

**Letters to the Editor**  
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front and back windshields. They didn't stop there, they went on to slash his tires and steal his battery. These people obviously had no brains, because if they did they would have known that Brian mainly uses his car to help other mentally handicapped and low income people get to their appointments and go shopping.

Brian, like so many other people lives on a fixed income. After paying his rent he is lucky if he has enough money to keep his car on the road and legal, let alone buy gas. So he transports many of our less fortunate residents in turn for nothing more than usually a gallon or two of gas and a thank you.

Who ever did this, I just want you to know you have hurt a lot of people, not just Brian. There is going to now be several people who are going to have to go without a lot of things, including getting food at the grocery store just because of you! I just want to tell you, you really are the slime of the earth!

Thomas Swift, Apache Junction

**Vote Republican**

Fellow Pinal citizens, we need to change the leadership in Pinal County. Beginning with the corruption and conviction of former county manager, Stan Griffith, up to the present, the county leadership has failed its citizens.

Our current sheriff, Chris Vasquez, openly plagiarizes and deceives citizens in his many "informative" writings, and felt it was no big deal when called on it. Yes, this is from the leading law enforcement official in the county.

We have the Doolittle husband and wife team as county manager and treasurer, respectively. This is nepotism at its best and begs the question of "conflict of interest." Indeed, the Doolittle's have had contracts with their family members involving county business. Only recently has this practice been discontinued. Could this be an election year only move?

Our county assessor is deficient in lowering assessed values on our homes, during this slow down in the economy. Yet our taxes increase!! Where is county leadership, when its citizens need reliability in fair assessments and lower taxes?

We have supervisors that spend inordinate amounts of time, money and energy on harassing the owner of San Tan Flats, over "dancing" in a public place, and drawing adverse national attention to Pinal County. I would think that the supervisors should have spent time overseeing the above departments and looking into the mismanagement of the county fair, at the very least. We need efficient and transparent county government and we have not been getting it.

Friends, it's time for a new team of energetic, concerned professionals to lead our county. I encourage all Pinal citizens to take a look at the Republican Team, go to: pinalcountygop.org. Let's vote the incumbents out and get a fresh perspective on efficient and transparent county government.

Make our voices heard. Let's end corruption and bring prosperity to Pinal County. Vote Republican.

Paul A. Messinger, San Tan/Queen Creek

**Likes Sheriff Vasquez**

There is a lot of negative press about Chris Vasquez: I would like to state my opinion. The sheriff has created and supports many volunteer groups at PCSO. Programs such as Citizens on Patrol, Home Alone Safety Button (which helps senior citizens living alone), Volunteer Posse, Sheriff's Santa program & Toy Drive, Bike Patrol, Mounted Unit, Victim Services and Chaplains to name a few. Most people in Pinal County do not know these services are in our county and the sheriff utilizes volunteers for all the programs. I volunteer for him in several capacities, in each there are victims involved. People are amazed and thankful that Victim Services volunteers are willing to spend however many hours needed just to help them. Victim Services has well-trained volunteers, we are people who care. Without these volunteers there would be many people in our county in some sort of crisis who have nobody to lean on. PCSO's Victim Services unit is top in the nation: and a model for other such organizations the country. This is something to be really proud of. The deputies we work with are also great and caring people. His volunteer programs save our county more than \$400,000 a year.

The sheriff is an open and honest person and is willing to meet with the citizens who have a complaint or a concerns. Make an appointment and see what happens. He never fails to thank his volunteers for doing a great job. He is very approachable and truly interested in the problems of the people of Pinal County. I, along with many others citizens am disturbed about all the negative press being put out not only about the sheriff but anyone running for office. Why do some candidates feel it is necessary to disparage other candidates to make yourself look good? (and you know who you are). The candidates need to concentrate on what they can do for our county, not what they think other candidates have done. Give me a realistic list of what you have in mind, how you are going to pay for it and why we need it.

Stop being a politician and tell me the truth. Please stop twisting the facts to further your own ambitions.

J. Wilson, Gold Canyon

**The bailout**

Let me begin by thanking all Republicans and Democrats that came together against President George Walker Bush's request for \$1.5 trillion in the Federal Bailout of Wall Street. This legislative move expressed "NO" to turning America's honest, hard-working, citizens into slaves of their credit. We will remember you at re-election time.

As for the Democrats and Republicans that voted "YES" to the 43rd president and his constituents request for more money than it cost us to survive World War II; Americans will remember you, as the French remember Marie Antoinette.

