



THE FOUNTAIN HILLS TIMES

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Election enthusiasm in The Hills



Residents organized a Trump rally Friday evening, Oct. 2, with participants standing along the sidewalk next to Fountain Park, waving flags and holding signs in support of re-election efforts.



Members of the Fountain Hills Democratic Club show their support for their candidates during a "honk if you like" demonstration at Palisades and Shea boulevards Saturday morning.

General election

Meet the House candidates

By Bob Burns
Times Reporter



Dr. Hiral Tipirneni



David Schweikert

What is shaping up to be one of the most-watched races for the U.S. House of Representatives this fall is the one between Fountain Hills resident and incumbent Republican Congressman David Schweikert and challenger, Democrat Dr. Hiral Tipirneni.

This is a second effort by Tipirneni to gain a seat in Congress from Arizona. Two years ago, she challenged Congresswoman Debbie Lesko, losing in that race.

Schweikert has had solid support in the district since he was first elected in 2010. After reports earlier this summer of his admitting to 11 violations of House Ethics Code, and receiving a reprimand and a \$50,000 fine, many recent polls are calling the race a toss-up.

Schweikert is a longtime Fountain Hills resident, coming here with his parents as a young man. He is a graduate of Arizona State University and has maintained a real estate business for many years.

Schweikert began his political career in 1990 when he was elected to the Arizona House of Rep-

resentatives. He was later elected Maricopa County Treasurer before running for Congress.

He holds a seat on the House Ways and Means Committee, and previously served on the House Financial Services Committee. He also sits on the

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Art fair safety plan outlined

By Bob Burns
Times Reporter

The Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce has prepared a comprehensive Public Health and Safety Plan for its planned Fountain Festival of Fine Arts & Crafts scheduled to take place Nov. 13-15.

Chamber CEO Betsy LaVoie presented the plan to the Town Council at a

special meeting on Sept. 28, in which the council voted 4-3 to issue a town permit for the special event. Mayor Ginny Dickey, Vice Mayor Mike Scharnow and Councilman Alan Magazine opposed the permit.

The Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce has hosted the annual arts fairs for nearly 50 years, and this year the COV-

ID-19 pandemic presented a threat of cancellation of the three-day fair.

The summary for the health and safety plan cites Governor Doug Ducey's executive orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic that would prohibit any events or gatherings that would attract more than 50 people,

(cont. on page 9A)

Campaign signs damaged, stolen and removed

By Bob Burns
Times Reporter

During this particularly volatile election cycle, Maricopa County Sheriff's deputies are receiving a number of reports of political signs being stolen or damaged from areas along the streets and roadways in town.

The Sheriff's Office has reached out to clarify that a report of stolen Trump/Pence signs from a couple of weeks ago. Some of those were in fact removed by Town Code Enforcement due to their placement in the median and traffic safety concerns.

MCSO Capt. Larry Kratzer said they followed up on a report that the signs were removed by Code Enforcement and found that was the case.

"Code Enforcement removed three Trump signs that were in the median and contacted the sign owners so they could pick them

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A Fountain Hills resident who had his Biden/Harris campaign sign vandalized posted an additional sign with a comment on the vandalism.

Invasive vegetation is topic of local study

By Bob Burns
Times Reporter

The Fountain Hills McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission (MMPC) has formed a working group of its members to study options to address invasive species of vegetations found in the preserve.

Commission Chairman Paul Garvey and commissioners Bill Craig and

Janice Holden will work together on the group, which will report back to the full commission.

At a monthly meeting on Sept. 29, commission members heard a presentation on the invasive species from Pam Cissik, co-chair for the Sonoran Conservancy of Fountain Hills.

Cissik noted there is a regional organization, Central Arizona Conservation Alliance (CAZCA), founded in 2012 by the Phoenix

Botanical Garden, that is addressing the issue. Invasive desert plants can be detrimental to native desert plants and wildlife, as well as become a fire hazard.

CAZCA has 31 partners including Maricopa County Parks, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy and Tonto National Forest. A group formed by the alliance known as Desert

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INSIDE

Sports:

Falcons had busy week.
See Page 11A

Theater:

Youth camp during fall break.
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Fee:

Council considers comprehensive policy.
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COVID-19 update

Reported Cases*
As of Tuesday, Oct. 6

Maricopa County Totals: 143,917

Fountain Hills Totals: 273

*Source: Arizona Department of Health Services

WEATHER

	H	L	P
Tues., Sept. 29	99	73	--
Wed., Sept. 30	101	74	--
Thurs., Oct. 1	103	75	--
Fri., Oct. 2	103	68	--
Sat., Oct. 3	101	66	--
Sun., Oct. 4	102	72	--
Mon., Oct. 5	101	71	--

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

