drone out to capture this image of Gilbert Road last weekend. The section between SR87 and Thomas Road, which is currently under construction, was closed while excess water was released from Bartlett Dam, making it impossible for vehicles to travel through the altered route. Arbanas has posted a short aerial video as well, which can be found at youtu.be/xjay5UDN_tE.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

Holy Week:

Learn what local churches plan for special services.
See Page 19A

Community:

Plenty of fun was had at Fountain Hills Day.
See Page 10A

District:

Superintendent Jagodzinski offers update on FHUSD.
See Page 12A

WEATHER

	H	L	P
Tues., March 14	77	59	--
Wed., March 15	69	49	.86
Thurs., March 16	66	50	--
Fri., March 17	68	49	--
Sat., March 18	69	55	--
Sun., March 19	66	53	--
Mon., March 20	67	57	.04

For weather updates and forecasts go to fhtimes.com





Fountain Hills photo included in the Smithsonian's "Lights Out" exhibition. The Milky Way appears over Fountain Lake with the light dome of Greater Phoenix area in the background. Photo by Rebecca Bloom / bloomphoto.com

Fountain Hills is part of the Smithsonian 'Lights Out' exhibit

The Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History announced March 23 as the date it will open "Lights Out: Recovering Our Night Sky," a new 4,340-square-foot exhibition about the global loss of the night sky to light pollution. The Town of Fountain Hills and its view of the night sky is included in the exhibition.

"We are honored to have our community be one of only 13 of the more than 200 designated International Dark Sky Places around the world included in the exhibit," said Fountain Hills Mayor Ginny Dickey. "We're also proud of that designation, given how rare that achievement is when adjacent to a major metropolitan area."

The new exhibit will cover the history of lighting, the connection between humanity and the night sky, the unintended consequences of excessive outdoor lighting, and the principles that can be used to reduce light pollution. "Lights Out" will give visitors the opportunity to learn what is at stake as the stars and cosmos fade from our view at night," explained Kirk Johnson, director of the National Museum of Natural History.

Fountain Hills is included in the exhibition to show visitors that they can find ways to experience the night sky in their own communities, wherever they are. Due to its dedication to protection of local night skies through public policy, the promotion of quality outdoor lighting

and outreach to residents and visitors, Fountain Hills can still glimpse the Milky Way, even with skyglow from nearby Phoenix. It was accredited by the International Dark-Sky Association for these efforts in 2018.

U.S. Senator Mark Kelly is one Arizonan who offers his perspective on light pollution.

"As a pilot and commander of the Space Shuttle, I've seen just how bright our planet is at night," Sen. Kelly said. "And I'm thrilled that Fountain Hills is leading the way in showing how we can protect dark night skies while growing the Arizona economy."

A recent report found that each year, astronomy and space science in Arizona generate as much economic activity as Super Bowl host cities can expect. Arizona skies are also a boon to its tourism industry, drawing visitors from around the world.

"Dark skies are an increasingly important part of our state's tourism offerings," said Arizona Office of Tourism Director Lisa Urias. "Fountain Hills admirably represents Arizona at the Smithsonian, and we look forward to welcoming visitors inspired by the exhibit to come experience all our night skies have to offer."

Development of a non-profit STEM-based International Dark Sky Discovery Center is underway in Fountain Hills.

"We are delighted to have the Smithsonian open an exhibit with the same

mission of educating people about the adverse impact of excessive lighting," said Joe Bill, president of the Discovery Center. "Detailed design is nearly complete, and we have already raised one-third of the \$25 million needed for this facility."

The planned Discovery Center has five major components supporting its educational mission. These include a Dark Sky Observatory with the largest telescope in the Greater Phoenix area, a state-of-the-art Hyperspace Planetarium, a highly interactive Immersion Zone, a 150 tiered-seat theater with 8K technology, and a hands-on Einstein Exploration Station to teach the physics of light. narrated 3D flyover of the Discovery Center, support statements from leaders throughout the state and more by visiting darkskycenter.org.

In support of the mission of the Discovery Center, the Fountain Hills Dark Sky Association hosts its sixth annual Fountain Hills Dark Sky Festival this Saturday, March 25, from 4-9 p.m. Events will be held at the Fountain Hills Community Center and surrounding outdoor area at 13001 N. La Montana Dr. The festival includes nationally known speakers, virtual reality experiences, meteorite and live nocturnal animal exhibits, food trucks and beer and wine garden, laser tours of the night sky and more. For more information about the festival, visit fhdarksky.com/events/festival/ or see related story.

Dark Sky Fest Saturday

The Fountain Hills Dark Sky Festival, scheduled for Saturday, March 25, is a signature event and celebration of the town's certification as a Dark Sky Community, a recognition achieved by only 17 communities worldwide.

Held at the Community Center and Centennial Circle beginning at 4 p.m., featured events include keynote speakers, night sky exhibits, a student art contest and activities for the whole family.



The fourth annual Dark Sky Festival is set for Saturday, March 25, beginning at 4 p.m.

Speaker Lineup

The Fountain Hills Dark Sky Association has invited Paul Bogard to speak at this year's event. Bogard is a writer, professor and author of "The End of Night," a tribute to darkness and the night. Bogard will speak at 5 p.m. in the Community Center.

Joe Bill, co-founder and president of the International Dark Sky Discovery Center, will answer, "How are NASA, the Smithsonian and Fountain Hills Connected?" Bill is scheduled to speak at 6 p.m. in the Community Center.

At 6:30 p.m., Dr. Rhonda Stroud, a materials physicist and planetary scientist at Arizona State University, will speak with a presentation on "Asteroid Goo, Moon Water, and Stardust: A Laboratory Tour of the Solar System."

The Fountain Hills Library will be open for the festival, where attendees can discover inspiring books about the night sky, learn about the library's telescope lending program and find out how to use the library's Citizen Science sky quality survey kit.

At 4:30 p.m. in the library, Bogard will host a Story Time when he reads his children's book, "What If Night?" followed by a fun activity for the kids.

The River of Time Museum & Exploration Center will invite visitors to stop in and check out the Dr. Charles Juels telescope, which Juels used to discover hundreds of asteroids from his backyard in Fountain Hills.

The Fountain Hills High School is sponsoring the Virtual Reality Experience, with students leading the entire setup, operation and teardown for the event.

Using VR headsets, visitors can take a 3D tour of the Solar System and see the cosmos as they've never seen it before.

The international meteorite company, Aerolite Meteorites, will join in on the fun this year with an exhibit filled with meteorites from around the world. They will have meteorites for purchase in case attendees want to bring something home.

Live Animals

Get up close to live nocturnal animals and cool desert critters at one of five booths. This year, attendees will be joined by Wild at Heart, Southwest Wildlife, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, the Center for Native and Urban Wildlife, and McDowell Mountain Regional Park. Learn about how light pollution impacts their ability to hunt, sleep, mate, navigate and more.

Star Party

After dark, telescopes will be set up for night sky viewing as the culmination of the entire Dark Sky Festival. Take a peek through one of a dozen telescopes to get an up-close view of planets, star clusters, the moon, nebulae and more.

Dr. Jeffrey Hall, director of Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, will offer two laser-guided tours of the

night sky. He'll help identify a variety of beautiful celestial objects and constellations with the naked eye.

Vicky Derksen, president of the Fountain Hills Dark Sky Association and host of the Night Sky Tourist podcast, will give one laser-guided star tour that will focus on cultural astronomy and ancient star stories.

Dinner and a view

A beer and wine garden, along with food trucks, will provide refreshments including a few options for sweet treats with Fountain Hills Water & Ice and the Swette Ice Cream Truck.

Alcohol will be available all evening in the beer and wine garden, which will include local establishments, Bone Haus Brewing and Grapeables Wine Bar.

Musicians Scott Hallock and Suzi Kiraly will take attendees through a playlist of songs from different genres and eras, digging up some great night sky-themed tunes along the way.

The Fountain Hills Dark Sky Association's mission is to inspire residents to take pride in the Town's rare distinction as an International Dark Sky Community and to protect and preserve the night sky for the benefit of all living things.

This event is free to the general public. Parking is also free. For more information, visit fhdarksky.com.

Shredding event April 1

The Fountain Hills Friends of the Library are pleased to announce the return of the annual shredding event for Fountain Hills and Rio Verde residents. On Saturday, April 1, stationed in the Fountain Hills Library parking lot, a shredding truck will open at 9 a.m. to receive paper and documents for shredding.

Residents will line up on

El Lago Blvd. (East of La Montana), drive into the Library parking lot and wind around until they reach the shredder truck.

Volunteers will be there to help unload boxes/documents to be processed. Those planning to bring their documents for shredding should limit their collection load to three boxes.

The shredder does not accept manila folders, three-ringed binders, rubber-bands or hard clips and should be removed prior to loading.

Shredding will continue until the truck is completely full by around 11 a.m. Although there is no charge for this service, Friends of the Library will certainly appreciate donations.

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<p><i>Featured</i></p> <p>10141 N McDowell View Trail Fountain Hills, AZ 85268 Offered at \$2,100,000 See more at: www.tourfactory.com/2798975</p>	<p><i>Featured</i></p> <p>10330 N Fire Canyon Fountain Hills, AZ 85268 Offered at \$2,199,000 See more at: www.tourfactory.com/3053061</p>

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FYI

Law enforcement report

The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office District 7 substation in Fountain Hills reported deputies responded to the following calls during the week from Thursday, March 9, through Wednesday, March 15.

Thursday, March 9

◆ A resident of the 17000 block of De Anza Dr. reported an unknown suspect used their Social Security number for unknown means. The town resident learned of this incident while they were filing their taxes.

◆ Deputies responded to the 13000 block of Fountain Hills Blvd., where it was reported that a female suspect, without permission, spray-painted a wall allegedly to raise awareness for cancer. During the contact, deputies discovered the suspect had several outstanding warrants for her arrest. She was arrested and booked into jail.

◆ Deputies arrested a male subject for a drug related felony warrant in the 16000 block of Avenue of the Fountains. He was booked into jail.

Friday, March 10

◆ Deputies made a traffic stop on Shea Boulevard and Arista Lane. The driver was criminally cited when they were observed driving more than 25 mph over the posted speed limit.

◆ Deputies made a traffic stop on Saguaro Boulevard at Ledferd Lane. The driver was pulled over for driving above the speed limit. During the traffic investigation, it was discovered the driver was never issued a driver license. The driver was cited and their vehicle was impounded.

◆ A resident of the 16000 block of Kim Dr. reported that over the past four months, an unknown suspect used their identity to open several accounts with different businesses. The fraud departments in each of the businesses were notified, and the resident has not lost any money.

◆ Deputies received a report that a citizen sent threatening letters to a Fountain Hills Town Council member and made disparaging remarks on Facebook about them.

Saturday, March 11

◆ Deputies responded to the 28000 block of 154th Way where a medical patient reported to hospital staff that they were assaulted by their mother. The patient sustained minor injuries and did not wish to aid in prosecution.

Sunday, March 12

◆ Deputies responded to the 26000 block of 169th St. where a resident reported that their boyfriend violated a protection order when they showed up to their house, destroyed their phone, and assaulted them multiple times. The ex-boyfriend is currently outstanding.

Monday, March 13

◆ Deputies responded to Shea and Saguaro boulevards where two drivers

were involved in a non-injury vehicle collision when one driver made an improper turn onto Shea and collided with the other.

◆ Deputies responded along with the Fire Department to Fountain Hills and Palisades boulevards. An elderly female was transported to a local hospital with a possible head injury when she was struck by a vehicle that was entering the roadway from a private lot.

◆ Deputies responded to the 14000 block of Miramonte Way where it was reported that an unidentified vehicle collided with a parked sedan and fled the scene without the driver leaving their information.

◆ Deputies made a traffic stop on Fountain Hills Boulevard at Arroyo Vista. A driver was criminally cited when they were observed driving more than 35 miles over the posted speed limit.

Tuesday, March 14

◆ Deputies responded to Saguaro Boulevard and Avenue of the Fountains where a pedestrian was struck by a vehicle as she attempted to cross the road at this intersection. The pedestrian sustained a fractured rib from the collision.

◆ Deputies responded to the 17000 block of Shea Blvd. It was reported that an unoccupied vehicle on a conveyer belt at a car wash collided with another vehicle that was parked near the car wash exit. After the collision, the other vehicle left the scene without providing any information.

◆ The owner of a home in the 15000 block of Rocky Mountain Place reported that an unknown suspect listed her home for sale on Zillow without her permission.

◆ A resident of the 16000 block of Glenpoint Dr. reported an unknown suspect used their Social Security number to file a federal tax return.

Wednesday, March 15

◆ Deputies responded to a business in the 16000 block of Shea Blvd. where it was reported that an unidentified person concealed items from the business and left without paying.

◆ Deputies responded to the 16000 Block of Shea Blvd. where it was reported that an unidentified person concealed items from a local business and left without paying.

OBITUARIES

David Maland

On March 10, 2023, at the age of 84, David Maland was called to fly fish in Paradise. This brilliant, witty, gentleman loved adventure as he wandered the highways, roads less traveled, trails and streambeds. He was passionate about being an outdoorsman. Even before the grandchildren were born, he would think of ways to teach them to connect with nature.

He loved his "Norman

Rockwell" upbringing as a country boy, but oh how he sparked when talking about his time spent in the big city lights of Chicago. He was a lifelong Cubbies fan and was so thrilled when they won the World Series in 2016. Oh, how he loved to read, always reading no less than three books at a time. He loved geology, history, astronomy and often quizzed us, as he was teaching us. He read the *Wall Street Journal* and *New York Times* every day.



David Maland

Oh, how he loved orthopedics and surgery. He read medical journals until his last day. Because of his knowledge and excitement of helping others, he was beloved by his colleagues. He kept the operating room quite entertained with his stories, jokes, trivia questions and brain teasers.

While he contributed to the medical community, he also contributed equally to the success of Häagen-Dazs corporation and Macallan distilleries.

He loved his family so very much, always wanting to provide and protect them. We will miss you and love you forever Baba, Daddyman, Papa, Kahuna Grande, Smooth Dude, The Professor, and my love.

He is survived by his loving family and friends and will continue to live on in our hearts through entertaining stories about him, and photos of his beautiful, infectious smile.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to the following charities:

The Brynne Smith Memorial Campus, Foothill Animal Rescue foothills-animal.org/bsmc/).

The C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation (C.A.S.T. = Catch A Special Thrill) castforkids.org/foundation-cast/).

Kids Need To Read kid-sneedtoread.org/).

Lois A. Medley

The extended family is saddened to announce the passing of Lois Arlene Medley of Fountain Hills on Feb. 8, 2023. Lois passed peacefully in her sleep at the sprightly age of 96.

She will be lovingly remembered by her extended family, the Wilkinson family, and the families of Larry and Loren Medley. She will be dearly missed by the church community at Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church, where she was active in the choir.

She was predeceased by her loving husband of 64 years, Lynn Medley, and although they had no children Lois and Lynn took great pride in being godparents to the Wilkinson family children.

Lois was born and raised in the small town of Moun-

dridge, Kan., yet the big city tugged at her. She ended up moving to Kansas City, Mo., where she took a job as an insurance underwriter. Ultimately, she met her future husband, Lynn, and they returned to Moundridge to be wed in November of 1957. She relocated several times in Kansas as Lynn pursued real estate business opportunities, then followed their close family friends to Fountain Hills in the early '80s.

Lois developed a keen interest and skill in various kinds of craftwork and even sold some of her crafts, including handmade dolls. Lois also loved not only being a parishioner of the Fountain Hills Presbyterian church, but was a mainstay in the choir. Being closely involved in the church fulfilled both Lois and Lynn.

Lois was also known for her keen sense of humor and her, at times, cutting wit. During her down time, she was a queen of crosswords, finishing the one in the newspaper on a daily basis. And how could one not know about her love for baseball? She had the monthly subscription to the MLB network and would have it on in the background almost every waking hour. She was a whiz with stats and could talk your ear off as far as the players. Go Diamond-backs and Royals.

A service will be held for Lois on Saturday, March 18, 2023, at 10 a.m. at the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church, 13001 N. Fountain Hills Blvd., Fountain Hills, AZ 85268. Memorial donations may be made in Lois's name at the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church, 13001 N. Fountain Hills Blvd, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268.

Lois will always be loved and greatly missed.

John Steingart

John Steingart, 91, of Scottsdale, Ariz., passed to a place of everlasting love on March 10, 2023, while doing what he enjoyed – playing golf.

He was born March 2, 1932, the second of the late John and Mary Steingart's 17 children, in Niverville, Manitoba, Canada. On Nov. 24, 1956, John married Lee, the love of his life. Together they happily raised three sons. In 1964 the family moved from Canada to Wheaton, Ill., then relocated to Hastings, Minn. in 1974.

John felt the United States provided more career opportunities, where he found success at Morton Chemical as regional manager and ultimately minority owner of both Mobility (agricultural equipment manufacturer) and then Northwestern Motor Co. (NMC). John and his sons bought NMC and grew it until John's retirement. In addition to his career,

John helped coach his sons' hockey teams and taught them the game of golf.

His great joys were his family and playing golf. John, Lee and the boys played many prestigious golf courses together throughout the U.S. John and Lee also spent many occasions playing bridge and curling. He was by Lee's side every single day of her journey living with Alzheimer's. In his later years, if John was not spending time with family or on the golf course with his "Firerockers," he could likely be seen playing gin or bridge, singing in a choir and creating a spreadsheet or two. He loved to work with numbers and finances.

John was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and companion who supported his family's and friends' pursuits. His outgoing, engaging personality and infectious laugh will be missed.

