



Schools

Homecoming parade this Thursday; 14



FOUNTAIN HILLS TIMES

INDEPENDENT

Community

Make a Difference event this Saturday; 17



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\$4.00

Fountain Hills service dog Bishop nominated for national award

By Connor Van
Ligten
INDEPENDENT
NEWSMEDIA

Bishop the Dalmatian, a service dog in Fountain Hills, has been nominated for a national award.

Bishop works as a service dog for Bishop's Mission, a non-profit organization in Fountain Hills that provides support for both service dogs and the veterans and first responders they work with.

Now, he is one of

• See **Bishop** on page 3

Bishop the Dalmatian, pictured alongside Kate Klasen. Bishop is the namesake behind Fountain Hills non-profit Bishop's Mission founded by Klasen, and is nominated for a national award. (Photo courtesy Kate Klasen)



COMMUNITY NEWS

Town Council tables license plate camera ordinance

To return for further discussion

By Andrew Lwowski
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

A proposed ordinance prohibiting automatic license plate reading cameras in town transitioned into a fiery debate about the Fountain Hills Town Council's rules of procedure during its Oct. 6 meeting.

It was ultimately voted 4-3 to table the item for the Oct. 20 meeting for further discussion, with Vice Mayor Gayle Earle and Councilmembers Allen Skillicorn and Hannah Larabee voting against tabling it.

Skillicorn brought attention to the topic during both the council's September meetings, proposing to work directly with then-town attorney Jen Wright in crafting an ordinance.

• See **Ordinance** on page 11

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Bishop

• From page 1

the nominees for the First Responder Paws Therapy Dog Award, an annual contest hosted by national behavioral health provider FHE Health.

Bishop's Mission Founder and Program Director Kate Klasen has worked with Bishop for a long time and submitted him as a nominee for the award.

"I'm a former first responder myself, and it wasn't until Bishop and me started working together with a trainer that I actually had PTSD because I never recognized that within myself," Klasen said. "He started changing the direction in my life and I wanted to go out and help other responders. That's eventually what started Bishop's Mission...now he works beside me with first responders. He helps with education and outreach and is the heart behind the work we do now."

The winning service dog and their handler get a \$4,000 check in support of their work, a gift basket from Chewy, a feature blog on social media, an award badge for their website and a \$1,000 donation by FHE to its partner organization, First Responders Pack Foundation, which trains therapy dogs for first responders.

Klasen said that winning the award would be an incredible honor for her and Bishop and would help them continue their work and put more eyes on what they do.

That work, according to Klasen, can ensure that a service dog won't get put down in the emergency room because their first responder handler can't afford the medical bill, among other examples.

"It would give us an opportunity to continue to support the work that we're doing through Bishop's

Mission. The award would help with not only Bishop's own care and expenses, but also continuing to reach and support other working dog teams with the resources that we can help provide," Klasen said. "The biggest part of this for me is having people learn about Bishop through this award and learn the needs of working dogs and their handlers. That ultimately is a win within itself."

Increased visibility will also help the nonprofit grow their operations, according to Klasen.

"We are a small organization that is growing organically, so the more exposure that we get, the more that people will know that we're out there," Klasen said. "And we can start attracting volunteers and funds, and we can start helping more and more dog teams."

It all ultimately goes back to Bishop and the impact he has had on Klasen and everyone involved in the organization, regardless of whether he wins or loses.

"It really has made me realize how many lives he's actually touched and how many responders look forward to having him around," Klasen said.

Voting will be open until Oct. 19. After voting concludes, the winner will be picked by a panel of judges from the top 10 highest vote-getters.

For more information and to vote for Bishop, visit fhrehab.com/first-responder-paws-award.

For more information on Bishop's Mission, visit bishopsmission.org.

Please submit comments at yourvalley.net/letters or email them to AzOpinions@iniusa.org.

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ON YOURVALLEY.NET

More Arizonans living alone as households get smaller

Arizona is adding people, but the state's households are not necessarily getting bigger.

Across the state, hundreds of thousands of Arizonans live in homes by themselves — a trend that reflects changes in marriage, family formation, housing and the state's rapidly aging population.

Read online at YourValley.net

Arizona expands earn-while-you-learn path for special education teachers

Arizona is putting \$5 million into an effort to build its special education teacher workforce from within schools, creating paid pathways that allow paraprofessionals and other aspiring educators to work while earning their teaching credentials.

The five-year federal grant will expand the Arizona Teacher Registered Apprenticeship Program and support apprenticeships focused specifically on special education.

Read online at YourValley.net

Here's why experts say now is an ideal time to protect yourself from flu

It's October and time for flu shots.

Medical experts urge getting a flu vaccination soon, before influenza starts spreading widely — and to get up to date on protection against other fall respiratory viruses, too. Updated COVID-19 shots are available now, plus shots for people especially vulnerable to another winter risk called RSV.

Read online at YourValley.net

COMMUNITY NEWS

Town council approves 5G, wireless telecommunications ordinances

Ends five-year effort

By Andrew Lwowski
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Fountain Hills Town Council approved ordinances regulating to small wireless facilities and antennas during its Oct. 6 meeting, closing its five-year process.

The council adopted the ordinance by 5-2 vote with amendments stating that the council act as the board of adjustment; provided definitions of qualifications for outside legal counsel during the appeal process; provided a set decimal level for noise emissions; and set a consistent 500-foot zoning requirement from residential uses and childcare.

Councilmembers Peggy McMahon and Brenda Kalivianakis were the dissenting votes. Both expressed concerns about the ordinances, with Kalivianakis referencing grammatical errors, wrong legal citations and blank dates. Still, Developmental Services Director John Wesley said the errors listed were minor and he felt comfortable with the draft presented.

Kalivianakis also noted that language cannot regulate RF emissions for health effects, though what was presented mentions childcare.

"...What other concerns would we have other than the health effects of young brains being exposed to these towers," Kalivianakis asked.

Vanessa Shinmoto of McCollough Law Firm acknowledged the language pushed the line, but said her and attorney, Scott McCollough, believes it can be defensible with other



Fountain Hills approved its 5G telecommunications and small cell tower ordinance after five years of effort. (Independent Newsmedia/Andrew Lwowski)

provisions in the ordinance for RF compliance.

"We've taken you as far as can be justified because we considered that the intent and desire of council," McCollough said.

"When we build a single-family home, multi-family home, don't we ask for virtually the same thing?" Councilman Rick Watts asked. "...We ask for all of the things we have included here. So, this isn't something that's new. We've been doing this from a permitting standpoint for an awful long time. What we've done is fine-tune it to be applicable for small wireless facilities."

Additionally, both separate and setback requirements in ordinances are "quite common," McCollough added, and have been permissible through courts "when they have a purpose other than to directly regulate on the bases of the environmental effect."

One resident, Claire Sukman, also emphasized property value.

"Research by (Sandy) Bond and

• See **Wireless** on page 13

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Monetary scams reported to Fountain Hills Sheriff's Office

The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office District 7 substation based in Fountain Hills reports deputies responded to the following incidents during the time of Oct. 1-7.

Thursday, Oct. 1

*Deputies responded to the 15000 block of E. Palomino Blvd. where a violation of a court order was reported.

*Deputies responded to the 12000 block of N. Saguaro Blvd. where it was reported the victim accidentally left their cell phone in a public area. The phone was then taken by an unknown subject and not returned or turned over to law enforcement.

Friday, Oct. 2

*Deputies responded to the 14000 block of N. Honey Suckle Drive where it was reported an unknown subject defrauded the victim out of approximately \$2,000 after posing as a television actor and scamming the victim into purchasing gift cards.

*Deputies responded to Shea Boulevard and Palatial Drive where it was reported a driver was stopped for criminal speed (76 in a 50). The driver was issued a criminal citation.

*Deputies responded to Shea Boulevard and Palatial Drive where it was reported a driver was stopped for criminal speed (79 in a 50). The

driver was issued a criminal citation.

Saturday, Oct. 3

*Deputies responded to Saguaro and Palisades boulevards where it was reported a driver was stopped for expired registration. A records check revealed the driver's license was suspended. The driver was issued a criminal citation.

*Deputies responded to the 16000 block of E. Avenue of the Fountains where it was reported the complainant was the victim of a scam claiming she had won a vehicle and needed to send gift cards to the company to cover the taxes.

Sunday, Oct. 4

*Deputies responded to the 15000 block of E. Redrock Drive where a domestic violence assault incident was reported.

Monday, Oct. 5

*Deputies responded to Saguaro Boulevard and Desert Vista Drive where it was reported a single-vehicle traffic collision occurred after a driver fell asleep at the wheel and struck landscaping and a street sign. No injuries were reported, no vehicles were towed.

*Deputies responded to the 16000 block of E. Palisades Blvd. where it was reported a subject was

• See **Call Log** on page 9

COMMUNITY CENTER

Check out upcoming activities in Fountain Hills

Week of Oct. 15-21

Fountain Hills Community Center is maintaining its schedule of week-day events within the Cutillo Civic Center, 13001 N. La Montana Drive. Most of these activities are reserved for Community Center members.

Activities are scheduled as follows:

Thursday, Oct. 15

*8 a.m., Peer-led exercise; aerobic chair exercise.
 *9 a.m., Video gentle yoga.
 *9:30 a.m., Beginning line dance.
 *10 a.m., Open paint studio; intermediate Spanish.
 *1 p.m., Mid/high improv line dance; table talk women; Hands and Foot cards.
 *4 p.m., Poker.
 *5 p.m., Open paint studio; movie; evening beginning line dance.

