

GET OUT OF THE VALLEY

AND INTO THE HILLS

fountain hills

"We could tell you about our neighborhood restaurants, our tranquil resort spas, our off-road adventures or our stunning views – but come see for yourself. **We'll save you a seat!**"

A Dark Sky Oasis

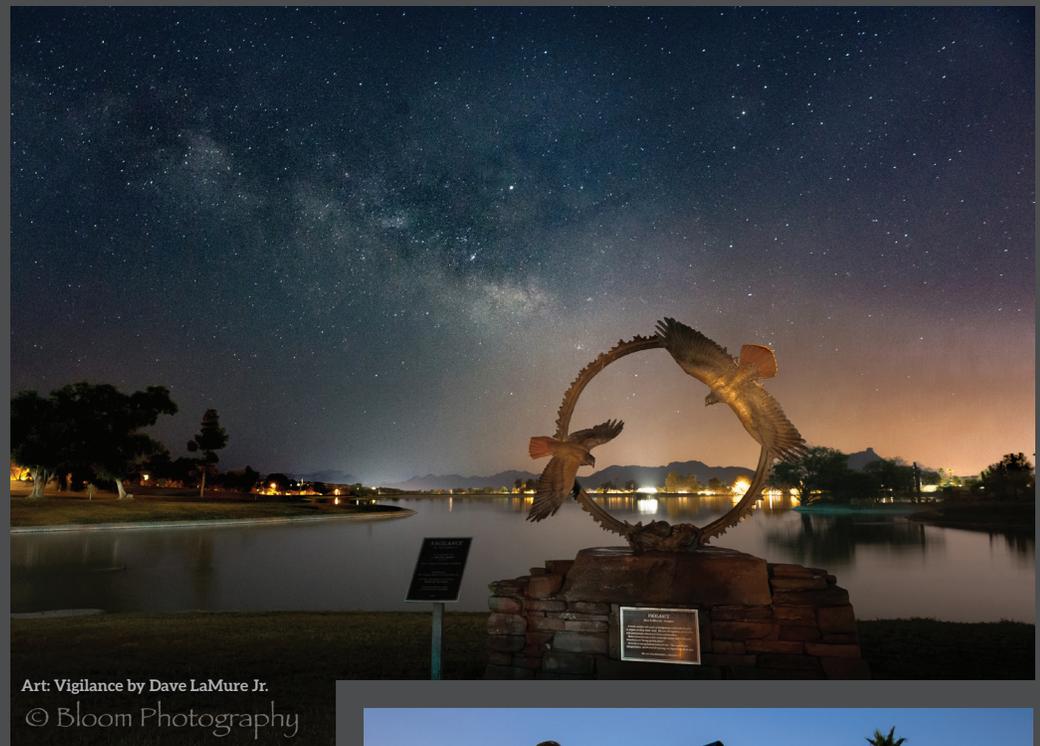
Beginning January 8, 2018 the Town of Fountain Hills, Arizona was awarded the rare distinction of being designated an International Dark Sky Community by the International Dark Sky Association (IDA). It is one of only two International Dark Sky Communities located near a major metropolitan area. In total, only 16 communities in the world have previously earned this prestigious designation.

Long known for having one of the world's tallest fountains at 560 feet, its backdrop of the Sonoran Desert mountains, its many great festivals and its mountain preserve, Fountain Hills has adopted a mission to preserve another of its natural assets, its dark sky.

Because of the effort of the FHDSA (Fountain Hills Dark Sky Association) and the support of the town council and town staff, the outdoor lighting and sign ordinances were updated to address new causes of light pollution.

The local astronomy club, in cooperation with the library, offers monthly star parties to introduce people to planets, constellations, and extraordinary stellar objects. FHDSA Board Member and former mayor Jay Schlum has stated, "Some residents moved here because of the dark skies and even have their own domed observatories in their back yard."

To give more people the opportunity to enjoy the night sky, three telescopes were donated to the Fountain Hills Library by FHDSA Board Member Dr. Craig Gimbel. The telescopes can be checked out just like books and this program resulted in a national award for the library.



For more info visit our website
experiencefountainhills.org/darksky
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