John is survived by Leanne Reynolds, his kind and generous companion during the past five years; his three sons, David (Dori Nelson) of Edina, Minn.; Bruce (Anna) of Onalaska, Wis.; Kevin (Karen) of San Antonio, Texas; seven grandchildren, Michelle (Matt) Mueller and Ryan (Jennifer Stubbs) Steingart; Alysia, Rachel and Margaret Steingart; Gia and Venise Steingart; six great grandchildren; siblings, Mary, Vera, Verner, Harry, Madeline, Frank, Walter and Leona. John was predeceased by Lee, his wife of 61 years and eight of his siblings.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, March 28 at 10 a.m. at Church of the Ascension, 12615 N. Fountain Hills Blvd, Fountain Hills, with a luncheon immediately following to celebrate John's life. In lieu of flowers and to honor John, memorials can be sent to Hospice of the Valley, 1510 E. Flower St. Phoenix, AZ 85014.

Messenger Fountain Hills Mortuary is assisting the family with arrangements.

Arlene (Madeline) Zuiker

Beloved wife of the late Arthur L. Zuiker. Loving mother of Mark (Virginia Solis), Christopher (Donna Mikolaiczik), Caren (Meade Mossman) Zuiker, and the late Jeffery (Aileen Cahill) Zuiker.

Cherished grandmother of Brad (Alicia) Zuiker, Katherine (Dan) Zentgraf, Maxwell Zuiker, Shane (Anne) Hauer-Mossman, Laura (Zach) Reid, Dylan Mossman, Madeleine Zuiker, Eryn Zuiker, and Jaden Mossman. Adored great grandmother of Zach and Betsy Zentgraf, Audrey, Jack, and Benjamin Zuiker, and Niamh Rylie Reid. Dear sister of Edward Martins, Jean Lagan, Marie

Gustafson, Agnes Leffering, Virginia Christianson, and Johanne Ryan. Devoted to her precious puppies Molly and Cookie.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., FL 17, Chicago, IL 60601 or alz.org/donate would be appreciated.

Please leave a memory for the family on Madeleine's Tribute Wall; your stories will bring comfort to her family. sheehyfh.com 708-857-7878.

Visitation is Thursday, March 23, 3-9 p.m. Funeral Friday, March 24, 9:45 a.m. from the Robert J. Sheehy & Sons Funeral Home, 9000 W. 151st Street, Orland Park, IL to St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mass 10:30 a.m.

NPOA approvals

The Neighborhood Property Owners' Association's Committee of Architecture reviewed and approved five permit applications and one change request at the meeting held on March 14, with no applications in need of further review.

Approvals were as follows:

*15720 Richwood – Owner, Bailey; door change.

*10423 Indian Wells – Owner, Viaira; open air.

*16615 Aspen – Owner, Mascardo; wrought iron fencing.

*17315 El Pueblo – Owner, Weiner; open air.

*17014 Rand – Owner, Hanson; flat roof coating.

Approved changes to existing permits:

*15705 Sunburst – Owner, Gacharna; single family home.

The Neighborhood Committee of Architecture (NCOA) meets Tuesday mornings at 8:30 a.m. to review plans submitted during the previous week. Deadlines for permit submittal is Fridays at 2 p.m. to be reviewed on the following Tuesday.

The NPOA Board of Directors meets the second Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m.

Any questions may be directed to the NPOA office at 480-837-5317, or visit the NPOA website at npoafh.org for more information.

LOST & FOUND

As a public service, *The Times* publishes a list of items that have been reported lost or found in the community.

To report a lost or found pet or other item, call *The Times* at 480-837-1925.

Lost – Wallet lost at Irish Fest on Saturday. If found, please call 860-707-3322.

Found – Clarinet found at Fountain Park. Call to identify, 480-816-5100 ext. 0.

Found – Bicycle parts bag. Call to identify 480-816-5100 ext. 0.

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Times photo by Bob Burns

One person died as a result of a two-vehicle collision at the intersection of Shea Boulevard and State Route 87 (Beeline Highway) just before 8 a.m. on Friday, March 17.

Fatal crash March 17

A woman died in a two-vehicle collision at the intersection of Shea Boulevard and State Route 87 (Beeline Highway) on Friday, March 17.

According to the Arizona Department of Public Safety, the deceased woman was driving a Mercedes sedan eastbound on Shea and made

a right turn onto southbound SR 87. Her vehicle was struck by a pick-up truck traveling south on SR 87. The pick-up truck rolled into the sedan after the collision.

The driver of the Mercedes sedan was identified by DPS as Jamee Balvin, 56. She was transported to a Scottsdale hospital,

where she was pronounced deceased.

The driver of the Ford F250 was also transported to the hospital for treatment of injuries.

DPS had the southbound lanes of the Beeline Highway closed between Shea and Mesa all morning while it investigated.

Caregivers events start soon

Thankful Thursdays: Care for the Caregiver is a new program being offered to support the local caregiving community in Fountain Hills. Dr. Karen Willfahrt, a Naturopathic Doctor and Nurse, will facilitate the group, and hopes to build on the foundation of support created by the caregiver support groups currently active in Fountain Hills and throughout the Valley. There is no charge for attendance.

The Care for the Caregiver program will use the book, "Soul Care for Caregivers: How to Help Yourself While Helping Others," written by author and psychology professor Susanne West, as its foundation. The book serves as a guide to help individuals care for their mind, body and spirit while caring for others. The program will be educational and experiential in nature.

"We will demonstrate techniques such as guided meditation/visualization and laughter, and engage the participants in the practice, if they wish, so that they can integrate it as a part of their daily lives," reads a press release. "It will offer techniques to address burnout and 'compassion fatigue,' and offer time for one on one to develop a plan to maintain one's health."

There are many resources available for caregivers at the local, state and national level, but organizers for Care for the Caregiver say they are

often difficult to navigate. In some sessions, there will be time to answer questions and help individuals navigate the resources and develop a plan to get the help they need, if available. Each session will be a little different. They will start with meditation and end with laughter, and harmonic light therapy or massage/vibration treatments will be available to those interested, as time allows.

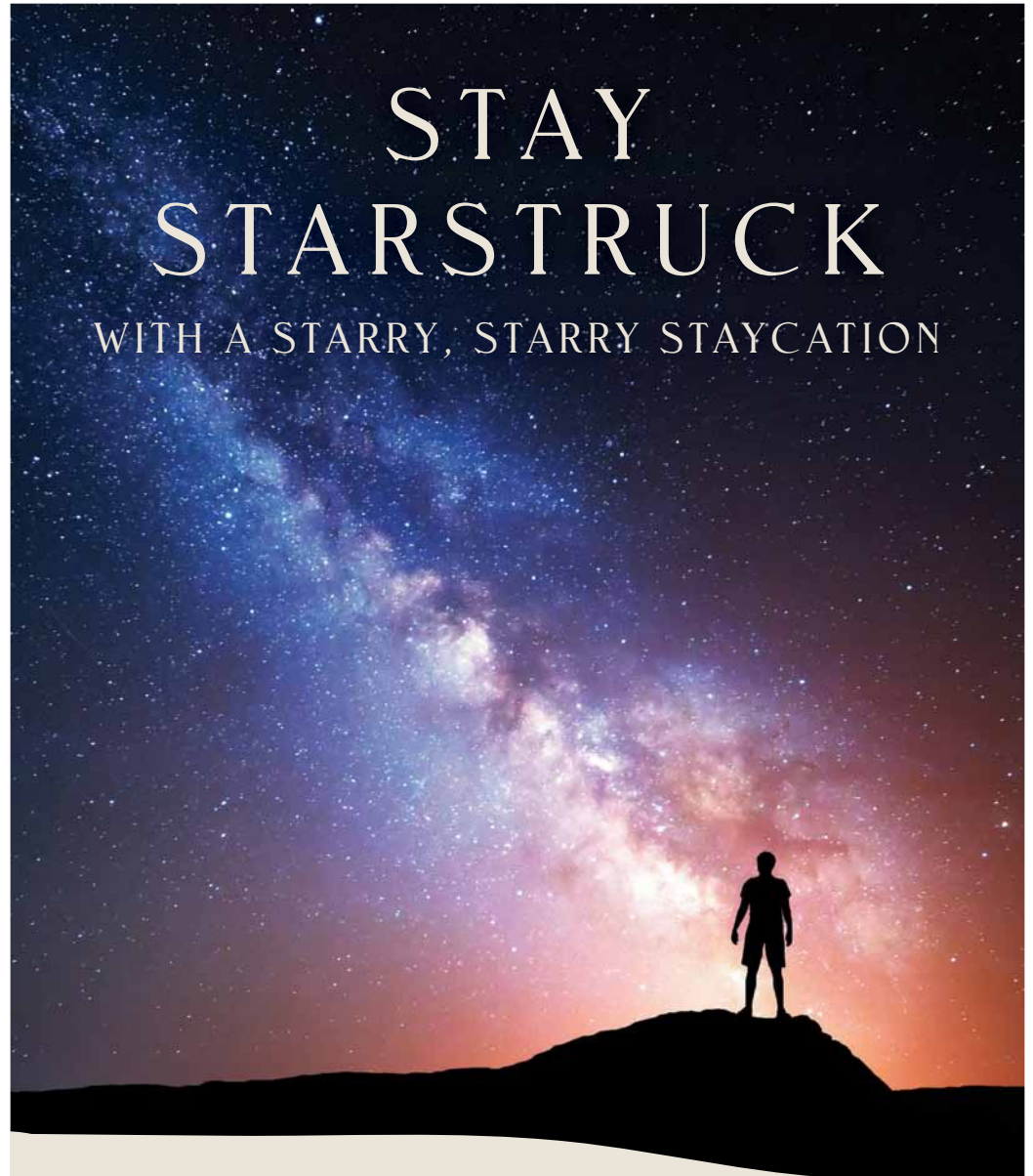
Life Journey Partners of America, Inc. is a grassroots movement committed to finding solutions for the millions of Americans who require care to remain safely in their homes and live their best lives, but have gaps in care, and to support those who care for them. It is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to building and supporting caregiving communities within existing communities to address gaps in care and provide education and training necessary to care for individuals who would otherwise be unable to remain in their homes due to physical or mental disabilities, regardless of the ability to pay. Karen Willfahrt is the director and founder, and states that they committed to finding solutions for caregivers and those needing care to live their best lives.

The Thankful Thursdays: Care for the Caregiver sessions are scheduled for April 6, April 20 and April 27,

and will continue monthly on the first, third and fourth Thursday of the month, and will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Vendor Venue at 16714 E. Avenue of the Fountains.

Life Journey Partners of America is looking for local business support of caregivers on Thursdays. If a business would like to provide coffee or a luncheon, contact Dr. Willfahrt at lifejourneypartners@gmail.com or 715-897-6286.

Those with questions or interest in the program can also reach out to the contact information above or visit ljpa.org.



As Dark Sky Month illuminates our nights, savor ADERO Scottsdale Resort's signature experience, "Find Your Way," in partnership with the Fountain Hills Dark Sky Festival (March 25) and International Dark Sky Week (April 17-25). Book your stay at the only Marriott Autograph Collection resort in a certified Dark Sky Zone and elevate your awe with a high-definition telescope for your room, stargazing with the Star Dudes every Friday night and free use of the Star Walk 2 mobile app—plus earn 5,000 bonus Marriott BONVOY® points per night of your stay*. There's never been a better time to behold the celestial beauty beyond our everyday view with a starry, starry staycation at ADERO.

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


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Opinion

Sobering

 A letter from:
Peggy Yeargain

"We failed our kids," the recent editorial from *The Times*, was sobering.

Replacing a football field is a huge expense and it should be shared by the entire community. Some amazing residents were kind enough to donate the funds this time, but will these generous folks be able to cover everything that the schools need? We can't run a school district by fundraising.

Why did this happen? During the bond election, residents were misled. The town was littered with signs that falsely predicted an enormous tax increase if the bond passed. They also wrongly claimed that there was plenty of money in the current budget. Candidates insisted that they would correct the wasteful spending and run the district efficiently without any extra funding. The misinformation worked. Our residents were pushed to vote against the badly needed bond, and that was not in the best interest of our community.

Likewise, some members of the Town Council campaigned with promises to end wasteful spending and fix the streets with all the extra money. As usual, the reality is much different than the hype. Extra money has not been discovered, and the streets are going to require some sort of special funding. Yet we still have a town to run, a really nice town, and most of the residents like having the amenities that brought them here. The business community profits from having those amenities, too. If we want to maintain our property values and our exceptional image, money must be allocated in the budget. Simply voting "no" on reasonable budget items in order to placate a few people is not in the best interest of this community.

Recalls

 A letter from:
Matthew Corrigan

I contacted Mayor Dickey by email on Friday morning, March 17, to express my concern about the appalling attempt by a vocal minority to overturn the will of the Fountain Hills voters by recalling one of the newly elected members of the Town Council. To her credit, the mayor replied the same morning stating that, "I am aware of two social media accounts set up, one to recall Councilman Skillicorn and one to recall Vice Mayor McMahon and me...and have no information about either of them. Recalls in general and by nature are divisive and my goal is for the community to be united with shared purpose..."

I sincerely hope and trust that the mayor remains consistent in her opinion of the nature of the recall process. Recalls, in my opinion, are reserved for candidates who break campaign promises and not for those who do exactly what they promised to do in their campaigns. Keeping your promise to the voter should be admired and encouraged, not punished. As a U.S. President once said, "Trust but verify."

Freedoms

 A letter from:
Carol Rogala

In response to Gene Slechta, I applaud and honor your First Amendment rights, but I see you don't have the same "respect" for others.

What Allen Skillicorn writes on his Facebook or anywhere else is also an exercise of his First Amendment rights. If he wants to write negative comments about the mayor or even myself, it should not matter to you, as he has a right to do so.

That he left a political post in Illinois means nothing to me unless it was due to a felony or something

of that nature. And if that were the case, we should have known before the election. Nikki Haley left her post as Ambassador to the U.N. Have you written her to complain?

It would seem to me if anyone was uncomfortable with posts on Twitter or Facebook, they could cancel their account or just stop looking at the individual's feed that upsets them. We all have these freedoms.

Improvement

 A letter from:
Betsy Platt

I applaud the Fountain Hills Town Council for the positive and responsible actions they are taking.

There are many required maintenance issues in Fountain Hills that need to be resolved before we start moving forward with optional and subjective improvement projects. By stopping the roundabout project, we have saved public funds that can be used for street repair.

Cars are being damaged by the potholes in our

streets, as I can personally attest to by the state of disrepair on my street Thistle Drive. Thank you to our Town Council Members Gerry Friedel, Allen Skillicorn, Brenda Kalivianakis and Hannah Toth, as they have reversed the actions of previous town councils and are using our precious tax money in responsible and conservative ways.

Unsafe drivers

 A letter from:
Allen Hunt

Last week's *Times* reported that, on March 8, deputies responded to Saguaro and Fountain Hills boulevards for a reported two-vehicle non-injury collision. One driver conducted an unsafe lane change and collided with the other. It continues to happen.

If the town would install two more stop signs at the corner of Saguaro and Fountain Hills Blvd., I am sure it would slow down some of those vehicles that appear in a hurry to get out of town to who-knows-where. Meanwhile, does

the town own a speed gun to detect and help label these unsafe drivers?

Equity

 A letter from:
Rick Dime

Equality, the American way, enshrines uniform access to opportunities for those who take the initiative to achieve. The dreamers – the entrepreneurs, the achievers – that believe in the sanctity of faith, family and freedom work hard at forming the soul of America. Equal opportunity is the impetus for blending cultures and ideals into the soul of America.

The 21st century political and corporate bureaucrats manufactured "equity" as their means of supplanting equality. Declaring race as the basis of awarding entitlements is disgracing individual fulfillment that is the soul of America. "Equity" bastardizes affirmative action by lowering standards, reducing expectations and stifling achievement. "Equity" is political wordsmithing for race-based entitlements. Doling-out equity to engineer false pride is a vote-mining scheme. "Equity," a woke word for discrimination, assigns handouts and privileges based on physical looks, not qualifications. "Equity" is the 21st century version of buying votes with welfare promises like reparations.

America's spirit and soul was born and still believes in faith, family and freedom. The 1776 Revolution began the battle for America's economic and religious independence. The Civil War continued the fight to establish equality for all Americans. Civil Rights leaders peacefully accelerate the progress of equality. These events built equality into the soul of America.

We the people share the constant struggle for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. All American's equally earn, share and sustain the advantages of a free republic that chooses democracy over tyranny. Life is the natural gift endowed to biologically different parents. The liberty to earn, educate and prosper brings equal opportunity to pursue the happiness derived from the pride of ownership inherent in the American Dream.

Equality is the moral right good men share with each other. Equity are the purchased commodities one man trades with another. Equality and equity are clearly different choices.

Agendas

 A letter from:
Stephen Davis

As a civil engineer and master planner, I have worked on environmental projects around the world and, early on, came to realize that our clean air, safe water and livable cities are the envy of the rest of the world.

This enviable position didn't happen by accident, but because of visionary environmental action taken by our government at federal, state and local levels. This same vision of

Our viewpoint

Weekend fun

It's going to be yet another busy weekend in Fountain Hills, with both the Eggstravaganza and Dark Sky Festival taking place this Saturday, March 25.

It's important to note that the Eggstravaganza will be hosted out of a new venue this year. While the massive Easter egg hunt has traditionally taken place in Golden Eagle Park, this year's festivities will be held in Four Peaks Park. There will still be 15,000 eggs (yes, that's the real number!) for kids to track down, as well as all of the other activities that are traditionally offered during the event. You can read all about it beginning on page 1A of this week's paper.

Then, if you'll flip over to page 3A, you'll find everything you need to know about the Dark Sky Festival taking place later in the day at the civic center. We've got a big story on how our little community is being featured as part of a new "Lights Out" exhibit at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, and running right next to it is a beefy story sharing details about all the activities visitors can expect tied to the Dark Sky Festival.