Friday, Oct. 16

*8 a.m., Back fit with Pilates.
 *8:30 a.m., Intermediate bridge.
 *9 a.m., Aerobic chair exercise; Pinochle.
 *10 a.m., Medicare consult.
 *12:30 p.m., Trad. Mah Jongg; Siamese Mah Jongg.
 *1 p.m., Open Table Tennis; Mex Train Dominoes; Woodcarvers/table top art; board games/Rummikub; documentary series.

Saturday, Oct. 17

*Available for private booking.

Sunday, Oct. 18

*Available for private booking.

Monday, Oct. 19

*8 a.m., Back fit with Pilates.
 *9 a.m., Geri-fit fall prevention; open table tennis.
 *10 a.m., Men's Discussion.

*10:30 a.m., Conversational Spanish.

*11:45 a.m., Duplicate bridge.

*12 p.m., Sign Language meet up.

*12:30 p.m., Poker.

*1 p.m., Hi Beg/Low Improv line dance; Cribbage; Pinochle; Mah Jongg (all levels).

*4:30 p.m., Chess Club

*5 p.m., Aerobic chair exercise; Hand & Foot Cards.

Tuesday, Oct. 20

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

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

*9:30 a.m., Intermediate line dance.

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

*11 a.m., Sign Language meet up.

*11:30 a.m., Advanced line dancing.

*12 p.m., Social Duplicate Bridge; Blood Pressure Check.

*1 p.m., Bingo; Mah Jongg; movie; Swing Time.

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

*6:30 p.m., Ukulele for Beginners.

Wednesday, Oct. 21

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

*8:30 a.m., Intermediate bridge.

*9 a.m., Video gentle yoga.

*10 a.m., Open paint studio.

*12:30 p.m., Poker.

*1 p.m., Scrabble/Rummikub; cards; intro to Spanish Language and Culture.

*2 p.m., Open jam session.

*2:15 p.m., Spanish I: Grammar and Conversation.

*5:45 p.m., Bunco.

*6 p.m., Couples dance.



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OPINIONS

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Your Opinion

Our opinions page is to provide an open forum for our readers. We hope to stimulate debate, not to dominate or control it. We reserve the right to edit our opinions, and we insist on civility. Please include your name and phone number, so we can contact you for clarification or confirmation. We welcome your photo. All opinions must be no more than 300 words.

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.

Fountain Hills greatly impacted by success of school district

In August 2025, the Maricopa County Superior Court ruled that Arizona's current K-12 public school finance system violates the Arizona constitution.

Citing statewide evidence of unsafe buildings and widespread security deficiencies, the court determined that the state is not properly funding the school districts. Instead of addressing the problem, the ruling was appealed. The judge's order is still tied up in the courts. In the meantime, Arizona school districts still do not receive crucial funding.

That is why the current request for a bond override is so important. Our A+-rated school district has proven over and over that they are doing an excellent job. The facts are clear: FHUSD is a very high-quality school district that knows how to operate responsibly on a tight budget. Our new FHUSD Superintendent, Valerie Reichler, makes an excellent case that the bond override is absolutely necessary.

The election starts this month. Vote early and vote yes to ensure that our schools will continue to thrive, and to promote our reputation as a family-friendly community. The future of Fountain Hills will be greatly impacted by the success of our school district.

Peggy Yeargain
FOUNTAIN HILLS

What comes after secularism?

France was supposed to be finished with Christianity. Apparently, Christianity wasn't finished with France.

That is the surprising story now

Please send your comments to
Az0pinions@iniusa.org.

We are committed to publishing a wide variety of reader opinions, as long as they meet our Civility Guidelines.



Gregg Dudash

emerging from one of Europe's most secular societies. Tens of thousands of young people recently filled the Stade de France for prayer. Hundreds of thousands gathered for Mass in Paris. At newly restored Notre-Dame, the symbolism was hard to miss — cathedral and faith rising together. At Lourdes, enormous crowds gathered for candlelight processions. Pope Leo's visit did not look like a ceremonial farewell to an aging faith. It looked like an astonishing public outpouring of belief — young, visible and unapologetically Christian.

But crowds can be deceiving. Numbers of converts are harder to dismiss.

This past Easter, more than 21,000 adults and teenagers were baptized into the Catholic Church in France. Adult baptisms have more than tripled in a decade. Evangelical churches are also growing. This is not merely nostalgia for an older France. Many of these new Christians are not returning to a childhood faith. They are coming from atheist, agnostic, unaffiliated and non-Christian backgrounds.

What looks like a remarkable transformation may be underway. Pope Leo named its deeper impulse: the human heart still thirsts for meaning, truth and fulfillment that possessions, pleasures and distractions cannot satisfy.

Why?

Perhaps because secular modernity changed the culture without changing human nature. We still ask the fundamental existential questions: Why are we here? What gives life meaning? Does suffering have purpose? Is truth more than preference? Does our existence point beyond ourselves?

That does not prove Christianity true. But it does suggest that the hunger Christianity addresses was never modernized away. Not even in France.

There is a delicious historical irony here. France was supposed to show the world what comes after Christianity.

Perhaps it is instead showing us what comes after secularism.

Gregg Dudash
FOUNTAIN HILLS

Upcoming No Kings Day

Are you participating Oct. 17? The first two demonstrations were some of the largest single-day protests to occur in U.S. history.

Unlike previous protests, the core action centers on getting out the vote, kicking off early voting periods, making a voting plan and bringing friends and families to the polls. Our local event in Fountain Hills is scheduled for the same day.

Mobilze.us is the website for information about the event locally and nationally. Dozens of homeowners this time are opening up their house to gather and support each other. Will you participate in No Kings Day this time?

Alfred Southall
FOUNTAIN HILLS

Call Log

• From page 6

witnessed urinating in a vacant lot in public view. The subject was arrested and booked into jail for disorderly conduct.

Tuesday, Oct. 6

*Deputies responded to Shea Boulevard and Palatial Drive where it was reported a driver was stopped for criminal speed (75 in a 50). The driver was issued a criminal citation.

Wednesday, Oct. 7

*Deputies responded to the 17000 block of E. Via Del Oro where it was reported the victim sent money online to purchase an item then never received the purchased item. The transaction appeared to be fraudulent.

*Deputies responded to the 16000 block of E. Bainbridge Ave. where it was reported an unknown subject posing as the victim's employer fraudulently persuaded the victim into purchasing approximately \$4,000 in gift cards that were then taken.

Opinions

• From page 8

Hold out until the November election

A regime that has been willing to slaughter as many as 36,500 of its own subjects should never, ever have a nuclear weapon.

When our US bombing started, the Trump administration stated the Iranian minority, nationally-feared government was within weeks of having nuclear bombs and the long-range missiles to carry them.

Russia and China know the consequences of the use of such weapons, but the ideology of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), believe that the annihilation of the Great Satan (the US) and the state of Israel would be God's work and would be their ticket to paradise. The world, and specifically the US presidents, have been unwilling to confront the source of numerous Iranian terrorist acts by themselves and their surrogates, the Houthis, Hamas and Hezbollah.

The Iranian regime, who are living in the fourteenth century,

have been responsible for the Beirut bombing, the attack on the US Cole, the Oct. 7 massacre, to name a few, which have killed thousands of great patriotic servicemen and civilians for over 50 years. Their regime, clinging to power by fear of atrocious reprisals to 90% of their own countrymen, believe if they can hold out until after the Nov. 3 elections, keeping the gas prices high, that the far-left-leaning Democrats will not finish the job.

For that reason alone, it is imperative to bite the bullet for another month, so the Iranian economy can completely collapse, their government's valueless bluster will be irrelevant and future terrorism is no more. So, get to the polls!

A Republican win will result in gas prices ending up even lower than before the conflict started and the world will have the best chance of peace in the Middle East for the first time in living memory. To the polls for peace!

Chris Brant
FOUNTAIN HILLS

Be a Civility Advocate!



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 & 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.



Now that you've read the checklist, take the Civility Pledge at yourvalley.net/civility-pledge.

ENTERTAINMENT

Fountain Hills graduate holding talk at Atticus Books

A Fountain Hills graduate is holding a free book talk at local business Atticus Books to promote her new novel.

Kelly Lydick, who graduated Fountain Hills High School in 1997, will hold her talk 2-3:30 p.m. on Oct. 10 at the store, 12625 N. Saguaro Blvd., according to a press release.

Lydick's new book, "Everything That's Left Behind," is set in a near-future Phoenix in the years following a catastrophic drought.

The description is as follows: "When Nichola Rodale stumbles upon in-

formation suggesting her father—a renowned scientist and brilliant puzzle maker—may not have died during The Great Drought, she embarks on a perilous journey across the desolate American Southwest to discover the truth."

For more information, visit tinyurl.com/bdc-d5yvs.

Fountain Hills graduate Kelly Lydick will be at a book talk at Atticus Books to promote her new novel, "Everything That's Left Behind," on Oct. 10. (Photo courtesy Kelly Lydick)



ENTERTAINMENT

Paige Productions to present original play written by 15-year-old

Paige Productions Youth Theater is presenting an original play written by a 15-year-old this fall.

"Girl in the Yellow Raincoat," written by Desert Mountain High School student Paige Underwood, will be performed in two 30-minute shows at 1 and 2 p.m. on Oct. 16 at Paige Productions Youth Theater at 13001 N. Fountain Hills Blvd., according to a press release.

