

Senator Kavanagh talks state drug regulations with Coalition

State Sen. John Kavanagh is confident a few bills aimed at further regulating the medical marijuana industry may become law this year.

He gave a legislative update at the Jan. 25 Fountain Hills Coalition sector meeting.

The coalition is charged with helping lower and prevent drug and alcohol usage among juveniles.

Five bills have been introduced concerning the

medical marijuana industry, but Kavanagh thinks two of them stand a good chance of being approved by the Arizona Legislature and ultimately signed by Gov. Doug Ducey.

Kavanagh prefaced his remarks by saying it is difficult to legislate changes to the medical marijuana industry since it was created by initiative and passed by voters.

"You need three-fourths of the Legislature to make

amendments to it and any changes have to 'further the cause' of the initiative," he said.

One bill he thinks could pass would further regulate the packaging and labeling of medical marijuana products.

The bill states that packaging can't be attractive to minors and utilize such marketing gimmicks as cartoons, super heroes and other images clearly aimed at juveniles (such as selling candy infused with marijuana in the form of gummy bears, etc.).

Another bill he thinks has a good chance of passing both chambers would require medical marijuana facilities to have more inspections and tests to look for such things as mold, pesticides, the concentration of the active ingredient in marijuana, etc.

"The industry won't like this, because it will give them more regulation," Kavanagh explained. "But they are legitimate inspections that should be done to ensure safety and the like."

In a related matter, the state senator said a num-

ber of bills were introduced through the governor's office to deal with the opioid crisis in Arizona.

The Arizona Legislature that same day (Jan. 25) approved a sweeping plan to fight the state's opioid epidemic. More than 800 lives have been lost in Arizona since June due to overdoses.

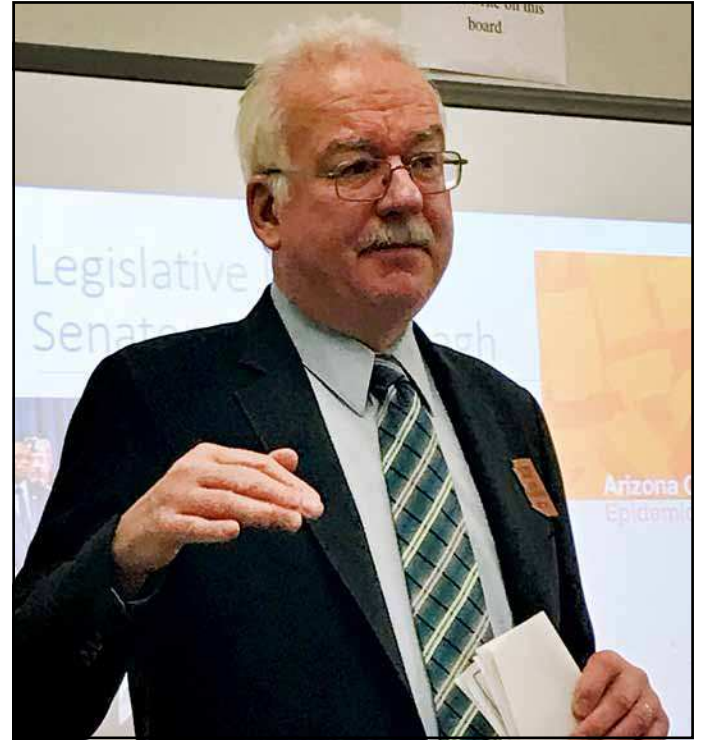
The Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act limits initial pain pill fills to five days for "opioid naive" patients and imposes a maximum dosage limit for others seeking new prescriptions.

In a rare show of bipartisanship, the proposal passed 30-0 in the Senate and 58-0 in the House.

Ducey called lawmakers into a special session on the issue and urged them to pass the act quickly to help prevent more overdose deaths.

"This one is tricky because we have to be cognizant of the rural areas and the fact a lot of them don't have pain specialists," Kavanagh told the coalition. "That could drive people into the illegal markets."

"If we over-regulate, then doctors won't treat chronic



Sen. John Kavanagh

pain. I think this bill is a reasonable compromise."

The bill further added \$10 million to provide rehab services for people who can't afford treatment because they don't have insurance coverage.

Kavanagh also said there is a push to raise the legal age from 18 to 21 for tobacco use, along with vaping.