And for the presidential candidates that did not have the foresight to realize that there are less than 40 days before they are in office, I offer this to my fellow citizens. Do not pick either candidate that chose to steal from our pockets, while leading our children to war. Make the sound decision, and Write in Ron Paul.

Phil Johanson, Apache Junction

**Likes Fuller**

I am writing this letter in support of candidate Steve Fuller. Steve is a candidate for Pinal County Superior Court Judge, Division Six. As an attorney who has practiced law in Pinal County for 14 years, I have worked with many attorneys and appeared in court before many judges.

In that time, I have practiced with Steve Fuller and feel that Steve has the skills and work ethic to be a great judge for our county.

This November, we, the citizens of Pinal County have a unique opportunity to vote for a new judge to serve on the Pinal County Superior Court bench. Let's take this opportunity to vote for the candidate who will serve all citizens well and work hard every day. Please vote for Steve Fuller, Pinal County Superior Court Judge, Division Six.

Maureen E. Gregan, Attorney at Law, Apache Junction

**No so Direct TV**

We have a problem with one of our service providers. After recently signing up with Direct TV for \$55 a month I received my first month's bill for \$78. I called customer service at Direct TV and they apologized for the error and fixed my bill. The second month I received a bill for \$106. Again, customer service was apologetic and corrected the amount. When I asked if this would be the last time I would have a billing problem, the response was "Probably not...". As a retired fire fighter on a fixed income, I need a certain level of predictability when it comes to my expenses. I decided that although Direct TV provided a good product, the billing practices were unacceptable and I asked to cancel my service. Customer service once again apologized and then cancelled my service. The next month Direct TV sent me a bill for \$420. When I called to see what the bill was about, they explained that the expense was an early termination fee.

At this point we all know that the lawyers will get involved and point out the fine print on a contract that I never saw or was told about as I chose to sign up for service over the phone.

There is something wrong in the system when a consumer lacks the ability to terminate service due to the legitimate dissatisfaction based upon poor product or service. I've since contacted multiple agencies throughout the state to ask them to address the issue. From the Corporation Commission to the Attorney General's Office the response is generally the same, "... that's just the way it is".

The issue is not the money, although it is a factor. The issue relates to the rights of the consumer. Something should be done. I'm not an advocate of additional laws. We have enough laws. I'm asking for some oversight. Our state legislators have the power to address these issues to protect the citizens and consumers of Arizona. I'm humbly asking our local legislators, Andy Biggs, Thayer Verschoor and Eddie Farnsworth, to respond to this concern. I don't believe I'm the only constituent who has experienced this level of impropriety.

Frank Rodolico, Gold Canyon

**Martyn campaign tactics**

I have had some time to sit and ponder about the recent Pinal County primary election, and my own voting experience that day. Call me old fashioned, but I like to personally go out and vote at the polls. As I was walking into vote, I passed two people talking outside of the polling place. I had already made my decision as to who I was going to vote for, and that was after several personal talks with the candidates. I could not help overhearing the conversation going on between the two people. There was a gentleman with a Martyn sign and a lady with a Todd House sign. The lady was asking the gentleman if he was aware that Mr. Martyn was only using this position for a higher spot, a jumping stone so to say. His reply and very quickly was "your darned straights he is." She then went on to discuss the hit pieces that went out on Mr. House. The gentleman replied that yes they were dirty, should not have happened, and wrong, and that he had known about them six weeks before they were mailed out. In fact he knew of both pieces before they were mailed out. I continued to walk in to do my voting, and thought to myself, I know what pieces she is talking about as two were mailed to me also.

The first one was treated as if it were a job interview, or was supposed to represent that, only I took it as a blatant line up of let's see who can down the other. It had a photo of Mr. Martyn smiling, and all shiny, and next to his photo was a photo of Mr. House. It was of course an old photo of Mr. House. It was

not the Mr. House I knew. I say knew, because he has grey hair now, and where was that grey hair in that photo? At a gathering I asked Mr. House about the photo, and he told me it was an old photo of him taken in 2004 when he was at a fund raiser for Jeff Flake in Gold Canyon. Next to him in that same photo is Jeff Flake, only they did not print that of course. He said he was in the beginning stages of his signature gathering requirements at that function. He also told me only two people have that photo. One is himself, and the other is Martyn's campaign manager, who was House's campaign manager in 2004.

Since the primary I have spoken with Mr. Martyn at events and he probably does not remember me, as they were not long talks, but talks. I asked him about the mailers and the hit piece, and he claimed he knew nothing about them and had nothing to do with them, yet the one said "paid for by Martyn for Supervisor".