The description is as follows: "Set

at Friendly Pines Camp, Anna struggles to fit in and becomes the target of bullying because of her yellow raincoat and unique personality. When a dangerous monsoon threatens the camp, the campers discover that being different may be exactly what brings them together."

For more information and to buy tickets, visit paigeproductionsaz.com.



Paige Productions is presenting "Girl in the Yellow Raincoat," an original play written by 15-year-old Paige Underwood, to audiences on Oct. 16 (Photo courtesy Paige Productions)

Ordinance

• From page 1

His motion was seconded by Councilmembers Rick Watts and Larra-bee.

The draft was then brought forth for consideration and possible action on Oct. 6, which was seconded by Earle and Larrabee but opposed by Councilmembers Peggy McMahon and Brenda Kalivianakis.

“...Three council members acting individually cannot direct the town attorney to take such legal action,” McMahon said, adding the direction from the Sept. 15 meeting was improper and therefore the ordinance should not have been drafted or presented before council for consideration for possible actions.

Kalivianakis said the public was “completely kept out of the process” and the process was “bad public policy.”

“When we put something on the future agenda, it should be agendized. The town manager should discuss it with the mayor and we should open it up to discussion so people know what we’re voting on,” she said.

However, Town Manager Rachael Goodwin clarified that the rules of procedures indicate that three (a council member with two seconds) can agendize an item for action and does not require it to be brought back for discussion. Current Town Attorney Timothy A. La Sota also confirmed.

“I think we’re saying they have the right to agendize something, they don’t have the right to direct substance like that and setting policy,” McMahon said. “That’s a big difference.”

She said that also goes against the Arizona League of Cities and Towns.

In an email Mayor Gerry Friedel sent to the council after the Sept. 15 meeting, he wrote “last night it was requested that we have the town at-



Fountain Hills Councilman Allen Skillicorn, right, proposed the ordinance prohibiting automatic license plating reading cameras. (Independent Newsmedia/Andrew Lwowski)

torney or staff write an ordinance for Flock Cameras (one example). This is not how the process works. We should have open and transparent discussion first and direct the staff and the town attorney for action.”

His email continues: “We have on the October 6th agenda Flock Cameras for discussion and direction after this happens and direction is given by our council, staff and or the town attorney will follow the direction and we will follow up with action (a vote). We must be transparent and also have the public weigh in as well.”

As for the ordinance itself, Skillicorn said the draft was passed through Senator Jake Hoffman and Chair of the Maricopa County Libertarian Party Eric Fowler.

“I wanted to balance the privacy rights of Fountain Hills residents and people who visit Fountain Hills but also take into consideration law enforcement making sure they have appropriate tools,” Skillion said.

The item will be open for discussion during the Oct. 20 town council meeting.

Please submit comments at yourvalley.net/letters or email them to AzOpinions@iniusa.org. Andrew Lwowski can be reached at alwowski@iniusa.org.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Fountain Hills residents team up for pumpkin drive

For Wildlife Conservation Center

Members of the Fountain Hills community teamed up to donate 80 pumpkins for animals in the care of the Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center.

On Sept. 30, town residents showed up to help the center's goal of 100 pumpkins.

"Pumpkins are a beloved seasonal treat by all of the animals in our care," Raandi Morales, Executive Director of Southwest Wildlife, said. "From raccoons and bobcats to black bears and mountain lions, they all enjoy batting around pumpkins that our animal care team has stuffed with their food. This enrichment encourages natural behaviors and helps keep



Town residents ran a pumpkin drive for animals in the Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center. (Photo courtesy Don Scott)

the animals mentally and physically engaged, and it would not be possible without these generous donations!"

The SWCC rescues native Arizona wild mammals that are injured, orphaned or otherwise unable to live in the wild, according to the release. The center rehabilitates animals with

the goal of returning them back into the wild, but also provides lifelong care for those who are unable to be released. It also acts as a 24/7 wildlife emergency hotline and an on-sight veterinary hospital.

Residents Don Scott and Holly Tate were some of whom came to the

rescue.

"Wildlife conservation is something I care deeply about, and living in Fountain Hills, we have a special connection to the wildlife that surrounds us," he said.

The idea stemmed from a suggestion for a one-week pumpkin drive by Holly Tate, Scott said.

"When Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center put out a call for pumpkins for the animals in its care, it seemed like a perfect opportunity to bring our community together around something that was both fun and meaningful," said Tate.

Fearless Kitty Rescue and Fry's Food stores also provided support in the initiative.

For more information, visit southwestwildlife.org.



Marti Alice Murphy 1943-2026

Marti Alice Murphy, 82 recently of Cielito Lindo Assisted Living, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico passed away

Tuesday, Sept. 15th where she lived with her husband Douglas Murphy. They had moved there in August 2025 from Stonecreek Assisted Living in Colorado Springs where they had moved in 2023 from Fountain Hills, Az. They met in 1999 and were married in Ahwatukee, Phoenix, in 2001.

Marti was married to Duane Young in Missouri in the early 60's. Marti moved to Phoenix in 1985 after a divorce. Marti has 2 daughters from her first marriage, Shannon, now of Colorado

Springs and Marca, now of West Virginia. Marti and Doug Murphy, her husband, worked at treating their daughters and sons as if they had been theirs all along. The same goes for all of their grandkids and great grand-kids. Together they have 7 grandkids and 4 great-grandkids. Sarah Hammer, Sam Myers, Savannah Myers, Luis Ouida, Alexis Potter, Dominiq Murphy, Hannah Whitney. Great-grandkids Russell Hammer, Alice Hammer, Teddy Potter and Radley Potter.

Marti was born

on Dec. 18, 1943 to Merlee and George Brand in Pioneer, OH, but they moved to Arizona when she was 9 months old. Marti has sisters, Millie Randel, Wil Evans, and Sue Stoops, and brothers, Jim Brand and Mike Brand. Marti lived in Arizona a total of 49 of her 82 years! Doug for 52 years.

Marti is survived by her husband, Doug and brother and sisters: Jim Brand, Mike Brand, Millie Randel, Wil Evans, Sue Stoops, all her kids and grand and great-grandkids.

She was preceded

by her parents George and Merlee Brand and a sister Nina Ruth who passed while still an infant.

Marti was a teacher in Arizona for many years in Phoenix and a principal and teacher for many years in Columbia, Missouri. Doug worked for 34 years at Motorola and ON Semiconductor at 52nd St. and McDowell in Phoenix. Marti and her husband Doug were residents of Phoenix, Scottsdale, Peoria and Fountain Hills at different times during their marriage. They both lived in Ahwatu-

kee in Phoenix where they met over coffee but did not realize that until after their 4-hour coffee meeting. That was 27 years ago. They were together up to and until Marti passed peacefully. Marti will be missed by everyone!

A memorial service was held at Messinger Fountain Hills Mortuary at 12065 N. Saguardo Blvd., Fountain Hills, Az 85268 on October 5, 2026. The interment was the next day at National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona, 2929 E. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Phoenix, Az 85024.

Wireless

• From page 4

(Ko-Kang) Wang found that proximity to wireless facilities can reduce residential property values by approximately 20%," she said.

Residents Lori Troller, Larry Meyers and Crystal Cavanaugh also spoke in support while there were three online cards against.

Councilman Allen Skillicorn pushed for protection of the town's character, its Dark Sky status and charm. Councilwoman Hannah Larabee noted that she is pro technology, but protective of the public interest.

McCollough has helped the town preserve local authority while remaining in federal and state law, Wesley said.

Added sections include protections for the Arizona desert tortoise; consistency with zoning ordinances;

definition of childcare facility; setbacks and separations from child and daycare facilities; separations from doorways; battery safety provisions; minimum height for antennas over walking areas; data-only towers be underground; a biological life surgery; minimum insurance required and notice of compliance and cure period.

The Planning and Zoning Commission began rewriting the ordinances in March, and McCollough Law Firm was hired to assist in the draft. The Commission held a work session in July and approved the final draft with five stipulations in September, which the council voted on.

"This is not a partisan, political thing," Mayor Gerry Friedel said. "This is a community ordinance."

Please submit comments at yourvalley.net/letters or email them to AzOpinions@iniusa.org. We are committed to publishing a wide variety of reader opinions, as long as they meet our Civility Guidelines. Andrew Lwowowski can be reached at alwowowski@iniusa.org.



Barbara McGarry

Barbara Jean "Barb" McGarry, 81, of Carlsbad, California, formerly of DeWitt, Iowa, passed away September 22, 2026, at Sunrise at La Costa in Carlsbad.

Memorial Mass will be held at 11:00 a.m., October 24, 2026, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, DeWitt, with Visitation one hour prior. Interment will follow in the

church cemetery.

Livestreaming at <http://www.facebook.com/schultzfuneralhomes/live>

Barb was born May 3, 1945, in DeWitt, to Charles Leonard and Anna (Ryan) Trimble. She graduated from Mount St. Clare Academy of Nursing in Clinton and worked as a registered nurse at DeWitt Community Hospital for 20 years. Barb and Bill relocated from DeWitt, IA to Fountain Hills, Arizona in 1987, then Barb spent her final 2 years nearby family in Carlsbad, California.

On July 24, 1965, Barb married William James "Bill" McGarry at St. Ambrose Catholic Church in Milan, Illinois. Together they were blessed five children and 11 grandchildren, who were the pride and joy of their lives.