Both events are sure to offer plenty of fun for the whole family, so be sure to get out and join the festivities this Saturday.

a clean, safe and vibrant community can be found in our Town's General Plan, where it has been an important part of making Fountain Hills the wonderful place it is.

Yet this vision for Fountain Hills has recently come under attack. I refer to the politically motivated re-writing of portions of our Town's Environmental Plan by council members Skillicorn and Kalivianakis. The language they removed did not come to us from California, as alleged by Skillicorn. Nor was its purpose to take away your car, as alleged by Kalivianakis. It was instead good home-grown planning, prepared by Arizona professionals and written for the long-term benefit of Fountain Hills.

I hope that in the future, Skillicorn and Kalivianakis can leave their political agendas aside and we can once again make a vibrant, clean and sustainable future for Fountain Hills our clear priority.

Lights

(cont. from page 1A)

cheaper option for lighting. Councilman Gerry Friedel asked staff about funding options such as development fees or grants.

Town Manager Grady Miller said development fees are fairly restricted and would not be an option for this project.

Economic Development Director Amanda Jacobs said Main Street grants are the only option for such projects, which she said is designed for distressed communities.

"Fountain Hills would not qualify under those standards," Jacobs said.

Mayor Ginny Dickey brought up the Downtown Development Fund and asked the current balance available. The response was about \$500,000, which staff agreed that at least a portion could be used toward this project.

Dickey said she understands the desire, but also has concerns about the cost. She noted that Parkview is very different from Avenue of the Fountains and is less

"walkable."

Jacobs said the streetscape on Avenue of the Fountains is an "amazing" attraction for business and visitors. She said based on her business retention visits, business owners love the setting.

"We need to invest," Jacobs said. "With our dark skies it is like businesses close up at 5 p.m. Let's light up and attract people."

Kalivianakis was not convinced the area needs an improvement.

"No (businesses) are open after 5 p.m. expect for The Taphouse and Phil's," she said. "I don't think they need this."

Friedel asked if there were alternative plans they could consider.

Toth said the council should consider use of up to \$250,000 of the Downtown Development funds.

"This is a part of our downtown that has been neglected," she said.

Jacobs told the council she would work to come up with a modified version of the plan.

The funds would remain in the budget, but no money would be spent without further council approval.

Eggstravaganza

(cont. from page 1A)

starts promptly at 9 a.m. There will be two designated areas for specific age groups, ages 0-3 and ages 4-8.

Fountain Hills Noon Kiwanis Club will sell pancakes, sausage links and refreshments for those looking to grab breakfast or a snack at the event.

In addition to the hunt, the Fountain Hills Fire Department will be there with their truck. And why not let the kids get some "eggercise" on some inflatable bouncers? Then, before you "eggsit," be sure to check out some hard to beat crafts provided by the Fountain Hills Library and local church groups.

For more information or additional questions, visit FountainHillsAZ.gov/SpecialEvents or contact Skylar Thomas, recreation program coordinator, at stthomas@fountainhillsaz.gov.

My Opinion

Building a better Fountain Hills

By: Allen Skillicorn
TOFH Council Member



What happens in Washington, D.C. or Phoenix may attract the most headlines, but the truth is the decisions made at the local level have as much if not more impact on our daily lives.

The decisions made at the local level determine the condition of our streets, the regulations impacting local businesses, as well as the safety of our neighborhoods.

I am committed to ensuring our town government is honest and transparent. I lived in Illinois prior to moving to Fountain Hills and I served in the Illinois Legislature. I saw firsthand what happens when leaders do not act in the best interest of their constituents.

What happened in Illinois is not how government should work at any level and thankfully, we do not have these issues in Fountain Hills. Since joining the Town Council, we have accomplished some good things for our community.

We brought back the invocation at our meetings. The invocation was previously removed from the meetings without a vote even being taken. We took a vote in January and brought it back and I believe we are a better community because of it.

We also saved taxpayers \$20,000 per year by firing our lobbyist. The members of the Town Council are perfectly capable of picking up a phone and lobbying state and county officials on behalf of our community. We don't need to pay a lobbyist to do something we as elected officials should already be doing.

Other accomplishments include common-sense sign regulations that will make it easier for businesses to comply with town regulations. Moving forward, we will continue to look at ways to streamline our regulations which I believe will encourage more economic growth in our community. We need to work with business leaders – not against them – to build our economy and ultimately help reduce the overall tax burden.

Finally, I have launched my Roads First Initiative, which involves reappropriating money and directing it to road improvements. One of the most basic functions of government is to build and maintain roads. I have and will continue to push to make fixing our streets a high priority for our budgeting process. Before we spend money on new programs and initiatives, we must prioritize our infrastructure. Not only will this approach benefit our residents, but it will also make our community more attractive to prospective new businesses.

Our community is moving in the right direction. I am committed to working with my fellow council members and with the community at large to continue meeting current and future challenges facing Fountain Hills. We are all a part of this community. We are friends, colleagues and neighbors. I invite Fountain Hills residents to work with me and the other members of the Town Council to move our great community forward. Together we can build a better future for Fountain Hills.

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Letters deadline noon Monday

All letters must be submitted by noon on Monday to be considered for publication in that week's edition. It is preferred they be emailed to ryan@fhtimes.com. They also can be dropped off at The Times office, 16508 E. Laser Dr., mailed to P.O. Box 17869, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269-7869 or faxed to 480-837-1925.

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'Safe Routes' survey ongoing

The Town of Fountain Hills Public Works Department, working collaboratively with the Fountain Hills Unified School District and Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), will survey pedestrian and vehicle traffic for the Safe Routes to School Survey.

The studies began on March 21 at Fountain Hills Middle School, continuing on March 23 at McDowell Mountain Elementary, and concluding on March 28 at Fountain Hills High School.

The Safe Routes to School survey will gather information on school arrival and dismissal times and locations of building entrances and exits for the pick-up and drop-off of students. The number of stu-

dents walking to school and students biking will also be counted, as well as the number of buses picking up or dropping off students. The number and location of crossing guards, school policies and site plans, crash data, and more will also be evaluated.

MAG has contracted the engineering firm of Burgess & Niple to conduct surveys for the Safe Routes to School initiative. The study results will help develop recommendations that can be used as a tool by local agencies, schools and school districts to prioritize improvements and can be used to leverage future funding within five and 10-year budgets or for seeking local, state, or federal aid funding.

Republic Services awards grants

Republic Services and the Town of Fountain Hills have announced the award of \$10,000 to two local nonprofits.

The Republic Services Community Grant Program was established to support Fountain Hills-based nonprofit organizations' programs and projects.

The Town-administered program will provide funding to the following organizations:

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale - Fountain Hills (McKee Branch) - \$5,000.

Fountain Hills Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition - \$5,000.

The recipients were invited to the March 7, 2023, Town Council meeting to be recognized by Republic Services and the Town.

With a number of competitive and impactful applications, the grant committee had the difficult task of scoring, according to a press release, eventually selecting the two awardees from the 18 submitted applications.



Photo after council meeting Tuesday, 3/7.

For an application to be considered it had to benefit the community in one of six areas: Stewardship of the environment, enhance the natural beauty of the town, provide public enjoyment, support healthy lifestyles, support human services, and/or provide educational

opportunities. The criteria those applications were further judged upon included the overall impact of the project/program with regard to how it enriches the community at large and how it addresses human and environmental challenges and/or opportu-

nities. The Town and Republic Services expressed their appreciation to all the community non-profit organizations that applied, with the Town adding it looks forward to continuing this program next year with support from Republic Services.



Cruise pals

A group of six local couples ventured on the Celebrity Solstice to the Mexican Riviera, including Michelle Spungen, Marie Aiello, Kathy Bell, Patty Gasbarro, Donna Evans and Joann Gerardo. They saved a little room in their luggage to take along a copy of the local paper.

Conservancy plans activities

The Sonoran Conservancy of Fountain Hills (SCFH) has a full slate of hikes and learning opportunities planned for the season. These are also educational events for those wanting to learn more about the desert and the surrounding area. With temperatures on the rise and spring flowers in bloom there are lots of reasons to get out and enjoy

All of the SCFH programs require pre-registration at scfh.org/events.

*Wednesday, March 15: Easy Pace Hike at Fountain Hills Desert Botanical Garden. Take a 1.5-mile hike at the Garden, a natural desert oasis. Learn more about indigenous plants and see the dam built in 1941 as a watering hole for cattle.

*Saturday, March 18: Medicinal Plants. Bernie Finkel will introduce and explain how certain plants found in the Garden and elsewhere in the Sonoran Desert have been used for medicinal purposes by Native Americans. He will also touch on the history of medicinal plants and what makes a plant medicinal.

*Wednesday, March 22: Camp Creek Falls and Maricopa Trail. A scenic five-mile moderate hike from Blue Wash Trailhead

down to Camp Creek and returning.

*Monday, March 27: Taking Great Photos at Dusk. Join Paul Stark to learn to work with light to capture what you're seeing and get better pictures with your Android or iPhone.

*Wednesday, March 29: Stargazing & Sky Viewing. Vickey Derksen and the Star Dudes team up with SCFH during the first quarter moon in the Preserve - an amazing place to be

when the Preserve is closed, and the sky is dark. On the short hike you might catch a glimpse of a planet or identify constellations and stars while Vicky recounts some myths and stories held by ancient cultures about our sky. After the hike the Star Dudes will point their telescopes at the moon, star cluster and other deep-space objects.

*Wednesday, April 5: Exploring PATS in Payson. Payson has developed a network of interconnected

in town trails that are fun to explore when it gets too warm in Fountain Hills. On this moderate hike we will explore about seven miles of mostly wooded forest with interesting rock formations.

When registering for activities pay particular attention to additional requirements for each, such as the amount of water recommended to bring and any other suggested equipment. Do not bring four-legged pets to these events.

MORNINGSTAR NEWS

We have a lot to celebrate & you're invited!

Awards Celebration

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

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Hors D'oeuvres | Cocktails
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MorningStar of Fountain Hills

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Best Memory Care Family Survey

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This week at the Community Center

Fountain Hills Community Center is maintaining its schedule of weekday events at the Community Center, 13001 N. La Montana Drive at the Cutillo Civic Center.

Activities are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, March 22

- *8 a.m., Geri-Fit.
- *8:30 a.m., Geri-Fit.
- *9 a.m., video gentle yoga; intermediate bridge.
- *10 a.m., open paint studio.
- *12 p.m., poker.
- *1 p.m., Scrabble; Hand & Foot Cards.
- *2 p.m., Open jam session.
- *6:30 p.m., Euchre.

Thursday, March 23

- *8 a.m., Peer led exercise/aerobic chair exercise.
- *9 a.m., open paint studio; canasta; video gentle yoga.
- *9:30 a.m., Basic beginner line dancing.
- *10 a.m., Spanish Club; Alzheimer's support group.
- *1 p.m., Fun in Space Presentation; Table Talk for Women; Improver Line Dancing; Hand & Foot Cards.
- *5 p.m., Open paint studio; movie.

Friday, March 24

- *8 a.m., Geri-Fit
- *8:30 a.m., Geri-Fit
- *9 a.m., Pinochle, Aerobic Chair Exercise, intermediate bridge.
- *10 a.m., Medicare consultations.

- *10:30 a.m., Golf Cards.
- *1 p.m., Woodcarvers & Open Table Art; Mexican Train Dominoes; Table tennis; Chess; Hong Kong Mah Jongg.

Saturday, March 25

- *4 p.m., Dark Sky Festival.

Sunday, March 26

No activities

Monday, March 27

- *8 a.m., Geri-Fit
- *8:30 a.m., Geri-Fit
- *9 a.m., Table Tennis; Geri-Fit/Fall Prevention; free tax preparation.
- *10 a.m., Men's Discussion Group.
- *10:30 a.m., advanced Conversational Spanish.
- *12 p.m., duplicate bridge; poker.
- *12:30 p.m., American Sign Language meetup.
- *1 p.m., cribbage, pinochle, Mah Jongg for beginners.
- *5 p.m., aerobic chair exercise.
- *5:30 p.m., Hand & Foot Cards.

Tuesday, March 28

- *8 a.m., Peer-led exercise; Aerobic chair exercise.
- *9 a.m., video gentle Yoga.
- *9:30, Intermediate line dancing.
- *10 a.m., Hooks & Needles; open paint studio.
- *11 a.m., Advanced American Sign Language.
- *1 p.m., Mah Jongg; movie;
- *5:30 p.m., Table tennis.

Capital

(cont. from page 1A)

at its planning retreat in February. That is the plan for a park on Town property at Sunridge and Desert Canyon Drives. The plan was to allot \$1 million in development fee funds for this project. However, the item was presented at the March 14 meeting at just

Health group meets

The Metabolic Health Support Group meets two Wednesdays a month "To improve overall health," knowing safe weight loss will naturally follow.

Group leader Diane Weissman is a Fountain Hills-based Nutrition Network trained coach. Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Fountain Hills Community Center, 13001 N. La Montana Dr. Open to the public. No fee or membership is required.

Sponsored by the Town of Fountain Hills Community Center

\$100,000, with a plan that may cost even less.

The SunRidge Canyon homeowners' association has vehemently opposed this project and has asked the Town to sell them the property. Town Manager Grady Miller said staff is still researching whether the Town is allowed to sell the donated property. He said deed restrictions on the transfer from MCO Properties may prohibit the sale by the Town.

Deputy Town Manager/Community Services Director Rachael Goodwin said the plan now is to simply build a walking or hiking trail on the property with no parking, ramadas or restrooms, as had been previously planned.

Janover said they may need a bridge span to access the property across a wash, and that is what the bulk of the \$100,000 would be used for. Goodwin said she has met with the lead for the Sonoran Conservancy of Fountain Hills Trailblazers about the project, and they are excited about the prospect of building a trail on this property. However, they are still studying the site to consider the best access. The Trailblazers are volunteers and have built and/or maintained more than 10 miles of trails in Fountain Hills including the Preserve, Lake Overlook Trail and the Fountain Hills Desert Botanical Garden, all at no cost.

With the \$900,000 reduction in the park proposal that reduces the Community Services projects total to \$2 million.

There was also discussion by council members regarding \$300,000 in sidewalk infill projects planned by the Town. Councilwoman Brenda Kalivianakis said she believes the funding should be redirected toward the Streets Fund.

"When I was running (for council) no one told me we need more sidewalks," Kalivianakis said. "They want the streets fixed. I don't want to have nice sidewalks next to dilapidated streets."

Councilman Allen Skillicorn agreed with Kalivianakis, saying he does not see the walkability or practicality of closing gaps to create a complete sidewalk along Saguaro Boulevard from Shea to

Fountain Hills boulevards (about four miles).

Councilwoman Sharon Grzybowski said the sidewalks are important to pedestrian safety.

"Having safe (options for) pedestrians is as important as small portions of streets that \$300,000 will build," Grzybowski said.

Janover said that projects would be coordinated so they are not building sidewalks where the streets need to be rebuilt.

Kalivianakis said she wanted to be clear she does favor walkability and sidewalks for pedestrians, however, she believes that the council should be wise stewards and prioritize streets.

Projects

Community Services projects include:

Sunridge Preserve – walking path; \$100,000.

Sidewalk replacement in parks, year two of a four-year plan; \$100,000.

Centennial Circle improvements/Pavilion; \$250,000.

Golden Eagle Park field lighting; \$700,000 (half of cost).

Desert Vista Park improvements; \$200,000.

Fountain Park hillside improvements (El Lago and Panorama) \$100,000.

Fountain Park Splash Pad picnic area; \$550,000.

Public Works projects include:

Shea Boulevard widening, Town's share of funding after grant; \$169,500.

Golden Eagle Park flood impoundment area improvements; \$500,000.

Grande & Rosita drainage channel Town share of funding after grant; \$15,625.

Deuce Court drainage improvements Town share of funding after grant; \$5,000.

Miscellaneous drainage improvements; \$50,000.

Wayfinding signs, fabrication and installation; \$250,000.

Sidewalk gap infill, Palisades and Saguaro boulevards; \$200,117.

Sidewalk infill projects to be brought to council for final approvals; \$300,000.

Community Center moisture intrusion measures; \$200,000.

Design completion for traffic signal at Palisades

and Palomino boulevards; \$34,910.

Town-wide storm water infrastructure rehabilitation; \$150,000.

Bridge repair per ADOT evaluation; \$75,000.

Low flow roadway drainage crossing improvement program first year; \$200,000.

Shea Boulevard multi-modal path and sidewalk; \$638,000.

Panorama Wash spring pump electrical upgrade; \$100,000.

Video surveillance cameras; \$75,000.

Improvements at Fountain Hills and Palisades boulevards; \$290,000.

Drainage improvements at Saguaro and Kingstree boulevards; \$165,000.

Intersection improvements at Palisades Boulevard and La Montana Drive; \$150,000.

Downtown streetscapes improvement to include lighting on Parkview Avenue and Verde River Drive; \$635,000.

Town Hall fire alarm panel and device upgrade; \$90,000.

Community Center interior lighting; \$200,000.

MCSO locker room improvements; \$125,000.

Replacement of chiller compressors (HVAC); \$110,000.

Town Hall campus exterior lighting/lighting upgrades; \$157,500 (year one of two).

Town Hall entrance column repairs; \$150,000.

Public restroom facilities on Avenue of the Fountains; \$185,000.

The Capital Improvement Budget proposal is a flexible plan with dollars placed in the budget so funds are available should the opportunity for the projects arise. If money is not in the budget funds cannot be spent. Projects are often deferred, or priorities change over the year. Capital funds are not spent without further council review and approval of design and/or construction contracts.

