

Coalition celebrates year, honors Ochsner

Fountain Hills Coalition President Shelly Mowrey gave a presentation during the April 21 Town Council meeting, filling councilmembers in on the past year's successes for the group, as well as giving special recognition to Maricopa County Sheriff's Office's School Resource Officer, Deputy Jill Ochsner.

According to Mowrey, the Coalition had a banner year in 2015-16, giving credit for those successes to the many individuals, businesses and organizations who offer time and resources to make that possible.

"We have so many partners who come together to help us in our mission," Mowrey said.

At present, Mowrey said that the Coalition has 26 active members representing 12 sectors, enough to warrant moving the group into larger meeting quarters in recent months.

Mowrey reported that 52

businesses promoted the local Text-A-Tip program this year, with a total of 256 businesses supporting the program.

Local businesses also fully funded the Coalition's essay and art contest, providing prizes for student award winners.

On the family level, the local Safe Homes Network has reached 380 members promising to keep alcohol out of the hands of minors.

At the local schools, Mowrey highlighted the Above That Club at the middle school, which encourages students to stay above the influence of alcohol and drugs. At the high school, the MPowrd Club has helped numerous students overcome their own challenges and struggles in a peer-run setting.

Also a big success this year was the Coalition's speaker series at local schools, as well as the Arizona Youth Survey that

helps the Coalition gauge the local landscape courtesy of nearly 400 student participants.

Around town, Mowrey said the Coalition is excited for the 15 Text-A-Tip banners that have been added at local parks, the new prescription drop box that was donated by the Attorney General's Office and is maintained by MCSO, as well as 17 community events reaching 1,742 residents over the past year.

To end the presentation on an even higher note, Mowrey recognized Deputy Jill Ochsner for her service to the community and its children, citing the many times she's gone above and beyond the call of duty to make Fountain Hills a safer place to live, learn and grow.

For more information on the Fountain Hills Coalition, its initiatives, programs and more, visit safehomesfh.org.



Deputy Jill Ochsner is presented with a special honor from Fountain Hills Coalition President Shelly Mowrey during the April 21 Town Council meeting for her dedication to the town of Fountain Hills, and especially its youth. Ochsner received a standing ovation from the Council and the large crowd in attendance.

Bill would stiffen penalties for rally blockers

Protesters who blocked two roadways before a local March rally for Republican presidential front runner Donald Trump inspired state lawmakers to modify a bill Thursday to increase penalties for blocking access to political campaign events.

Opponents say lawmakers should not criminalize the act of civil disobedience.

Three protesters were arrested in connection with the backup on Shea Boulevard and State Route 87.

The amendment would increase penalties from a Class 3 to a Class 1 misdemeanor if an individual intentionally blocks access to a political campaign event or a government meeting or hearing. A Class 1 misdemeanor carries a maximum penalty of six months in jail and a \$2,500 fine.

The amendment on House Bill 2548 passed April 21 on a 14-9 vote.

Palisades Veterinary Hospital holds open house



Mathew Gonzales patiently waits for his balloon creation during the Palisades Vets open house.



The Palisades Veterinary Hospital opened its doors to the public for a full tour of the facility on Saturday, April 23.



Palisades Veterinary Hospital technician Jennifer Crane and her daughter, Danielle, enjoyed a day of showing off the facilities to visitors during the open house.



Visitors to the Palisades Veterinary Hospital open house were treated to lunch, ice cream, snacks and more.



All areas of Palisades Veterinary Hospital were open to visitors during the open house, with staff available in each area to field questions and talk about what they do.

Times photos by Ryan Winslett

NPOA elects new directors

On Saturday, April 16, the Neighborhood Property Owners' Association of Fountain Hills, Arizona, Inc. (NPOA) held its 24th annual general meeting. The following individuals were elected to serve on the 2016/17 board of directors: Don Barar, Mary Ann Bosnos, Martha Iskyan, Charles LaMar, William Pape, Tim Patterson, Nancy Paul-Stahl, Arnold Rohrer and Tim Zaspal.

Outgoing president James Waddell was honored for his four years of service on the board; one year as treasurer and three as president.

At an April 20 special meeting of the board, the following officers were elected: Charles LaMar, president; Martha Iskyan, vice president; Don Barar, treasurer; and Mary Ann Bosnos, secretary.

The NPOA serves some 4,400 Fountain Hills prop-

erty owners, providing architectural control for new construction and all exterior improvements in member plats. Examples of projects that require a permit from the NPOA's Neighborhood Committee of Architecture are: repaints, remodels, additions, porches, patios, walls, fences, solar, pools, awnings, new windows or doors, gazebos, etc.

To learn more, contact the NPOA at npoafh.org or 480-837-5317.

NPOA approves 3 applications

The Neighborhood Property Owners Association's Committee of Architecture considered several plans during the meeting held on April 19.

The NPOA reviewed and approved three permit requests, with one application in need of further information.

Approvals were as follows:

- *15816 Sycamore – Owner, Becker; open air.
- *16457 Dixie Mine – Owner, Brandys; change door.
- *14850 El Sobrante – Owner, Dwyer; mailbox.

The following permit application needed further information:

- *14850 El Sobrante – Owner, Dwyer; wall.

The Neighborhood Committee of Architecture meets Tuesdays at 8:45

a.m. in the association's office at 16810 E. Avenue of the Fountains, suite 119, to review member property owners' plans for new construction or improvements.

The NPOA board of directors meets on the second

Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m.

The association has an after-hours drop box for members' convenience outside the office.

For information, visit the website at npoafh.org or call 480-837-5317.

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