



THE FOUNTAIN HILLS TIMES

Your Award-Winning Hometown Weekly Newspaper

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September 17
Church of the Ascension
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6:30pm – 7:30pm



Wednesday, September 4, 2019

\$1.00

Volume 46, No. 35 • 22 pages • 2 sections



Striking weather arrives

Fountain Hills resident Larry Arbanas created this composite shot of lightning strikes recently while visiting McDowell Mountain Regional Park. Combine the pyrotechnics with some light drizzles, and it looks like the monsoon season could finally be rolling into town.

James O'Callaghan named chamber CEO

After a five-month search, the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce board announced that James O'Callaghan of Lakewood, Calif., will be CEO beginning today, Sept. 4.

O'Callaghan leaves his position as executive director for business improvement districts on the West Hollywood Travel and Tourism Board. He started that job in Jan. 1, 2019, according to a social media post.

He worked as president and CEO for the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce from 2012-16, and then became president and CEP of Huntington



James O'Callaghan

Beach Chamber of Commerce.

"I am looking forward

(cont. on page 2A)

Sanitary District Q&A:

The role of a board member

This week *The Times* will begin a series highlighting the four candidates for the Fountain Hills Sanitary District Board of Directors.

The four candidates vying for three seats on the board include incumbent and current Vice Chairman, Jerry Butler; incumbent, Michael Maroon; Bob Shelstrom and incumbent, Bob Thomason.

This election is an all-mail ballot process. Ballots will be mailed to registered voters on Wednesday, Oct. 9. The registration dead-

line for this election is Monday, Oct. 7. Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 5.

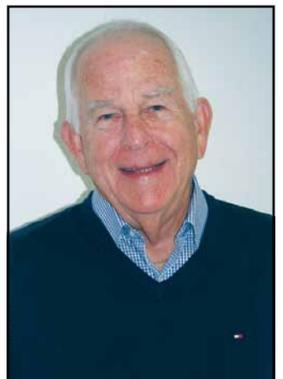
The candidates are responding to a series of questions posed by *The Times*. Question #1 asks: **As a member of the Sanitary District Board of Directors, how do you view your role in the operation of the district?**

Jerry Butler: "I view my role as 'overseeing' all parts of Sanitary District operations to assure users that sufficient revenues are available to pay expenses,

that all waste byproducts are being properly handled, and that the final effluent meets all environmental regulations. In other words, a director's role is about planning, controlling and managing, but not micro-managing.

"I am proud to report that day-to-day operations are quietly being handled by a very competent, dedicated staff of 44 men and women, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. District

(cont. on page 3A)



Jerry Butler

Community survey digs into substance abuse

By Ryan Winslett
Times Editor

According to the 2019 Community Views Survey, Fountain Hills residents feel alcohol and substance abuse is the most prominent issue facing the community's youth.

The survey was made available to the community this past spring and drew around 200 participants. Shana Malone presented the results to those in attendance during the Aug. 22 Fountain Hills Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition meeting. According to Malone, the report reveals what Fountain Hills residents perceive to be major issues affecting the community.

This survey is conducted

every two years and the results help guide the decisions and activities of the coalition.

When asked about the most severe issue facing local youths, alcohol and substance abuse was followed by anxiety/stress, then depression.

Another question on the survey asked participants which substances caused the most problems in Fountain Hills. The top answer was prescription drugs, followed by alcohol, meth, heroin and e-cigarettes rounding out the top five.

Sixth on the list as perceived problems was marijuana, with 23 percent of participants following up by stating they know do not know what

(cont. on page 8A)

Parents and Teens

Recognizing and coping with stress

By Ryan Winslett
Times Editor

Talking to your kids about important issues can be tricky. 'Parents and Teens' is an ongoing series exploring topics that impact the lives of modern adolescents, including everything from stress and bullying to depression and substance abuse. This week's focus is stress, how it impacts teens and what can be done to combat it.

"You're a kid, what do you have to be stressed about?"

That's a sentiment many adults have either said, or at least thought, in regards to a youngster who keeps pacing the floor because of an upcoming test, a disagreement with friends or something that was said on social media.

It's easy to forget that,



It's important for parents to know how to identify stress, how to talk to their kids about it and seek help when needed.

for a teen, those things have the same emotional, mental and physical impact as an adult trying to pay the bills on a tight bud-

get. The teen's issues may seem small by comparison but, in their world, they are of the utmost importance. Cassandra Rogers and

Kristine Hileman are social workers/counselors working at Fountain Hills

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Garage Door, Jumping Polls, or the Curb?**

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

Leadership:
Local churches see some changes.
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Camping:
Fall fees and promotions.
See Page 7A

Combine:
Kyle Miller (pictured) joins local youth at football event.
See Page 1B

Daily News Updates www.fhtimes.com

WEATHER

	H	L	P
Tues., Aug. 27	107	88	--
Wed., Aug. 28	104	78	.06
Thurs., Aug. 29	101	81	--
Fri., Aug. 30	105	82	--
Sat., Aug. 31	104	79	--
Sun., Sept. 1	105	80	.05
Mon., Sept. 2	102	81	--

For weather updates and forecasts go to www.fhtimes.com

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