



# Viewpoint & Opinion

"If you expect to be ignorant and free, you expect something that never was and never will be." — Thomas Jefferson

## Letters to the Editor

**Deadline for letters to the editor is 5 p.m. on Thursday. All letters and faxes must be signed and must include your residential address and a daytime phone number. Addresses and phone numbers will not be printed, but are needed for verification of authenticity.**

**Letters to the editor should be 300 words or less, so please keep your comments brief and to the point.**

**Letters:**  
The News  
115 N. Apache Trail  
Apache Junction, AZ  
85220

**Faxes: (480) 982-3707**  
**E-Mail —**  
ajnews@ajnews.com

### Roasted Republicans?

This is not a dissertation on ROAST PIG, as per our English class days, but a dissertation on you, roasted Republicans. You go around with heads hanging down and letting the Democrats blame you for the economic straits we're in and all the evils since Adam and Eve. Think about who really is mostly to blame for the pork barrels that were added to the so-called recent bail out. Think about President Johnson who started the pork when he was in office to pay back his Democratic cronies by letting them steal from the Social Security fund, etc. etc. for their loyalty rewards. Johnson gave them the first bridges to graft. Think about Barney Frank, Nancy Pelosi and company that were warned by John McCain and other Republicans in 2003 that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were in trouble and needed to be taken care of. Nothing was done by the congressional Democrats. Think about Bill Clinton as president in 1999 pressuring congress to invoke loans for low income people to buy homes they couldn't otherwise qualify for under conventional loans. Today all of us are reaping the results of those same people losing their homes as they couldn't afford inflated payments they had been making for years. Think, why is President Bush and the Republicans daily blamed by the Democrats for our present economic crisis. They weren't the party that was in control in 1999. Think, whom you need to be voting for next November.

Patricia Henry, Queen Valley

### Likes Martyn

I am writing regarding comments I read recently regarding Bryan Martyn, candidate for Pinal Cty Supervisor. I cannot believe someone is making attacks against him... they obviously don't know him... but I guess that attack is the thing you do when you can't speak of your candidates' own background, experience, and plans for the county.

I have known Bryan Martyn for almost five years. I have seen him do nothing but great things for his country and for the community in which he lives [Gold Canyon]. I have seen him get involved in all areas of the community...and the county...safety...growth with beauty...sound economic development...and much more. I know he has great ideas... and will work harder than any supervisor Pinal County has ever had... because that is Bryan Martyn!

Wayne Karver, Gold Canyon

### Martyn for president

Pinal County is indeed fortunate to have such an outstanding candidate for supervisor as Bryan Martyn.

1. He is not a politician.
2. He has served his country with honor and distinction for 20 years.
3. He has an outstanding work ethic.
4. He is capable, honest, intelligent and a real straight shooter.
5. He is a compassionate individual who cares deeply for all the residents of Pinal County.
6. TO MEET BRYAN MARTYN IS TO KNOW WHAT AN ASSET HE WILL BE TO OUR COUNTY.
7. He was born and educated in ARIZONA.....a TRUE native.
8. BRYAN MARTYN is the leader we need to plan our further economic development and lower taxes.
8. His list of accomplishments are almost unbelievable..... He would make a terrific president of the U.S.A. (We wish he were running this year.....)

Phyliss B. Irvin & Carl A. Sheppard, Gold Canyon

### Supports Sheriff Vasquez

I have known and worked with Sheriff Chris Vasquez since before he was our sheriff. I have always found him to be an open and honorable man who has a genuine concern for doing the right thing. That concern revolves around doing the right thing for the people of Pinal County.

As a retired individual I can decide what to do with my time. Having traveled with my prior career I was never able to put down roots and get involved with my community. That was one thing I have looked forward to since retirement. Having worked with law enforcement during my career, I have been able to learn how to recognize quality law enforcement people. This weighed heavily with my decision to volunteer with the Pinal County Sheriff's Office. I gave my completed application directly to Chris Vasquez and he welcomed it, he held up my contribution offer as a valuable document and said "Thank You, we value your decision."

