



## Government

Changes to animal control; **3**



FOUNTAIN HILLS TIMES

# INDEPENDENT

## Theater

Dozens of AriZoni nominations; **12**



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## Application to National Registry of Historic Places presented for fountain, park



### Initial review in lengthy process underway

By Bob Burns

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Town of Fountain Hills has submitted an application to have the fountain and Fountain Park designated to the National Registry of Historic Places, and that application is currently under review by the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office.

This could eventually lead to designation of the fountain and Fountain Park designated to the National Registry of Historic Places, and that application is currently under review by the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office.

• See **Application** on page 6

With the fountain running in the background, McCulloch Properties CEO Robert McCulloch, right, President C.V. Wood, center, and project manager Fred Schmacher review plans for the Fountain Hills development. (Times Independent archival photo)

## EVENTS

## Busy schedule of fall events in Fountain Hills

50th anniversary of Desert Botanical Garden a highlight

By Bob Burns

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The calendar is turning to September and that means that soon temperatures will slowly drop to where people can enjoy the outdoor events and activities that Fountain Hills is famous for.

The Town of Fountain Hills has released its Fall Event Guide for 2025 with many of the much-anticipated annual events on the calendar. This fall also features a milestone anniversary for a community getaway right in the middle of town.

The Fountain Hills Desert Botanical Garden marks its 50th anniversary in 2025 with a celebration set for Saturday, Oct. 25.

Join guest speakers from the Town of Fountain Hills, the Fountain Hills Sonoran Conservancy, and the Fountain Hills Desert Botanical Garden, in celebrate the Sonoran Desert

• See **Events** on page 4

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## GOVERNMENT



Fountain Hills is a pet friendly town, and animal control services are a part of the system. (Town of Fountain Hills photo)

# Fountain Hills making change to animal control services

## Current third-party agreement is ending

The Town of Fountain Hills ending its partnership with All Animals Rescue & Transportation (ACES) for animal control services, effective this week.

Since last fall, ACES has provided services that aimed to protect pets and the public through education on leash laws and pet safety, as well as responding to the rare but serious incidents involving animals.

“As a proud Pet Friendly Community, the town is committed to ensuring animal control services continue to meet the needs of residents while also safeguarding animal welfare,” Town of Fountain Hills Community

Relations Director/PIO Mike Pelton said. “Town staff are actively developing a long-term solution and will provide updates as plans are finalized.”

In the meantime, residents should direct issues or concerns regarding pets in the following manner:

For vicious and barking dog problems, contact the Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office. If it is an emergency, dial 911. If it is not an emergency, contact MCSO at 602-876-1000.

For other animal-related issues, you can contact the Fountain Hills Code Enforcement Hotline at 480-816-5193.

The Town appreciates the patience of residents while this transition is taking place, Pelton said.



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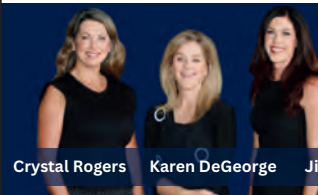
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## FROM THE COVER

## Events

• From page 1

garden and its rich history. Enjoy a celebratory cupcake, then walk the trails where volunteers stationed along the paths will be ready to share insights about the garden, its history, and the unique desert habitat.

Local naturalists will also be on hand to answer questions and highlight the wonders of this Sonoran Desert habitat and what makes it special.

For more information about the event and other fall FH Conservancy & FH DBG guided hikes and events visit [scfh.org](http://scfh.org) or [fhdbg.org](http://fhdbg.org).

While checking out details on the garden celebration, mark the calendar for some of the numerous hiking and trail adventures planned by the Sonoran Conservancy of Fountain Hills ([scfh.org](http://scfh.org)). There are more than 20 events planned just through the end of the calendar year.

The popular Ballet Under the Stars presented by Ballet Arizona will have its performance in Fountain Hills on Thursday, Sept. 18. This is a free event.

Fountain Hills Theater has four productions scheduled for the fall including "Cabaret," "The Front Page," "Six the Musical" (Youth Theater production) and "A Christmas Carol the Musical."



A 50th anniversary celebration for the Fountain Hills Desert Botanical Garden is high on the list of public events and activities in Fountain Hills this fall. (Photo courtesy Fountain Hills Desert Botanical Garden)

Details on the schedules and ticket information are available at [fhtaz.org](http://fhtaz.org).

Fountain Hills is an International Dark Sky Community, and Vicky Derksen of Night Sky Tourist has several educational programs scheduled to blend hiking, astronomy and desert sky watching.

The schedule begins with a sunrise hike for the Fall Equinox on Sept. 22.

Check the full schedule and registration information at [nightskytour-ist.com](http://nightskytour-ist.com).

ist.com.

The L. Alan Cruickshank River of Time Museum & Exploration Center will open in the fall with a new exhibit and lecture series. The new exhibit will feature the Fountain Hills Desert Botanical Garden and its 50-year history in the town. Visit [riveroftime.center/tours](http://riveroftime.center/tours) for additional information.

The museum will also host the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Cul-

tural Tours again this fall and winter.

All the community favorites are also on the calendar this season including the Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot presented by the Town of Fountain Hills, the Holiday Mart at the River of Time Museum, the annual Fall Festival of Arts and Crafts ([fhartfairs.com](http://fhartfairs.com)) and Thanksgiving Day Parade, both presented by the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce.

Celebrate Christmas with Breakfast with Santa, Sensitive Santa, Stroll in the Glow (also a FH Chamber of Commerce event).

The Farmers Market and Art on the Avenue will return November through April.

"We're looking forward to hosting a variety of events that will allow people to enjoy one of the most beautiful times of year in Arizona," said Town of Fountain Hills Economic Development Director Amanda Jacobs. "This year's schedule is full of a diverse mix of happenings, meaning there's truly something for everyone to experience."

There is much more for holiday and winter visitors to enjoy. See the complete guide at [experience-fountain-hills\\_2025-fall-event-guide](http://experience-fountain-hills_2025-fall-event-guide).

Please send your comments to [AzOpinions@iniusa.org](mailto:AzOpinions@iniusa.org). We are committed to publishing a wide variety of reader opinions, as long as they meet our Civility Guidelines. Bob Burns can be reached at [bburns@iniusa.org](mailto:bburns@iniusa.org).

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## FROM THE COVER

### Application

• From page 1

nation as a National Historic Landmark.

The town council directed the effort go forward a couple of years ago at the suggestion of Councilmember Hannah Larrabee.

“After learning about the Fountain’s eligibility for the register through members of our community, I brought this effort to town staff in 2023,” Larrabee. “The idea saw some speed bumps, as things sometimes do, but it gives me so much joy to see this initiative taking root now.

“Our Fountain is our namesake, and the cornerstone of our community. To enshrine it in history would be an honor that this entire council, and our staff, can look back on with pride for years to come. My heart is so full, and I am so grateful for the residents of our town and our Town Manager Rachael Goodwin, who felt the same passion that I did for adding our Fountain to the National Register of Historic Places.”

Mayor Gerry Friedel is also pleased with the prospect of the designation.

“Our Fountain is more than just a landmark; it is the centerpiece of Fountain Hills and a symbol of our community’s vision,” Friedel said. “Receiving this designation would recognize its unique history and significance, and I am hopeful we will see this achievement come to fruition.”

The project was taken on by the History and Cultural Advisory Commission and led by Ryan Preston, town staff liaison to the commission.

Historic and physical information related to the fountain and park was pulled together by a commission work group, and Preston formed it into the application which was sub-



**The Town of Fountain Hills has applied for the fountain and Fountain Park to be named to the National Register of Historic Places. (Independent Newsmedia/Bob Burns)**

mitted earlier this summer.

Dr. William Collins, with the national registry program coordinator with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office has told Preston to expect comments on the review in September with direction on any additional work needed to refine the application. The application is expected to be presented to the Arizona Historic Sites Review Committee in November.

Collins said after the state review committee completes its review and presuming it would approve the nomination it would be sent to Washington, D.C. for final consideration.

“I would say a property can be listed within six months of my receiving it,” Collins told Preston. “It can take

longer if the draft needs substantial revisions, or if the preparer isn’t particularly diligent, or if the timing is just unlucky and the nomination has to be bumped to a later HSRC meeting.”

The review is currently on track for the HSRC to consider in November, according to Preston. The group’s next meeting is March 2026.

The History and Culture Advisory Commission Chairman Tim Yoder said a lot of work has gone into this application.

“We at the History and Culture Advisory Commission are happy to have participated in the work that was required for the application for landmark status,” Yoder said. “The integrated development of Fountain

Hills is almost unique. The foundation of Fountain Hills is the enormous centerpiece, the fountain and its park. We’re very hopeful that our fountain will meet the standards and be classified as a national landmark.”

The fountain and park were constructed as the centerpiece of a planned community by the land development division for McCulloch Oil during what is considered the post World War II growth boom in the Phoenix metropolitan area. Industrialist Robert McCulloch developed Lake Havasu City, Ariz., as company town for the manufacture of lightweight chainsaws and outboard motors.

McCulloch hired C.V. Wood, the former president of the Disney Corp. and planner of Disneyland in Anaheim, Calif., to design and lead the development of Lake Havasu City and later Fountain Hills.

They used unique marketing elements to attract potential homebuyers as well as visitors to the communities. At Lake Havasu City it was the London Bridge, considered the largest antique ever purchased. In Fountain Hills the tallest Fountain in the world was created in the middle of the desert surrounded by a 32-acre lake and 65-acre park.

While surpassed in height since its construction, the fountain is still the third tallest in the world, and after the decommissioning of the Gateway Geyser in St. Louis in 2024 Fountain Hills reclaimed the title as tallest in the United States.