Barb enjoyed spending time with her family, helping others, peaceful walks in the desert and along the beach, and watching sunsets over the Pacific Ocean. She will

be remembered for her strong faith in God, generosity, and compassion.

Surviving are her children, Mike (Georgia) McGarry of Montrose, Colorado, Mark (Kelly) McGarry of San Diego, California, Matt (Julie) McGarry of DeWitt, Maria McGarry of Scottsdale, Arizona, and Marty (Tracy) McGarry of Carlsbad; grandchildren, Luke, Sarah, Naomi, Hana, Maddy, Jake, Justin, William, and Taryn. Also surviving are her siblings, Irene Langham of Fountain Hills, Charles (Beverly) Trimble of Superior, Arizona, Thomas (Joy) Trimble of Louisville, Kentucky, Michael (Catherine) Trimble of Johnston, Iowa, and Patrick (Marikay) Trimble of Sanibel, Florida.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill.

Arrangements are in the care of Schultz Funeral Home, DeWitt. Condolences may be expressed at www.schultzfuneralhomes.com



Ronald W. Fett Sr.

On September 20th, The Lord Called Ron to join Him in Heaven.

He leaves behind his beloved wife, Janet, his six children; Debra (Dan), Kevin (Sherry),

Tracey (Bob), Brain (Donna), Ken (Candi), Ron (Ann Marie), and Pam (Deceased), Many Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren, Family Members and Dear friends who will miss him dearly. He is preceded in Death by his sister, Susan, and two brothers, Harold and Robert.

Ron was born on February 17, 1938 in Richmond Hill, NY. Upon completing college, he proudly served in the U.S. Army, where he became involved in the emerging field of

computer technology. While stationed in Germany, he married his high school sweetheart, Pat. Together they welcomed three children into the world. Tragically, Pat passed away following an accident.

Sometime later, Ron met Dee, a lovely woman who also had three children. The two married and blended their families, eventually welcoming a child of their own.

Ron began building his career in the computer industry and in 1975, the family

moved to Fountain Hills, Arizona, where his business flourished.

Ron had a generous heart and a strong desire to serve others. He was always willing to give his time and talents to his community. He coached his son's little league team and later continued his involvement in the sport as an umpire. He was also an active member of the Church of the Ascension, serving in several ministries throughout the years.

After retiring, Ron continued his

tradition of service by volunteering weekly at the VA hospital.

He also developed a passion for flying. After earning his pilot's license, he joined the Civil Air Patrol, where he participated in search and rescue missions, eventually rising to the rank of LT. Col.

Ron was an avid golfer for more than 20 years, during that time he was an active member of the Bogey Boys golf group and served as its president for many years. Through his many

years of involvement, he formed lasting friendships and shared countless memorable days on the golf course.

Sadly, Ron lost his beloved Dee in 2021. He later found love again with Janet, who was by his side during the final chapter of his life.

A memorial mass will be held on Wednesday, October 7th @ 11am at Church of the Ascension.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice of the Valley.

EDUCATION

FHHS StuGo excited for homecoming week

By Allison Kotzbauer
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Fountain Hills High School's Student Government put a lot of work into preparing for homecoming week, ongoing through Oct. 17, with a series of spirit days and events to get students and the community involved.

This year's homecoming theme is "Dancing through Decades." Spirit week began Tuesday, Oct. 13, with Concert T-Shirt Day, followed by Pajama Day on Wednesday, Decades Day on Thursday and Class Colors Day on Friday.

The week will also include the homecoming parade Thursday, Oct. 15, and a pep rally Friday. During the pep rally, students from each grade will compete in a tug of war competition, and senior football players will perform a dance with the seniors on the pom team.

For Student Body President Mya Hinton, the week is about more than dressing up and attending school events. It is about giving students something to look forward to and creating opportunities to make memories with their classmates, she said.

"We do it so that everyone has a chance to be excited to go to school," Hinton said. "I know school can be really hard and it can be a lot, but with weeks like homecoming week, we get to break some of our routine and just have fun."

One of the most rewarding parts of planning the events is seeing students show up and enjoy something Student Government has spent weeks or sometimes months organizing, Hinton said.

"It's really exciting to see when people are happy," she said.

Student Government also tries to make participation easy for every-



Fountain Hills High School students London Becker, Jayden Shipman, Daniella Waddell, Camilla Levik, Mya Hinton, Ellie Vickers, Colleen Streufert, Nicholas Kosmal, Elliot Traynor, Payton Scott and Mia Schlossberg make posters and decorations to prepare for homecoming week. (Photo submitted by James Fessenden)



The Fountain Hills High School marching ensemble band was part of the Sept. 25, 2025, "Rhythms of Rio"-themed Homecoming parade. (Independent Newsmedia/Jason W. Brooks)

one, she said. The spirit days are built around things students may already have at home, rather than requiring them to buy something new.

"We do fun, but kind of things that we can find in our closet for spirit weeks," Hinton said. "It makes it easier for the kids to want to show up."

Hinton said getting students involved also means getting the community involved. She said having

parents, families and other community members attend school events helps students feel supported beyond the walls of the school.

"It's really important to see the community invested in the school so it doesn't just feel like we're doing things for ourselves," she said. "We want to do it for everybody."

Senior Vice President James Fessenden sees the events as an oppor-

tunity for teenagers to spend time with their friends in a safe, shared environment and step away from their phones for a while.

"People need to just have fun with their friends more and not be on their phones the entire time they're not at school, and it's really fun," Fessenden said. "The events are actually really fun if you participate and dress out and go into it with a good attitude. These are the people that you hang out with, especially in our school, everyone's known each other since kindergarten because it's such a small class and I guess it's just a lot of fun to hang out with the people that you've known your whole life."

Fessenden encouraged students who might normally skip school events to show up and give them a chance.

"If you choose to have fun and don't have a negative attitude the entire time and think that school events are lame (then the events can be fun for everybody)," he said.

The homecoming parade will take place at 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, along Parkview Avenue, according to the FHHS website.

The pep assembly will be held during school hours Friday, Oct. 16, at Fountain Hills High School with games and other activities to get students excited.

The homecoming football game against Chino Valley High School will follow at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 16.

The week will conclude with the homecoming dance 7-10 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17.

Allison Kotzbauer can be reached at akotzbauer@iniusa.org. Please submit comments at yourvalley.net/letters or email them to AzOpinions@iniusa.org.

EDUCATION



McDowell Mountain Elementary School hosted three assemblies Thursday, Oct. 1, to teach fifth grade students about the dangers of tobacco use. (metro creative connection)

McDowell Mountain Elementary hosts anti-tobacco assembly

McDowell Mountain Elementary School hosted three assemblies Thursday, Oct. 1, to teach fifth grade students about the dangers of tobacco use.

The school assembly program called “Tar Wars” allows medical students, teachers and other health-care providers to visit fourth and fifth graders across the nation to present a 45-minute interactive curriculum that focuses on the short-term, im-

age-based consequences of tobacco use, according to the Nebraska Academy of Family Physicians.

The presentation also addresses ways to think critically about tobacco advertising.

At the end of the presentation, the event becomes interactive and students are encouraged to make their own posters to share the Tar Wars message.

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EDUCATION

Teens find fall fun at Boys & Girls Club

By Allison Kotzbauer
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

On Wednesday, Oct. 7, a group of Fountain Hills teenagers traded their usual clothes for white sheets and sunglasses, transforming themselves into “cool ghosts” for an afternoon at Fountain Park.

The teens from the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Scottsdale’s Mary Ellen & Robert McKee Branch took pictures in their costumes, skipped rocks and spent time laughing and playing together at the park.

For Jennie Mintzer, the club’s teen program instructor, activities like the outing are an important reminder that teenagers still need opportunities to play, explore and simply have fun.

“People think (once they’re) teenagers, and then they don’t need to play anymore. They absolutely do,” Mintzer said. “It’s nice to have them out here to do different things than we could at the club. But they need to get outside. They need to play. They need to work off their energy, just because they’re bigger doesn’t mean they’re not still kids.”

The club has different fall activities planned for the teens throughout the week while school districts are closed for fall break, including roasting pumpkin seeds and a field trip to Topgolf on Oct. 9.

Mintzer said the club also gives teens an opportunity to build friendships with people they may not normally spend time with at school.

“It is nice because some of them do run in different social circles at school, but they are really good friends at the club, too,” she said.

The club also provides opportunities for teens to learn without the



A teen member of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Scottsdale’s Mary Ellen & Robert McKee Branch dressed as a ghost at Fountain Park, Wednesday, Oct. 7, in Fountain Hills. (Independent Newsmedia/Allison Kotzbauer)

pressure of grades or academic performance. Mintzer said the focus is on encouraging teens to be curious, try new things and enjoy the process of learning.

“We give them educational opportunities at the club: things to learn, things to do,” she said. “It’s nicer for them because I’m not grading them ... it’s another opportunity where they can learn and be kids and not have someone waiting to give them a grade.”

For Zoey S., who has been a member of the club for eight years, the club is a place where she can connect with others, be herself and learn new things.

“When you first walk in, you think you’re an entirely different person from when you go to leave,” she said.

Brooklyn W., 16, has attended

events at the club for more than 10 years. She said she enjoys seeing her cousin and friends there, while also having a place to work on schoolwork and get help when she needs it.

“With homework, you can come do it at the club and ask for help with stuff that you don’t understand or you want a second opinion on,” she said.

