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January 2010 Supervisor's Update

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2010 is off to a fantastic start! Pinal County remains Arizona's fastest growing county and a great place to raise a family, start a business or settle down and relax.

January started with the Fiesta Bowl. The Joe Foss Institute hosted a number of veterans for the exciting game. It was a great event and I'm proud to be part of the organization. I encourage you to take a minute to learn who Joe Foss was and what the Joe Foss Institute is all about at www.joefoss.com.

The first two of four scheduled Town Hall/State of the District discussions took place in Gold Canyon and Apache Junction. It was good to revisit the successes of the past year and to look ahead to 2010. Florence and San Tan Valley meetings are scheduled for February. The "State of District" briefing is available on the Pinal County website www.pinalcountyaz.gov on the District 2 Supervisor page.

One of the big issues this month concerns the potential closing of Gold Canyon Elementary School and Thunder Mountain Middle School. Early this month I attended a public meeting about the subject. I'd like to applaud the leadership and fiscal discipline Dr. Chad Wilson and the entire school board are demonstrating during these difficult times. Visit www.ajusd.org for more info.

Peralta Road is one of the many treasures of Gold Canyon. For years and years it has been a gateway into the Superstition Wilderness. This month Sue Schaffer and the women of the Soroptomist Club organized a massive clean-up effort to collect garbage over eight miles of roads and trails. In all, 38 organizations rallied together as we picked up over seven tons of litter.

Another great example of citizens stepping up to take an active role in the community is the Citizens on Patrol. This month saw the dedication of a new community awareness patrol vehicle. A beautiful Hummer was recently "donated" by an apprehended drug dealer. Thank you to the dozens of COP volunteers in Gold Canyon and San Tan Valley! www.pinalcop.com.

The Arizona Horse Council held an all Saturday conference this month. What a great group of Arizonans. We had the opportunity to address the growing number of horse issues in our state. Few realize the billion dollar plus economic impact of the horse industry. Know that horse owner rights are one of my priorities as we map the future of Pinal County. www.arizonahorsecouncil.org.

January marked the beginning of HLI-Pinal (Hispanic Leadership Institute-Pinal). I'm honored to have been selected as a student of Class V. HLI-Pinal is a 10-week leadership course that explores Latino issues throughout Pinal County and seeks to develop leaders at every level. Find out more at www.valledelsol.com.

The Bryan Martyn Show continues to be an amazing way to get the word out about what's going on in District 2 and Pinal County. This month Queen Creek's Mayor, Art Sanders, was on. We were able to directly address many of the controversial topics between Queen Creek and San Tan Valley. I've changed the show to every Thursday from 6-8pm. Tune in at www.kqcklive.com.

Our friends at the Florence Senior Center had a glitter dance this month. The center does a great job of engaging our seniors and keeping them active. I had the chance to help finally take down their Christmas tree...

The town of Superior was once again host to one of the President's Cabinet. The Secretary of Agriculture visited to discuss Resolution Copper as we continue to work towards a solution on how to allow the copper mine to move ahead and to provide jobs throughout the Copper Corridor. Everyone is working together to find a solution to this contentious issue. Learn more about the mine and the issues at www.resolutioncopper.com.

January's employee of the month is once again not an official employee. Citizen, Mrs. Stacy Deprey-Purper, does a phenomenal amount of work for the well being of Pinal County. As owner of San Tan Valley Today, S.A.N.D founder, STV Chamber Boardmember and radio show guest, she has set herself apart. Thanks!

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