Fountain Park has hosted big name musicians and concerts over the years, as well as political and media heavyweights.

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**WATER SAFETY**

# SRP restocks Maricopa County lakes with 175 life jackets

**Donation to support boaters and shoreline swimmers at five county lakes**

On Thursday, Aug. 14, Salt River Project (SRP) donated 175 life jackets to the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Lake Patrol for distribution across the county's five lakes.

According to a press release, the life jackets will be used to restock life jacket loaner stations at boat ramps. These stations offer free, short-term use of life jackets to boaters and shoreline swimmers, helping to prevent drownings and promote water safety.

Due to budget cuts this year, and because some life jackets are not returned after use, many loaner stations have been left empty, creating a safety gap for lake visitors.

The donation will help ensure that families can continue to access life jackets at no



Pictured from left, Rori Minor of SRP, MCSO Sgt. Robert Marske, Tori Galberth of SRP and Tatum Smiley of SRP pose in front of 175 life jackets donated to the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Lake Patrol. (Photo courtesy of SRP)

cost.

SRP has an ongoing commitment to raise awareness about water safety. To learn more about other water safety resources, including free and low-cost swimming classes, visit [srp.net/watersafety](http://srp.net/watersafety).



The donation provided a short-term use of life jackets for boaters and shoreline swimmers at five county lakes. (Photo courtesy of SRP)



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## LAW ENFORCEMENT

# Weekly report from Maricopa County Sheriff's Office in Fountain Hills

## Calls between Thursday, Aug. 14, and Wednesday, Aug. 20

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office District 7 substation in Fountain Hills reported deputies responded to the following calls during the week from Thursday, Aug. 14, through Wednesday, Aug. 20.

### Thursday, Aug. 14

\*Deputies made a traffic stop for criminal speed on McDowell Mountain Road at mile post one. Deputies report a driver was traveling 70 miles per hour where the speed limit is 45. The driver was issued a criminal citation.

\*Deputies responded to a call for service in the 13000 block of Verde River Drive. A records check related to a subject that was contacted

revealed that the individual had an outstanding warrant. The subject was arrested for the warrant and turned over to Mesa Police for booking.

\*Deputies made a stop on a driver for running a red light at Shea and Palisades boulevards. A records check revealed the driver's license was suspended. The driver was issued a criminal citation.

\*A resident of the 16000 block of Inca Avenue reported a domestic violence assault incident.

\*Deputies responded to the 17000 block of Shea Blvd. where a violation of a court order was reported.

### Friday, Aug. 15

\*Deputies responded to the 13000 block of La Montana Drive where a subject was trespassed from a business after reportedly causing a distur-

bance.

### Saturday, Aug. 16

\*Deputies responded to La Montana Drive and El Lago Boulevard where an unknown driver struck a stop sign at the intersection knocking it down. The motorist then fled the area without reporting the incident.

\*A resident of the 15000 block of Sunflower Drive reported that a house guest at a residence refused to leave after being ordered to do so by the property owner. Deputies removed the unwanted guest from the residence.

\*A resident of the 16000 block of Zane Grey Lane reported a violation of a court order.

### Sunday, Aug. 17

\*Deputies responded to Palisades

and Palomino boulevards for a reported vehicle collision. According to deputies a driver failed to yield from a stop sign and struck another vehicle. No injuries were reported, and no vehicles were towed.

\*A resident of the 17000 block of Calle Del Oro reported that an unknown subject entered the victim's residence without permission and stole property from the residence.

\*Deputies responded to the 11000 block of Tower Drive where the complainant reported being bitten by a dog at a dog park while attempting to stop a dog fight.

### Monday, Aug. 18

\*Deputies responded to the 16000

• See **Call Log** on page 9

# Check out upcoming activities

## Week of Aug. 27 – Sept. 2

Fountain Hills Community Center is maintaining its schedule of week-day events at the Community Center, 13001 N. La Montana Drive at the Cutillo Civic Center. Activities and events generally require a Community Center membership for attendance

Activities are scheduled as follows:

### Wednesday, Aug. 27

- \*8 a.m., Back fit with Pilates.
- \*9 a.m., Video gentle yoga; intermediate bridge.
- \*10 a.m., Open paint studio.
- \*12 p.m., Poker.

\*1 p.m., Scrabble/Rummikub; Euchre.

\*2 p.m., Open jam session.

\*5:45 p.m., Bunco.

### Thursday, Aug. 28

\*8 a.m., Peer led exercise; aerobic chair exercise.

\*9 a.m., Video gentle yoga.

\*9:30 a.m., Beginner line dancing.

\*10 a.m., Open paint studio; intermediate Spanish.

\*10:30 a.m., Alzheimer's support.

\*1 p.m., Table talk/women; Hand & Foot Cards; advanced Mah Jongg; mid/high improv line dancing.

\*4 p.m., Poker.

\*5 p.m., Open paint studio; movie.

### Friday, Aug. 29

\*8 a.m., Back fit with Pilates.

\*9 a.m., Aerobic chair exercise; intermediate bridge; Pinochle.

\*12:30 p.m., Piano Fusion; traditional Mah Jongg; Siamese Mah Jongg.

\*1 p.m., Open table tennis; Mexican train dominoes; Woodcarvers/table top art; board games/Rummikub; documentary series.

### Saturday, Aug. 30

\*Available for special events.

### Sunday, Aug. 31

\*Available for events.

### Monday, Sept. 1

Community Center closed for Labor Day.

### Tuesday, Sept. 2

\*8 a.m., Peer led exercise; aerobic chair exercise.

\*9 a.m., Video gentle yoga; women's poker.

\*9:30 a.m., Intermediate line dancing.

\*10 a.m., Hooks & Needles; open paint studio.

\*12 p.m., Blood pressure checks.

\*12:30 p.m., Social duplicate bridge.

\*1 p.m., Bingo; Mah Jongg; movie.

\*5:30 p.m., Open table tennis.



FYI

**Call Log**

• From page 8

block of Palisades Blvd. where it was reported that an unknown subject took the victim's personal items while helping the victim move belongings to a new residence.

\*A resident of the 14000 block of Cameo Drive reported a domestic violence assault incident.

**Tuesday, Aug. 19**

\*Deputies responded to Avenue of the Fountains and Palisades Boulevard for a reported traffic collision. Deputies report a driver ran a red light and struck another vehicle. One driver was transported to the hospital in non-life-threatening condition. Both vehicles were towed from the scene.

\*MCSO received a report that an

unknown subject forced entry into a vacant residence in the 15000 block of Thistle Drive.

\*Deputies made a traffic stop for an expired vehicle registration at Palisades Boulevard and La Montana Drive. A records check revealed the driver's license was suspended. The driver was issued a criminal citation.

\*A resident of the 16000 block of Gunsight Drive reported a violation of a court order.

**Wednesday, Aug. 20**

\*Deputies responded to Shea Boulevard and Technology Drive for a reported single vehicle traffic collision. According to MCSO the driver lost control of their vehicle and struck a tree in the center median of the roadway. No injuries were reported, and the vehicle was towed from the scene.

# The Valley's nonpartisan newspaper.

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## RADIANCE & RARITY

### A Fine Jewelry Auction

**Sat., Aug. 30 at 12pm**

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# OPINIONS

## Take the Civility Pledge

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Those that are judged as personal attacks or complaints about neighbors, businesses or other opinion writers will not be considered. No person may submit more than two opinions for publication during a calendar month. Two submissions in the same issue will not be published. The content of a submission is the responsibility of the person who submitted it.

## Speak Up

We support the use of pen names. Too many people don't speak up because they fear intimidation or even danger to their families and/or careers. Pen names are an important part of our nation's history.

## Corrections

We will promptly correct all factual errors. We offer a "right of reply" to the people about whom we write. Readers who disagree with a news story are welcome to respond with a letter.

## Public property decisions need consistent community input

I applaud the Fountain Hills Unified School District's recent decision to place the sale of surplus land on the ballot for a community vote. Superintendent Cain's statement that he was glad the public decided on the disposition of the land is a welcome acknowledgment of taxpayers' rights and a move toward greater transparency.

This positive step makes me question a past decision by the district regarding two of our school's athletic courts located on the high school campus. Years ago, the district chose to hand these facilities over to a private group for a membership-based pickleball club. At the time, this was a questionable decision, but now, with the middle school located on the same campus as the high school, those courts are even more essential for student athletic and recreational use.

The voters, many of whom are parents and taxpayers, should have been given the opportunity to decide on the use of this public property. We should have had a chance to weigh the benefits of a monetary gain for the school against the loss of a valuable resource for our children's physical well-being. Adult recreation, while important, should not supersede the needs of our students, especially when it involves converting school property for private use.

I believe that all future decisions about the rental or sale of school property should be made with the same community-first approach demonstrated by the current land sale ballot measure.

**Linda Kavanagh**  
FOUNTAIN HILLS

## This is an American catastrophe

The American catastrophes known internationally as Trump 1, Trump 2 and MAGA are now in full summer bloom. It seems there is no kryptonite to counter their everyday transgressions. Evidence and rational thought have been ignored and replaced by blond-haired bluster and Republican congressional subservience.

We used to have a national capital in Washington, D.C. Now we have an occupied city reminiscent of Paris during World War II. Hopefully our Congressman, David Schweikert, will touch base on this issue in his next email newsletter.

Just putting in my ten cents.

**Larry Mynars**  
FOUNTAIN HILLS

## Concerning Congressman Schweikert's Medicare bill

Congressman David Schweikert has introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives that would automatically enroll older Americans in a private insurance Medicare Advantage plan and lock them into the plan for three years.

