

serving
Northern Pinal County
ARIZONA
Superstition Mountain Country

City Internet Auction!
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Region Track Champs!
see Sports, B-1

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NEWS

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Clean Tack, Safe Tack



Saddle Up!
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Judge Lusk-Research Award



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Volunteer Honored



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Public Meetings

AJUSD Governing Board (school board) regular meeting
6 p.m. Tuesday,
May 11, 2010
1575 W. Southern Ave.

Apache Junction Planning & Zoning work session
7 p.m. Tuesday,
May 11, 2010
300 E. Superstition Blvd.

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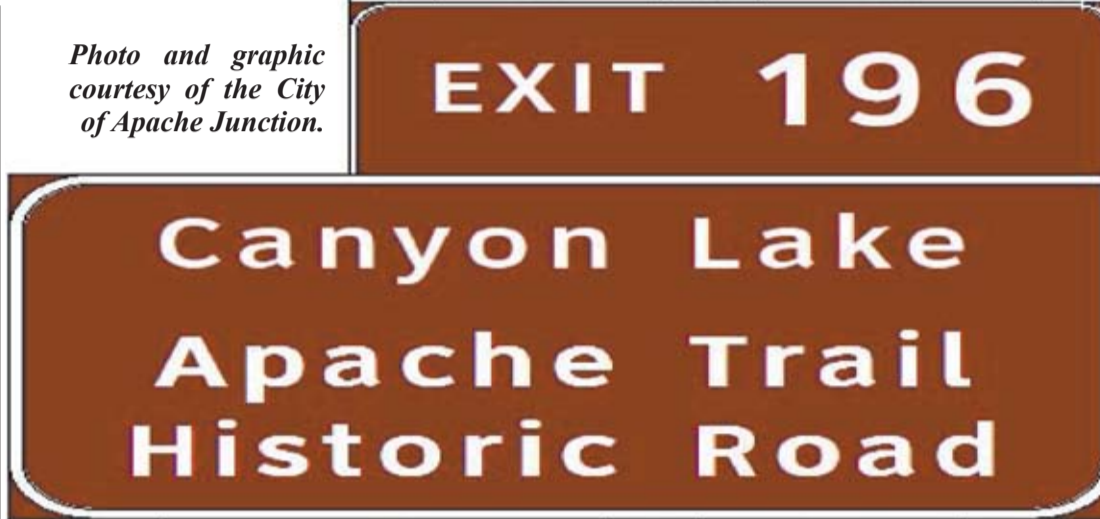


City To Provide Historical Signs

Drivers will soon see directionals to Historic Apache Trail



Photo and graphic courtesy of the City of Apache Junction.



The City is also hoping to boost the use of "Services" signs.

By Christina Fuoco-Karasinski
The News

The City of Apache Junction has taken the reins from the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to provide signs for U.S. Highway 60 directing traffic to the Historic Apache Trail.

Department of Public Works Director David Fern told the City Council during its Monday, May 3, work session that he was surprised that ADOT had designated the road "historic" in 1987 but had yet to

find funds to provide signage.

"Since ADOT does not have this sign installation programmed for design or installation, Public Works engineering staff designed this one in-house," Fern said.

Fern explained that the City is looking for "alternative funding" to pay for the white-on-brown signs, which will be installed within "a month or two."

"We've got a few last-minute funding details to sort out," Fern told the council.

The signs will be placed on Eastbound U.S. Highway

60 near Ironwood Drive and Idaho Road exits; as well as Westbound U.S. Highway 60 near the same exits.

Because the cost is \$25,000 or less, it does not need to come back to the City Council for approval.

The historical signage was part of an extended conversation about directionals within and near the city. Fern said a number of councilmembers have expressed their strategic desire to assure that the public knows what "we have to offer when driving through the community."

Another key project is iden-

tifying to drivers that they are in or approaching Apache Junction.

"Identifying you are in Apache Junction at Meridian and around Mountain View Road east to Barkley Road alignment seems to be best served by installing some type of monument signage clearly visible from the freeway, and

immediately adjacent to but off of the ADOT right-of-way so we have more design flexibility in what we install," Fern said.

"There are numerous ways to do that, either with some form of current monument design or with some modified

see Signage, A-5

City Clerk Celebrates 30 Years City Service

Mayor, councilman offer awards

By Christina Fuoco-Karasinski
The News

Apache Junction City Clerk Kathy Connelly was honored for her 30 years of service during the City Council meeting on Tuesday, May 4.

City Manager George Hoffman hailed her dedication to the community. She is the first person in the City of Apache Junction's history to reach 30 years of service.

"Along with tax collectors, municipal clerks are among the very first local government public servants," Hoffman said. "Clerks, in one form or another, have been around since before the advent of writing. From earliest times, the clerk has been historian, archivist, public reader of official documents, keeper of the laws and fee collector, as well as being responsible for publishing official docu-



Councilman/former mayor Doug Coleman presents Apache Junction City Clerk Kathy Connelly with a 30-year plaque during the City Council meeting on Tuesday, May 4.

ments. These duties have remained unchanged over the years."

He said clerks have eight

core responsibilities:

- General management.

see City Clerk, A-9

Lost Dutchman Park May Remain Open For A Year

Fundraising brings in more than required \$25,000



Mark LeResche of Superstition Harley-Davidson and president of the Friends of Lost Dutchman State Park, along with his wife Beverly (left) and Allison Bauer, the store's E-Business coordinator and marketing manager, led the charge to keep the park open.

By Christina Fuoco-Karasinski
The News

An Arizona State Parks official announced during the Tuesday, May 4, Apache Junction City Council meeting that Lost Dutchman State Park may remain open for a year thanks to a grassroots effort to raise the required \$25,000.

"Last night I said our agreement was for a year and I will agree that the additional funding provided by the Friends of Lost Dutchman is sufficient to supplement the operational cost of the park

see State Park, A-9

Student Appointed To AF Academy

Kennedy will be first AJUSD grad to attend a service academy



Austin Kennedy will be the first AJUSD graduate to attend a service academy.

Apache Junction High School senior/NJROTC Cadet Austin Kennedy has been notified by Rep. Jeff Flake's office that he has received an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy.

He will be the first Apache Junction Unified School District graduate to attend a service academy.

Kennedy will receive a 100-percent funded education, room, board and a paycheck for four years to attend one of the top-ranked universities in the nation. The total value of a service academy

education is estimated at approximately \$300,000.

Kennedy received nominations to the academy from both Flake and the NJROTC program. Selection for academy appointments is extremely competitive, with each member of Congress permitted to have only five students enrolled at any one time. Last year only 1,336 students were accepted out of more than 9,000 applicants.

Kennedy's parents are Craig and Monica Kennedy.

The News Kidcast

Mostly sunny with highs in the upper 80's and overnight lows around 60.

This week's
Weather
"Artoonist"

Everett
Hannah
Age 6

Desert Vista
Elementary
School