The coalition's next sector meeting is set for Thursday, March 8, at the School District's Learning Center.

Art meets Fashion on the Avenue



The Fountain Hills Artists' Gallery and Cheryl's of Fountain Hills are partnering to bring you a special evening of fun and fashion featuring original jewelry by local artists and the latest in women's casual attire.

Join us on Feb 8th from 5 - 7 pm.

"Happy Hour" treats will be provided with free prize drawings and special discounts.

FOUNTAIN HILLS
Artists' Gallery

Cheryl's
of Fountain Hills

16858 E. Avenue of the Fountains

Rock Valentine's Day in garden

The Fountain Hills Community Garden will sponsor a rock painting party at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 14.

The event is open to everyone, particularly children, for \$5 per person. All materials will be provided to design the rocks. Valentine's treats also will be available. Plant starter kits will be sold.

The garden has scheduled monthly classes on a wide variety of topics. The classes are free to garden members or \$5 to non-members. Garden membership is \$10 annually.

Dr. Denise Holtzman will talk about "Green Power" at 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, in the Yavapai Room of the Community

Center. She will explain why green foods from the garden are so beneficial.

Holtzman obtained her master's degree in clinical nutrition in 2010 and is a certified nutrition specialist. As a professor she has taught postgraduate seminars on metabolic syndrome and has given numerous presentations

on sports nutrition, anti-inflammatory diet and general wellness.

In March, Audra Waddle will talk about beekeeping in the garden. She will discuss what goes into a bee hive and different types of beekeepers. She will have honey recipes.

The time and date of the class has not yet been set.

CPR/AED training set for Feb. 10

The next CPR/AED training class hosted by the Community Services Department and Fountain Hills Fire Department will be Saturday, Feb. 10.

The class will be held at the Community Center from 9 a.m. to noon.

The purpose of the course is to train individu-

als to overcome any reluctance to act in emergency situations and to recognize and care for life-threatening respiratory or cardiac emergencies in children or adults.

The classes cover adult, child, and infant CPR, the use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), and first aid for choking. The Fountain Hills Fire Department provides the certified CPR instructors.

The classes are scheduled the second Saturday of each month through April.

Cost of the course is \$30 for Fountain Hills residents and \$40 for non-residents; Fountain Hills High school students, \$20; non-resident high school students, \$30. The minimum age for taking the course is 14.

Pre-registration is required and participants can pre-register by visiting Town Hall, the Community Center or online at fh.az.gov/recreation.

The deadline to register is 12 p.m. on the Thursday preceding the course. Those who register online should bring their receipts with them as proof of payment. Private classes for large groups can also be scheduled by contacting the town.

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Valentine's Day Specials

February 10th - 14th

APPETIZER

Jumbo Shrimp Cocktail 12

ENTREES

Prime Rib & Lobster Tail with cheddar mashed potatoes and broccolini 34.95

Seafood Lasagna with shrimp, scallops and crab served with a creamy sunrise sauce 24.95

Caprese Chicken with basil, fresh mozzarella and grilled tomato, served with angel hair pasta and steamed broccoli 20.95

DESSERT

Red Velvet Cake 8.95

Call for reservations

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FLOURISH

Celebrate love

Wednesday, February 14th, 5-9pm

Choose from delicious options on Chef Richie's exclusive 4-course Valentine's Day prix fixe menu for only \$85 per guest, plus tax and gratuity. Delight the one you love with the romantic ambiance of Flourish.

Starters

- Fresh Shrimp Cocktail
- Decadent Crab Cake
- Flourish Brussel Sprouts
- Creamy Sherry Lobster Bisque with Chive Garnish

Salads

- Flourish Salad with Red Grape Halves & Mustard Vinaigrette
- Wedge Salad with Shaved Prosciutto
- Caesar Salad with Pomegranate Caesar Dressing
- Arugula Quinoa with Goat Cheese and Lemon Balsamic Vinaigrette

Entrees

- Parmesan Herb Crusted Halibut
- Short Rib Polenta
- Roasted Chicken with Mushroom Sauce
- Cauliflower Steak with Manchego Cheese & Chimichurri
- 6 oz Filet and 7 oz Lobster Tail, served with a Vanilla Butter Sauce

Desserts

- Creamy Gelato
- Strawberry Cheesecake
- Strawberry & Chocolate Cake

Seating is limited. Call (480) 333-1880 for Reservations.
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