Schweikert's bill, H.R.3467, does allow people to opt out and choose traditional Medicare, but the process for doing that is not detailed in the bill. In addition, the bill does not require the Medicare Advantage plan to keep the same network of doctors and hospitals or costs over the three years.

Why would Arizona's District 1 Representative want to force seniors into Medicare Advantage plans that have a reputation of delaying or denying medical treatments?

I hope it is not because CVS Health was a leading contributor to Representative Schweikert's 2023-

2024 re-election campaign with a contribution of \$16,600? This information is from Open Secrets, a non-profit organization that tracks and publishes data on campaign finance and lobbying.

CVS Health, through its Aetna subsidiary, is the third-largest provider of Medicare Advantage plans.

**Michael Husar**  
SCOTTSDALE

## A 'sign' of the times for elections in Fountain Hills

In about a year, Fountain Hills will have a primary election for mayor and three council seats (Larabee, Skillicorn and Kalivianakis).

I think it is likely that all three council seats will be open. Skillicorn wants to run for a Constable slot. Hannah Larabee may step aside for her husband to run, and I don't know what Brenda Kalivianakis' plans are.

Some wannabes can hardly wait. Three have already signed up, including the mayor (see the Town website)! Signature collection and campaign donations are looming, probably after Sept. 5, 2025.

What will this election season look like? Well, for starters, since there won't be any meaningful sign ordinance changes, campaign signage in Fountain Hills has a new lease on life. Everywhere! Anywhere! (Except on Shea.) But the tribal lands east of town on Shea, and on Shea in Scottsdale will be plastered with campaign signs. But it could be educational. For instance, you can have your children count the number of campaign signs from their driveway to Target! All this will take is a friendly "majority" council vote to codify it.

But the best part, whether using signs, in the mail or on social media – will be the lies, exaggerations and



## OPINION

### Opinions

• From page 10

idle promises that will run rampant. For the entire year. Maybe longer. The anticipation is building up. I can't wait.

**Albert Ronca**  
FOUNTAIN HILLS

### We may be in for some déjà vu in Fountain Hills

Just because our town council took a summer break doesn't mean that the mayor and some council members won't be revisiting some oldies but goodies when council is back in session.

I'm looking for another debate on the sign ordinance despite the advice that Planning and Zoning, for the most part, says don't mess with it anymore.

But that's not all. Can you say group homes? Sober homes? The 5G threat? The homeless problem? Yet another downtown development agreement extension? A debate on whose street, not which street, to fix? A host of policy revisions? The call-to-the-public regulars going on about whatever atrocious problems they can come up with?

Unfortunately, reconsidering these topics once again will not make Fountain Hills safer or more attractive or stimulate growth. It will sim-

ply waste precious time.

**Dave Long**  
FOUNTAIN HILLS

### Let's not kick the Park Place can further down the road

In the very near future the mayor and town council will be forced to answer residents' question: "How much longer will you allow the Park Place development to be kicked down the road?"

The Development Agreement for Phases II and III of Park Place first expired more than three years ago. Since that time the council has granted two extensions and appears poised to grant a third. If that happens, those voting in favor should be prepared to transparently and fully explain "why?"

Seven months ago, during the State of the Town address, Mayor Friedel shared the "exciting news" that the developer had received a construction loan term sheet. Friedel's "news" was based on a statement, provided by the developer's spokesperson, that it was "anticipated" that the loan would close in March and construction would begin in April. Well, that didn't happen.

Before proceeding, the council must conduct a due diligence review and determine if the delays are due to generally applicable market condi-

tions or something else.

If it is due to market conditions, the council should be able to state, with confidence, that a change in those conditions is imminent or find an alternative use for the property. If there are other concerns, the council should address them or find an alternative use for the property.

The council should be prepared to articulate the basis for its decision and allow a full discussion from the dais. The council should not follow the recently employed practice of introducing a motion, calling the question and cutting off discussion the residents have a right to hear. If more time is once again granted to kick the can down the road, residents need to know why.

**Beth Culp**  
FOUNTAIN HILLS

### Time to exit the Democrat Party

The signs aren't subtle anymore. Bill Maher, never a conservative, now dines with President Trump and says the party he once supported has become "insane." He hasn't changed. He feels the party has. Consequently, Maher has announced his departure from the Democrat party.

Maher isn't alone. Chris Cuomo, no friend of the Right, declared on-air, "The Democratic Party is dead."

His brother, backed by Bill Clinton and Mike Bloomberg, was crushed by a 33-year-old self-declared socialist who refused to condemn antisemitic slogans. That's what now passes for leadership in New York.

Senator John Fetterman (D-PA), hardly a centrist, called the outcome "Christmas in July for the GOP." When someone like Fetterman warns that the party's brand has become toxic to working-class voters, perhaps it's time to pause. But there is no pause, only a sharp acceleration to the left.

This is no longer the party of JFK or even Bill Clinton. It is the party of socialists Zohran Mamdani and AOC — abolish police, government-run grocery stores, and "globalize the intifada." It's also the party of Kamala Harris, who ran on an agenda drenched in DEI bromides and gender-theory slogans.

Woke ideology has become a cultural toxin, consuming the Democrat Party from within. A creed this toxic cannot last. Its contradictions are collapsing under their own weight. But don't take my word for it. Just listen to the liberals running for the exits.

The Democrat Party may not yet realize it, but it is already in hospice care, sustained only by habit and fear. And for millions of Americans

• See **Opinions** on page 13

## Civility Checklist

How to engage in respectful, honest & civil dialogue about public issues.



☐ **Take the high road.** Respond to the topic — not the person. Refrain from demonizing others for their opinions. Assume those you disagree with are, like you, genuinely interested in improving the community.

☐ **Be respectful.** Bullying, public humiliation, insults, name-calling, harassment and threats directed at another person — or that person's race, gender, religion, ethnicity, etc. — have no place in civil discussions. Find ways to respectfully disagree without questioning someone's character or motives.

☐ **Be truthful.** Base your opinions/arguments on facts. Value honesty. Make only accurate statements when making your point and avoid exaggeration and stereotypes.

When appropriate, cite your sources of information that others may question.

☐ **Don't misrepresent.** Always identify your opinions as opinions (not stating opinions as facts). Never misrepresent the views of others or falsely claim your opinions represent someone else. If quoting the words of others, identify and credit the source.

☐ **Listen and learn.** It's both polite and respectful to listen to those we disagree with (as well as those we support) and be genuine in our attempts to understand their point of view. Expand your mind by thoughtfully seeking out views that don't agree with your own.

☐ **Look for common ground.** When disagreeing with others, look for even small areas of agreement — which can be the gateway to working together for the greater good.

☐ **Respect privacy.** Keep private things private — whether it involves your own information or those with whom you disagree. Revealing private information about someone else is rude, unethical, potentially harmful and, in many cases, illegal.

☐ **Set a good example.** Practice civil behavior online as well as in public and in your interaction with others. Encourage others to practice these civil behaviors. And it's OK to challenge disrespectful behavior — but be courteous, respectful and helpful in your approach.



# ENTERTAINMENT

## Fountain Hills Theater earns 44 AriZoni nominations

### Artistic director emphasizes audience connection

By Cyrus Guccione  
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Fountain Hills Theater earned an impressive 44 nominations for the 2025 AriZoni Awards of Theatrical Excellence, announced Aug. 11.

Leading the way was the 2024–25 season opener, “Ragtime,” which collected a dozen nominations, including Best Overall Musical Production. The youth theater’s “The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood” followed with nine nominations, including Best Overall Youth Production.

In all, the theater’s artistic staff, including Producing Artistic Director Peter J. Hill, actor and designer Elias Matthews and recently retired Ross Collins, received a combined 14 nominations across eight categories.

While 44 nominations is a remarkable total, Hill noted the theater once received 87 nominations in a single year at a time when there were fewer competing companies across the Valley.

For him, the recognition is gratifying, but it isn’t the ultimate reward.

“The validation is appreciated, but frankly I get far more enjoyment from our audience applauding, laughing or crying,” Hill said. “...ultimately, we’re there to provide entertainment. If it’s thought-provoking or moving, so much the better.”

“Ragtime” earned nominations for standout performances by Adam Guinn, Carmichael Blankenship, Aicha Ba, Kris McQuaid, Kori Stearns and Nikki Reeves. It also received nods for Direction (Hill), Music Direction (Kathleen Berger), Choreography (Andrew McDuff), Sound Design and a special citation for the design and



Fountain Hills Theater’s “Ragtime” collected a dozen nominations in the 2024–2025 AriZoni Awards of Theatrical Excellence. (Photo courtesy of Fountain Hills Theater)

construction of an onstage Ford Model T.

“Biloxi Blues” was recognized for Best Overall Play, with additional nominations for director Gil Berry and actor Jack Osgood. In the youth division, “Robin Hood” picked up acting, directing and design nominations, including multiple honors for Collins.

Other productions, such as “City of Angels” and “Brighton Beach Memoirs,” also earned recognition in acting

and technical categories.

In a statement, the Fountain Hills Theater Board of Directors and staff expressed gratitude to the artists, designers, volunteers and actors who contributed to the season’s success.

“For the theater and myself, our deepest thanks to the designers, technicians, volunteers and actors for their hard work,” Hill said. “And best of luck on the night of the ceremonies.”

A full list of nominations is available at: [phxstages.blogspot.com/2025/08/the-2025-arizoni-theatre-awards-of.html](http://phxstages.blogspot.com/2025/08/the-2025-arizoni-theatre-awards-of.html).

The winners will be announced Tuesday, Sept. 30, at the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts.

