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## February 2009 Supervisor's Update

**Bryan Martyn**  
**Supervisor-District 2**

The month of February was every bit as fulfilling as January. I continue to drink from a fire hose while I try to learn the issues/departments/personalities of District 2 and Pinal County.

The honeymoon is officially over as I begin to tackle the tough issues throughout the county. The Board approved a plan for the budget that included over 9 million dollars in cuts. We were able to keep from letting anybody go by using a combination of department budget cuts and our rainy day fund. I don't think anyone would argue that it is definitely raining. More challenges are ahead as we look at the 2010 budget; anyone have a spare umbrella?

February proved to be a busy month for speaking to the community. I spoke at the Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce, ADOBE, the Superstition Mountain Area Coalition, and briefly at the San Tan Area Chamber of Commerce. It is so very critical to get out in the public. Nothing represents the public servant-citizen bond better than meeting face to face. Call or write me to speak to your organization or group or home!

During these gatherings I had the chance to address some very important, yet unpopular issues. The importance of the upcoming AJ election and economic development filled the better part of the AJ Chamber talk. The ADOBE meeting allowed me to talk about how/why the US60 bypass was moved from the priority list in the county. (We have two other projects, the SR-802 and the North-South freeway which will address the traffic through Gold Canyon). The issue of traffic safety/congestion in Peralta Trails was addressed and I asked for some suggestions in lieu of the Sleepy Hollow option. The Superstition Mountain Coalition gave me an opportunity to talk about the potential of State Trust Land closing Mountain View Road. We must find a southern route out of the mountain area...

Finally, the San Tan Area Chamber allowed me to address the challenges to Pinal County providing services for the Greater San Tan Area. The community is currently home to over 50,000 residents; nearly the size of Flagstaff. I'd say this is the most controversial subject broached this month. For the folks in the San Tan Area, you received a letter from Mr. George Johnson in your Johnson Utilities bill. The letter stated that I was trying to railroad the community into incorporation. That is not my intent. This update is too short to address the entire

issue. I'm confident the month of March will provide much opportunity for dialogue and clarification. Let's hope this is the catalyst for the Greater San Tan area to coalesce and help define their collective future; unincorporated, incorporated, or annexed.

At the State Legislature level, there are a House bill and a Senate bill working their way through committee that would move the county from the current three Supervisor model to five Supervisors in the 2010 election. I fully support the idea of five Supervisors. It's not fair to Pinal County's 350,000 residents to have such limited representation. The boundaries for the new 2010 districts would be based upon the current community college districts. Know that no matter the outcome of the bills, the districts will be redrawn for the 2012 election based upon the upcoming 2010 census and we will automatically go to five Supervisors according to the current law. It is important to note that there are some costs associated with going to five Supervisors in 2010. There is an additional outlay of approximately \$250,000 per year associated with the increase. If you have questions, call me or ask your State Legislator.

This month I'd like to recognize a young Pinal County employee, Mr. Cody Candelaria. Cody is a young father and family man who epitomizes the greatness of our county. As a public works employee, his dedication to high standards, combined with a passion for his job, allow him to make a difference every day. The best part is that Cody is not alone. Time and again I'm witness to the characteristics of honor and commitment throughout our county. Pinal County is a fantastic place to work. Way to go Cody!

These are amazing times; like none most generations have ever seen. Now, more than ever, your comments/ideas need to make their way to my office. We are going to make it by working our tail off and by focusing on the bright future that lay ahead. Until next month, keep in touch, keep the faith, and work to become a part of the solution.

Sincerely,