Running an organization the size and scope of the Pinal County Sheriff's Office is a position for someone who has excellent management skills and education. It is not a rookies job no matter how outgoing, no matter how much effort a political team provides him. The day the job starts is the day you will have to rely on experience. Chris Vasquez is that man, I have no doubt and ask you to join me in keeping

Chris Vasquez as our sheriff. He will do everything in his power to reduce crime and serve the people of Pinal County within the budget that the county provides. I know he has made a difference in our community of Gold Canyon. This is probably one of the easier voting decisions to make this election year.

Jeff Downing, Gold Canyon

### Supports Martyn

I am very impressed how Scott Smith, once elected Mesa's mayor, has hit the ground running with the DMB/Gaylord Resort deal planned for the site of the GM Proving Ground. I was at the Gaylord/Opryland in Nashville in late August, 2008 for our the USMC 1st Marine Division reunion. I was totally impressed with the quality of this resort and the professionalism of their staff. They take great pride in training and paying their "STARS" well. This will be a huge financial windfall for that city. Mayor Smith proved that a political novice can get government and developers working together for the benefit of all his citizens.

I would expect the same thing from Bryan Martyn. I have known Bryan Martyn for four years and contributed the maximum amount to his campaign. I find amusing the letters challenging his discipline, responsibility, honesty and dedication to the citizens of Pinal County. I say amusing because I know that a leader like Bryan, with his many years of service and honesty, cannot be influenced by contributions just as Mayor Smith was not influenced by political contributions.

Pinal County has the chance to go after similar opportunities by electing Bryan Martyn as its supervisor. Opportunities like solar energy research, development and manufacturing, a childhood asthma research and treatment center and enhanced educational offerings focusing on alternative energy home design and construction would all be natural fits for our beautiful county. All it takes is someone like Bryan Martyn to inspire government and developers to work together for the benefit of all of our citizens.

Frank Olenski, Gold Canyon

### Paul Babeu's qualifications for sheriff

I have been following the newspaper articles concerning Paul Babeu's refusal to pay a \$200 speeding ticket issued to him for someone caught speeding in his personal vehicle.

It seems to me that there can only be two explanations for Mr. Babeu's behavior. He is either a liar or a very inept police officer. Mr. Babeu either willingly and knowingly lied to fel-

## The News Opinion Poll

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**Last Week's Results:** Question: Do you favor the \$700 billion economic recovery bill congress passed recently to help "bail out" the U.S. economy?

Yes  36.7%

No  63.3%

**This Week's Question:** With only 3 weeks to go until the November 4, 2008 election, who are you supporting for president?

Barack

Obama

John

McCain

low officers and the court to save \$200, or his investigative skills are so lacking that he cannot discover who was actually driving his personal vehicle. In either case, Mr. Babeu is not a person that we want involved in any way in Pinal County law enforcement.

John Enright, Gold Canyon

### Who is that anyway?

I was very concerned about speed cameras in our state until I read "Sheriff Disputes Photo Speeding Ticket." (AJ/GC News, Vol XII Issue 39 Sept. 29 - Oct. 5, '08). If I or anyone else receives a photo ticket in the mail, "Just say prove it! Is that really me? You must be mistaken. That grainy picture should be my look alike."

Paul Babeu must have done the right thing and disclosed the driver and not lied about it. People do not have any use for a person who lies to cover their tracks. Does he really expect the public to vote for an irresponsible person? I don't think so.

Wayne Trivaudey, Apache Junction

**Letters to the Editor**  
continued on page A-5

## Kollenborn's Chronicles

### Preserving Historical Names

By Tom Kollenborn  
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History is often best served by the preservation of landmarks. The Superstition Wilderness is filled with landmarks significant of historical mention. It is very difficult to research the history of a given area if all the historical landmarks have been changed or erased. What if we became tired of place names like Roosevelt Dam, the Apache Trail, Apache Junction or maybe even Arizona and then have their names changed. Where would the next generation be?