The council may also consider changes when it reviews the overall budget scheduled for a special session on April 14. Discussion is also open when council considers a tentative budget plan in May and final adoption in June.

DEMENTIA LUNCH & LEARN

Feed your mind at Fountain View Village. Join us for an informative discussion.



Our guest presenter, **Linda Rode**, is a Fountain Hills Dementia Taskforce member who lives with the disease as a caregiver for her husband. **Come enjoy lunch and an inspiring talk** with personal insights and general knowledge about the various forms of dementia.

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P&Z

(cont. from page 1A)

impressed at all. More than a dozen lined up to take a turn at the microphone to object to the plan. State Senator John Kavanagh, who lives near the site, spoke first.

"I oppose this project due to traffic concerns, aesthetics and I oppose speed humps [a stipulation being proposed by the developer]," Kavanagh said. "Are you going to override local zoning? I respect zoning, and making a change to get more units for a developer is not a good reason."

Kavanagh also said he does not believe the developer can get 70 units on half the parcel, he said maybe 40.

Sharon Hutcheson, a former Town Council member as well as a former member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, also spoke in opposition to the plan.

"I'm not opposed to development," Hutcheson said. "This is a single-family neighborhood. You should respect the opinion of your constituents – not the developer."

Maerowitz noted that the plan is consistent with transitional zoning with commercial and multi-family development along Fountain Hills Boulevard transitioning to single family west of Mountainside Drive.

"Everyone in [this] neighborhood purchased their homes with the understanding that this was single-family residential," Liz Gildersleeve said. "Keep it single-family as planned."

Traffic and safety concerns at the intersection of Palisades and Mountainside as well as parking along the narrow street was the theme of many of the comments. Some also expressed distrust of some information the developer was providing regarding its survey of residents.

Stipulations

Since January, the development team had made changes to relocate two of the four planned buildings and agreed to the list of stipulations proposed to address concerns. Staff supported the rezoning application based on the stipulations as follows:

1. The development shall be in general conformance with the site plan dated March 1, 2023. Specific standards to be met include:

a. A maximum of four residential buildings are permitted on the site (consisting of approximately 6.28 acres).

b. Parking shall be a combination of garage parking and surface parking.

c. Buildings 1 and 2 shall be angled away from Mountainside Drive to allow for open space between Mountainside Drive and the buildings as shown on the site plan.

d. The southwest corner of building 3 shall be a minimum distance of 70 feet from the west property line.

e. No buildings shall be permitted to be parallel to the west property line at the minimum setback line.

2. The development shall

be in general conformance with the elevations dated September 15, 2022.

a. No mechanical equipment shall be permitted on rooftops.

b. All mechanical equipment shall be ground mounted and screened by landscaping or screen walls as required by code.

c. Buildings shall utilize an architectural style and desert tones colors similar to those shown.

3. The development shall provide a minimum of 60% open space (may include both passive and active areas).

4. The development shall be limited to a maximum of 80 dwelling units on the entire site (consisting of approximately 6.28 acres).

5. The southern driveway on Mountainside Drive shall be gated and access shall be limited to emergency vehicles and solid waste collection vehicles. The use of the southern driveway by residents shall be prohibited.

6. Developer shall work with the Town of Fountain Hills traffic engineer to install signs, striping or other similar improvements to restrict parking on Mountainside Drive, subject to approval by the Town of Fountain Hills Traffic Engineer.

7. Developer shall impose and enforce restrictions that prevent tenants and guests from parking on Mountainside Drive.

The developer also agreed at the meeting to work toward speed humps along Mountainside Drive. The Town's Traffic Calming Policy requires substantial agreement among impacted parties to implement the traffic calming measures.

The developer also agreed to work with the Town on significant improvements including widening Mountainside at the intersection with Palisades.

The rezoning request will be before the Town Council late April or early May, according to Development Services Director John Wesley.

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'Cares' event April 20

Lack of sleep, fear of missing out, anxiety, depression, and low self-esteem. These are just a few of the symptoms many users of social media platforms are experiencing. And no wonder, according to the Pew Research Center, 81% of teens in the U.S. use social media, putting a large population at an increased risk of feeling anxious, depressed, or ill over social media use.

Fountain Hills Cares is a Town of Fountain Hills community event to share and discuss important issues. On Thursday, April 20, starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center, 13001 N. La Montana Drive, Fountain Hills Cares will have an informative discussion with experts on how social media platforms affect youth and how parents can stay in touch with their children.

Presenters include Katey McPherson, the Director of Professional Development for Bark for

Schools, an artificial intelligence app that protects over five million children using personal and school-issued devices. McPherson has a vested interest in youth mental health and led the ONE GILBERT suicide prevention initiative under Mayor Jenn Daniels of Gilbert, Ariz. She was also a member of the Teen Mental Health Ad Hoc Committee under the leadership of Arizona Speaker of the House Rusty Bowers.

Shelly Mowery left AZ-Family Channel 3, where she was the executive producer for evening newscasts, to join Maricopa County Attorney's Office to create another essential program, Drug-Free Arizona, a substance abuse prevention and education organization. Over the past 12 years, Mowery has developed prevention programs, media campaigns, and professional development training that has been instrumental in reducing youth drug use in

Arizona. Christina Coleman is an Arizona State University professor whose work focuses on using mindfulness as an intervention for mental health. Her expertise is also in youth and mental health.

Fountain Hills Cares is a free community event. Community organizations, including the Boys & Girls Club of Scottsdale, Not My Kid, Maricopa County Public Health, Salt River Schools, Fountain Hills Coalition on Drugs, and others, will be on-site to provide resources and answer questions. Specialists in mental health will present important information and answer questions. Those planning on attending this free event are encouraged to RSVP at fountainhillsaz.gov/Fountain-Hills-Cares.

In addition, the Fountain Hills Coalition is sponsoring a \$500 cash prize raffle open to all attendees who must be present to win.



Red Cross recognition

Mayor Ginny Dickey presents Kurt Kromer, regional executive officer for the American Red Cross, with a proclamation declaring March as American Red Cross Month in Fountain Hills. The proclamation was read during the Feb. 21, Town Council meeting. Dickey announced that in recognition of Red Cross Month the Town will run the Fountain red March 3-5. Photo courtesy of the Town of Fountain Hills

Bulk pick-up continues

Republic Services has scheduled its annual bulk collection service for Fountain Hills beginning on March 1, and continuing through April 26. There are nine zones to cover with collections being done on Wednesdays.

Bulk collection waste includes items that are typically too large to be disposed of in the regular curbside trash container.

To help dispose of these items Republic Services offers the once-a-year service so residents do not have to transport items to the landfill.

Typical bulk items include couches, lamps, rugs, mattresses and large appliances without Freon.

Additional information is available by contacting republicservices.com/customer-support.

Zone Four to be collected on Wednesday, March 22, is between Inca/Amhurst and Trevino Drives between Fountain Hills Boulevard and the Town's eastern boundary.

Zone Five scheduled for March 29, is bounded by Fountain Hills Boulevard, Bainbridge Avenue, Sundown Drive, Sunridge Drive, Palisades Boulevard and El Lago Boulevard.

Tax prep help offered

Tax preparation services for seniors and low to moderate income families will be available at the Community Center.

The Town of Fountain Hills is partnering with AZ Masters of Coin to offer free income tax preparation for low-income, disabled and elderly

taxpayers. AZ Masters of Coin is a non-profit organization located in Phoenix. Tax preparation is done by volunteers through IRS's VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program.

This service is offered by appointment only at the Fountain Hills Com-

munity Center, 13001 N. La Montana Dr. continuing through April 17. Appointments can be made by calling the Community Center at 480-816-5200.

For more information regarding this program visit the Masters of Coin website at mastersofcoin.org/.

Golf ball fence approved

By Bob Burns
Times Reporter

A man working for months to get a golf ball fence approved for a home he owns on Brittlebush Drive got the approval from the Town Council at its regular meeting on March 7.

Homeowner Jim Johnson participated in the meeting by telephone as a personal emergency prevented him from making it to Fountain Hills in time.

"I would like to have this approved tonight and be done with it," Johnson said. "It will be nice to go ahead and build this."

Johnson's original plan called for a 33-foot high net surrounding two sides of his property on hole number 11 of the SunRidge Canyon Golf Course. That plan required a special use permit. The Planning and Zoning Commission looked at that plan and sent it on to the council with no recommendation.

The council's first look at the plan resulted in a con-

tinuance to have Johnson work with the golf club and the neighborhood HOA on a solution.

Johnson reworked the request to remove the high fencing and replace it with an overhead net attached to the house and extending over a patio. According to Development Services Director John Wesley that option, had it been the original request, could have been approved administratively and a building permit issued with a plan review. However, since it was originally a special use permit application it needed the council approval even with the changes.

"The Town has provided the means to allow placement of golf nets on properties abutting golf courses to protect them from errant golf balls," Wesley said in his staff report. "The Council has amended the ordinance to allow these to be approved administratively in some cases."

"There is clear evidence of golf ball strikes on this property and a profession-

al report calculating the number and speed of balls impacting this property."

Vice Mayor Peggy McMahon, who had visited the home at Johnson's invitation, said she was "shocked" by the damage she saw. "There are hundreds of ball marks in the stucco and the pool deck is destroyed. Everywhere you look there are ball strikes," McMahon said.

"As (the proposal) is modified this will not be visible to anyone and I think this will work for them."

There was some confusion on the part of the council as to how to address a motion.

Councilwoman Brenda Kalivianakis moved to deny the request, which was defeated on a 3-4 vote. The staff recommendation asked for an approval consistent with the revised plan.

"The current proposed net could be approved administratively (and) staff recommends approval," the staff report stated.

A second motion to approve the request was 4-3 in favor.

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Community turns out for Fountain Hills Day



The Chamber of Commerce hosted Fountain Hills Day out of downtown Saturday, March 18. Businesses, clubs, organizations and more set up booths to introduce themselves to visitors. Above, youngsters take part in trivia and a prize wheel spin at the Mathnasium booth.



Times photos by Ryan Winslett

Whether you wanted a view of the downtown area or the kite festival underway at Fountain Park, a trip on the Ferris wheel offered a birds-eye view of the area.



Fountain Hills Chess Club offered impromptu lessons as youngsters learned the game on an oversized board.



Snap Fitness offered a physical challenge at its Fountain Hills Day booth, with Sue Everett hanging how long she could hang on.



Youngsters lined up to have Elsa, from "Frozen," paint their face at the Fountain Hills Unified School District booth.

Spoooner offers lectures

The Community Center is offering a series of lectures by Spooner Physical Therapy.

The series is scheduled as monthly presentations.

*On Tuesday, April 25, Ashley Schopp PT, DPT and Malia Menon OTD, OTR/L will offer recommendations on how to keep your wrists, elbows and shoulders healthy for golf and pickleball.

Each presentation will take place at 9:15 a.m. at the Fountain Hills Community Center, 13001 N. La Montana. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Programs are free for Community Center members and \$5 for non-members. Call the Community Center at 480-816-5200 to register.

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Skies come alive for Kite Festival



Pakistan Information and Cultural Organization (PICO) hosted its annual Kite Festival out of Fountain Park Saturday, March 18. Dozens of kites filled the sky during the event.



Michael Montoya sends one of the more impressive kites at the festival into the sky.



A visitor to the festival gets ready to send his kite airborne.



A little flier gets ready for some fun.



By midday, the skies over Fountain Park were peppered with kites.



A couple of visitors to the kite festival learn a few tricks to keep a kite in the air.



The kite festival featured a henna tattoo station, as well as vendors, music and food.



If you didn't have your own kite, plenty of designs were on sale at the festival.



Jazzie Roberts gets her kite in the air.

Schools

Jagodzinski delivers State of the District update

By George Zeliff
Times Reporter

Last Thursday, March 16, the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce met for a Connection Breakfast at the Fountain Hills Unified School District (FHUSD) Learning Center. FHUSD Superintendent Dr. Cain Jagodzinski spoke about his personal leadership philosophy and updated those in attendance on current school initiatives.

Jagodzinski is only in his first year as Superintendent, but he's been in Fountain Hills for nearly 20 years. His three kids attend Fountain Hills schools, and his two oldest kids are multi-sport athletes at the high school.

Jagodzinski was the first basketball coach to lead Fountain Hills to a state championship. He utilizes many of the same concepts in leading the district as he did coaching, such as a commitment to growth and continuous improvement.

His theme for the year was "high expectations," and Jagodzinski said he has tried to get all FHUSD staff and students to be 1% better each day. Jagodzinski has wanted to put the pandemic in the rear view mirror all year and get

back to pre-COVID traditions of excellence in town.

Fountain Hills High School (FHHS) was named to the *U.S. News* Best National High School list each year from 2019-2022. Those rewards are two years behind, so it's really the classes from 2017-2020 that earned the recognition. FHHS also received "A" letter grades from the Arizona Department of Education in 2018, 2019 and 2020.

FHHS and McDowell Mountain Elementary School (MMES) are both currently rated A+ by the Department of Education. FHUSD schools have had these accolades before, but it didn't stop enrollment from decreasing for several years.

As Jagodzinski said, if it took just one thing to fix declining enrollment, FHUSD would've done it already. He has tried to address several areas of concern in his first year, and enrollment is up for the first time in a long time. Currently, FHUSD has 86 more students than it did last year.

Jagodzinski believes the little things make all the difference. John Wooden, the Hall of Fame basketball coach, was an inspira-

tion to Jagodzinski, and he met Wooden when he was 95 years old. Jagodzinski shared a quote from Wooden about how he used to teach his college players to put socks and shoes on, because one wrinkle could lead to blisters and ruin their season.

Jagodzinski is not teaching his staff how to tie their shoes, but he is determined to address every issue, big or small. He told the Chamber of Commerce members about his open door policy, and how he is willing to speak with community members, regardless of if they have a child in the school system or not.

Jagodzinski wants FHUSD to be a centerpiece of Fountain Hills. He's already met with over 30 local realtors, and he gave them his cell phone number so prospective buyers can call him if they have questions about the local schools. He's willing to speak at any time, and he'll meet people on weekends if needed.

Jagodzinski said he believes FHUSD excels at caring for students, and he is excited to give them the latest and greatest available with a move to consolidate schools. Classrooms and learning spaces will be



Times photos by George Zeliff

FHUSD Superintendent Dr. Cain Jagodzinski delivers his State of the District speech to members of the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce last Thursday, March 16.

renovated using savings to deliver a 21st century learning experience to Fountain Hills children.

Jagodzinski explained the move to consolidate as an investment in advertising. He hopes that the parents and students will enjoy the new spaces so much, they will share their experiences and draw more students to FHUSD.

There have been a lot of positive developments since Jagodzinski returned to FHUSD. There will be a new field for next year's football and soccer teams, and the staff had its first ever group picnic on Friday, March 10, where staff bonds were strengthened. Jagodzinski also brings his French Bulldog, Frank, to campuses each Friday to

put smiles on kids' faces.

Jagodzinski said he will keep hard at work to improve and maintain excellence in FHUSD. State standardized testing will begin near the end of March, and Jagodzinski has been approved to issue staff contract renewals so he can work to keep quality FHUSD staff in Fountain Hills for next year.

Presby Pickins' continues support of local youth

By George Zeliff
Times Reporter

The Presby Pickins' flea market has become a popular monthly outdoor event, hosted by Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church and sporting the added bonus of supporting local youth. The last chance to experience the flea market will be Saturday, April 1, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., and it will return next October.

"You never know what you're going to find," co-chair Shawn Uphoff said. "I love flea markets."

Right in the front parking lot, Presby Pickins' is a means of community out-

reach that brings church members, vendors, local youth and more together. Each month, church organizers donate to a different youth-sponsoring organization and spotlight them at the flea market.

The Fountain Hills Crisis Response Team was present at the last market on Saturday, March 4. They fund scholarships to Reigning Grace Ranch for at-risk youth in town and shared information about their efforts with shoppers. Reigning Grace offers programs to help with PTSD, ADHD, depression and anxiety.

Supporting local youth groups was a goal ever

since Uphoff and Kathy Cole came up with the idea for Presby Pickins'. They developed a friendship when Uphoff was organizing the Presbyterian Church's Rummage Sale last spring, and they worked together to make the flea market a reality.

As a former PTO President and current program manager for the Fountain Hills Coalition, Uphoff has ties with multiple youth organizations in town. Presby Pickins' has donated to and spotlighted both those organizations, as well as the Kiwanis K-Kids, Girl Scout Troop 6445, and the Fountain Hills High School Student Government.

"A lot of teachers and staff shop here, and I think it's a great opportunity to bring the community together," Uphoff said. "It seems like every time we're out in town, we always hear about how everybody loves the flea market."

There is a wide variety at the flea market, and there are different vendors each month. You can find jewelry, purses, books, art, etc., as well as help out local crafters by buying handmade wooden cutting boards, benches and mantels.

One regular vendor is Darling Dearie, which sells handmade clothing, and there's plenty of other clothing vendors. The Presbyterian Church also sells donations, like household items and children's toys, and uses those proceeds to benefit church projects.

Volunteers from the church operate concession stand which offers



Times photos by George Zeliff

Melanie Scott delivers authentic Navajo fry bread to Shawn Uphoff.

hot dogs, chips and water at the flea market. There are other food vendors

"I think it's a great opportunity to bring the community together."

Shawn Uphoff

each month. Bachelor's Pad BBQ had a food truck at the first flea market on Oct. 1, 2022, and Melody's Fry Bread has been selling their authentic Navajo bread for the last several months.

"We have a great cadre of volunteers; mostly church folks, but we also

have help from Fountain Hills students who are able to earn community service time," Cole said. "During the month our volunteers organize and price items which have been donated... On the day of the market, volunteers help with the setup and man the church tables."