Mintzer encourages families who have not visited the club in several years to come back and see what has changed. She said the club gives teens a place to get offline, make connections and have fun in a safe environment.

“The teens have a lot of things they can be doing other than just sitting on their phone or making mischief,” she said. “They can make controlled mischief like this. It’s really helpful



Amaya P. pretends to be haunted by ghosts for fun fall photos at Fountain Park, Wednesday, Oct. 7, in Fountain Hills. (Independent Newsmedia/Allison Kotzbauer)



Boys & Girls Club of Greater Scottsdale’s Mary Ellen & Robert McKee Branch teens and their instructor, Jennie Mintzer, play and take photos at Fountain Park Wednesday, Oct. 7, in Fountain Hills. (Independent Newsmedia/Allison Kotzbauer)

for them to just have a safe environment, where they can be silly, they can be teens, and they can learn new things.”

For Mintzer, that balance between fun, learning and connection is at the heart of the club’s teen programming.

“I always say, ‘I don’t care how you do it, I just want you to actually try,’” Mintzer said.

Allison Kotzbauer can be reached at akotzbauer@iniusa.org. Please submit comments at yourvalley.net/letters or email them to AzOpinions@iniusa.org. We are committed to publishing a wide variety of reader opinions, as long as they meet our Civility Guidelines Education

COMMUNITY NEWS

Fountain Hills community to band together for Make a Difference Day

By Connor Van Ligten
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Make a Difference Day is fast approaching in Fountain Hills.

The annual service-oriented community event returns 8 a.m. - noon on Oct. 17, according to the town's website.

During MADD, groups of volunteers, made up of club members, church groups, families, as well as individual volunteers to complete various service projects around town.

These requests range from trash pickup for local businesses or town properties, landscaping work for senior residents who can't do it themselves, washing windows, scrubbing floors, and more.

Volunteer coordinator and MADD committee member Kim Wickland says that the event is a great opportunity to bring together all sorts of volunteers in Fountain Hills over a common cause - community service.

"We're hoping that every year someone brings a friend and it's a positive experience, and next year they come and join us. Every year, we hope we get new volunteers that continue to join us and it grows every year," Wickland said. "...It's a great way to meet new people and get involved in the community."

Community Center Assistant and MADD committee member Candy

• See **Difference** on page 21



David Wickland helps with landscaping during Make a Difference Day in Fountain Hills. (Photo courtesy Kim Wickland)



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NEIGHBORS

Q&A: Get to know Fountain Hills' Alex Johnson

Falcons football announcer

By Andrew Lwowski
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Fountain Hills Times Independent continues its Q&A series with familiar faces around town. This is an opportunity for readers to get to know more about their neighbors, whether they're from the school district, working in Town Hall or a resident with a story to share.

This week, the voice of Fountain Hills football takes on The Times Independent's questions.

Name: Alex Johnson

Occupation: Client management

What I do: During the day, I'm part of a family-owned business here in Fountain Hills. Fountain Financial Group was established in 1994, and we provide a range of financial services, including investment solutions, trusts, life insurance and asset management.

When Friday night lights rolls around, I have a different role. I was asked to be the PA announcer for the 2026 season, and I've really enjoyed the opportunity to bring some energy, excitement, and fun to the games. I try to create the kind of atmosphere I would have wanted when I was playing. It's been a lot of fun so far, and I'm looking forward to the rest of the home games and being part of the Fountain Hills football experience.

What's your favorite sport and team and why?

My favorite sport is football, and my favorite teams are the Minnesota Vikings and the North Dakota State Bison. Growing up in North Dakota, we didn't have any major professional sports teams, so the Minnesota Vikings were the closest team geographically. I also had several family members who cheered for the



Alex Johnson is in his first year announcing the high school's football games. (Photo courtesy of Alex Johnson)

Vikings, which made them my team from an early age.

The North Dakota State Bison has always been a big part of my family as well. My father is an NDSU alum, and after living in Fargo, we became longtime Bison supporters. Both teams have strong ties with my family and where I grew up, which is what makes supporting them so meaningful to me.

What advice would you give to today's youth?

Time flies, and adulthood comes faster than you think. Enjoy your time with your friends and make the most of your high school experience. Four years may seem like a long time when you're in it, but looking back,

you'll realize how quickly it went by.

Most importantly, value your family. They will always be there throughout your life's journey. When you're faced with tough decisions or difficult times, don't be afraid to ask for advice and lean on the people who know you best. And remember, nothing is too embarrassing to share with your family—they've watched you grow and will be there to support you.

Lastly, don't be afraid to try something new. Whether it's starting a business, learning a new skill, or investing your time and talents into something you're passionate about, take the opportunity to explore. You'll learn from your mistakes, and those experiences will help make you better. You'll have time to recover from setbacks and replace what may have been lost. The things you learn, and experience now can help you discover your passions, develop your talents, and shape the person you want to become.

How did you get involved with Fountain Hills football?

Fountain Hills football has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember, and I'm proud to continue supporting the program. I'm a Fountain Hills High School alum from the class of 1998, and I played multiple sports throughout all four years of high school.

It has been great to watch the football program grow and evolve over the past few decades. I'll admit there's a little bit of jealousy seeing the facilities and turf field today, considering we played on dirt and grass back when I was there! More importantly, I've had the opportunity to watch my own children play for Fountain Hills High School and eventually graduate, which has made my connection

to the program even more meaningful. Being able to see the tradition continue through my family has been a special experience.

What is something many people don't know about you?

Something many people may not know about me is that after my final football game of my senior year, I was selected and invited to play football in Australia as part of the Gridiron Exchange.

Players were selected from high schools across the different AIA divisions to form an elite team. We traveled to Australia with the goal of introducing and promoting American football. It was an incredible opportunity and a memorable way to cap off my high school football career.

What do you do in your downtime?

During my downtime, when I can find it, I usually spend it with family and friends. I also enjoy golfing, taking trips and exploring new places and experiences. I'm always up for trying something new, especially when it gives me an opportunity to spend time with the people I enjoy being around.

Who is your inspiration and why?

Jesus Christ is my inspiration and my Lord and Savior. My faith is at the center of who I am and how I approach life. I believe that without Him, nothing is possible, and with Him, all things are possible. My faith gives me strength, perspective, and guidance through both the good times and the challenges in life.

Please submit comments at yourvalley.net/letters or email them to AzOpinions@iniusa.org. We are committed to publishing a wide variety of reader opinions, as long as they meet our Civility Guidelines. Andrew Lwowski can be reached at alwowski@iniusa.org.

RELIGION

Q&A with Desert Mountain Church Pastor Larry Webster

By Connor Van Ligten
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Fountain Hills Times Independent continues its Q&A series with familiar faces around town. This is an opportunity for readers to get to know more about their neighbors, whether they're from the school district, working in Town Hall or a resident with a story to share.

Name: Pastor Larry Webster

Age: 53

Occupation: Pastor

Hometown: Scottsdale, Arizona

What I do:

Pastor of Desert Mountain Church

When and why I moved here:

Moved to Fountain Hills in 2016 after graduating seminary in Kentucky. At the time Fountain Hills was more affordable than Scottsdale, so instead of moving back to Scottsdale, we decided to try something new. We also lived in a small town in Kentucky, and Fountain Hills, had a small town feel. We quickly fell in love with the area and the people.

What I like most about living here:

The people. Fountain Hills is full of great people!



Pastor Larry Webster of Desert Mountain Church.
(Photo courtesy Larry Webster)

Questions:

What is something most people don't know about you?

I owned construction companies for close to 30 years including, HS3 General Contracting and Roof King in Fountain Hills. I also am the administrator of The Fountain Hills Connection Facebook page with close to 22,000 people.

Who is your inspiration and

why?

Above all I love to help people. I love to help people that are struggling in the world with whatever issues, and I love to pour into the younger generations, and help them get prepared for adulthood.

At the end of the day, what brings you the most joy?

My family, and seeing people's lives transformed.

What are the opportunities you see in your community and in your church?

Our church has a large youth population. We feel that they are the future of our nation, and that is vital that we pour into them. We also know that there are marginalized folks in Fountain Hills, who would not normally feel comfortable in a church setting due to their past or present circumstances. We want to create an environment where all people feel welcome.

What is your favorite thing about Desert Mountain Church?

That we are outward focused. Our church's greatest goal is to help and reach people outside of the church walls. We have a homeless ministry, where we go to some of the toughest

neighborhoods in Phoenix, and minister to the addicts and the less fortunate. We go to places where no one else wants to go. We also support Global Missions around the world, and we pour into the people in the Fountain Hills area.

What kind of legacy do you want to leave behind once you step down from your position or retire?

I want to be known for someone who made a difference in the lives of people, and to see people's lives transformed through Jesus Christ.

What does the town of Fountain Hills mean to you?

Fountain Hills has always been a town of fellowship and opportunity. We ran a successful business in town that we sold in 2022. We had a lot of support from the local people, and our business gave back in many ways, when our doors were open. We love to serve our community, and we love to help other people succeed in business, and in life.

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SPORTS

Fountain Hills football escapes in narrow win, improves to 2-5

Volleyball, cross country on fall break

By Andrew Lwowski
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Fountain Hills football won its second straight game while the swim team continued its dominance in the pool over the past week. Meanwhile, cross country and volleyball had no competition with fall break.

Football

It wasn't pretty, but Fountain Hills football was able to grind out a 7-6 win over ALA Anthem South at home on Friday, Oct. 2.