*Please send your comments to [AzOpinions@iniusa.org](mailto:AzOpinions@iniusa.org). We are committed to publishing a wide variety of reader opinions, as long as they meet our Civility Guidelines. Cyrus Guccione can be reached at [cguccione@iniusa.org](mailto:cguccione@iniusa.org).*

### STAY ENGAGED

## Calvary Chapel brings summer fun indoors for Community Center members

### Event brings food, fellowship and fun to Community Center

More than 100 members of the Fountain Hills Community Center gathered to beat the heat at the third annual Indoor Summer Picnic, sponsored by Calvary Chapel Fountain Hills.

Hosted by Calvary Chapel Pastor Rick and Cheryl Ponzo, the event treated guests to lunch, laughter and lively conversation in a welcoming, family-style atmosphere.

The menu included fried chicken, potato salad, dinner rolls and dessert.

The picnic has quickly become a beloved summer tradition, offering members a chance to connect and celebrate community.

The Community Center expressed gratitude for Calvary Chapel’s ongoing generosity and partnership, noting that events like this strengthen the bonds that make Fountain Hills unique.

In a press release, the Community Center staff said, “Their commitment to fostering connection and community shines brightly through events like this, and we look forward to partnering with them for many more



Community Center members line up for a picnic including fried chicken, potato salad, dinner rolls and dessert. (Photo courtesy of the Fountain Hills Community Center)

wonderful gatherings in the future.”

Plans are already underway for next year’s picnic, ensuring that the spirit of fellowship continues to thrive.



Calvary Chapel volunteers Cheryl Ponzo, Pastor Rick Ponzo, Joe Smith, Brenda Smith, Laurie Scherer and Vic Scherer all helped serve food at the Community Center’s annual Indoor Summer Picnic. (Photo courtesy of the Fountain Hills Community Center)



## OPINION

### Opinions

• From page 11

still loyally casting blue ballots, maybe it's time to ask: Is this truly the party you joined? Or just the shell of one you used to believe in? It may be time for you to find the exit.

**Gregg Dudash**  
FOUNTAIN HILLS

### Gerrymandering brought to the forefront

Texas Legislators, who didn't want to vote on redistricting, ironically hid in one of the many blue states that had been gerrymandered by Democrats for years. The Illinois electoral map is so bizarrely carved up that even fired late-night host Colbert described one congressional seat, District 13, as looking like a scorpion stinger.

By viewing Illinois' 2024 map, area-wise, between 90-95% is in red for Republican. However, Harris won the popular vote by 11% (3,062,863 to 2,449,079). That's 54.37% to 43.47% of the vote. But, due to gerrymandering, the Democrats won 14 congressional district seats compared to losing only three seats to Republicans.

Illinois is only one example of these procedures and bias. Currently the Mayor of Los Angeles is up in arms because ICE representatives

are arresting the worst of the illegals that flooded into the country under Biden. Mayor Bass and state officials are losing long-time California residents who are leaving the tax-pit state in droves. The Department of Homeland Security estimates that 2.6 million illegals reside in California.

There's a nonsense Washington, D.C., rule that congressional legislative districts count all bodies (including illegal immigrants). Fifteen percent of the state's 39 million population are trespassers, thus California has more congressional seats than they rightfully should have, if common sense was anywhere on the horizon.

Before the summer of 2025 Republicans were hesitant to object to the mandatory count of all bodies in states for fear of being accused of racism. This time around with Chinese, Mexicans, other Central Americans, Africans, South Americans, Middle Easterners, all teaming across the border, it has spotlighted the problem of illegal immigration. Also, by discussing redistricting in an off year it has brought to the forefront the universal gerrymandered that's been prevalent.

Isn't transparency great? And as John Adams said, "facts are stubborn things."

**Chris Brant**  
FOUNTAIN HILLS



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## SCHOOLS

## SCHOOL BOARD

# Fountain Hills adopts 2 supplemental programs

By Jason W. Brooks

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

With one vote in opposition on a pair of measures, the Fountain Hills Unified School District Governing Board approved two supplemental project-based learning programs at its Aug. 6 meeting.

Defined Learning is a supplemental program the district will use for project-based learning. Edgenuity will be a program used for Fountain Hills High School student credit recovery and virtual learning settings, largely replacing what's left of the district's PLP online program.

Superintendent Cain Jagodzinski and Board Vice President Madicyn Reid had a lengthy dialogue about whether to start using the two programs on a contractual basis.

Jagodzinski said he believes both



**Fountain Hills Unified School District Governing Board Vice President Madicyn Reid speaks during a recent meeting. With Reid the lone "no" vote, the board approved a pair of supplemental software-based programs at its Aug. 6 meeting. (Independent Newsmedia/Jason W. Brooks)**

programs cost the district "less than \$20,000 each" per year, though he didn't have exact costs or rates handy or published in the Aug. 6 agenda packet.

"I can't vote for something where

we don't have a cost attached," Reid said. "And I think we should be using that money to pay our teachers more, instead of giving taxpayer money to a for-profit business."

Board member Lillian Acker said supplemental programs have been an established and essential part of modern teaching for some time.

"You cannot invent everything yourself," Acker said. "This is not about teacher's abilities. Sometimes, they need help."

Reid said she sees the benefit, but not the need.

"This, to me, is where I think we make the mistake," Reid said. "We talk about resources for our teachers. We talk about teacher pay all the time. I feel we should take the money we're giving to a for-profit company and give it to teachers, who are prob-

ably already doing some type of project-based learning anyway."

"You still have to give teachers resources," Jagodzinski said. "One of the ways we get teachers to work hard and help improve letter grades and proficiencies is by supporting their classroom needs."

Jagodzinski said the money comes from capital funds, which can't be used for maintenance and operations expenses, such as teacher salaries.

"We say that all the time, Cain," Reid told the superintendent. "But the truth is, we can move funds from one to the other."

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## SCHOOL NEEDS

## Second Chance store fulfills needs, wants for local students

By Jason W. Brooks

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Like other school staff, the weeks leading up to and after the start of school keep Steffnie Beck busy.

Fortunately, she's been able to not only get the Second Chance Store up and running at Fountain Hills Middle School, but also stocked up on the kinds of items students need the most this time of year.

"Running Second Chance is a true labor of love," said Beck, a receptionist and administrative assistant at the middle school. "It takes about an hour each morning before work to stock, organize and prepare everything for the kids."

The "store" is not the kind meant

to be profitable in the monetary sense. Its profits are seen in the dignity, self-respect and occasional smiles on the faces of students who choose and/or need the products on hand.

Second Chance is a classroom in building G at the middle school where students can shop without cost for things they want or need. It offers donated Falcon gear and other apparel, school supplies, toiletries and small gifts — supplies being somewhat dependent on recent donations.

The store is Beck's invention and one she had been thinking about for much of her 20 years working in schools, though it's taken grants, do-



**Thanks to cash and item donations from residents and organizations, a wide variety of school and fun items are now available to Fountain Hills Middle School students via the Second Chance store. (Courtesy of Steffnie Beck)**

• See **Students** on page 15



# Councilwoman visits Inspiration Academy



Fountain Hills Councilwoman Brenda Kalivianakis visited Inspiration Academy on the first day of the new semester to discuss her journey into politics and field questions from students. "I was so impressed with the facilities, the passion of the staff and the intelligence of the students," Kalivianakis said. "It was a wonderful day and Fountain Hills is so fortunate to have that institution here in town." (Photo provided by Laura Thurbon)

# Terrific Kids recognized



Fountain Hills Noon Kiwanis has announced McDowell Mountain Elementary School Terrific Kids for the month of August. They were recently recognized by Dead of Students Nicole Latona (left) and Lauren Stratton (right). Winners are selected based on being thoughtful, enthusiastic, respectful, responsible, inclusive, friendly, inquisitive and competent. August's winners are Haven H., Grace M., Hudson M., Klemen K., Vivienne K. and Sierra B. (Photo submitted by Lauren Stratton)



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## EDUCATION

### Students

• From page 14

nations and the hard work of several volunteers to bring it all to fruition.

Students don't use cash or bank cards at the store. Last school year, it was open both to all students who have earned PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) points, with Beck supplied with a list of such eligible students eligible and her choosing to 5-8 students a day to shop in the store.

Other students are referred to Beck by staff.

Beck said during August and September, the store is filled with essential school supplies and clothing. At the end of September, she said, shelves will be transformed to include a wider variety of fun items like toys, games, sports equipment and even some Halloween costumes.

Over the summer, Beck said the store received an overwhelming number of donations from generous members of the community. Those follow a grant last year from the Fountain Hills Community Foundation.

Chill Boutique is one of the store's biggest supporters, Beck said, donating trendy and age-appropriate clothing that students love.

She thanks residents like Christina Le Tourneau, who donated a wide assortment of items from an estate sale that includes everything from clothing to one-of-a-kind trinkets.

She said one of the most impactful donations came from the Rio Verde Community Christmas Project — \$7,000.

"This funding has opened up incredible opportunities for our students," Beck said of the Christmas Project's donation. "Last year, we used a portion to fund the middle school dance by covering the cost of a deejay, ensuring every student could



Sports equipment, clothing and more are available through Second Chance. (Courtesy of Steffnie Beck)

enjoy a fun and inclusive evening."

She said eight Google Chromebook computers were purchased to help students with their studies, and this year, the store will be helping students cover sports participation fees. A lunch account has been opened to support students in need of a warm meal during the school day, she said.

Beck said funds and unexpected item donations really help, but it's tougher to find the niche or uncommon items students need and seek. That's where she has to get creative.

"One of our favorite sources for treasures is (Facebook group) Fountain Hills Freebies," Beck said. "But you'll also find me hunting through garage and estate sales for unique finds."

Beck said individual efforts are needed to make Second Chance

special, too. Cindy Miller, she said, works tirelessly to provide beautifully wrapped gift baskets for every holiday.