Kathy Cole is a Communications Elder for the church, and she is responsible for the Presby Pickins' webpage. She created the online reservation system for vendors to book spaces and has watched it grow since inception.

According to Uphoff, there were 24 vendors at the first flea market. They've had more people and organizations sign up

each month, and they sold out of spaces in November and December. They now use a wait list for vendors to purchase a space.

The upcoming flea market on Saturday, April 1, will be the seventh and final flea market of the season. Uphoff and Cole fully intend to continue Presby Pickins' again next fall, and they are both proud of what the flea market became in its first year.

"[Presby Pickins'] has brought our congregation together for a common purpose," Cole said. "Working together for the benefit of the church and having fun doing it. The greatest benefit is not the financial gain, but the camaraderie."

School Board meets tonight

The Fountain Hills Unified School District Governing Board will meet for a work study session tonight, Wednesday, March 22, at 5 p.m. They will honor the basketball and wrestling teams on their standout seasons and discuss six information items.

After the district celebrations, there will be a finance discussion and a discussion on the code of conduct. The Board will then talk about the portrait

of a Fountain Hills graduate and changes to the pay for performance plan.

The Board will finish with discussions on two job descriptions, instructional coach and school counselor. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 12, at 6 p.m.

All Board meetings are held at the FHUSD Learning Center and are recorded and livestreamed on the FHUSD YouTube channel.

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FHUSD celebrates staff with picnic



Fountain Hills Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Cain Jagodzinski gives a speech to kick off the inaugural staff picnic, made possible with donations from local businesses and service organizations.

Times photos by George Zelif



From left, Evelyn Wynn, Peter McGloin and Kevin Clancy celebrate with first place medals in the staff three-on-three beach volleyball tournament.



Fountain Hills Unified School District staff gathered at Golden Eagle Park on Friday, March 10, for a staff picnic. They played beach volleyball, ate food and bonded as a staff.

Teddy Bear Parade



Times photos by George Zelif

Long-time Fountain Hills pre-K teacher Denise Matus, right, holds Randy Paulsen's hand as they lead the Teddy Bear Parade around the school.



Middle School teacher John Engels lines up for picnic food.



After the Teddy Bear Parade, family members got to eat snacks and play with their kids in the preschool playground.



Kiwanis and Rotary Club provided lunch to the staff from all school buildings last Friday, March 10.

County health survey online

Maricopa County Public Health (MCPH) is conducting a survey to better understand the health of the community and its needs moving forward.

"The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Survey, also referred to as the Community Health Assessment (CHA) Survey, is a comprehensive data collection effort to identify the strengths, challenges and

opportunities to address and improve public health," according to the MCPH website. "Every three years, Maricopa County Public Health, in collaboration with community organizations, municipalities and healthcare partners, conducts a survey to develop a deeper understanding from residents about issues related to quality of life, availability of essential services,

physical and mental health, and more."

The survey is open to anyone in Maricopa County ages 12 and up and is available in 14 different languages. Responses are anonymous and kept confidential, and the survey should take about 15 minutes to complete.

To take the survey or to learn more, visit maricopa.healthmatters.org.

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The Arts & Entertainment

'Scapin' opens at Fountain Hills Theater

Fountain Hills Theater announces the opening of the comedy, "Scapin."

In this wild physical comedy, the crafty servant, Scapin, jumps into the story as he first promises to help in the affairs of his neighbor's son, Octave, then to aid in those of his own charge, Leander.

Both young men have fallen in love with unlikely and penniless beauties and both need money to help solve their dilemmas. Scapin knows a good ruse will always win the day and he drafts Sylvestre, Octave's servant, into his schemes.

"Brimming with zany characters and improvisation, this play is an uproarious romp of hugely theatrical proportions," a

press release reads. "Adapting and updating Moliere's 1671 original with topically fresh dialogue, dance hall music and the occasional soft shoe routine, the cast takes great joy in blowing the fourth wall to pieces as they portray servants, ruthless employers and the two sets of young lovers - complete with tall boots and appropriately heaving bosoms - all with a penchant for mayhem."

"Scapin" is directed by Peter J. Hill and is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC servicing the Dramatists Play Service Collection.

"Scapin" will play March 24 through April 9 with performances on Thursdays, Fridays and Sat-

urdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Individual tickets are \$35 for adults and \$18 for youth 17 and under. Seniors receive a \$5 discount on all Thursday performances. Group, active duty and veteran discounts are available.

All performances are at Fountain Hills Theater on its Mainstage at 11445 N. Saguaro Blvd. (The Corner of Saguaro and Rand). Tickets are available through the theater box office at 480-837-9661 x3 or by visiting fhaz.org. Box office hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

For additional information, call Fountain Hills Theater Artistic Director, Peter J. Hill at 480-837-9661 x7.



"Scapin" plays at Fountain Hills Theater March 24 through April 9. From left, Henry Male, Roger Prenger and Ross Collins.

'Razzle Dazzle' at Storytellers event tomorrow

Fountain Hills Theater announces the opening of "Razzle Dazzle: A Review Preview Revue," a musical trip down the Great White Way featuring classic tunes and modern hits.

Talented regulars and special guests take the stage in a celebration of Broadway and Fountain Hills Theater. There are prizes to be won, songs to be sung and the announcement of the Theater's 37th season.

"Razzle Dazzle" is directed by Peter J. Hill, musically directed by Kathleen Berger, choreographed by Noel Irick and hosted by Patrick Russo.

"Razzle Dazzle" will

play April 14 - 23 with performances Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Ticket price \$25 for adults and \$18 for youth under 17 and students. All performances are at Fountain Hills Theater on its Mainstage at 11445 N. Saguaro Blvd. (The Corner of Saguaro and Rand).

Tickets are available through the theater box office at 480-837-9661 x3 or by visiting fhaz.org. Box office hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. For additional information, call Fountain Hills Theater Artistic Director, Peter J. Hill at 480-837-9661 x7.

Fountain Hills Friends of the Library (FHFL) is sponsoring the second in a series of storyteller events.

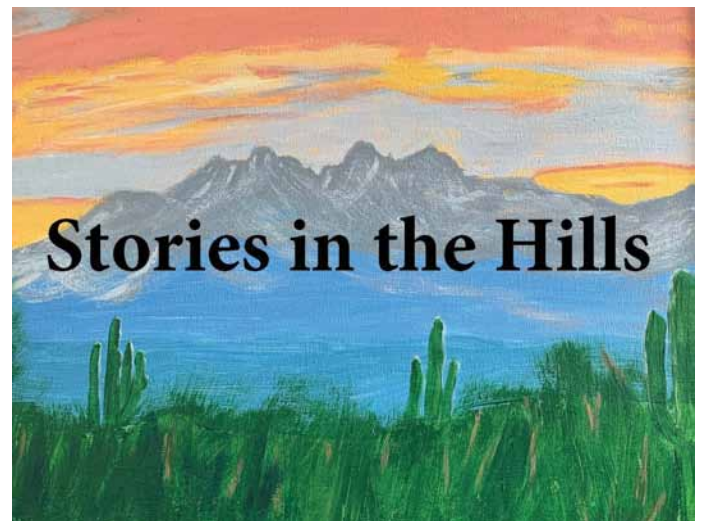
Having produced the last well-attended storyteller event in November, FHFL presents "Family Matters," held tomorrow, Thursday, March 23, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Community Center. This event is free and no registration is required.

This second in the storyteller series will offer true stories from five to seven Fountain Hills residents

about the importance of family in their lives.

"We invite the public to attend what promises to be another exciting program," a press release said of the event.

Donations will be accepted to Friends of the Library to support the many programs offered by the library including those for children and teens, an annual scholarship for a graduating senior and the annual paper shredding event being held on Saturday, April 1, in the Library parking lot.



This week at the library

The Library is holding a regular schedule of events throughout this week. An up-to-date list of events can be found on their website

at mclidaz.org/locations/fountainhills/ by clicking "Browse Events." As always, this week's schedule is subject to change.

Activities are scheduled as follows:

- Thursday, March 23**
*10 a.m., Time for Toddlers.
- Saturday, March 25**
*4 p.m., Dark Sky Festival at the Library
- Monday, March 27**
*10 a.m., Time for Preschoolers
- Tuesday, March 28**

- *4 p.m., Cancelled - Mangia Mania
 - *5 p.m., Guided Meditation
- The Fountain Hills Library is located at 12901 N. La Montana Dr. They are open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and closed Sunday.

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Hours change at museum

Effective March 1, 2023, the River of Time Museum will be closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday for the rest of the year.

The Museum's new hours will change to Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through the month of May.

In the summertime, from June through August, the hours will change to Wednesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Following summer, from September through December, the Museum hours will revert to Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On occasion, the Museum may have a special tour on a Tuesday which will be marketed in advance. For more information, visit riveroftime.center, call 480-837-2612 or send an email to admin@riveroftime.center.

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Fountain Hills After Dark

Below is a list of current advertisers with live music between March 22 and March 28.

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Saguaro Lake Marina ~ 480-984-2425
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• Sunday - 4 pm - Jonny Splash

Phil's Filling Station Grill
16852 E. Parkview Ave ~ 480-816-8200
• Thursday - 6-9 pm - Jim Doeden & Miss Erin
• Friday - 6-9 pm - Ageing Hipsters
• Saturday - 6-9 pm - Aaron Church

Saddle Bronc Grill
11056 N. Saguaro Blvd. ~ 480-816-5900
• Friday - 6-9 pm - Pearl Ridge
• Saturday - 6-9 pm - Harry McGraw

Information is accurate to the best of our knowledge, but dates and times are subject to change without notice.

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FHCC sets spring choir dates

Tickets for the 2023 Fountain Hills Community Chorus Spring Concerts are now available for purchase. The concerts are on Saturday, April 1, at 4 p.m. and Sunday, April 2, at 4 p.m.

The theme for the Spring Concerts is "Movie Music," featuring songs from popular movies. Tickets can be purchased online at fhcc-az.org or at eventbrite.com/e/fountain-hills-community-chorus-spring-concerts-

tickets-492045841357. They can also be purchased from any choir member or at Cards of Fountain Hills, 12645 N Saguaro Blvd., Suite 6. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$17 at the door.

Museum plans summer fundraiser

The River of Time Museum & Exploration Center is now accepting gently used household items which can be dropped off at the museum Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to

4 p.m., to help raise funds for the museum.

The Summer Market will be held each week, Wednesday to Saturday, May 6-31, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and again June 1 to Aug.

26, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Merchandise will change frequently, so visitors are encouraged to shop early and shop often. Donations are appreciated and receipts are available upon request.

Music Fest is April 1

The Town of Fountain Hills invites the public to Music Fest 2023 on Saturday, April 1, from 5 to 9:30 p.m. Three nationally touring bands will perform outdoors in Fountain Park including The Black Hole, We Are Hologram and Los Straitjackets.

From tried-and-true blues to classic rock, this music festival has something for everyone. Bring a blanket, chairs, family and friends, and spend the day enjoying the scenery and energy of the Town of Fountain Hills.

This year's Music Fest will also feature food truck

dining options. The festival will feature a beer garden by Bone Haus Brewing and a wine garden by Grapeables Wine Bar.

The schedule for the bands to appear is: 5-6 p.m., The Black Hole; 6:30-7:30 p.m., We are Hologram; and 8-9:30 p.m., Los Straitjackets.

Avenue concerts planned

The spring series of Concerts on the Avenue, presented by the Sonoran Lifestyle Team at REMAX Sun Properties and Fountain Hills Community Services, will be Thursdays in April.

Enjoy live music along the Avenue of the Fountains with the evening concert series from 6 to 8 p.m. Organizers say the concerts will showcase some of the Valley's best bands and a variety of music options to suit everyone's taste. Each evening will have an acoustic musician and a band. Yard games will be spread throughout the Avenue and docents available for self-guided art walk tours.

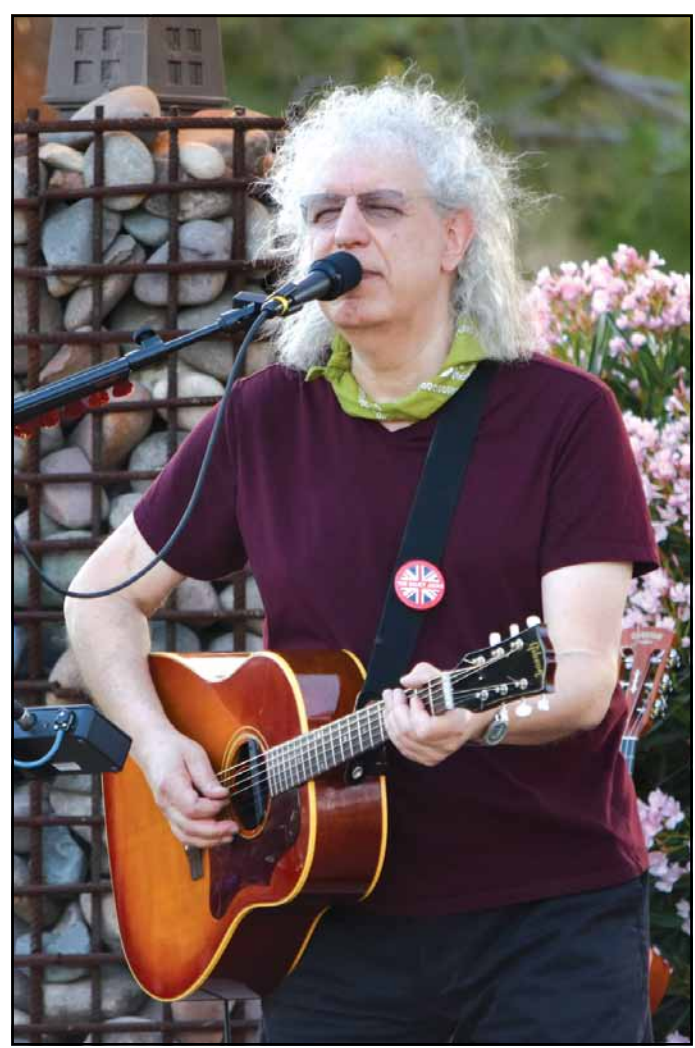
Pack a picnic or enjoy dining at one of the restaurants on the Avenue. Feel free to bring a blanket or lawn chairs. This free entertainment at all the concerts is suitable for the whole family.

Solo Musicians will perform at Nichols Plaza in front of the MCSO parking lot. The Bands will perform at the fountains in front of Sofrita.

The schedule is as follows:

*April 6: Band, Chuck Hall-Blues.

*April 13: Band, The Black Hole; Solo, Ritchie Flegler.



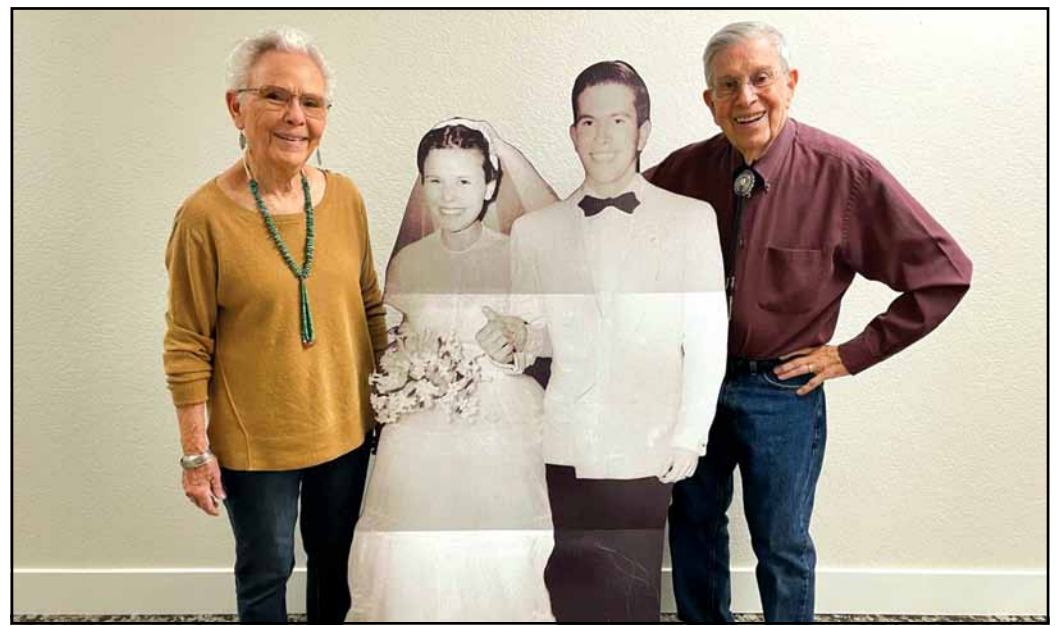
Ritchie Flegler

*April 20: Band, Lucas Brown and the Nights Watch; Solo, Kailin Kentigian.

*April 27: Band, Chuck

Hall Band; Solo, Dave Clark.

Contact Linda Ayres for information at layres@fountainhillsaz.gov.



Hutch (right) and Jo Davis stand near a cutout of their younger selves on their wedding day. Fountain View Village celebrated a "90-70-90 Celebration" in honor of their 90th birthdays and 70th wedding anniversary, attended by 90 of their friends and family. Photo courtesy of LuAnn Oburn.

FVV hosts 90-70-90 Celebration

Fountain View Village, a retirement community in Fountain Hills, recently hosted a special event celebrating the lives of two of its residents, Hutch and Jo Davis.

The event was called the, "90-70-90 Celebration," as it honored Hutch's and Jo's 90th birthdays and their 70th wedding anniversary, a celebration attended by 90 of their friends and family.

