

serving  
Northern Pinal County  
**ARIZONA**  
Superstition Mountain Country



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Things To Do, A-7



**AJ's All Stars**  
see Sports, B-1

**APACHE JUNCTION**  
*Gold Canyon*

# NEWS

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**Party Like A Pirate**



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**Public Meetings**

**AJUSD Governing Board (school board) special meeting to follow**  
9 a.m. Tuesday, June 8, 2010  
1575 W. Southern Ave.

**Apache Junction Planning & Zoning special meeting with work session to follow**  
7 p.m. Tuesday, June 8, 2010  
300 E. Superstition Blvd.

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## Library To Receive 50 New Computers

Federal stimulus grant is valued at \$60,000

The City of Apache Junction Library, 1177 N. Idaho Road, will be receiving 50 new computers with a value of \$60,000 in the near future, city officials say.

According to Library Manager Spencer Paden, "We do not have information on exactly when we will receive the computers yet... but we should know soon from the county and state libraries."

Paden pointed out that the computers were made possible in part by a grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 along with the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records and the Pinal County Library District.

"This grant will help us provide essential computer services to the public at a time when they need us most," Paden said.

"These are harsh economic times and people are struggling. In today's world, being able to use a computer is a basic life skill. The library helps people gain the knowl-



Cindy Evans, Library computer lab assistant, helps patron Jana Hilsendager. Library Manager Spencer Paden said the new computers will provide essential services.

edge they seek and the assistance they need, everything from employment, financial, legal or medical information

to something as important as 'how to start a business.'

"Even those that are not regular library users should

be pleased about the grant. If you care about people, you should care about our library because the library makes a

difference in people's lives each and every day," Paden said.

According to a Pinal County news release, "The entire Pinal County portion of the project is valued at \$198,000. There is a total federal grant of \$158,400 and the Pinal County Board of Supervisors authorized a matching contribution of \$39,600, plus \$1,333 in administrative support."

Other libraries slated to receive the equipment include:

- Florence Community Library
- Mammoth Public Library
- Maricopa Public Library
- Kearny Public Library
- Eloy Public Library
- San Manuel Public Library
- Arizona City Library
- Coolidge Public Library

The grant is part of BroadbandUSA: Connecting America's Communities, which will put more than 1,000 new public access computers at 84 libraries throughout Arizona, according to the Pinal County news release.

## Man Sentenced In Gold Canyon Home Invasion

Gets concurrent terms

By Christina Fuoco-Karasinski  
The News

A man who terrorized a Gold Canyon couple during a home invasion on January 21, 2008, was sentenced to concurrent prison sentences, according to court officials.

Kostas Kalaitzidis of the Pinal County Attorney's Office said the court sentenced Jamin Joel Martinez on Thursday, June 3, to nine years for armed robbery, kidnapping, burglary in the first degree, trafficking in stolen property and theft.

"Pinal County residents have the right to feel safe in their homes," said James P. Walsh, Pinal County attorney. "Home



Jamin Joel Martinez

invasion will not be tolerated."

Martinez, 29, entered a home in Gold Canyon wearing a mask with a screen and a black outfit, pointed his gun at the couple residing there and told them to remain in one place.

He would then disappear to different parts of the house looking for valuables and reappear to make sure they were complying with his orders. He used a foreign accent and he changed from polite to rude and threatening.

Martinez was also sentenced to four years in prison for trafficking stolen property, because he pawned jewelry he took during the January 2008 robbery. A Rolex watch was identified by a serial number. He was also sentenced to four years for theft.

All three sentences will run concurrently.

Kathryn Pierce of the Pinal County Attorney's Office prosecuted the case.

## Director Works Exhibit To Bring Business To AJ

Experts at event say economy will pick up

By Christina Fuoco-Karasinski  
The News

Steve Filipowicz, the City of Apache Junction's economic development director, had two goals in mind when he attended this year's International Council of Shopping Centers' retail trade show May 23-26 in Las Vegas, Nev.

"We—I mean 'I'—go to try and garner economic intelligence about the state of the economy—what commercial brokers are thinking, what lenders are thinking," Filipowicz said.

"If you can't get a project financed, you can't get it built. And what are national retailers thinking? Are they looking at expansion, or are they still pulling their horns in and saying, 'We're just going to concentrate on the stores we have and increase sales'" or open more stores.

The second reason he attended the conference was to market the city of Apache Junction.

"I worked the trade floor," Filipowicz said. "We don't exhibit. That would put us into a higher cost bracket. If



Steve Filipowicz

you only send one person, that person is married to the booth. They're not working the floor. You would probably triple or quadruple the cost if you were to go as an individual community. There are many, many communities that go and exhibit there."

Filipowicz said he talks to brokers active in the Apache Junction market, such as Westcor.

"In years past, we've worked with Diversified Partners," Filipowicz said. "They're the ones who were doing the Power Center (at Idaho Road and U.S. Highway 60). They were not there this year. It was very noticeable. The firm exists but I think they've had to pull their horns in so much."

see **Business, A-5**

## Kids: Goal Setting Is Fun

Four Peaks celebrates Accelerated Reading results



Librarian Carmen Schwartz has her head shaved after the kids met their goals.

The students at Four Peaks Elementary School enjoyed achieving their reading goals while using the Accelerated Reading (AR) Program. The students who earned 25 points, 50 points and 100 points celebrated with several special incentives for reaching their goal. All 270 AR goal winners enjoyed snow

cones and stood by as librarian Carmen Schwartz had her head shaved. The students also had the opportunity to throw water balloons at Principal Joyce Gingrich. Gingrich was a great sport with more than 200 water balloons tossed her way by 53 students. Students Jessie Wright and David Spinks had the highest

AR scores with 147 and 140 points. These two winners took turns cutting and then dyeing the hair of Para-pro Lorie Ceal. Ceal's hair has been donated to Wigs for Kids. Later that evening, the Four Peaks PTO sponsored an AR family barbecue at Prospector Park where the winners enjoyed food and family fun.

## The News Kidcast

Mostly sunny with highs around 100 and overnight lows around 80 degrees.

This week's Weather "Artoonist"

**Curtis Franklin**  
Age 6

Desert Vista Elementary School