"These are a huge hit with students, giving them a chance to pick out gifts for themselves or others," Beck said. "All ready to go — no wrapping needed."

Four Peaks Women's Club volunteers staff the store two days per week during lunch during the school year, help create a welcoming, friendly shopping experience for all, she said.

Beck said parents and even students, helping their peers, have gotten involved.

"One student and her mother, who frequently donate to the store, even helped design a 'teacher's store' over the summer using only racks and creativity," Beck said. "It was officially

opened for staff during the Back-to-School luncheon and was a huge success."

Beck, whose two children are Fountain Hills graduates, said the impact of Second Chance goes beyond just middle school.

"We've also been able to support Fountain Hills High School, donating dress shirts for students who didn't have proper attire for school pictures," Beck said. "One teacher even received work-appropriate items to help students dress for a class project."

When clothing or other personal items are too small for middle-school students, those go to the younger students in the K-12 district, at McDowell Mountain Elementary, where the school nurse ensures those go to children who need them.

"We're often asked how to support our student store — and we're so grateful for the interest," Beck said. "Donations help keep it fun and meaningful."

Beck said there are no limits to how Second Chance can help students, staff, and families alike.

"Thanks to the generous, caring people of Fountain Hills, this store is truly changing lives," Beck said.

Here are some items that students love and that Beck appreciates as donations:

- ♦ Sports equipment: basketballs, soccer balls, volleyballs
- ♦ Games & fidgets: card games, board games, small toys
- ♦ Room items: LED lights, posters
- ♦ School supplies & trinkets: notebooks, gel pens
- ♦ All donations should be new or gently used and age-appropriate.

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# Military Active Duty Honor Roll

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 7507 and the *Fountain Hills Times Independent* wishes to honor residents, or close relatives of residents, of Fountain Hills, Verde communities and Fort McDowell who are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces

NAME & RANK	BRANCH OF SERVICE	CURRENT DEPLOYMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	NAME & RANK	BRANCH OF SERVICE	CURRENT DEPLOYMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
1st Lt. Tyson Alexander	Marines	Camp Pendleton, Ca.	3	Major Mike Mansell	Army	Germany	8
Col. Kevin J. Anderson	Marines	Afghanistan	25	Lt. Nick Massie	Army	Walter Reed Hospital, DC	6
Pfc. Nicholas M. D'Andia*	Army	Fort Rucker, Al	1	Capt. Eric L. Metzger	Air Force	Keesler AFB, Miss,	8
MGYSgt Chad Antes	Marines	Retired	30	Capt. Robert C. Meyersohn	Air Force	Iraq	6
Col Gabriel Avilla	Air Force	Langley AFB, Virginia	22	2nd Lt Garrett A Miller	Army	Korea	1
Gy Sgt Jeremy Baker*	Marines	29 Palms. Ca	17	Sgt Alexander Mynars*	Marines	Okinawa, Japan	7
Capt. Shon S. Belcher	Marines	Afghanistan	8	Staff Sgt. BayLee Mynars	Marines	Okinawa, Japan	6
1st Lt. Jonathan Bonde*	Air Force	Cannon AFB, NM	3	pc Justin Nelson*	Army	Korea	1
LMN2 Eric Brookhouser	Navy	San Diego, Ca.	1	Capt. Ronald L. Olson	Navy	Balboa Hosp. San Diego	26
Sgt Beau J R Boyd	Marines	Iraq	5	LCMR Matthew S. Paul*	Navy	Norfolk, VA	14
PO2 Travis Burke*	Coast Guard	Coos Bay, Oregon	3	PO3Max Tyler Pelot*	Navy (Corpsman)	Camp Pendleton, Ca	31
E5 IT3 John Burton*	Navy	Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	3	PFC Carson Perkins	Army	Fort Huachuca, AZ	2
CDR Michael Christoph	Navy	NAS Lemoore, CA	16	PFC Casey Perkins	Army	Fort Bliss, Tx	1
P.O, First Class Correy A Bushman	Navy	Medical Readiness Tr Bremerton	14	Lt. Col Blaine Peterson	Air Force	Iraq	20
Gy Sgt. Shane W. Butler	Marines	NSA Hampton Roads, VA	17	Lan Cpl Jacob Pittsenbarger	Marines	Camp Pendleton, Ca	2
Capt. David Byrne	Air Force	Travis AFB, Calif.	6	Lt. Col. Brian Polk	Army	Fort Houston, Tx	27
Capt. Michael Byrne	Air Force	Phoenix, AZ	4	Capt. Bryan J. Pranski	Army	Chicago, Ill.	10
CMSgt RichardT. Cain	AF (Ret)	Mt Home AFB, Idaho	30	Ad E2 Andrew Prins*	Navy	NAS, Fl	1
2nd Lt. Marie Carillo	Army	Del Rio, Tx	3	2nd Lt Matt Rindel*	Air Force	North Carolina	3
1st Lt. Christopher D. Carillo*	Air Force	Hill AFB, Utah	5	Major Lars Rockholm	Marines	Alexandria, Va.	12
2nd Lt. Anthony J. Carillo*	Air Force	Deployed	3	M.Sgt. Nathan C. Rohn*	Marines	Camp Lejeune NC	20
2nd Lt. Michael F. Carillo*	Air Force	North Carolina	3	Pfc Zach C. Rollings*	Army	Afghanistan	8
Peter Carollo*	AF Academy	Colorado	2	Pv2 Nick Rollings*	National Guard	Prescott, AZ	8
Sgt Case Collins*	Marines	MCAS Cherry Point, NC	3	Ensign Robert A.L. Rosenthal	Navy	Omaha, NE	12
Pfc Michael E. Craig	Marines	Okinawa, Japan	1	Pfc Robert A. Rossfeld*	Army	Afghanistan	2
Sgt. E6 Mark A. Crosby	Army	Ft Bliss, Texas	6	ET1 Michael L. Schluter	Navy	USS Carl Vinson CVN 70	12
L.Cpl Aaron Davis	Marines	Camp Lejeune, NC	1	OSI (EXW) Arthur Schofield	Navy	Afghanistan	14
SPC Blake M. Dargavel	Army	Afghanistan	1	Bm3. Jonathan J. Shine	Coast Guard	Newport, Rhode Island 6	6
STS1 John DeMeyer	Navy	NSF Groton, Conn.	16	E4 Andrew Schumacher	Navy	Naval Station Norfolk	3
1st Lt. Matthew P. Fierro*	Army	Ft Bliss, Texas	2	Pfc. Ryan T. Simmons	Air Force	Abu Dhabi	1
Lt. Kyle Frazer	Army	Germany	6	Pvt. Dennis Sitton*	Army	San Antonio,Tx	1
SPC Russell Gilligan	Army	Fort Bragg, NC	1	Airman E3 Michael J Smith*	Navy	San Diego, Ca.	1
Brian Gratz*	Air Force	Baltimore, Md	1	Spc. Robert Steele	Army	Afghanistan	5
SSG Ryan P. Guilfoil	Army	Phoenix, AZ	2	Maj Olivia Stehlik	Army	Fort Campbell, KY	16
1st Lt. Todd Hadley	Air Force	Goodfellow AFB, Tx	7	Cmdr Dan R. Stock	Navy	Carrier Strike Group 12 Va	21
Major Jeff Hanson	Marines	San Antonio, Tx	14	Sgt. Cory Stockman*	Marines	Honduras Embassy	5
Major Joseph F. Hockmuth	Army	Ft. Lewis, Wa.	22	MC3 Grant Stoltz*	Navy	Sasebo, Japan	3
IT3 Tyler Hodge	Navy	USS Makin Island	3	MMN3 Jessica Thiel	Navy	Goose Creek, SC	1
Lt. Col Eric Hoversten	Air Force	Elmendorf AFB, Ak	20	2nd Lt Andrew J. Tilden	Marines	Quantico, VA	1
Capt. Michael J. Howard*	Army	Fort Drum, NY	7	E2 Michael Alan Tilden	Army	Ft Leanard Wood	1
MSgt. James M. Hyland	Air Force	Afghanistan	5	SSGT Airman Derrick Underwood*	Air Force	Hill AFB, Utah	5
Major Alex James	Marines	Pentagon	12	Spc Bill Urbelis	Army	Camp Taji, Iraq	2
Spc. Charles P. Jones II*	Army	Fort Bliss, Tx	7	Major Jason K. Vaught*	Air Force	Hurlburt AFB, FL	12
P.O. Kristofer Jones*	Navy	USS Nimitz (CVN68)	8	Major Megan Vaught	Air Force	Hurlburt AFB, FL	11
Sgt.Michael Jones*	Marines	Goodfellow AFB, Tx	4	Capt. Anthony Vitellaro*	Air Force	Anchorage, AK	10
1st Lt. Joshua Kandybowicz	Army	Afghanistan	3	Cpl Shane Waldo	Marines	Okinawa, Japan	3
E3 Kaylie Kantor*	Navy	Pensacola NAS	1	Pvt. Tyler Welch	Army	Afghanistan	25
LtCol. Adam Keith*	Air Force	Langley AFB, Virginia	17	CWO Daniel White*	Army	Germany	10
Tsgt Nicholas Larson*	Air Force	Kirtland AFB, NM	9	2nd Lt Peyton Willigrod	Air Force	Columbus AFB, Miss.	1
Cpl. Jonathan Lawson	Marines	Pendleton, Ca.	3	Sgt. Gabriel D. Williams*	Army	Iraq	5
Capt. Tom Lesnick	Air Force	Lakenheath, England	20	2nd Lt Isaac Wilson	Marines	Quantico, VA	1
Capt. Kelly(Scribner) Lesnick	Air Force	Lakenheath, England	5	Pfc. Merle Yazzie	Army	Ft Stewart, Ga.	1
Gm2 Maxwell T. Link*	Navy	USS Pinckney	1	TSgt. Ryan Young*	Air Force	Hickham AFB, Hawaii	12
Pfc. Joseph Luca*	Marines	Afghanistan	2	Col Tyler Zagurski	Marines	The Pentagon	24
Major Kyle Lund	Air Force	Albuquerque, NM	7				
Sgt. William J. MacDonald	Army	National Guard (IP)	6				
2nd Lt. PavanManhas*	Air Force	Kirtland AFB, NM	1				