Two key Titans (4-3) penalties made the difference as the Falcons (2-5) claimed their second straight win. Fountain Hills led 7-0 and was knocking at the door early in the fourth quarter before ALA Anthem South pounced on a high snap over the head of quarterback Kainoa Brilhante. The Titans recovered over at their own 9-yard line and it only took one play for Maurice Lewis to roll off the pile of defenders and dash 91 yards for a touchdown.

However, a penalty on the attempt pushed the Titans back and the second attempt was no good, leaving the home team with a narrow 7-6 lead.

"(Our) defense freaking stepped up — played out of their minds," Rock said. "It was probably the best defensive performance I've seen from our kids."

The Falcons defense forced three turnovers, with Cole Johnson and Christian Theisen collecting interceptions and linebacker Jake Harned recovering a fumble he had forced with his own hit.

Johnson said the team's ability to grind out a tight win like this only brings them closer together.

"We want to win together instead of winning by ourselves," he said.

With momentum and a squad regaining its health and confidence, the Falcons traveled to Cortez (4-3) on Oct. 9.

Swim

The Fountain Hills swim team competed against Paradise Honors and Notre Dame Prep, with some Falcons taking first in their respective races.

Logan Reidy took gold with 12:14.43 in the 100



Fountain Hills receiver Cole Johnson goes up for what was the game-winning touchdown over ALA Anthem South on Oct. 2. (Independent Newsmedia/Andrew Lwowski)

meter backstroke and silver in the 100 meter freestyle with 1:01.66. Both were personal records.

Quinton O'Connor also took gold in the 100 meter butterfly with 1:08.66.

The Falcons 200 meter Mixed Freestyle Relay of Ellie and Natalie Vickers, O'Connor and James Fesenden took first while the same team claimed second in the 200 meter mixed medley relay.

Other swimmers recorded personal bests, with Maple Whitney improving by six seconds in the 200 meter freestyle and Andoni Michalak PRing in both the 50 meter freestyle and 100 meter breaststroke.

Volleyball

The girls will resume action on Oct. 14 on the road against Heritage Academy Mesa.

Cross country

Falcons cross country team competed in the Epic Tourneys Invite on Oct. 9 at Crossroads District Park.

Please submit comments at yourvalley.net/letters or email them to AzOpinions@iniusa.org. We are committed to publishing a wide variety of reader opinions, as long as they meet our Civility Guidelines. Andrew Lwowski can be reached at alwowski@iniusa.org.

Difference

• From page 17

Preban echoed that sentiment, saying that the Community Center makes sure everyone is ready for the big day.

“A couple of days before the actual event, we do have tables set up in the Community Center where we hand out T-shirts for everyone who volunteers,” Preban said. “We give out gloves, trash bags, snacks and water so they’re ready for the day and fueled up... We do everything we can to make sure all the volunteers are comfortable and safe and can get through the day.”

Volunteers don’t do any work that they aren’t qualified for, but the things they help residents with, especially older ones, can be crucial when the residents can’t do it themselves.

“We’re helping primarily elder-

ly clients who are facing limitations due to age and they’re trying to hold onto their independence and stay in their homes,” Wickland said.

Some of these tasks that are as simple as cleaning out the refrigerator or folding linen in the closet are extremely challenging for older residents.

“These tasks mean so much to them, and to have volunteers come in and do that is huge. Those simple things go a long way,” Wickland said.

Nita Blose, a committee member who coordinates home-delivered meals for the event, said that the acts of kindness done by volunteers now may pay off later in life.

“Let’s pay it forward. Help your neighbor out today, and down the road it’ll be your turn, and hopefully somebody will be there for you,” Blose said.

MADD committee member and Community Center volunteer assistant Isabel Crespo agreed.

“This is only my first year working on MADD, but I can tell because of the average age of the clients that the impact is tremendous. Maybe for you, cleaning up your fridge and sorting out a file cabinet is not a big deal” Crespo said. “But for these people, it’s something that they cannot achieve on their own. It means so much to have somebody that comes free of charge with a smile and a great attitude who wants to help out of the kindness of their hearts.”

For more information on MADD, visit fountainhillsaz.gov/572/Make-a-Difference-Day.

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Answers:

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Area Home Sales

September 21, 2026 - September 25, 2026

The Verdes

27523 N 168th St \$1,275,000

18119 E Paria Canyon Dr \$1,190,000

Homes sold this period: 2 Median Price: \$1,232,500 Average price: \$1,232,500

Same period last year: 4 Median Price: \$653,000 Average price: \$1,007,223

Fountain Hills

16615 N Aspen Dr \$900,000 16714 E Gunsight Dr Unit 134 \$440,000

15737 E Centipede Dr \$645,000 14433 N San Carlos Dr \$653,000

13237 N Desert Crest Ln \$2,215,427 11011 N Zephyr Dr Unit 204 \$410,000

13261 N Desert Crest Ln \$2,489,121

Homes sold this period: 7 Median Price: \$653,000 Average price: \$1,107,507

Same period last year: 8 Median Price: \$842,500 Average price: \$843,113

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

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CLUBS



Fountain Hills Toastmasters meets next on Oct. 14. (Photo Courtesy Fountain Hills Toastmasters)

Toastmasters club to meet

The Fountain Hills Toastmasters Club is meeting soon.

The next club meeting is set for 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Oct. 14 on the second floor Ambassador Boardroom of the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce, 16837 E. Palisades Blvd., according to the chamber.

The club's 60-minute meetings are advertised as providing a sup-

portive and professional environment for members to develop strong communication skills, hone listening and leadership abilities and gain confidence speaking in front of others.

Guests are welcome and are encouraged to arrive 10-15 minutes early to meet members and learn more about the club.

CLUBS



The 2026 Fall Coin & Collectibles Show will be held in Scottsdale on Oct. 17. (Independent Newsmedia/Connor Van Ligten)

Four Peaks Coin Club to hold fall show in Scottsdale

The Four Peaks Coin Club's fall coin show is returning to Scottsdale soon.

The Fountain Hills-based club will hold its upcoming show 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Oct. 17 at the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 8202 E. Cactus Road in Scottsdale, according to a press release.

Activities at the show include a coin raffle, silent auction, submission table, free coins and albums for kids, free coin evaluations, free admission and parking and more.

For more information, visit fourpeakscoinclub.com/.

RELIGION



The 24 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration during Lent was one of many events held by the Fountain Hills Ascension Church during its 50th Jubilee, which concludes on Oct. 25. (Photo courtesy Church of the Ascension Fountain Hills)

Church of the Ascension to culminate 50th Jubilee with special Mass

Church of the Ascension in Fountain Hills is bringing its year-long 50th Jubilee celebration to a close with a special event soon.

At 10 a.m. on Oct. 25 at the church at 12615 N. Fountain Hills Blvd., the 50th Jubilee will conclude with a special Mass presided over by Bishop John Dolan of the Diocese of Phoenix as well as a luncheon, according to a press release.

Bishop Dolan will also be joined by priests and deacons from various parts of the diocese.

The event will mark the culmination of a year filled with worship, prayer, service, music and fellowship celebrating 50 years of Catholic presence and ministry in Fountain Hills.

For more information, visit ascensionfh.org.

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Litchfield/Goodyear • February 17, 2027 • Tuscany Falls Clubhouse (Pebble Creek)

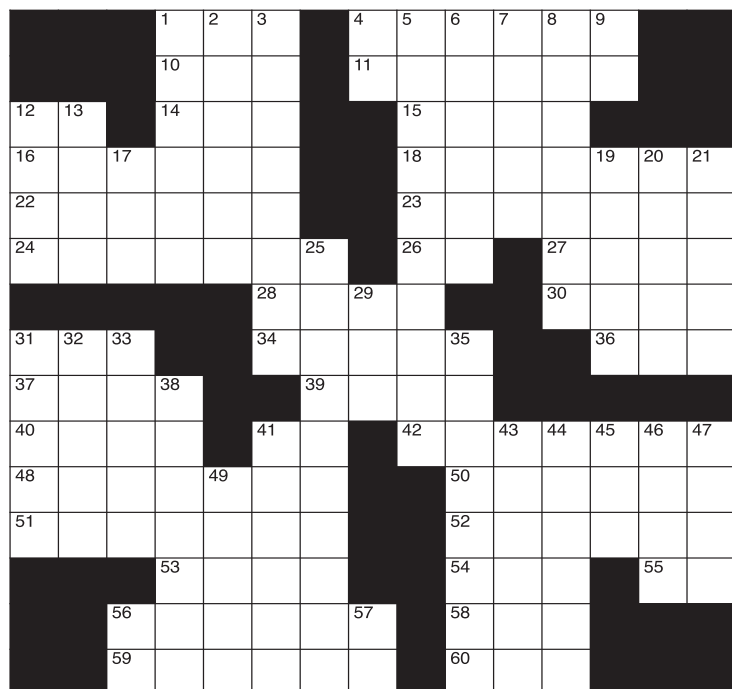
Chandler • February 23, 2027 • Sun Lakes Country Club

Peoria • March 25, 2027 • Westbrook Village

Sun City West • April 13, 2027 • SCW Foundation Center

Sun City • May 3, 2027 • Sundial Recreation Center

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Small Eurasian deer
4. Province in Northern Ireland
10. A major division of geological time
11. Broadway actor Lane
12. Canadian province (abbr.)
14. Human gene
15. Two
16. A notable one was ÒblueÓ
18. Utter repeatedly
22. Ring-shaped objects
23. Sullies
24. Occurs
26. Commercial
27. Near
28. Tools you may need
30. A pledge