Shortly after the turn of the 20th century Tortilla Mountain fell victim to a place name change. A group of enterprising concession entrepreneurs from Phoenix arbitrarily decided to change all the names along the Mesa-Roosevelt Road (Apache Trail) because they believed more romantic Spanish names were needed to better serve the budding new industry of tourism. The group felt place names in general along the Apache Trail were quite sterile and needed a more Spanish or Western flavor.

Names such as the Bronze Wall, Paso Tesoro, Coronado Mountain and Kit Carson Mountain begin to appear on travel maps and brochures promoting the beauty of the Apache Trail, the Canyon of the Salt River and Roosevelt Lake. This occurred around 1916.

These changes, for the most part, went unnoticed by most Arizona residents. The concession entrepreneurs that changed the place names along the Apache Trail were not at all sensitive to the recommendations of Arizona



*A rugged mountain such the Superstition captures the imagination of many, therefore it can be an easy target for name change. Such was the case in 1916 when it was called Coronado Mountain.*

historians. However, there was one Arizona historian whose ire was raised. This man was James A. McClintock. His first response was indicative of his outrage.

"Who are these men that would change our pioneer names—change the meaning of Arizona History?," he said.

McClintock was a noted Arizona historian and had been deeply involved with the development of the Roosevelt Dam site and the suggested survey route of the Apache Trail. He had served with Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders during the Spanish-American War.

McClintock immediately appealed to the Arizona legislature to set up a historical place name commission that would oversee the naming and renaming of Arizona landmarks. The legislature formed the Historical Landmark Commission and McClintock was appointed to the commission in 1919.

McClintock soon pointed out Kit Carson was never near Superstition Mountains nor was the Spanish explorer Coronado. The twenty or so place names changed during this period had no significant documentation to support a historical name change other

than the desire by the concession entrepreneurs of the Southern Pacific Railroad to please the appetite of Wild West tourist genre. Ironically, McClintock had faced down the most powerful lobby in the Arizona legislature, the railroads, when he defied the change of place names along the Apache Trail.

Kit Carson Mountain was changed back to Tortilla Mountain. The place named Coronado Mountain for Superstition Mountain did not survive one year.

The names the Bronze Wall, Inspiration Point, Lookout Point and Paso Tesoro did linger on for a few years. Arizona place names are often confusing enough, but to mix them with fictitious romantic history of the times distracts from the true nature of pioneer history of the state.

There are always those who want to change pioneer names of geographic landmarks to better suit their needs with little or no consideration for history. Recently we have been told, the place names within the Superstition Wilderness Area do not actually exist, the only purpose for the present names remaining on maps are for emergency use by rescue units. The names have no historical



Tom Kollenborn

significance in a wilderness area. The wilderness management plan states a true wilderness has no place names left behind by man. Doesn't this dogmatic philosophy ring of another era and of another continent?

Most Americans totally disagree with this philosophy. It is ironic some believe we should totally ignore our heritage for the satisfaction of the future generations with invested interest in place names. Can you imagine changing the name of Potomac or Hudson Rivers? Can you imagine changing the name of Washington, D.C., to better suite the economic climate of the nation? The Southwest has a strong heritage where historical names are of an enormous value. Future bureaucrats will probably make attempts to adjust and change the names of southwestern landmarks because they are too Hispanic in origin. We should note the Spanish and Mexican pioneers were in the Southwest before the Mayflower landed at Plymouth Rock.

The result of these changes often leaves landmarks with two or more names. A classic example of this is the landmark on Superstition Mountain called the Flat Iron. It is also known by many as the Ship Rock. The Flat Iron name is by far the oldest, but Ship Rock is probably the most popular today.

Another example of land-

see Kollenborn, A-5

**Foothills Publishing, Inc.**  
of Apache Junction



115 North Apache Trail Apache Junction, Az. 85220

• (480) 982-6397 • FAX 982-3707

• Web Site: [ajnews.com](http://ajnews.com) • E-Mail: [ajnews@ajnews.com](mailto:ajnews@ajnews.com)

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