## \* Denotes: FHHS Graduates

**Note:** Many of those on this list who are currently deployed in the United States have completed one or more tours of duty overseas

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 7507 wishes to honor residents or close relatives of residents of Fountain Hills, the Verde Communities, North Scottsdale and Fort McDowell who are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. This Honor Roll will be published in the Fountain Hills Times Independent once each month until further notice. Please help to keep this Honor Roll up to date by reporting additions and deletions as they occur to Carl Krawczyk at [c.krawczyk@hotmail.com](mailto:c.krawczyk@hotmail.com) or 480-215-3899. You may also contact the VFW Post at [vfw7507@yahoo.com](mailto:vfw7507@yahoo.com)



## RELIGION

## MINISTRY

# Shepherd of the Hills members support the American Indian Christian Mission

## Church members visit Show Low

This summer, members of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church (SOTH) in Fountain Hills traveled to Show Low to support the work of the American Indian Christian Mission (AICM) and its Apache Christian Connection "Blue Bus" ministry.

Shepherd of the Hills supports AICM year-round as one of the church's mission partners, providing ongoing prayer, financial support and encouragement for its work with the Native American community.

The Blue Bus team travels to communities on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, offering a day of summer fun that includes sports, crafts, lunch and sharing Bible stories and songs with children.

The goal, says AICM Director Jeff Cline, is to "evangelize and equip Native Americans for Christ" while building relationships of trust and respect with children, families, pastors and tribal leaders.

In addition to participating in the Blue Bus outreach, the SOTH Quil-



The Blue Bus team travels to communities on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, offering a day of sports, crafts, lunch and sharing Bible stories and songs with children. (Photo courtesy of SOTH)

ters group created and donated 15 handmade quilts for students who will live on campus during the coming school year.

Founded in 1985, AICM's boarding school serves students in grades 3-9, providing both academic education and Bible study, according to a



Shepherd of the Hills members recently visited the American Indian Christian Mission in Show Low and its Apache Christian Connection "Blue Bus." (Photo courtesy of SOTH)

press release. Students live in dormitories during the week under the care of dorm parents. The mission also reaches out to families through home visits, parent-teacher conferences and family ministry.

Visiting ministry teams from across the country are invited to participate in AICM's on-campus Vacation Bible

School programs, which extend the mission's outreach and create lasting connections with the community.

For more information about Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church and its mission partnerships, visit [sothaz.com/missions](http://sothaz.com/missions) or call 480-837-9532.



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SBC



## JEWISH LEARNING



The Chabad of Fountain Hills is welcoming students ages four to 13 to enroll in the 2025-2026 Hebrew School year. (Times Independent file photo)

# Chabad opens Hebrew school registration

**Hebrew school open for children ages 4 to 13**

Chabad of Fountain Hills recently announced that registration is now open for its upcoming Hebrew School year, offering an exceptional Jewish educational experience for children ages four to 13.

The weekly program begins this fall and will take place every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Chabad Edelman Jewish Center, 16830 Avenue of the Fountains.

Designed for both beginners and those with prior exposure, Chabad's Hebrew School combines tradition with creativity to instill Jewish values, Hebrew literacy and a love for Judaism in a fun and engaging atmosphere.

The curriculum includes Hebrew reading, Jewish history, prayer skills,

Jewish holidays, JewQ international competition, arts and crafts, music and more.

"We strive to make Judaism come alive for our students," said Tzipi Lipskier, director of Chabad Hebrew School. "Our caring and experienced staff work hard to ensure each child feels proud and connected to their heritage."

The Hebrew School features friendly, nurturing teachers and affordable tuition. No synagogue membership is required and scholarships are available.

The program is open to all Jewish children regardless of background, affiliation or prior knowledge. For more information or to register, visit [JewishFountainHills.com/CHS](http://JewishFountainHills.com/CHS) or contact Tzipi Lipskier at 480-795-6292.

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## CLUBS

# FOUR PEAKS ROTARIANS SUPPORT FHUSD



Members of the Four Peaks Rotary have remained busy this summer, constructing a sun shelter and building a garden for the students at the McDowell Mountain Elementary School. (Photo courtesy of Four Peaks Rotary Club)



Four Peaks Rotarians are also supporting a garden "refresh" project at the McDowell Mountain Elementary School. (Photo courtesy of Four Peaks Rotary Club)



According to the Four Peaks Rotarians, the project will enhance basic education for students at the McDowell Mountain Elementary School. (Photo courtesy of Four Peaks Rotary Club)



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**SUSAN DAWSON**  
602-550-1330



**16134 E RIDGESTONE DR.**  
2 BED/2 BATH, 1,709 SQFT  
\$1,215,000 | MLS# 6883560  
**PATRICIA KENNEY**  
480-216-4948



**15528 E GOLDEN EAGLE BLVD.**  
4 BED/3.5 BATH 4,062 SQFT  
\$1,450,000 | MLS# 6907381  
**Lisa Berry**  
317-698-1032



**13818 N SAGUARO BLVD. #201**  
2 BED/2 BATH, 1,032 SQFT  
\$339,900 | MLS# 6901209  
**MELINDA STANTON**  
480-688-9191



**16323 E GLENBROOK**  
3 BED/2 BATH, 1,500 SQFT  
\$544,999 | MLS# 6894174  
**LOUIS MCCALL II/KRISTI HINKLE**  
404-831-2353 / 734-497-0340



**16450 E AVE OF THE FTNS #8**  
3 BED/2 BATH, 1,603 SQFT  
\$503,000 | MLS# 6899126  
**MELINDA STANTON**  
480-688-9191



**12040 N SAGUARO #104**  
2+BED/2BATH, 1,717 SQFT  
\$439,900 | MLS# 6894772  
**MELINDA STANTON**  
480-688-9191



**9504 N DESERT WASH TRL**  
4+BED/4.5 BATH, 5,607 SQFT  
\$4,800,000 | MLS# 6899306  
**JOHN/IRENE GURCZAK**  
480-272-1308 / 480-272-1307



**16107 E EMERALD DR., #108**  
2 BED/2 BATH, 1,355 SQFT  
\$359,900 | MLS# 6903135  
**MAYRA PETRONE**  
480-577-7935

## LOTS FOR SALE

Lot 9-P N Ambush Lot 9P  
New on Market - 4.59 acres  
\$199,000 | MLS# 6887819  
**KELLY SMITH** - 602-628-1032

14210 E Coyote Way Lot 39  
New on Market - 1.19 acres  
\$499,000 | MLS# 6900356  
**KELLY SMITH** - 602-628-1032

16003 E Trevino, Lot 16  
New on Market - 1.43 acres  
\$235,000 | MLS# 6896820  
**KELLY SMITH** - 602-628-1032

16208 E Glenbrook, Lot 10  
New on Market - 1 acre  
\$235,000 | MLS# 6902264  
**KELLY SMITH** - 602-628-1032

11426 N Crestview, Lot 3  
New on Market - 1.9 acres  
\$575,000 | MLS 6896489  
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## ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

# Advances in Clinical Research UPDATE



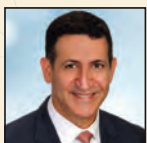
by Dr. Marwan Noel Sabbagh

Professor of Neurology  
Barrow Neurological Institute

**Tuesday, September 9**

**2:30–3:30PM**

**Refreshments Served**



Marwan Noel Sabbagh, MD

Marwan Noel Sabbagh, MD, is a board-certified neurologist specializing in geriatrics who has dedicated his career to finding a cure for Alzheimer's and other age-related neurodegenerative diseases. He hopes to work himself out of a job!

A leading investigator for many prominent national Alzheimer's treatment trials, Dr. Sabbagh is editor-in-chief of *Neurology and Therapy*, with bylines in hundreds of medical and scientific articles on Alzheimer's research. His most recently published book is *Strong Heart, Sharp Mind*.

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## CROCHETING KINDNESS



Open to all experience levels, Hooks and Needles provides knitted items for several Arizona-based organizations. (Times Independent file photo)

# Hooks and Needles meets every Tuesday

## Members knit and crochet

The long-standing community group Hooks and Needles invites new members to join its weekly knitting and crocheting gatherings at the Fountain Hills Community Center.

Established more than 20 years ago, Hooks and Needles is a sharing group — not a teaching class — where members come together to exchange patterns, share advice and enjoy the companionship of fellow crafters.

The group is open to all skill levels, from beginners to experienced knitters and crocheters. In addition to fostering community, Hooks and Needles contributes to local charities through its handmade

## WANT TO JOIN HOOKS AND NEEDLES?

Stop by the Fountain Hills Community Center Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

creations. In 2024, members donated more than 3,500 items to Arizona-based organizations and nonprofits across the Valley.

The group meets every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Fountain Hills Community Center. Community Center membership is required. For more information, contact the Fountain Hills Community Center at 480-816-5200.



## YOUTH PRODUCTION

# Paige Productions presents 'Aladdin Jr.'

**Youth Theater production  
features 39 performers**

Step into a whole new world when "Aladdin Jr." takes the stage at Paige Productions Youth Theater, Sept. 12 and 13, at 7 p.m.