I find it very odd that a candidate knows nothing about these things going out in the mail during his own campaign. That second hit piece was done by developers and it was more than a couple of hundred dollars. They are members of groups that Martyn is a member of and some of them he was appointed to by the current supervisor. I did some researching and looked at the financials, and it smells very fishy. I just decided to do this as I felt something was very wrong here. The candidate who knows nothing about the negative mailers, yet people working for his campaign do? Come on, if you are the candidate, you sure as all get out are aware of what and when things are going out in the mail concerning your campaign!

Now, I wonder if he would stoop to this type of campaigning, what kind of supervisor is he going to be? I did not vote for him, but I still have questions. Pretty much spells out his character to me. I realize he is a retired Major of the Army, and a veteran, but he is not the ONLY veteran to have gone to war. They have painted it up as if he is the only veteran and in my eyes, he allowing the kind of hit pieces put out on Mr. House, shows me he does not have respect of the other candidate. He, his committee and the other people that were involved in the hit pieces, took it upon themselves, to attack a hard working honest persons reputation. That is so very wrong. You did it because of why? Mr. House in my asking around, seems to be pretty well respected, and honest and down to earth gentleman.

If the candidate will attack and allow his helpers to attack a fellow human being this way, think about how he is going to treat the taxpayers. He may smile and say he will do this and that, and promise the stars and call you, but I think this man is a real snake. I can see him slithering his way through your hard earned money and mine too and not looking back for one minute.

Think back, not one candidate managed to smear the others name except this one candidate. I think he would do anything to get that position so he can jump to a higher seat and leave you all sitting dry. I decided after the primary and asking Mr. Martyn about all of this, his God is not the God I know and would not condone this sort of behavior. His last interview is going to a mighty big one if you ask me.

Robert White, Gold Canyon

**Response to Q.T. letter from Mr. J D Austin**

The City Council did not in any way harass Quick Trip in its effort to place a service station on Ironwood Drive. The Council was presented a project that was flawed. The Council should have never seen the project in the first place if the Planning & Zoning Commission had done its job according to the rules they must follow. The City Council did what it had to do, all be it reluctantly.

I did not see Mr. Austin at Planning and Zoning work sessions and meetings, nor did I see him at the City Council work sessions and meetings concerning this project. He did not speak up either for or against this issue of the service station during the over three-month period it was being worked on. He might have helped QT if he had done so. Those who opposed the project did so in great numbers.

Mr. Austin seems to have few facts about the issue and seems to also lack an understanding of the processes involved, and he wasn't involved. The QT Corp. was trying to change a parcel which was zoned for something else. They wanted to put a service station in the middle of a block directly next door to an existing service station. The people in the area of the parcel opposed this. They became organized and took the issue through the prescribed process and defeated this proposal. Had the station been on an opposing corner from the existing service station there could have been no opposition, as that would be a usual place for the business.

They wanted and still do want businesses on that parcel, ones they can use, ones that are different from the one already there, ones that will provide new tax money, not divide tax monies already there. If the City Council arbitrarily changes zoning to suit each prospective business, then Planning & Zoning is wasted tax dollars. A citizen in a residential area could not rely on the next door home site remaining zoned for a home and could find his new neighbor is a dog kennel for instance. A business could find similar disagreeable circumstances affecting him and his business.

Infrastructure is expensive. Mr. Austin should outline how this can be done by the city without the city having the benefit of property taxes to do it. I would work hard to make it happen if it were possible.

Judith Krukow, Apache Junction

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*Ad paid for by Sandie Smith*

**from Kollenborn, A-4**

in Apache Junction and one other unusual individual. Andy's famous "Patio Sales" were still going on in 1983.

Andy Syndbad's health really began to decline by the early 1980s. He had miner's silicosis. He suffered so much from silicosis he committed suicide on December 4, 1986. I suppose Andy's legacy will be his tenacity to search for gold on a claim he believed contained a bonanza. He chose the life he lived and I personally doubt he was unhappy with his place in life.

I remember him cursing those "dang" people for building houses under the cliffs of Superstition Mountain spoiling his view of the old Thunder God's mountain. He was afraid that someday rocks would roll down from the cliffs of Superstition Mountain and destroy their homes. Again, that was how Andy sometimes viewed progress. I might add the last major



**Andy Syndbad (foreground) with Steve Barrick, c. 1982**

earthquake that dramatically altered Superstition Mountain was in 1887, more than a hundred and twenty years ago. *Sundt of Apache Junction for his information on the old French Lefauecheux revolver Model 1854.*

*I would like to thank Eric*



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