Fountain View Village Director of Sales and Marketing LuAnn Oburn sat down with Hutch and Jo to get to know them better and ask them a few questions.

"Theirs is a love affair for the ages," Oburn said of Hutch and Jo, who met in the sixth and seventh grades at Creighton School of Phoenix. They attended the historic First Presbyterian Church in downtown Phoenix, where their friendship blossomed.

"As soon as Hutch got his driver's license, he asked Jo for a date, and the rest is history," Oburn said. "Their married life began in 1953, earlier than they originally planned, because, after Hutch went off to the University of Arizona for one semester, they realized that time away from one another was just not an option."

Hutch's and Jo's mantra is "our kids are our most important product," describing their five highly accomplished children, including an artist, geologist, engineer, biochemist and nursing supervisor.

Hutch and Jo taught their children the importance of living a noteworthy life. Hutch spent his career as a mechanical

engineer, working around the country in senior-level marketing and sales positions in the electric power industry.

Jo was an accomplished violinist, taking lessons in earnest at the age of 11 and played in the Phoenix Symphony from 1949 to 1951.

Jo also taught violin and has some gifted students to show for her work. Weaving is another passion of hers and her art adorns the walls of their home.

If raising a family and their life work weren't enough, they felt that involvement in their community was vital, Oburn says, which is why they have so

many lifelong friends who attended their celebration.

Hutch and Jo are both avid hikers and made time to appreciate their shared love of the desert.

"Jo's mother was one of the first residents of Fountain View Village when our Assisted Living neighborhood opened and was with us from 1999 to 2005," Oburn said. "Hutch and Jo look at their move to Fountain View as their 'finishing school.'"

"We are honored and blessed to have Hutch and Jo Davis as part of our Fountain View Village family, a very humble and most gifted couple."

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Hills Desert Botanical Garden Club.

The Club's mission is to keep the trail throughout the garden in good condition so everyone can enjoy their time there.

The next Club meeting is at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 16, at the Chamber of Commerce, 16837 E. Palisades Blvd. Come and meet the people in Fountain Hills who share a love for this special oasis.

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Sports

Track and field

A 'small but mighty' flock of Falcons

By George Zelif
Times Reporter

The Fountain Hills High School track and field team went to Tucson last Friday, March 17, for the Mario Castro Invitational. The Falcons only took 12 of their 45 athletes over spring break, and five Falcons had a top-10 finish in their event.

Junior Garren Keeler placed sixth and set a new personal record (PR) in the 300m hurdles (47.65). That also counts as the 11th best in school history per The Athletic. He also finished 32nd in the 100m race (12.95).

Fellow junior Caleb Lara placed ninth with a new PR in the 1600m (5:08.85). Lara is now 13th all time in school history for the 1600m.

Senior Tyler-Irvine Violette finished third in the 800m with a new PR (2:06.73). He's now fifth in school history, and only 1.51 seconds off from the top school record.

"When you're setting a PR at the beginning of the season, especially being a season veteran like [Irvine-Violette] is, that's just such a good sign for the rest of the year," head coach Kevin Clancy said.

Fellow senior Jentezen Behnke got two top-15 finishes. He placed 12th in the

high jump (5'2") and 13th in javelin (107'2").

Freshman Allison Guerrette also finished third in the 800m (2:40.39) and took 27th in the 200m (30.98). Guerrette set new PRs in both events and now holds the 17th best 800m time in school history.

The only other freshmen present at the Mario Castro invitational was Colby Wright. Wright set a new PR in the 1600m and finished 13th (5:12.16), good enough for 14th best in school history.

Sophomore Sara Dethlefs came in 10th place in the triple jump (27'0.5"), and her new PR tied the 19th best in school history. She placed 23rd in the long jump (11'9.25") and finished 25th in the 200m with a new PR (30.60).

Boone took 19th in the 200m with a new PR (29.14), and she finished 21st in the 100m with a new PR as well (14.13). This was only Boone's second official meet, but she now holds the records for the 16th fastest 100m and 12th fastest 200m in school history.

"We've got only three girls here, but we've got three girls that can all do really well," Clancy said. "It's just very small but mighty, I think that's how we are. That's Fountain Hills, we're small but we punch above our weight. It's cool, and then, you add in Erin, Skye, Eliana, and all of them, and Katie on the javelin to the mix. There's only 10 or 11 [girls] out there, but all of them are performing really well."

Senior Space Kingpha-



Times photo by George Zelif

Freshman Colby Wright now holds the 14th best 1600m time in school history. The Falcon track team will go to the Chandler Rotary Classic this week.

korn set a new PR in each event he competed in last week. He finished 34th in the 100m (13.0), 25th in the long jump (16'6.75"), and 14th in the triple jump (32'6"), which is good for 20th best in school history.

Junior Julian Sepulveda competed in the most events and set PRs in all but javelin. He placed 28th

in javelin (83'05"), 29th in discus (68'11"), 31st in shot put (26'10.5") and 39th in the 200m (31.25).

Fellow junior Ayden Nguyen finished 23rd in the 800m (2:36.53) and 36th in javelin (61'4").

Senior Brandon Despain came in 18th place for javelin (98'9") and set a new PR in shot put with his

18th place finish (32'1.5").

The Falcons did not place high as a team because they had so many people out of town for spring break, and most the other teams were not on break, according to Clancy. The Falcons will all be back for the 83rd Chandler Rotary T&F Classic this weekend.

The Chandler Classic is

one of the biggest races of the year. Clancy hopes to set good baseline times on relays to see how close they are to state qualifications and get his athletes accustomed to big crowds at important meets. The meet will take place next Friday and Saturday, March 24-25, at the Chandler High School track.

Sports Briefs

Bogey Boys weekly results

The Bogey Boys played their regular three-man best ball game at Orange Tree Golf Resort on Monday, March 13. The winning team at -11 was Jim Dygert, Rodney Eaton, Brad Strehlow and George Vogelgesang.

Second and third place winners were the result of a score card playoff at -10 with Jerry Allen, Dave Habicht, Jim Kidwell and Lee Miller winning over Joe Monte Carlo, David Murphy, Doug Oberhammer and Dan Watson.

Eight golfers won skins: Wayne Bumgardner, Rodney Eaton, Gary Fritcke, Dave Habicht, Dave Hating, Dave Stensrud, Dan Watson and Dan Watters. Gold flight low net winners were Gary Fritcke at 67 and Lyman Schliep at 71, with Silver flight going to Wayne Bumgardner at 68 and Rodney Eaton at 69.

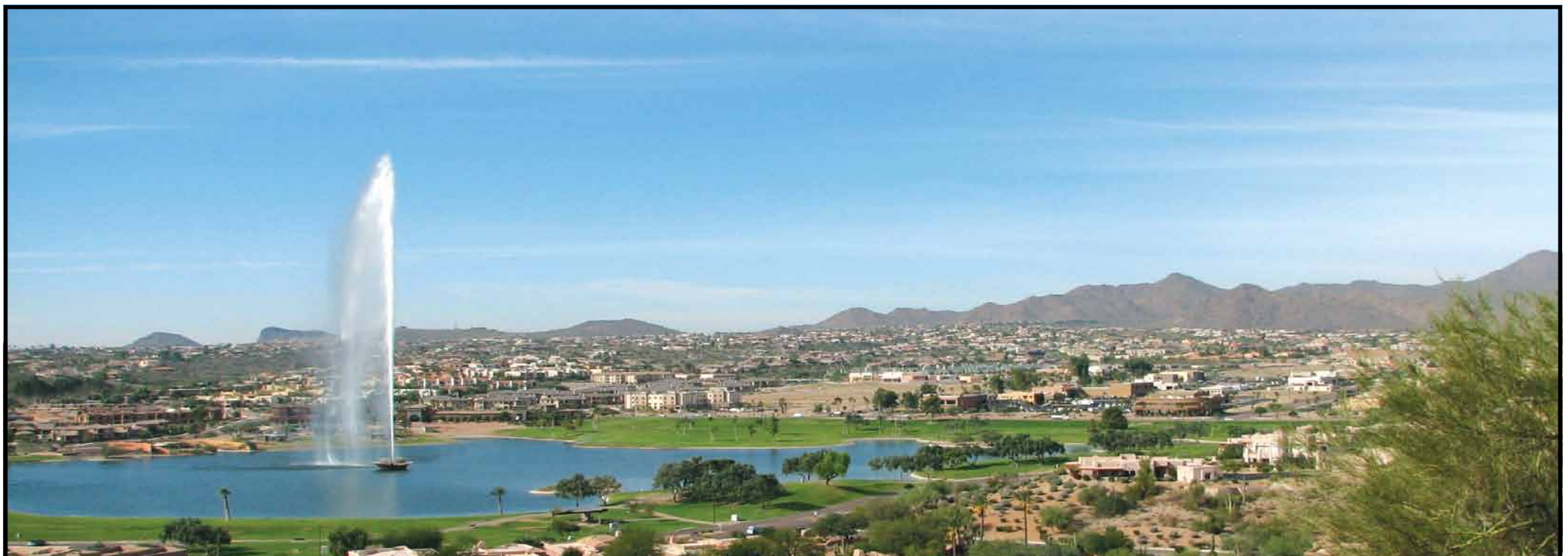
For membership information, go to azgolf.org; click on join/renew, join a club, and search the club directory for "Bogey Boys of AZ."

Beach volleyball team back in action



Times photo by George Zelif

Junior Bella Garman will lead the Falcons on a four game road stretch. The Falcons canceled at Payson today, Wednesday, March 22. They travel to Saguaro next Monday, March 27.



The Times run clubs news every week. Let us know what's happening with your group

Contact Cyrus at cyrus@fhtimes.com. Deadline is noon Thursday prior to the next Wednesday's publication.

Payson tournament brings Falcon controversy

By George Zeliff
Times Reporter

The Fountain Hills High School softball team went to Payson this past weekend to participate in the Gracie Haight Classic tournament. The Falcons went 1-3 and, unfortunately, their lone win is surrounded by controversy.

Head coach Lawrence Hughes used an unnamed player to play and pitch in the 6-0 win against Show Low, according to sources. The pitcher was not a normal Falcon player, and Hughes is now under a by-law investigation by school officials.

Sophomore Shania Rivera pitched every other game this weekend, and she averaged two strikeouts per game. She also hit a double and had the only RBI in the first tournament game against Sabino (13-2).

The Sabino Sabercats wasted no time in the first match of the tournament. They put up nine runs in the first inning and had 11 hits as a team compared to two hits from the Falcons.

Senior Mia Duda started the second inning with a double, and then Rivera brought her home for a score. The Falcons didn't have any more luck offensively, but they played better defensively and didn't allow another run.

The Falcons started slowly in their second game against Camp Verde and allowed nine runs in the first inning again. Junior Hailey Chandler led off with a double in the first inning, and she stole home

to get the Falcons' only run.

Chandler is currently leading the region in stolen bases. She is third in the conference, and 20th in the state. Chandler can catch up quickly, as she has the fewest games played of anyone that high on the leaderboard. Chandler has 12 steals in seven games at the time of writing, and some players above her in the ladder have 15 steals in 18 games.

Rivera kept pace with the Camp Verde pitcher, both pitched two strikeouts, but the Falcons had problems fielding. Camp Verde only had four more team hits, but the Falcons lost 16-1.

The Falcons' final game on Friday was delayed until 9:30 p.m., and they played better in the chilly nighttime air. Chandler started the Falcons' offense with a single, and she used her speed to steal second and third when Show Low made an error.

The unnamed player was walked right after Chandler, and she also stole second. Then sophomore Sammantha Hughes brought them both in to score with a single to make it 2-0.

The Falcons' next score came when Duda stole home in the third inning during junior Emma Medina's at bat. The Falcons continued to play good defense and closed it out in the fifth inning with three more runs.

The unnamed player advanced to first on an error, and then Hughes and Duda hit their own singles. Duda got on RBI, and both Hughes and



Times photo by George Zeliff

Freshman Emma Brasington steals third base at a recent tournament game. The Falcons scored four of their nine runs this past weekend by stealing home plate.

Duda stole home for the final scores.

The Falcons returned to Payson on Saturday morning to face Wilcox (14-2-1). The Falcons only had six hits as a team, but half of them came from rookies.

Duda led the team with two hits and an RBI, and Medina and sophomore Cynthia Espinoza also got a hit. Chandler had the other hit for the Falcons.

The Falcons allowed

nine hits from Wilcox and 10 runs in the first inning. The Falcons couldn't get out of the hole the Cowboys put them in early on and lost 13-1.

The Falcons returned from spring break this past week and started their region schedule against Chino Valley on Monday,

March 20. The Falcons would have played at Crismon this Thursday, March 23, but it was pushed back to Wednesday, April 5.

High school assistant principal Jessica Kane has stepped up to coach while Hughes is under investigation. Kane has 10 years' experience coaching softball

in Connecticut, and she is assisted by an alumnus from last year's graduating class, Michaela Quintana.

The Falcons' next game will be next Monday, March 27, at Camp Verde at 3:45 p.m. The Falcons will then host Camp Verde at home on Thursday, March 30, at 3:45 p.m.

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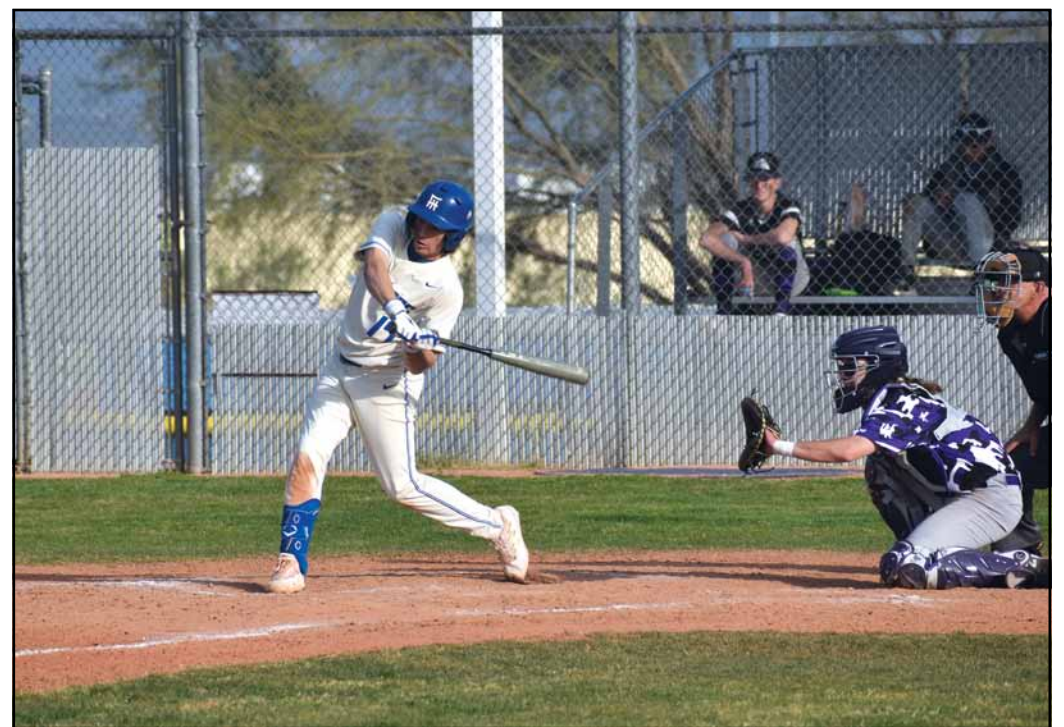
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Times photo by George Zeliff

Spring break's over

Junior Ty Langer swings for the fences. The Falcons played Chino Valley and ALA-Ironwood after press time on Monday, March 20, and Tuesday, March 21. They play at Camp Verde next Monday, March 27, at 3:45 p.m.



Times photo by George Zeliff

Golf hits the links

Sophomore Savannah Miller hits her ball uphill at Desert Canyon. The Fountain Hills High School golf team will travel to Payson this Friday, March 24, and then play at home next Wednesday, March 29.

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Religion

Desert Creek celebrates 10 years of service

By Cyrus Guccione
Times Reporter

Pastor Rod Warembourg blows leaves across the parking lot of Desert Creek Fellowship in Fountain Hills.

It's a Monday morning, which means the exercise class will be meeting at 10 a.m. and Warembourg wants to make sure the place looks tidy.

"You get to spend some time working out and get a little bit of spiritual encouragement while you're here," Warembourg said, an electronic engineer by trade whose role as a pastor means more than just sharing a message on Sunday morning.

"Blowing leaves, doing the sound, making the videos. I have people that help, of course, but pastor is just a servant. That's what Jesus was; just a servant."

Humble beginning

April marks Desert Creek's 10th anniversary. It also marks 10 years for Warembourg, who started the church out of his Fountain Hills home.

"We started really small and, in fact, we started in my basement," he said. "We cleared the couch out, set up some folding chairs... we did [with] what we had and we worked with what we could."

Not long after, the church grew into what used to be a bank on Ivory Drive near the north end of town. The space sat idle for a few years before Warembourg put in an offer on the vacant building.

"I placed a really low offer on it. I mean, like, insultingly low," Warembourg said, whose offer was promptly turned down. Meanwhile, the building was put under contract by a new buyer.

In prayer, Warembourg

felt an urge from God to be persistent on the building, telling his realtor that if the building fell out of contract with the new buyer, to offer \$20,000 less than their initial offer.

"[The realtor] called me a couple of days later. She goes, 'How did you know it was going fall out of contract?'" Warembourg said.

Warembourg's offer was accepted and spent almost exactly \$20,000 on roof, floor, air-conditioning and other necessary repairs on the church, which has culminated in 10 full years of fellowship.

"I was thanking God for making a way for us. It was just cool to watch him move," Warembourg said.