Paige Productions presents this musical featuring a cast of 39 talented young performers from across the Valley.

Based on Disney's beloved animated film and the hit Broadway production, "Aladdin Jr." tells the story of a kind but street-smart young man whose life changes when he discovers a magical lamp and the Genie who can grant him three wishes.

With courage, cleverness and a little magic, Aladdin must win the heart of Princess Jasmine and prove that he is more than just a "diamond in the rough."

Performers include: Alexandria Bolton, Audrey Bernhardt, Brecken Schechterman, Caitlin Taweponsomkiat, Christine Quarles, Elaina Silva, Ellie Habicht, Elliott Baggett, Finley Hermie, Frankie Benevento, Harlequin Kohler, Havish Santhosh and Hyrum Rucker.

The cast also includes Jordan Abrams, Juliana Schechterman, Juliette Habeeb, Kayla Roholt, Kaylee Morrissey, Kendra Bernhardt, Kennedy Lettieri, Kensley Straub, Kinley Clark and Kyla Roland.

Also Lola Castillo, Madelyn Yates, Marcy Bender, Melody Beckman, Natalie Southard, Olivia Habicht, Paige Daigger, Paige Underwood, Peter Quan, Seah Kalika, Tatum Daigger, Theresa DeWitte, Tyler



Caitlin Taweponsomkiat shines as Jasmine in "Aladdin Jr.," which performs for the public Friday and Saturday, Sept. 12 and 13, at 7 p.m. (Photo courtesy of PYT)

Robinson, Violet Wilson and Whitney Carponelli.

Tickets are \$5. For more information about Paige Productions Youth Theater or to get tickets, visit [paige-productionsAZ.com](http://paige-productionsAZ.com) or call 480-375-8058.

All Paige Productions camps, classes, events, and performances are held at 13001 N. Fountain Hills Blvd.

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- Aug. 30: Luckiest Man in America
- Sept. 6: How to train your Dragon (The Movie)
- Sept. 13: The Accountant 2
- Sept. 20: Elio
- Sept. 27: Superman

SEPT  
18

## PEACHES & PROSECCO

THURSDAY, SEPT. 18 - 11:30AM - 1 PM

Fountain View Village Dining Room

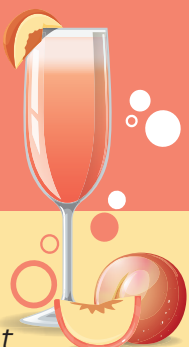
Celebrate the sweetness of the season with us at a charming midday event featuring peach-inspired delights, sparkling prosecco, and warm community connections.

Enjoy a tastefully crafted menu, festive sips, and peach-themed fun inspired by the vibrant flavors of late summer and the **locally sourced Utah freestone peaches** from the **Fountain Hills Farmers Market**.

**RSVP today—space is limited!**

Call **480-836-5000** to reserve your seat.

*We look forward to sharing this sweet afternoon with you!*



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# SPORTS

## SEASON PREVIEW



The Fountain Hills High School volleyball team celebrating winning the Silver Bracket in the Snowflake "Be Like Nat" Invitational in 2024. (Photo courtesy Fountains Hills High School athletics Instagram page)

## Young Falcons volleyball squad embraces the new

Compiled By Richard Smith  
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The high school girls volleyball season begins today at schools across the state. Fountain Hills plays host to Veritas Prep at 6 tonight. The Fountain Hills Times Independent asked the Falcons' coach about her teams. Here are her responses:

as coach)

**2024 Record:** 21-14 overall, 7-1 region (2A first round)

**Region:** 2A Central

**Top returning players:** Saedee Smith, junior S. 2024 stats: 266 assists, 179 digs, 122 kills. Lilly Miller, senior L. 108 digs, 15 aces. Saedee Smith will be stepping into a big role

**Fountain Hills Falcons**

**Coach:** Olivia Long (fifth season

• See **Volleyball** on page 25



SPORTS

Volleyball  
• From page 24

as our main varsity setter, Lilly Miller will wear the libero jersey this year and Zoe Jagodzinski is trying out a new position as a middle blocker.

**Who are some of the newcomers that may have an impact this year?** We have four newcomers. junior Devin Scheunemann and sophomores: Mia Junk, Nya Cederoth and Kinley McAloon. Mia will be our other setter stepping into a 6-2 rotations so we expect her to play a pretty big role and Kinley will be our biggest blocker at the net.

**What is your team’s best attribute entering this season?** This team has a pretty decent defense. What we lack in size and experience, we make up for in hustle and scrappiness.

**Which teams on this season’s schedule are you most looking for-**

**ward to and will be the toughest?** We always enjoy playing our longtime friends Camp Verde, St. Johns and Scottsdale Christian. They also put up our biggest challenge which is probably what makes it so fun to play against them. We love the competition.

**What are the primary goals for this year’s team?** We graduated a few solid seniors this past season, including our Region Player of the Year Kit Garmann and co-defensive Region Player of the Year Seesee Smith, so with their absences we’re expecting to have some rebuilding to do. We also have a fairly young roster with four of 10 players being underclassmen. That being said our goals this year are to make a solid playoff push which means ending our season in the top 24 of the 2A Conference and, more than that, ending in the top eight which would put us straight into the playoff bracket and avoiding a play-in game.

Answers:

C	A	B	S				S	S	C			S	O	W	
B	L	O	C	S			U	C	A			S	A	G	A
S	A	N	A	A			C	O	N			A	B	E	L
	S	A	B	O	T		C	W	T			S	L	E	D
					A	B	O	L	I	S		H	E	S	
T	R	A	N	S	P	A	R	E	N	T					
S	A	M	B	A	E	D		D	A	O					
H	Y	P	E	D							R	E	M	I	T
					I	S	M		T	A	M	A	B	L	E
					S	H	O	W	E	R	S	T	A	L	L
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H	A	M	E		C	A	R		S	A	B	E	R		
A	C	E	S		K	I	D			A	L	L	E	N	
L	E	E	S		E	N	E			R	A	B	B	I	
F	D	R			D	E	N				B	A	S	T	

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## Mike Ford

1951–2025

Skeet Shooter, Unicyclist, Beverly Hillbillies Scholar, and Lifelong Moe

Mike Ford, 74, took his final shot at life and—true to form—hit it dead center. He passed away peacefully, presumably because Heaven needed someone who could shoot clays, wrangle falcons, and tell a killer joke all at the same time.

Born in 1951, Mike came into this world ready to do things his way. That included winning a bronze medal in skeet shooting at the 1968 Olympics—because apparently silver was just too mainstream. A proud Mason and lifelong Gideon, he balanced deep faith with deep belly laughs. He had a moral compass, but it also pointed toward the golf course on most weekdays.

He was also a Moe. Nobody quite knows what a Moe is, but you definitely know one when you see one. Mike embodied the Moe spirit with a mix of wisdom, sarcasm, and the kind of grin that made you suspicious (in a good way). As he passes on, he leaves the torch in the capable—if questionably responsible—hands of the remaining Moes. May they carry on his legacy with wit, wild ideas, and just enough chaos to keep things interesting.

Mike was many things: a father, a friend, a falconer (yes, with real birds), and a man who once rode a unicycle through

Switzerland just to prove the Alps were more fun with a little wobble. He believed in strong coffee, questionable jokes, and that The Beverly Hillbillies was the pinnacle of American culture—he was probably right.

He leaves behind his family, several confused falcons, a set of golf clubs with names, and a DVR still 78% full of Beverly Hillbillies reruns. We assume his last words were something witty and inappropriate, but unfortunately, no one wrote them down.

A celebration of Mike's life will be held soon, complete with inappropriate toasts, lawn chairs, and possibly a unicycle tribute (helmets required). In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to your local skeet shooting range, falconry club, or rerun preservation society.

And remember—if you hear a faint “Y’all come back now, ya hear?” on the wind, that’s just Mike, making sure we’re still laughing... and watching the Moes.

RIP BMF

# Area Home Sales

August 4, 2025 - August 8, 2025

## Rio Verde

17249 E Fort Verde Rd	\$1,299,999	18024 E Slide Rock Dr	\$823,934
29667 N Juventino Way	\$1,609,828	26401 N Trails End	\$865,000
18229 E Massai Point Dr	\$1,198,000	19004 E Via Hermosa	\$730,000
17543 E Silver Sage Ln	\$645,000		

Homes sold this period:	7	Median Price:	\$865,000	Average price:	\$1,024,537
Same period last year:	4	Median Price:	\$660,549	Average price:	\$902,150

## Fountain Hills

17008 E Alamosa Ave	\$560,000	17216 E Salida Dr Unit B	\$502,000
9253 N Firebrick Dr Unit 111	\$360,000	17355 E Teal Dr	\$450,000
16804 E Monterey Dr	\$840,000	16839 E Widgeon Ct	\$750,000
9711 N Palisades Blvd	\$3,835,000	14636 N Yerba Buena Way Apt B	\$230,000

Homes sold this period:	8	Median Price:	\$531,000	Average price:	\$940,875
Same period last year:	5	Median Price:	\$910,000	Average price:	\$1,034,000

Properties listed may have been sold by various Brokers &/or Owners.



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# BUSINESS

## HOME REPAIRS

# Doug Bolter: handyman and personal concierge

**Former financial advisor turned handyman fixing homes for across town and beyond**

By Cyrus Guccione  
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Driving around town in his trusty Nissan Xterra, Doug Bolter often fields phone calls or texts from someone who spots the handyman sign on his SUV: "No task or project is too small; Done right – the first time."

Owner of Handyman Personal Concierge, Bolter tackles a wide range of projects; from hanging TVs and repairing drywall to painting and

replacing fixtures. He provides quick, reliable service for those without the time or know-how for home repairs.

