



THE FOUNTAIN HILLS TIMES

Your Award-Winning Hometown Weekly Newspaper

Farmers market Saturday

Fountain Hills Tractor Supply Co. is bringing individuals and businesses to showcase their products at a Farmers Market from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 28. The local vendors will sell homemade and homegrown products, such as baked goods, crafts, candles and produce. The free event will be

outside the store, 17130 E. Shea Blvd. Interested exhibitors can register at TSCEventPartners.com or visit the store. While participation is free, all vendors are responsible for complying with state and local ordinances. Contact the Fountain Hills Tractor Supply store at 480-837-2060 for more details.

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

\$1.00

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Storm water collected behind Golden Eagle Park Dam leaving the ball fields under water for the second time in just under one year. Several inches of rain fell in Fountain Hills over a three-hour period, causing the flooding. Additional photos on Page 11A.

Council to consider Daybreak Tuesday

By Bob Burns
Times Reporter

With a recommendation in hand from the Planning and Zoning Commission to deny the application, the Town Council will take up the requests for a General Plan amendment and rezoning associated with the proposed Daybreak apartment community when it meets next week.

The council meets Tuesday, Oct. 1, to consider the requests from Jeremy Hall and Neil Ginsberg of Hilltop Vista Properties, the developer of the site.

The Daybreak develop-

ment is planned for 23 acres of an approximately 60-acre site off Palisades Boulevard north of Shea Boulevard. The plan calls for 36 acres of the property to remain open space.

The site is currently zoned for lodging and there have been a few abandoned resort plans for the parcel.

Hall is a former president of MCO Properties and oversaw considerable development within Fountain Hills, and Ginsberg was part of the team that initially developed the CopperWynd Resort in

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Storm brings damage déjà vu

By Bob Burns
Times Reporter

Just 10 days shy of a year since a tropical storm remnant inundated the ball fields at Golden Eagle Park in 2018, it happened again on Monday morning this week.

More than two inches of rain fell in the center of Fountain Hills over a three-hour period beginning around 6 a.m. on Sept. 23. Water rushing down

washes flowed again up to the dam in Golden Eagle Park where it backed up. Ball fields that had to be restored after last year's flooding were once again under water, as much as three to four feet along the outfield fences closest to the dam. By about 5 p.m. much of the water had drained out and there appeared to be little debris, but there was no damage assessment. More rain late Monday dumped an additional inch or more of rain

on the wash watershed. Town Manager Grady Miller said it will be a process for the town to assess damage at the park. He said the dam is doing its job with moving water through it on the outflow side. There does not appear to be any obstruction blocking the flow.

Public Works Director Justin Weldy said the dam is working as it should as a flood detention dam, which is part of the overall flood control system for Foun-

tain Hills. Much of Golden Eagle Park is designed as a detention basin for flood water. The ball fields provide the open space to hold the excess water. Until last year the system had not had a real test at the park. Weldy added that berms added after last year's storm were working to direct the flow of water in the washes.

Weldy was also busy organizing the streets staff

(cont. on page 11A)

Betsy LaVoie to head Chamber

By Barb Charzuk
Times Reporter

After a contract snag with a previously announced candidate for Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce CEO/President, Betsy LaVoie will serve as executive director.

The Fountain Hills native has been member relations manager of the chamber since February.

Announcement of her promotion came in a press release last Friday, Sept. 20. No explanation was given for the change in the position title.

The Chamber announced Aug. 29 that James O'Callaghan of



Betsy LaVoie

Lakewood, Calif., had been hired as CEO beginning Sept. 4. He was leaving his position as

(cont. on page 9A)

Q&A Candidates talk tech

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

This election is an all-mail ballot process. Ballots will be mailed to registered voters on Wednesday, Oct. 9. The registration deadline 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 #4 asks: **How does the Sanitary District need to adapt to keep up with current technology and best practices in utility management?**

Bob Thomson – "The commitment of the Sanitary District to continuously adapt to the latest in 'best practices' for wastewater treatment and collection cannot be

(cont. on page 2A)

Oktoberfest this weekend

No need to travel to Germany to experience a true Oktoberfest this Friday, Sept. 27, and Saturday, Sept. 28.

The festivities will open at 5 p.m. in Fountain Park when the four-piece band, "Die Echten Waldbuam," direct from Germany, begins playing.

Mayor Ginny Dickey will tap the beer keg signifying the formal opening of the 12th annual event at 6 p.m., Friday.

Festivities on both days will continue until 10 p.m. with alphorn competitions, recognition of best-dressed outfits and beer stein holding contests.

Authenticity is important to the Fountain Hills Oktoberfest, right down to Bavarian blue and white colors decorating the tables.

Admission is \$5; free for age 20 and younger, and anyone who wears traditional German lederhosen or dirndls. Prizes will be awarded to guests wearing the most popular outfits.

Foot-long brats, schnitzel,

(cont. on page 2A)



Josh and Camille Logan, along with Karen Weaver (front), wore authentic Bavarian attire to last year's Oktoberfest in Fountain Park. The cultural festival returns with German food, music and customs for the 12th year from 5 to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday, Sept. 27 and 28. The \$5 admission fee is waived for any male wearing traditional German lederhosen or woman in a dirndl.

Parents and Teens Substance Abuse

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. The final topic for this series is substance abuse, including warning signs, dangers and tips for communication and coping.

Whether it's Nancy Reagan encouraging youngsters to "just say no," eggs frying in a skillet to symbolize "your brain on drugs" or a generation of kids wearing shirts proclaiming they D.A.R.E. to avoid destructive decisions, the fight to keep kids away from drugs is long-running and ongoing.

According to Fountain Hills Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition Director Shelly Mowrey, that fact rings true in the local community.

"Fountain Hills looks pretty typical for a town this size," Mowrey said, in regards to teen substance abuse. The local coalition has been around for about a decade, using data both national and gathered locally to get a better picture of youth substance abuse trends.

"People have this idea that there's one town or one city that has no drug problems or zero kids using alcohol," Mowrey continued. "That doesn't happen. No matter where you go, from the smallest towns to the largest cities, there are always youth using

(cont. on page 10A)

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480-837-2296
Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Sunday Closed

INSIDE THIS WEEK

Parkinson's:
D.C. trip and support group to meet.
See Page 5A

General Plan:
Update process continues.
See Page 9A

Vaping:
Tiffany Lam (pictured) updates parents on e-cigarettes.
See Page 13A



WEATHER

	H	L	P
Tues., Sept. 17	95	74	--
Wed., Sept. 18	99	73	--
Thurs., Sept. 19	98	67	--
Fri., Sept. 20	93	63	--
Sat., Sept. 21	92	70	--
Sun., Sept. 22	94	72	.50
Mon., Sept. 23	78	66	3.2

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



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