Passover plans

To celebrate its anniversary, Desert Creek is holding its annual Passover celebration on Friday, April 7, at 6 p.m. in the Desert Creek sanctuary, where the

community is welcome to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

At the service, parishioners can expect a traditional service that is, according to Warembourg, "hopelessly genteel with the traditional flair," which will include seder plates, communion, a telling of the exodus and the plagues that fell over the Egyptians along with an activity for the children in a potluck-style gathering.

As an homage to the feast of unleavened bread, the food will include no yeast to commemorate the hasty departure of the Israelites from Egypt which interrupted the bread's proofing process.

Desert Creek Fellowship is part of the Fountain Hills Christian Ministerial Association (FHCMA), which will host the coming Easter Sunrise Service at 6 a.m. on Sunday, April 9, at the amphitheater in Fountain Park.

"Churches argue about silly things...what makes our ministerial group so special is that we set all that stuff aside and we just preach Christ and Christ crucified," Warembourg said. "We can all agree on that."

Looking back on 10 years of fellowship, Warembourg said it's a shame if his charisma is what keeps his parishioners coming back.

"If you wanna go see a concert, go see a concert. If you want to hear a dynamic speaker, there's a lot of dynamic speakers out there. And if you want a self-help message, I stay home and watch PBS," he said. "We gather because of the power of God. We gather because something transpires."

Despite a decade of change and growth that has occurred in the Desert Creek church community,



Times photo by Cyrus Guccione

Desert Creek Fellowship, led by Pastor Rod Warembourg, celebrates 10 years of service in April.

April 9

Plan for Easter Sunrise Service

Come celebrate the resurrection of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as hundreds will gather together and proclaim as Christians have done through the centuries, "He is risen! He is risen indeed!"

Each year, the Fountain Hills Christian Ministerial Association (FHCMA) holds an Easter Sunrise service at the Fountains Hills amphitheater. The service begins at 6 a.m.

Pastor Rod Warembourg from Desert Creek Fellowship will deliver this year's message and music will be led by Reigning Grace Ranch Chapel.

A special offering will

be received for the Good Samaritan fund which is used to help Fountain Hills residents who are going through difficult times.

The FHCMA is an association of pastors who hold to the essential beliefs and teaching of Christianity which are found in the Holy Scriptures, expressed by Apostle's Creed. The FHCMA stands and works together for the sake of Jesus Christ and His gospel.

FHCMA members include Pastor Rick Ponzio, Calvary Chapel Fountain Hills; Pastor Keith Pavia, Christ's Church of Fountain Hills; Rev. Dr. Cathy Northrop, Commu-

nity Church of the Verdes; Pastor Rod Warembourg, Desert Creek Fellowship; Pastor Tony Pierce, Cornerstone Family Church; Pastor Bob Simmons, Presbyterian Church of Fountain Hills; Pastor Clayton Wilfer, JOY Christian Community Church; Pastor Rich Griffith, SBC - Fountain Hills; Pastor Jeff Teeples, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church and Pastor John Koczman, Trinity Lutheran Church.

Seating is around the amphitheater and attendees are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket to sit on. It is generally 60 degrees at sunrise.

Warembourg is content knowing the only thing that is unchanged is the presence of God in their fellowship.

"I look back and think, 'Why would people show up to a basement? That's weird. And why would they even be part of that?' And yet, they did."

Desert Creek Fellowship meets every Sunday at 10 a.m. in its sanctuary. To sign up for the Passover service on Friday, April 7, call the church at 480-616-4696. Desert Creek is located at 15024 N. Ivory Drive. For more information, visit desertcreekfellowship.com.

Check out the latest Fountain Hills news at fhtimes.com

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Church of the Ascension recognizes volunteers



Church of the Ascension held a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on Sunday, Feb. 12, for all the volunteers who give of their time and efforts toward the church's 24 ministries.



Ascension friends and members gathered in recognition of their volunteering efforts.

Area churches announce plans for Holy Week services

Sunday, April 2, is Palm Sunday, marking a significant time for Christians around the world. In Fountain Hills and Rio Verde, local churches have planned events throughout the week, culminating in Easter, the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The following are church service schedules as of March 22. Some churches have not yet responded to requests from *The Times*. Updates will be published in the March 29 edition.

Church of the Ascension, 12615 N. Fountain Hills Blvd., Palm Sunday Mass, April 2, 8 and 10 a.m.; Holy Thursday Celebration of the Lord's Supper, April 6, 7 p.m.; Good Friday Stations of the Cross, April 7, noon; Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord, April 7, 3 p.m.; Holy Saturday Blessing of Easter Food, April 8, noon; Easter Vigil Mass, April 8, 7:30 p.m.; Easter Sunday Mass, April 9, 6:30, 8 and 10 a.m.; Easter Monday Mass, April 10, 8 a.m.

Desert Creek Fellowship, 15024 N. Ivory Dr., Palm Sunday service, April 2, 10 a.m.; Passover Seder, Friday, April 7, 6 p.m.; Resurrection Sunday, April 9, 10 a.m.

Scottsdale Bible Church, 15202 N. Fountain Hills Blvd., Palm Sunday service, April 2, 9 and 11 a.m.; Good Friday Communion service, April 7, 5 p.m.; Easter Saturday service, April 8, 5 p.m.; Easter Sunday service, April 9, 9 and 11 a.m.

Community Church of the Verdes, 25603 N. Danny Lane, Suite 1, Palm Sunday Cantata, April 2, 8:30 a.m.; Maundy Thursday, April 6, 7 p.m.; Good Friday, April 7, 3 p.m.; Easter Sunrise in the Garden, Sunday, April 9, 6:30 a.m.; Easter Sunday service, April 9, 8:30 a.m.

JOY Christian Community Church, 13430 N. Saguardo Blvd., Palm Sunday, April 2, 9:30 a.m.; Maundy Thursday, April 6, 7 p.m.; Good Friday Tenebrae, April 7, 7 p.m.; Easter service, April 9, 9:30 a.m.

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church, 13001 N. Fountain Hills Blvd., Maundy Thursday, April 6, 5:30 p.m.; Good Friday service, April 7, noon; Easter Sunday service, April 9, 9 a.m.

Cornerstone Family Church, 10215 N. Saguardo Blvd., Palm Sunday service, April 2, 10:30 a.m.; Good Friday and Lord's Supper service, April 7, 6 p.m.; Resurrection Sunday Worship service, April 9, 10:30 a.m., with continental breakfast at 9:45 a.m.

St. Dominic's Catholic Mission, 25603 N. Danny Lane, Unit 2, Easter Sunday Mass, April 9, 10:30 a.m.; Holy Thursday Mass, April 6, 5 p.m.; Adoration Thursday, April 6, 6 p.m.; Good Friday service, April 7, 5 p.m.

Anglican Church of Atonement, 11002 N. Saguardo Blvd., Stations of the Cross, Maundy Thursday, April 6, 6 p.m.; Good Friday, April 7, 9 a.m. and Stations of the Cross and supper at 6 p.m.; Easter Sunday Mass, April 9, 9 a.m.

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 16150 E. El Lago Blvd., Palm Sunday with Holy Week Cantata, April 2, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.; Maundy Thursday, April 6, 6:30 p.m.; Good Friday, April 7, 6:30 p.m.; Easter Sunday service with Children's Message, April 9, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church, 13770 N. Fountain Hills Blvd., Palm Sunday, April 2, 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Maundy Thursday, April 6, 7 p.m.; Good Friday, noon and 7 p.m.; Easter service, 8 and 10:30 a.m.

New Journey Lutheran Church, 16748 E. Parkview Ave., Palm/Passion Sunday, April 2, 10 a.m.; Maundy Thursday, April 6, 6 p.m.; Good Friday, April 7, 5 p.m.

day, April 7, 6 p.m.; Resurrection of our Lord Sunday, April 9, 10 a.m.

Christ's Church of Fountain Hills, 15555 E. Bainbridge Ave., Easter Sunrise service in the Fountain Park Amphitheater, April 9, 6 a.m.

Calvary Chapel, 13215 N. Verde River Dr., Good Friday service, April 7, 6:30 p.m.

Generation Church, 16239 E. Ironwood Dr., Easter Sunday service and

Easter egg hunt, April 9, 10 a.m. with brunch starting at 9:30 a.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 15507 E. Bainbridge Ave., "Jesus the Christ" at Mesa Arizona Temple, 101 S. Lesueur, April 4-8, 8 p.m.; Holy Week Celebration, Sunday, April 9, 10 a.m.

Reigning Grace Ranch, 28614 N. 172nd St., Easter Sunrise, April 9, 9:30 a.m.

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Clubs

FHDC talks education

The Fountain Hills Democratic Club met Thursday, March 16, with about 100 members in attendance. The theme of the evening was education, a topic front and center in state and national debates. The topics included the state of Fountain Hills schools and the impact the failed bond override and expanded vouchers (ESAs) have had on public education.

First to speak were Rachel Clawson and Nicky Indicavitch from Save our Schools Arizona, a non-partisan group supporting strong public schools in the state. They gave an overview of the current state of Arizona schools. Arizona rates 47th in school spending today, compared to New Mexico at 29th. Despite this lack of funding, Arizona public school students test about in the middle of students across the country, according to the speakers.

Empowerment Scholarship Accounts (vouchers), or ESAs, were also explained.

"They give money with little to no academic accountability, and 80% of ESAs go to affluent parents who are already home-schooling or sending their kids to private schools," reads a press release from the club. "They explained there are few guidelines and little oversight of how the money is spent. Some acceptable expenses include whale watching trips, espresso machines, horseback riding lessons and membership in play centers like Uptown Jungle in Peoria. The original budget of \$30 million has grown to \$376 million. This increased spending has to be paid for somewhere, and most likely it will come out of public school funding."

Finally, the speakers emphasized that private and micro-schools are under no obligation to take students with learning or other disabilities, and they can "expel" a student by not allowing that student back the next year if it is costing them too much to educate the student.



Stephen Gay presented an image from the new James Webb telescope to Dr. Wendy Barnard to thank her and teachers around the country for educating the people who made this photo possible.

"It is billed as 'school choice,' when in reality it is the schools who get the choice of picking the cream of the crop, leaving students who require the most attention with no choice except to stay where they are," the press release continued. "Rachel and Nicky gave the audience a wide variety of tools to make their voice heard at the local and state level."

Next to speak were Dr. Wendy Barnard and her husband, Rich. Wendy was on the governing board of the Fountain Hills Unified School District up until last year, and Rich has been active in public school extracurricular sports coaching. They described the markedly different attitude toward public education they encountered when moving to Arizona contrasted with the states where they grew up.

"They emphasized that the rejection by voters of the \$20 million bond and the \$750,000 DAA (District Assistance Override) has had a deleterious effect on the school, reducing the ability to buy software, hardware, online resources and books, building improvements, transpor-

tation and other equipment," the press release states. "As there was no money to fix the football field, the funds had to be raised in an effort spearheaded by NFL coach and Fountain Hills resident Gary Zauner. Dr. Barnard emphasized this a la carte, GoFundMe style of fundraising is unsustainable, especially with big-ticket items like new air conditioning systems and failing water mains."

The final two speakers were Lillian Acker of the Fountain Hills School Board and Robb Vaules. Acker is a new member on the board and Vaules was a candidate for Scottsdale School Board last year.

"Both emphasized how dangerous it is that the very concept of public education is under attack, and that people without high school educations (and fiercely opposed to public education as a basic proposition) are sitting on large school boards like the one in Scottsdale," the press release concluded. "Vaules fiercely defended Scottsdale School Board Superintendent Scott Menzel and thinks he will remain in his position."

Kathy Waldvogel spoke at recent NSDAR meeting

Kathy Waldvogel was guest speaker at the March 11 National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) Four Peaks Chapter meeting. Organizers said she gave an engaging and fact-filled talk about her book, "Spies, Soldiers, Couriers and Saboteurs," directed at middle school readers.

A former fifth grade social studies teacher, Waldvogel spent six years researching and gathering information about women who participated in or contributed to the success of the American Revolution. In each of the 14 chapters, these little-known women are highlighted for their efforts in the war.

In recognition of her contribution to documenting America's history, Waldvogel was presented with a DAR commemorative America 250 medal that is celebrating America's semi-



From left, Rachel Moore, guest speaker Kathy Waldvogel, Polly Bonnett and Viree Byrne pose for a photo during the recent NSDAR Four Peaks Chapter meeting.

quintennial in 2026.

Also of note at the recent meeting, Camille Hill was inducted and welcomed as a new member.

Four Peaks Chapter

meets the second Saturday of the month in Fountain Hills. Any woman interested in membership should contact Viree Byrne at sissy78982@aol.com.

MCL Detachment seeks members

The Remembrance Poppy was inspired by Moina Michael's poem, "Flanders Field," which commemorated the British Empire and American casualties due to the carnage of World War I.

"When the blood had stopped flowing after the trench lines had shifted and torrential rains had fallen, it brought life to the fields with blankets of wild red poppies carpeting the battlefields, along with the graves of fallen heroes," Chris Brant said, a former Royal Marine Commando and Adjutant of the Fountain Hills Marine Corps League Detachment #1439.

The origin of the Marine Rose is not so well known, Brant said. In 1778, when the American Colonists were fighting the "Bloody British," the rose was dedicated to honor those Marines who had made the ultimate sacrifice.

Fast forward to March 1918 when the U.S. Marines who were part of

the Expeditionary Force, the Germans launched an attack along the Western Front in France. In the first few weeks of the encounter, the German offensive made significant gains but began to falter by May. This was imperative as Paris was only fifty miles away.

"The U.S. Marines fought ferociously with the frontline of the battle ebbing and flowing," Brant said. "Sometimes, it meant Marines had to advance over open ground without artillery support. Marines were met with the killing machine of WWI, the machine gun, and the Germans had strategically positioned numerous Maxim MG08s, 'The Devil's Paintbrush,' along the front that mowed down many U.S. Marines."

"But the Marines fought on. Every Marine will have heard of such quotes as, 'Retreat, hell we just got here!' by Capt. Lloyd Williams, and 'C'mon you sons-of-bitches, do you want to live forever?' by Gunnery Sgt. Dan Daley. Ultimately, the US Marines were able to halt the German's advance at the Battle of Belleau Wood."

According to Brant, the number of Marines that perished during that long engagement was more than the total number of Marines that had died up to that point in the U.S. Marine Corps history.

The local villagers were so grateful to those who had protected their freedom that they planted roses on the many graves of the Americans who had

fallen during the bloody conflict.

"I pass along this important piece of history so that when you see one or more of our Fountain Hills Marine Corps Detachment #1439 taking donations as you might have seen during the Arts and Craft Show, you will know the significance," Brant said. "For in return, you will be presented with a miniature rose. You might have already thanked those individuals or many like them who have served to preserve the freedom we value in America today and like the French men and women over a hundred years ago, you will be able to appreciate the sacrifices made by the few, the proud, the U.S. Marines."

MCL Detachment #1439 holds a meeting on the first Tuesday of every month at the American Legion Post #58 at 6 p.m. For anyone with Marine blood flowing through their veins, Brant invites them to come and resurrect that bond. For those with a story to tell, the Detachment also gets together socially each month. Those interested can learn more by visiting deptazmcl.org/fountain-hills-detachment-1439.

Detachment Commandant Dave Nelson, MCL Detachment #1439, thanks the Fountain Hills grocery stores along with Paul's ACE Hardware for their support and for accommodating the members' booths outside their stores over the weekend of the Spring Fountain Festival of Fine Arts & Crafts.

Republican Women meet next Thursday

Thursday, March 30, Republican Women of the Hills will hold its annual fundraiser at Grapeables Wine Bar, 12645 N. Saguaro Blvd. #9, from 1 to 3 p.m. Light bites will be catered by Debbie Elder and beverages will be provided. The featured speaker for this event is Kathleen Winn, co-founder of the Arizona Anti-Trafficking Network and Project 25, an organization working to end sexual exploitation by 2025.

Team members Kai Muradi, a facial recognition

expert, and Mark Pooley, a retired policeman with expertise in indigenous trafficking, will also be presenters. The cost to attend this event is \$125. Advance registration is required and space is limited. Proceeds from this event will go toward the new communication program for Republican Women of the Hills, as well as to Project 25.

RSVP and purchase event tickets online at rwoth.com. For further information or questions, email rwoth@gmail.com.

Club Briefs

FH Woodworkers seeks members

Fountain Hills Woodworkers (FHWW) is seeking new members to join a group of individuals who share in the enjoyment of working with wood.

Future meetings are held each month September thru May with some meetings supporting local non-profit organizations.

There is no charge to join Fountain Hills Woodworkers. Those interested in woodworking are encouraged to leave a message at 480-816-3432 or email kim.colenso@cox.net.

Post 58 holds weekly events

American Legion Post 58 hosts weekly events that are open to the public, including Bingo every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

On Friday, March 24, a fish fry will be held at 4:30 p.m. followed by a performance by Music Reflections at 6 p.m. On Saturday, March 25, Pearl Ridge Duo plays at 6 p.m. On Sunday, March 26, DJ Ed performs during "Sunday Funday" from 1 to 4 p.m. Events are held at American Legion Post 58, 16837 E. Parkview Ave.

Men's Discussion Group resumes

The Fountain Hills Men's Discussion Group will host a presentation at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 27, when Matthew and Dennis Payne discuss working in the food and wine business at We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort.

The group meets at the Community Center each Monday. Attending the discussions are free for Community Center members or \$5 for non-members. Call the Community Center at 480-816-5200 to register.

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Business

Karen Anderson joins Chamber staff

The Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce, the largest nonprofit organization in Fountain Hills devoted to the success of the local business and nonprofit community, has announced the addition of its newest staff member, Marketing and Communications Coordinator Karen Anderson.

