

District Introduces Station Plans

Public meetings held twice last week

By Christina Fuoco-Karasinski
The News



The new fire station is bordered by a residential neighborhood, East Golden Rim Circle, South Goldmine Trail and East Dianna Drive in Gold Canyon.

The Apache Junction Fire District introduced plans for Fire Station 265 at Montana Dorado during two public meetings last week.

Gerrald Adams of Perlman Architects of Arizona, the organization charged with designing the station, said the plans are currently with County officials.

The 5,400-square-foot station is small compared to other facilities within the district. The building—bordered by residential neighborhood, East Golden Rim Circle, South Goldmine Trail and East Dianna Drive—features a drive-through apparatus bay, four dorms, two baths, a fitness room, day room, dining room, kitchen, office, public entry, public restroom,

turnout, decon, light-duty laundry, IT room and mechanical room, Adams said. The door to the drive-through apparatus bay mimics that of a barn on a ranch-style home per the Montana Dorado HOA guidelines.

The four dorms/two baths layout is meant to inspire diversity, Adams said. Men and women do not have to share restrooms then.

“It’s very much like a residence in nature,” Adams said.

“It’s complementary to surrounding views and vistas that are on the site.”

According to the plans handed out at the first meeting, Tuesday, March 23, at Gold Canyon Elementary School, “Our goal is to blend this new station into the community, with minimal impact to its neighbors, while providing an efficient and functional station for the fire department.”

The second meeting was held Thursday, March 25, at

the fire district’s administration building.

“The station’s proposed ‘territorial’ architecture is timeless and fits into the surrounding vernacular and landscape.”

Territorial details, colors and materials give the impression that the structure has occupied the site for many years. Parking for public visitors and staff is situated within the site.

“All mechanical systems will be concealed (screened) to further reduce negative impact to neighbors,” the hand-out reads.

The building is a split-level plan because of the existing topography. The land sits 14 feet below the adjacent roads. The split-level plan minimized the site work improvements. The fire station also meets the Arizona Dark Sky Ordinance, Adams said.

Internships Done Soroptimists Honor Winners

Caring Critics Animal Hospital’s Nicole King and Shannel Allred completed their Pima Institute internship. The animal hospital is located at 189 W. Apache Trail, Suite A108, in Apache Junction. For more information, call (480) 671-PETS (7387).



Nora Heilman, recipient of the Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award (left) stands with Maryann Erickson, Soroptimist International Gold Canyon president, Dee Ash, Signature Award chairwoman, and Teresa Ruiz, recipient of the Soroptimist Women’s Opportunity Award.

Soroptimist International of Gold Canyon honored two women with this year’s Women’s Opportunity Award and Violet Richardson Award during a March 18 meeting at the Gold Canyon Golf Resort.

Teresa Ruiz, a Central Arizona College student and single mother of two, is this year’s recipient of the WOA. She was presented with a cash donation of \$1,500 to help further her education.

Nora Heilman was also honored as this year’s winner of the Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award. Heilman received \$500, of which \$250 was contributed to her choice of volunteer service organizations. Heilman is a senior at Apache Junction High School and resides in Gold Canyon.

For information on either of these awards and how to apply for next year, contact

Dee Ashe at dee.ashe@yahoo.com or (480) 924-5483.

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