CLUES DOWN

31. They start the alphabet
34. Silk garments
36. Soviet Socialist Republic
37. Longtime mayor of Rio
39. Hot meal
40. A type of gin
41. Atomic #84
42. \$10 bill
48. About ground
50. Medicine man
51. Seedless raisin
52. National capital of Albania
53. Appendage
54. OJ trial judge
55. European government entity (abbr.)
56. Bike parts
58. Friend to ÒBarbieÓ
59. Stretched to see or hear
60. Commercials

CLUES DOWN

1. Make up for
2. Baltimore ballplayer
3. Wages
4. International organiza-
tion of countries
5. Engravers of gems
6. Declared as fact
7. One who steals
8. Jewelry
9. Hospital worker
12. Nonsense (slang)
13. Town in Galilee
17. Value
19. Alternative identity
20. Sheep in their second
year
21. Town in Surrey, England
25. Appropriate to a time
of year

CLUES DOWN

29. Creative work
31. Recesses
32. Largely forested munic-
ipality in Germany
33. Rider of Rohan
35. Ancient symbol co-opted
by Nazis
38. Pioneer
41. Scribe
43. Painted a bright color
44. Member of British
nobility
45. ÒPulp FictionÓ actress
Thurman
46. Helps people walk
47. Crest of a hill
49. People of southeastern
Alaska
56. OneÓs own device
57. The Mount Rushmore
State

Answers on page 21



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Drinks, music and fun at Fountain Hills Oktoberfest



Workers pour beer for those attending the 2026 Fountain Hills Oktoberfest at Centennial Pavilion on Oct. 2. (Independent Newsmedia/Andrew Lwowski)



Hundreds gather for the 2026 Fountain Hills Oktoberfest for drinks, live music and German food at the Centennial Pavilion on Friday, Oct. 2. (Independent Newsmedia/Andrew Lwowski)



Live music encourages those in attendance to raise their drinks in celebration of the 18th annual Oktoberfest in Fountain Hills. (Independent Newsmedia/Andrew Lwowski)



Jaelen Whitehead, of Tucson, enjoys the axe throwing game during Fountain Hills Oktoberfest on Oct. 2. (Independent Newsmedia/Andrew Lwowski)



Fountain Hills Mayor Gerry Friedel, center, and attendees of the Oktoberfest show their traditional German attire for the occasion as they enjoy drinks. (Independent Newsmedia/Andrew Lwowski)



Dave, left, and Shirley Regoni dance to the live music during Fountain Hills Oktoberfest on Friday, Oct. 2. (Independent Newsmedia/Andrew Lwowski)

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ENTERTAINMENT

Fountain Festival of Fine Arts & Crafts returning to Fountain Hills

By Connor Van Ligten
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Fountain Festival of Fine Arts & Crafts is returning to Fountain Hills this fall.

The event will take over downtown 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Nov. 13 and 14 and 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Nov. 15, according to the town's website.

Mary Davisson, event coordinator for the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce, said the event will be packed this year as usual.

"We'll have over 400 artists, roughly 30 concessionaires, a lot of corporate exhibitors also there to help with different home projects you might need," Davisson said. "Lots of nonprofit organizations help us put that event on, so the Rotary, Kiwanis, VFW, a lot of local nonprofits that assist with the success of the festival will be there, too."

The festival attracts artists and attendees from both Fountain Hills and across the Valley.

Whether you live in town or are visiting for the festival, Davisson said there is a lot to look forward to.

"They can look forward to having their favorite artists come back and see their updated special art pieces to add to their current collection. They'll also be able to see some new artists that they've never seen be-



The Fountain Festival of Fine Arts & Crafts returns to Fountain Hills from Nov. 13-15. (Independent Newsmedia/Connor Van Ligten)

fore," Davisson said. "...We're also having some younger entrepreneurs that are joining the art workforce and turning their hobby into a career and a business for themselves through a grant."

Everyone has a different taste in art, but Davisson said the beauty of the event is that the wide range of artists and artistic styles means there is something for everyone.

Whether it be painting, pottery, photography, jewelry and more, there is a lot of variety at the festival and this year will be no different, according to Davisson.

Davisson also mentioned that not all vendors of a specific art category will be in the same area, so browsing the stalls doesn't become monotonous for visitors.

"With 400 artists, it's always something different and there's something for everyone. There's a buyer for everything," Davisson said. "...That is something that we strive hard for, to make sure there is variety. The category might be painting but we're gonna have acrylic, oil or watercolor or more."

The event also gets a big boost from two factors - the return of snow-

birds as well as the cooler temperatures in the month of November.

"Having our snowbirds and our residents come out, and also people from out of state, we hear often that they come every year or they have a friend who lives here so they plan their trip around coming to the festival," Davisson said. "It's always fun to get our repeat attendees to come as well. It's always really exciting to see some familiar faces."

Overall, Davisson hopes that those who attend can witness the strong arts community in Fountain Hills as they come together for the festival.

"I hope that they can experience a sense of community and camaraderie in the art world and experience the beauty that Fountain Hills has to offer," Davisson said. "And that we can come together for a positive weekend and just remember that Fountain Hills is a community that we all want to see thrive."

For more information, visit experiencefountainhills.org/p/upcoming-events/annual-event/fountain-festival-fine-arts-crafts.

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CLUBS

FWV Patriots host speaker from Air Base Arizona Flying Museum

The Fountain View Village Patriots hosted a special guest speaker for the club's October meeting in Fountain Hills.

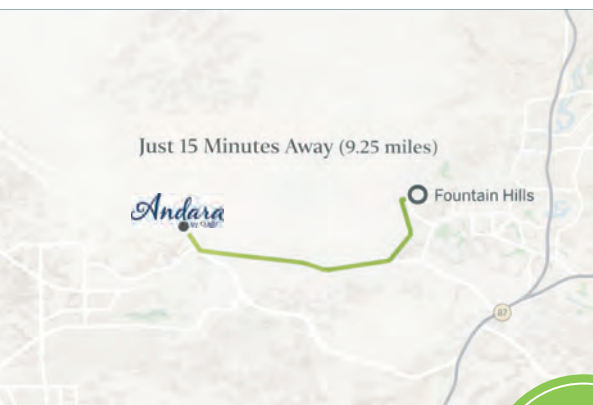
Bill Querhm from the Air Base Arizona Flying Museum was the guest speaker at the Oct. 6 meeting in Fountain View Village, according to a press release from club founder Bruce Frobes.

Querhm presented "Songs and Sounds of the War Years," which was a compilation of popular music from the 1940s that brought comfort to American troops serving abroad during World War II.

Querhm is a volunteer with the museum and has presented various history programs over his 30 years in broadcast.

For more information on Fountain View Village, visit cogirusa.com/communities/fountain-view-village/.

From left, Fountain View Village Patriots founder Bruce Frobes and guest speaker Bill Querhm from the Air Base Arizona Flying Museum. (Photo courtesy Bruce Frobes)



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Public Notice

ORDINANCE NO. 26-05

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FOUNTAIN HILLS, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AMENDING TOWN CODE SECTION 10-2-1 DEFINITIONS AND SECTIONS 10-2-8 AND 10-2-9 RELATING TO HANDBILLS.

WHEREAS, The Town desires to protect the safety of its residents by limiting the possible accumulation of unwanted materials in and around the street facing yards of their properties; and

WHEREAS, The Town desires to maintain streets and sidewalks free of litter and debris; and

WHEREAS, The Town recognizes and desires to protect free speech and lawful commercial activities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FOUNTAIN HILLS, ARIZONA, as follows:

SECTION 1. The recitals above are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2. The Council adopts the amendments as contained in Exhibit A.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this Ordinance is for any reason held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, such provision or portion hereof shall be deemed separate, distinct and independent of all other provisions and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. In accordance with Article II, Sections 1 and 2, Constitution of Arizona, and the laws of the State of Arizona, the City/Town Council has considered the individual property rights and personal liberties of the residents of the City/Town and the probable impact of the proposed ordinance on the cost to construct housing for sale or rent before adopting this ordinance.

SECTION 6. This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after its passage and adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Fountain Hills, Arizona, and its approval by the Mayor and attestation by the Town Clerk.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Fountain Hills, Arizona, this 6th day of October, 2026.

TOWN OF FOUNTAIN HILLS, ARIZONA

/s/Gerry M. Friedel, Mayor

REVIEWED BY:

/s/Rachael Goodwin, Town Manager

ATTEST:

/s/Angela Padgett-Espiritu,
Deputy Town Clerk For Bevelyn Bender,
Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/Tim La Sota, Town Attorney

EXHIBIT A | Available in the Town Clerk's Office

Publish: Fountain Hills Times Independent, October 14, 21, 2026/50291_1

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Public Notice

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on 04/18/2006, a certain Mortgage was executed by FRANCES M ROGER and JAMES T ROGERS as Mortgagor, in favor of SUN AMERICAN MORTGAGE COMPANY as Mortgagee, and was recorded on 04/24/2006, as Document Number 20060539874, in the Office the Recorder of Deeds, Maricopa County, Arizona and

WHEREAS, the Mortgage was insured by the UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (the SECRETARY) pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and

WHEREAS, the Mortgage is now owned by the SECRETARY, pursuant to an Assignment of Mortgage dated 03/17/2020, and recorded on 03/27/2020, as Document Number 2020-0265820, in the Office of the Maricopa County Recorder of Deeds, Arizona and a default exists; and

WHEREAS, a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Mortgage in that the payment due on 07/14/2026 was not made and remains wholly unpaid as of the date of this notice, and no payment has been made sufficient to restore the loan to currency; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of this default, the SECRETARY has declared the entire amount of this indebtedness secured by the Mortgage to be immediately due and payable;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR Part 27, subpart B, and by the SECRETARY'S designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, dated September 15, 2016, notice is hereby given that on 10/27/2026 at 8:30 AM local time, all real and personal property at or used in connection with the following described premises located at ("Property"), will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder.