What began as a labor of love has grown into a full-fledged business and Bolter hopes to help as many people as possible along the way.

At a young age, Bolter discovered his passion for building while helping his father construct a cottage in northern Wisconsin. That joy of working with his hands led him to a lifelong hobby of tinkering — taking things apart, putting them back together and reselling.

From stereo equipment to bicycles, Bolter still enjoys hunting down broken items, repairing them and re-



The Handyman Personal Concierge work vehicle is a Nissan Xterra. (Photo courtesy of Doug Bolter)

selling them on eBay.

### Heart of gold

A few years ago, when Bolter was spending more time at home to take



The before and after of a walk-in closet by Doug Bolter. (Photo courtesy of Doug Bolter)

care of his ailing mother, he realized he could put his skills to use for others. It started small, like running err-

• See **Bolter** on page 31

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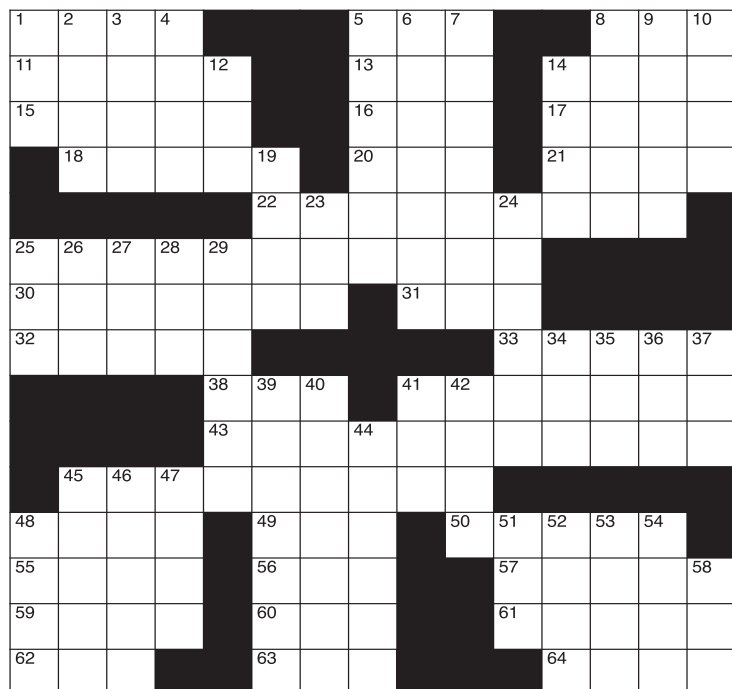
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Answers on page 25

### CLUES ACROSS

1. Taxis
5. Space Systems Command
8. Plant seed by scattering
11. Alliances
13. Fiddler crabs
14. Heroic tale
15. Yemen capital
16. Misleading gesture
17. Cain and \_\_\_
18. Simple shoe
20. Hundredweight
21. Children's toy in the snow
22. Gets rid of
25. Free of deceit
30. Performed a dance
31. Chinese philosophical principle
32. Exaggerated
33. Refrain from inflicting

### CLUES DOWN

38. A doctrine
41. Can be subdued
43. A place to bathe
45. Land used for pasture
48. Curved piece of iron
49. Automobile
50. Fencing sword
55. Breezes through
56. Child
57. NBA legend Iverson
59. Horsley and Iacocca are two
60. Midway between northeast and east
61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
62. U.S. leader during much of WW2
63. Lair
64. Fibrous material

1. Home of 60 Minutes
2. Expression of sorrow or pity
3. \_\_\_ fide: legitimate
4. Immune response
5. Assistance and support
6. Glared
7. Spanish saloon
8. Pitch black
9. S-shaped lines
10. Statistical test
12. \_\_\_ Paulo, city
14. Graduation garb
19. A way to record
23. Not good
24. Weather events
25. A pituitary hormone
26. Jamie Foxx film
27. Rocker's accessory
28. One point east (clockwise) of due north
29. One who obtains plea-

- sure from another's pain
34. Consume
35. Licensed for Wall Street
36. Sick
37. Israeli city \_\_\_ Aviv
39. Removed the husk
40. Mass of rocks and sediment
41. Two-year-old sheep
42. Area units
44. Prison overseer
45. Walked
46. Wartime escort aircraft carrier
47. Tax
48. 50 percent
51. Swiss river
52. Tattle
53. Actor Idris
54. Resist authority (slang)
58. Egg of a louse

## STATE FAIR WORD SEARCH

O	B	F	B	M	C	G	M	Y	O	G	C	D	I	B	E	S	E	L	M
Y	J	A	E	Y	C	C	S	L	D	U	R	O	N	H	N	F	J	G	F
D	N	A	B	T	S	I	R	W	A	N	O	A	G	S	T	R	W	K	U
E	P	Y	D	I	P	M	A	J	F	J	A	K	N	J	R	J	O	J	N
P	O	F	I	R	E	W	O	R	K	S	Y	C	E	D	Y	E	U	C	H
O	P	S	P	A	R	A	D	E	G	O	S	E	N	W	S	D	G	O	O
S	L	E	S	U	O	R	A	C	O	H	L	T	L	O	G	T	B	C	U
D	F	L	E	G	A	T	S	Y	E	C	H	K	E	E	T	O	A	U	S
N	P	M	N	Y	G	C	F	H	O	A	Y	H	S	K	R	T	C	N	E
U	B	C	O	G	A	P	T	C	U	N	G	S	F	R	C	O	O	L	D
O	B	K	B	O	T	O	J	B	O	T	C	I	K	R	I	I	D	C	P
R	D	O	B	E	O	D	P	E	M	N	L	O	G	O	I	W	T	E	E
G	R	Y	I	B	E	G	H	O	R	A	C	E	S	O	J	P	K	G	O
R	N	F	R	F	E	R	R	I	S	W	H	E	E	L	D	A	K	I	L
I	O	O	E	D	W	J	E	P	R	O	T	C	A	R	T	N	J	M	O
A	U	A	U	E	K	A	C	L	E	N	N	U	F	G	P	M	R	H	H
F	G	G	L	N	G	O	I	S	G	E	C	G	K	L	A	F	D	O	K
W	O	O	B	D	E	E	P	F	R	I	E	D	C	B	R	N	L	S	C
T	B	F	W	C	S	J	L	O	J	O	G	J	P	C	I	S	U	M	N
A	K	S	B	P	Y	I	A	W	T	C	R	F	P	W	H	D	E	P	M

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

### WORDS

BLUE RIBBON  
BOOTH  
CAROUSEL  
CORN  
CORN DOG  
COTTON CANDY

DEEP-FRIED  
ENTRY  
FAIRGROUNDS  
FERRIS WHEEL  
FIREWORKS  
FUNHOUSE

FUNNEL CAKE  
GRANDSTAND  
JUDGES  
MUSIC  
NACHOS  
PARADE

RACES  
RODEO  
STAGE  
TICKETS  
TRACTOR  
WRISTBAND

## GUESS WHO?

I am an actor born in New York on August 26, 1980. I was raised in a small apartment with six siblings, and studied ballet at the School of American Ballet. I starred in many films as a child, notably playing the main character in a popular Christmas movie.

Answer: Macaulay Culkin

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to state fairs.

CTNSEOT

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Contest

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### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Merritt Philip Miller passed away on March 21, 2025. Diane M. Miller has been appointed Personal Representative of his estate, Maricopa County Superior Court Case No. PB2025-004615. All persons or entities having claims against the Estate are required to present their claims within four months of the date of the first publication of this Notice or the claims will be forever barred. A written notice of a claim must be delivered or mailed to the Personal Representative at 208 West Portland St. Unit 456, Phoenix, Arizona 85003.

Publish: Fountain Hills Times Independent,  
August 27, September 3, 10, 2025/28600

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## BUSINESS



Repairs made by Doug Bolter. (Photo courtesy of Doug Bolter)

### Bolter

• From page 27

lands for elderly neighbors, picking up prescriptions, grocery shopping or giving rides to doctor's appointments. Pretty soon his calendar was filled with more involved projects; Making shelves, assembling furniture or installing light fixtures.

When his mother passed away last year, Bolter dedicated himself fully to the work. Word spread quickly — neighbors told friends, who told realtors and property managers. Before long, Bolter became the go-to guy for a wide range of projects.

"I earned this reputation that when something needed to get done, I'd clear my schedule and take care of it," said Bolter.

While he still holds his investment/insurance license, Bolter says he's found deeper fulfillment helping people directly.

"I love my clients," Bolter said. "They're so appreciative because there's no way they could do these things on their own."

Bolter's business has grown from simple errands to larger projects like installing ceiling fans, painting, grout work, moving assistance and even home staging. Drawing on his eBay experience, he also helps clients pack or prepare for moves.

Bolter charges by the job and serves Fountain Hills, Scottsdale, Paradise Valley and Rio Verde. He takes pride



Doug Bolter is the owner and founder of Handyman Personal Concierge. (Photo courtesy of Doug Bolter)

in snapping before-and-after photos to show clients the transformation. And if a project falls outside his skill set, he always connects clients with someone who can help.

Whether it's mounting a TV, fixing a leaky faucet or assembling furniture, Bolter says he's never felt more fulfilled.

"My clients are outstanding and I feel content because I can see the immediate results," he said.

To schedule Doug Bolter for a project, call or text him directly at 602-345-1229.

*Please send your comments to AzOpinions@iniusa.org. We are committed to publishing a wide variety of reader opinions, as long as they meet our Civility Guidelines. Cyrus Guccione can be reached at cguccione@iniusa.org.*

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Data Source: Altos Research, Inc. - August 20, 2025



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