Anderson is an Arizona native, born in Phoenix and raised in Flagstaff. She graduated from Flagstaff High School in 1990, then went on to Northern Arizona University to study business administration. Anderson moved to Fountain Hills 10 years ago, after raising her children in Scottsdale, and fell in love with the small-town atmosphere.

"Karen has a strong background in finance and office management," according to a press release announcing her hire. "The most rewarding time spent professionally was as the office manager of a funeral home. Although a difficult job at times, she felt that she was given the opportunity to help people

in her community in one of their greatest times of need."

Anderson became involved with the Fountain Hills Chamber four years ago when she started attending the Elite Leads meeting for her boss, Larry Webster. She said she instantly fell in love with the Chamber and became more involved by becoming an Ambassador and attending or participating in as many events as she could.

Anderson is married and has four grown children. She enjoys traveling, hiking, reading, crafts and spending time with her husband at their home in Mormon Lake, Ariz., where they met as children and grew up together. They both love animals; having many in Northern Arizona from horses and chickens to cats and dogs, with the occasional orphaned calf to bottle feed and raise.

As the Communications and Marketing Coordinator, the community will see Anderson regularly through a weekly Chamber newsletter released on Mondays; the "Unique-



Karen Anderson

ly Fountain Hills Show," which airs monthly on Facebook and YouTube; as well as a bi-weekly podcast series, FountainCast, featuring our local businesses with audio available on

every podcast platform and video available on YouTube and Facebook. She will also be involved with Thrive visits, basically featuring local businesses that run April through October.

Kate Klasen HELPs pets in emergency

By Cyrus Guccione
Times Reporter

Owner of Balance Paws Grooming Kate Klasen has begun to transition from her pet grooming business into her new venture, H.E.L.P. (Human & Animal Emergency Lifeline Preparedness), a pet emergency training service where she provides CPR/first aid classes to pet owners in the community.

"I loved the grooming, but this to me is more of a passion and getting it out there and getting people prepared," Klasen said, who is no longer taking any more pet grooming appointments.

While this may be a new business for Klasen, she is no stranger to emergency situations. As a former first responder in the Chicago-land area, one of Klasen's responsibilities was teaching CPR/first aid at the police academy.

"So, I move out here, start to transition to become a pet professional and it was during that time that my dog started choking, and she was a little five-pound dog," she said. "My first question is, 'Well, how do you do a Heimlich on a five-pound dog?'"

Klasen was able to dislodge the object from her dog's mouth, however, it was following that incident that she realized how important it is to not only know CPR/first aid for humans, but also for pets.

"That feeling of helplessness in that moment was just something that I don't want anybody to ever have to feel," Klasen said.

CPR Classes

Held in her pet-friendly office space behind New



Founder of H.E.L.P. (Human & Animal Emergency Lifeline Preparedness) Kate Klasen with her one-year-old Dalmatian, Bishop.

Journey Lutheran Church at 16748 E. Parkview Ave., Klasen offers CPR, AED and first aid classes to pet owners to help them become the frontline in an emergency.

"It's kind of bringing my two passions together," Klasen said. "I'm excited to see where it's going to go."

For those who utilize the veterinarian in times of emergency, Klasen says it is important to know how to respond quickly to avoid wasting precious time.

"From the time that it happens for you to process it, to grab the dog, to get the car keys, to get in the car, to drive him to the vet, to activate the vet staff to start going, you've wasted too much time," she said, "Which is why we have a whole emergency network system for ourselves, because that time is precious."

Overall, Klasen wants pet owners to realize that they have the power to be their pet's first responder and not be helpless in an emergency.

For more information on H.E.L.P., visit helppreparedness.com, send an email to helppreparedness@gmail.com or follow the Facebook page @HELPPreparedness.



Hot Diggity Dog Sitting

Michael Bryant Bennett Jr. holds the giant red scissors at a recent Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting event for his business, Hot Diggity Dog Sitting. Find out more by calling 480-388-2421 or visit facebook.com/HotDiggityDogSittingAZ.

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17346 E Greythorn	\$575,000	28812 N Sandal Ct	\$1,270,000
29635 N Kinder Crossing Pass	\$1,795,000		

Homes sold this period: 7 Median Price: \$1,270,000 Average price: \$1,218,985
Same period last year: 8 Median Price: \$972,500 Average price: \$1,032,876

Fountain Hills

16730 E Ashbrook Dr Apt A	\$405,000	13056 N Northstar Dr	\$572,000
16450 E Ave Of The Fts Unit 22	\$415,000	14237 N Oakwood Ln	\$255,000
11456 N Baron Dr	\$1,100,000	17228 E Oro Grande Dr	\$631,500
16427 E Bradford Dr	\$567,500	17334 E Oro Grande Dr	\$545,000
14406 N Buckthorn Ct	\$550,000	16703 E Oxford Dr	\$710,000
15021 N Calle Del Prado	\$670,000	14044 E Sonora Crest Dr	\$2,478,689
13600 N Ftn Hills Blvd Unit 102	\$525,000	14412 N Teakwood Ln	\$222,500
14815 N Ftn Hills Blvd Unit 214	\$345,000	15846 E Thistle Dr	\$747,500
15612 E Grassland Dr	\$505,000	13535 N Vista Del Lago	\$590,000
15651 E Grassland Dr	\$700,000	16626 E Westby Dr Unit 208	\$400,000
15510 E Jojoba Ln	\$800,000		

Homes sold this period: 21 Median Price \$567,500 Average price: \$654,033
Same period last year: 39 Median Price \$665,000 Average price: \$822,699

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Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

McKayna Guilliam
44404 N. Beeline Highway Unit A
Rio Verde, Arizona 85264
(480)-204-4452
McKayna@gmail.com
Self, without Lawyer
SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA IN MARICOPA COUNTY
Case #: JS520500
NOTICE OF INITIAL HEARING ON PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENT-CHILD REALTIONSHIP
In the Matter of: Lahtimae Guilliam
2/8/2020
Name(s) of Minor Child(ren)
Notice is hereby given that the Petitioner, McKayna Guilliam has filed a Petition for Termination of Parent-Child Relationship with the Juvenile Department of the Superior Court in Maricopa County regarding the above-named child or children and: John Doe
Name of parent or parents whose rights are to be terminated, as well as any other known parties' names.
An initial hearing has been set to consider the petition:
Date: May 8
Time: 10:15
Before: Judge Ponce
At the Maricopa County Superior Court (Juvenile Department) located at:

Durango Juvenile Court; 3131 W. Durango Street; Phoenix, AZ 85009
Case No.: JS530500
Notice:

-You have a right to appear as a party in this proceeding.
-Requests for reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities must be made to the division assigned to the case by the party needing accommodation or his/her counsel at least three (3) judicial days in advance of a scheduled court proceeding.
-Requests for an interpreter for persons with limited English proficiency must be made to the division assigned to the case by the party needing the interpreter and/or translator or his/her counsel at least ten (10) judicial days in advance of a scheduled court proceeding.
-The failure of a parent to appear at the Initial Hearing, the Pretrial Conference, or the Termination Adjudication Hearing may result in a court order terminating the parent-child relationship of that parent.
-Failure to appear at the Initial Hearing, Pretrial Conference, Status Conference or Termination Adjudication Hearing, without good cause, may result in a finding that the parent, guardian, or Indian custodian has waived legal rights, and is deemed to have admitted the allegations in the Petition.
-The hearing may go forward in the absence of the parent, guardian or Indian custodian and may result in the termination of parental rights based upon the record and evidence.
Published Fountain Hills Times
3/22/2023, 3/29/2023, 4/5/2023, 4/12/2023

The Verde Communities

Meet Iris Granek, MD, MS

This story is a new installment of the continuing "Meet Your Neighbor" series written by Rio Verde resident Tonie Lindenberger.

Iris Granek, MD, MS, commutes from Rio Verde to her job at Stony Brook University in New York. This is her story...

Always a stellar student, Iris Granek had a penchant for science at a time when few women pursued careers in the field. Iris credits her father, who she says encouraged her to think outside the box in terms of her career. "He was my greatest mentor," she states.

Today, Iris serves as the Clinical Professor and Founding Chair of the Department of Family, Population and Preventative Medicine at the Renaissance School of Medicine, Stony Brook University, New York.

In 1980, Iris graduated from Cornell University Medical School, New York City. A year later, she completed an internship at St. Vincent's Hospital near Greenwich Village, followed by a residency in psychiatry. She states, "I always had a strong interest in the mind and its impact on illness."

During her tenure at St. Vincent's in the early 1980s, AIDS was emerging and very little was known about it. According to Iris, "We worked on sick patients without wearing gloves or other protective gear."

Upon leaving St. Vincent's, Iris worked with adolescent psychiatric patients and soon after, she worked with a researcher studying chronic pain. Their research focused on

pain experienced by women following a mastectomy and discovered it was the result of a nerve being cut during surgery. Always interested in expanding her knowledge, Iris worked for a major pharmaceutical company in both the US and United Kingdom. With her psychiatry background, she was a natural to work on a new anti-anxiety drug. Her next position was in a rehabilitation facility for people with head injuries. Shortly thereafter, Iris started her own medical practice specializing in chronic pain.

Looking for a change in direction, Iris returned to school and completed a master's degree in policy and management with an eye toward getting into university administration. This was followed by a second medical residency in preventative medicine, which completely captivated her.

"The mission of this specialty is to improve the health and well-being of patients, families, providers and communities through programs that incorporate primary care, public health, nutrition and preventative medicine. Lifestyle choices are the focus," she states.

Clearly, Iris was a trailblazer at a time when few women pursued careers in medicine, nor did they manage large university departments. To learn more, see the Time magazine article about this specialty at: stonybrook.edu/com-mcms/_documents/TIME-lifestyle-medicine-2023.pdf. According to Iris, people are living longer, but not necessarily better. To ensure quality of life in our



Iris Granek, MD, MS

later years Iris says, "keep moving!" Exercise both your body and mind. Having a sense of community along with regular interaction with others is also necessary as social isolation can be detrimental to your health.

Born in the Bronx, Iris has had ties to Rio Verde since 1984 when her parents purchased land to build a home. Her father, a Polish immigrant, designed the house which she now calls home. Iris spends her non-work hours reading, dancing, doing yoga and working jigsaw puzzles.

"Jigsaw puzzles often help me find strategies to solve work-related problems," she states.

A self-described workaholic, Iris feels Rio Verde provides her with balance between her personal and professional lives. She takes her own advice and walks regularly throughout the community when she is in town. Additionally, she avails herself of many of the activities the community has to offer.

To learn more about Iris and the department she manages, go to renaissance.stonybrookmedicine.edu/family_population_preventive_medicine.

Verde News Briefs

Tonto plans trip, Spring Training

Tonto Verde is planning an outing for Spring Training baseball to see the Chicago Cubs and Chicago White Sox at Solan Park in Mesa on Tuesday, March 28 (12:05 p.m.).

The package includes seating in the party deck for 30 people, hot dogs, hamburgers, salad and cookies. A full-service bar is also available. The cost is \$115 per person/plus tax and service charge.

Sign up is on the Tonto community website. There must be 30 reservation to order tickets.

Verdes blood drive March 28

To meet the continuing high demand for blood the Verdes are teaming up with Vitalant to hold a Spring Blood Drive for Rio and Tonto residents from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, in the Rio Verde Community Center.

To sign up to donate visit bloodhero.com. New donors click "Sign Up" to register. Returning donors use previous login email or username and password. The location is "Verde Community" on March 28. Select a donation time slot.

Questions may be directed to Rio Verde resident Scott Doerfler at scottd754@gmail.com.

RGR has open house April 1

Reigning Grace Ranch invites all Verde residents to come experience a day at the Ranch from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 1. The Ranch is located at 28614 N. 172nd St, just north of Rio Verde Drive (a 10-minute drive from Rio Verde).

Come learn about the work of Reigning Grace Ranch, a unique nonprofit desert sanctuary that offers tranquility and refuge to Arizona youth, families and rescued horses in need.

April 1 Open House festivities include a 50/50 Raffle, Miniature Horse Parade, Permaculture Experience and Horse Demonstrations. Kiss Pollos on

Wheels food truck will also be on site. For more information visit the Reigning Grace Ranch website at azrgr.org or call 480-442-8934.

Holy Week at Verdes church

Community Church of the Verdes has its Holy Week schedule of services.

April 2: Palm Sunday 8:30 a.m.

April 6: Maundy Thursday 7 p.m.

April 7: Good Friday 3 p.m.

April 9: Easter Sunday Sunrise in the Garden 6:30 a.m.

April 9: Easter Sunday 8:30 a.m. All are welcome - In person or livestream at verdefaith.org

St. Dominic's Catholic Mission holds mass at 10 a.m. every Sunday.

Lenten and Easter schedule March 24, 31: Stations of the Cross in the Church Courtyard 5 p.m.

March 31: Confessions in the Sanctuary 4 to 5 p.m.

April 6: Holy Thursday Mass at 5 p.m. with Adoration in the Chapel following Mass from 6 to 8 p.m.

April 7: Good Friday Service with Stations of the Cross and Communion Service at 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

April 9: Easter Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Tonto events for Easter weekend

Tonto Verde has a special weekend planned for residents and visitors for the Easter holiday.

On Friday, April 7, there is a rock painting class from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Clubhouse Event Lawn. Children under four years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

On Saturday, April 8, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt from 10 a.m. to 12 noon also on the Clubhouse Event Lawn.

Registration is required for these events (rock painting is limited to 20) on the Tonto Lifestyle/Activities Calendar on the Tonto Verde website.

CRC Easter Egg Hunt at RV

CRC is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt for young visitors beginning at 10 a.m. sharp on Saturday, April 8, inside the Rio Verde Clubhouse building.

Family and friends, age seven and younger, are invited to come meet the Easter Bunny and join in the hunt for candy filled eggs. The festivities will include photos with the Easter Bunny and the chance to win prizes. Bring your own Easter baskets. No reservations required. This celebration is free of charge, a holiday gift from CRC to the community.

Recycle, shred event April 20

The annual electronics recycling and document shredding event will be held on Thursday, April 20, in the Rio Verde Community Center parking lot. Collection will be from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

There is a long list of items acceptable for the recyclers. The list is available at the RVCA office at the Community Center. No hazardous material will be accepted. The list of items that will not be accepted is also available.

The RV Community Center parking lot will be closed during the event. Those dropping items off will be directed through the lot with their material.

Call the RVCA office, 480-471-2068 for additional information.

Anniversary team seeks memories

In preparation for the celebration of Rio Verde's 50th Anniversary in Fall 2023, the event planning committee is collecting stories, photos and other memorabilia that help tell our community's story.

Anyone with memorabilia to share, contact Mary Derby at maryderb@gmail.com or 303-908-5077. If you or your family have lived in Rio Verde for a long time, check drawers and closets both here and in summer/family homes.

RVCA annual meet March 28

The Rio Verde Community Association will hold its annual meeting at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, March 28, with a guest speaker discussing water issues.

ASU Professor Rhett Larson will discuss a topic important to Verde residents this year. "Drought and Development - Arizona Groundwater Policy and the Rio Verde Foothills Controversy." Professor Larson is the Richard Morrison Professor of Water

Law in the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.

The five nominated Board candidates are Jill Arnold, Rick Lindenberger, Kathleen Mayer, Paul Rosenkoetter and Nancy Werner. Ballots were mailed to all residents in February.

In order for a ballot to be counted it must be in the mail before midnight on March 24, dropped off at the RVCA Office in the Community Center or deliver to the secretary before the start of

the annual meeting.

The annual meeting agenda will include remarks by the RVCA President Kevin Waring plus Treasurer Trish Ugorowski's financial report and review of the 2022 Audit.

The March meeting of the RVCA Board will be held immediately following the annual meeting in the Community Church Choir Room. The top agenda item is the election of officers for 2023-2024.

FH Times Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10			
					12					13	14	15	
16					17				18				
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CLUES ACROSS

- Influential American political family
- ___ Chantilly, ___ de Menthe
- Within
- Pleasure seekers
- Computer manufacturer
- Home to college sports' Flyers

- Fungal disease
- Sleepwalk
- Spielberg sci-fi film
- Seasonable
- Taxis
- Radio direction finder (abbr.)
- Thin, narrow piece of wood
- 'Mystic River' actor Sean

- Ingenuous
- Musical composition
- Turkish surname
- High or hilly area
- Wilco frontman
- Pour it on pasta
- Electric car company
- Sea eagle
- Walk with difficulty

- Sign of healing
- Boy
- Protein-rich liquid
- Washington city
- Individual portion of TV series (abbr.)
- Thought over
- Scads
- News agency
- Standard
- Deadlock
- Pre-Columbian empire
- Removed
- French commune

- Atomic #94
- Born of
- Midway between northeast and east
- Northeastern bank
- Defunct airline
- Having no purpose
- A low wall
- Swedish city
- Earn a perfect score
- Atomic #81
- Beginner
- Give off
- Incorrect letters
- Telecommunication service provider (abbr.)

- Idyllic
- Popular beer
- A way to fine
- Evlildoer
- More withered
- Seventh note of a major scale
- Commercial
- Abnormal breathing
- Moved more quickly
- City of Angels
- Partner to Pa
- Equally

CLUES DOWN

- Large, dangerous animals
- Straighten out
- Family tree
- Large stinging paper wasp
- European river fish
- Cut down in size
- Denotes past
- Larry and Curly's partner
- Samoyedic ethnic group
- Male parent
- Specific gravity
- Demeaned oneself to
- Rigidly
- Yankovic is a "weird" one
- Belonging to me
- Path
- Airborne (abbr.)
- Level

Answers on page 2

This week's crossword puzzle sponsored by



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