P.I.N.: 149-35-119

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 3140 W WOOD DR., PHOENIX, AZ 85029

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: LOT 287, SURREY HEIGHTS NO. II, ACCORDING TO BOOK 95 OF MAPS PAGE 26, RECORDS OF MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA

The sale will be conducted online on Zoom at: Meeting ID: 648 483 3997; Password: 743891. There is a Zoom call-in option at 312-626-6799. THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT will bid \$296,384.48 plus per diem interest, advances, fees and costs. There will be no proration of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser will pay, at or before sale, his prorata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale. The Special Commissioner shall accept advance, sealed written bids at Pleadings@Nevellaw.com.

The successful bidder, except the SECRETARY, must submit a deposit totaling at least 10% of the bid in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the SECRETARY OF HUD at the close of bidding sent to the Special Commissioner at the address below by express mail next-day delivery. The deposit is non-refundable. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within thirty (30) days of the Sale or at such other time as the SECRETARY may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made payable to the SECRETARY OF HUD. If the SECRETARY is the high bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveyancing fees, all real estate taxes and other taxes that are due on or after the date of sale and all other transfer taxes and State, County and Municipal costs associated with the transfer of title.

There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant.

IRA T. NEVEL
Foreclosure Commissioner for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
175 North Franklin, Suite 201
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 357-1125

Publish: Fountain Hills Times Independent, October, 7, 14, 21, 2026/49383_1

Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maureen A. Mansfield and Michael W. Moreland are the currently acting Trustees of the Moreland Family Trust, dated June 4, 1999 (the "trust"). Joanne M. Moreland and Wallace L. Moreland were the Creators of the trust. Wallace L. Moreland predeceased Joanne M. Moreland. Joanne M. Moreland, surviving Creator of the trust, is now deceased. The currently acting trustees are also the named Personal Representatives for the Estate of Joanne M. Moreland. Joanne M. Moreland died on September 2, 2026. All persons having claims against Joanne M. Moreland, her estate, and/or the Moreland Family Trust, dated June 4, 1999, are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented by delivering or mailing a written statement of the claim to: Eleonora "Lee" Holmes, Esq., Holmes Law, PLLC, PO Box 18587, Fountain Hills, Arizona 85269.

DATED: September 23, 2026.

HOLMES LAW, PLLC
P.O. Box 18587

Fountain Hills, AZ 85269

Publish: Fountain Hills Times Independent,
September 30, October 7, 14, 2026/49477_1

Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Scott D. Erkelens is the currently acting Trustee of the Fern Senff Family Trust, dated December 20, 2022 (the "trust"). Fern Senff, the Grantor of the trust, is now deceased. Scott D. Erkelens is also the named Personal Representative for the Estate of Fern Senff. Fern Senff died on September 20, 2026. All persons having claims against Fern Senff, her estate, and/or the Fern Senff Family Trust, dated December 20, 2022, are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented by delivering or mailing a written statement of the claim to: Eleonora "Lee" Holmes, Esq., Holmes Law, PLLC, PO Box 18587, Fountain Hills, Arizona 85269.

DATED: September 29, 2026.

HOLMES LAW, PLLC

P.O. Box 18587

Fountain Hills, AZ 85269

Publish: Fountain Hills Times Independent,
October 7, 14, 21, 2026/49872_1

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Notice to Creditors

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on 03/30/2016, a certain Mortgage was executed by MARGARITA WARRINGTON by Robert Warrington as attorney in fact, as Mortgagor, in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., (MERS) (SOLELY AS NOMINEE FOR LENDER, AS HEREINAFTER DEFINED, AND LENDER'S SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS), LENDER: NOVA FINANCIAL AND INVESTMENT CORPORATION DBA NOVA HOME LOANS as Mortgagee, and was recorded on 04/04/2016, as Document Number 20160219648, in the Office the Recorder of Deeds, Maricopa County, Arizona and

WHEREAS, the Mortgage was insured by the UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (the SECRETARY) pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and
WHEREAS, the Mortgage is now owned by the SECRETARY, pursuant to an Assignment of Mortgage dated 08/17/2022, and recorded on 08/23/2022, as Document Number 20220661226, in the Office of the Maricopa County Recorder of Deeds, Arizona and a default exists; and
WHEREAS, a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Mortgage in that the payment due on 07/24/2026 was not made and remains wholly unpaid as of the date of this notice, and no payment has been made sufficient to restore the loan to currency; and
WHEREAS, by virtue of this default, the SECRETARY has declared the entire amount of this indebtedness secured by the Mortgage to be immediately due and payable;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR Part 27, subpart B, and by the SECRETARY'S designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, dated September 15, 2016, notice is hereby given that on 11/10/2026 at 8:30 AM local time, all real and personal property at or used in connection with the following described premises located at ("Property"), will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder.
P.I.N.: 160-42-072

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 612 W AUGUSTA AVE., PHOENIX, AZ 85021

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: LOT 13 OF MODERN GROVES, A SUBDIVISION OF MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE MARICOPA COUNTY RECORDER IN BOOK 125 OF MAPS AND PLAVEST T S AT PAGE 32 THEREOF.

The sale will be conducted online on Zoom at: Meeting ID: 648 483 3997; Password: 743891. There is a Zoom call-in option at 312-626-6799. THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT will bid \$883,470.04 plus per diem interest, advances, fees and costs. There will be no proration of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser will pay, at or before sale, his prorata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale. The Special Commissioner shall accept advance, sealed written bids at Pleadings@Nevellaw.com. The successful bidder, except the SECRETARY, must submit a deposit totaling at least 10% of the bid in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the SECRETARY OF HUD at the close of bidding sent to the Special Commissioner at the address below by express mail next-day delivery. The deposit is non-refundable. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within thirty (30) days of the Sale or at such other time as the SECRETARY may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made payable to the SECRETARY OF HUD. If the SECRETARY is the high bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveyancing fees, all real estate taxes and other taxes that are due on or after the date of sale and all other transfer taxes and State, County and Municipal costs associated with the transfer of title.

There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant.

IRA T. NEVEL
Foreclosure Commissioner for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
175 North Franklin, Suite 101
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 357-1125

Publish: Fountain Hills Times Independent, October 14, 21, 28, 2026/50133_1

Public Notice

ORDINANCE NO. 26-14

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FOUNTAIN HILLS, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AMENDING THE FOUNTAIN HILLS TOWN CODE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 8, BUSINESS LICENSES, ARTICLE 8-6, SHORT-TERM RENTALS AND VACATION RENTALS.

WHEREAS, local governments may regulate short-term rentals and vacation rentals as provided in Arizona Revised Statutes ("A. R. S.") § 9-500.39; and

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2022, the Mayor and Town Council passed and adopted Ordinance 22-09 adding Article 8-6, Short-term Rentals and Vacation Rentals to the Town Code; and

WHEREAS, the Town has found it necessary to amend the existing regulations to ensure the proper functioning of short-term rentals and vacation rentals consistent with Arizona Revised Statutes ("A. R. S.") § 9-500.39; and

WHEREAS, a central and significant goal for the Town is to protect the health safety and welfare of the Town residents, preserve its housing stock, and maintain the quality and character of residential neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article II, Sections 1 and 2, Constitution of Arizona, and the laws of the State of Arizona, the Town Council has considered the individual property rights and personal liberties of the residents of the Town and the probable impact of the proposed ordinance on the cost to construct housing for sale or rent before adopting this ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FOUNTAIN HILLS, ARIZONA, as follows:

SECTION 1. The recitals above are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2. Article 8-6 of the Fountain Hills Town Code is hereby amended as provided in Exhibit A.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this Ordinance is for any reason held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, such provision or portion hereof shall be deemed separate, distinct and independent of all other provisions and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after its passage and adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Fountain Hills, Arizona, and its approval by the Mayor and attestation by the Town Clerk.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Fountain Hills, Arizona, this 6th day of October, 2026.

TOWN OF FOUNTAIN HILLS, ARIZONA

/s/Gerry M. Friedel, Mayor

REVIEWED BY:

/s/Rachael Goodwin, Town Manager

ATTEST:

/s/Angela Padgett-Espiritu,
Deputy Town Clerk For Bevelyn Bender,
Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/Tim La Sota, Town Attorney

EXHIBIT A | Available in the Town Clerk's Office

Publish: Fountain Hills Times Independent, October 14, 21, 2026/50290_1

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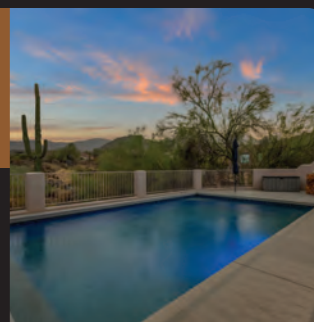


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