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APACHE JUNCTION
Gold Canyon
Superstition Mountain Country

NEWS

serving Northern Pinal County ARIZONA 50¢

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Water Treatment Tech Demo'd At Mining Camp Restaurant

Australian company seeks an Arizona foothold

By Bill Van Nimwegen
The News

Nestled among the shadows of towering Superstition Mountain cliffs, the Historic Mining Camp Restaurant is playing host to some innovative technology from Australia.

Soneera Water has set up a water treatment machine behind the restaurant and has been exhibiting its effective treatment of the restaurant's kitchen waste water and sewage with clear results.

The kitchen waste was concentrated in a central location and pumped directly into the machine at half a gallon per second. After a one hour treatment, the water exiting the machine was crystal clear and odorless.

"The machine treats the water with electrolysis, there are no filters or membranes," Soneera CEO Glen Marshall told the News. "The system can operate continuously for 100 days before the electrodes



The black waste water (above left) was run through the Soneera machine with clear results (below).



need to be replaced—that operation takes about 6 hours," Marshall said. "All the electrical work for the system was built by Apache Dee's Electrical of Apache Junction," Marshall continued, "Tiffany (Barwick) and the electrical team worked long hours and

went above and beyond to deliver a quality product. We look forward to working with them more in the future."

According to materials provided by Soneera, this machine is an Australian invention 15 years in the making. It has been sold to govern-



Above (left to right), Senator Al Melvin, who attended a demonstration last week, and Soneera Water's Mick Stevens and Glen Marshall.

ment and small industry to provide drinking water from wells, polluted lakes and rivers and some minor waste water treatment applications.

The last five years have seen the advancement of the technology to be capable of massive flow rates that will meet the immediate needs of mining companies and municipal water treatment facilities.

The technology uses special electrodes to treat the water, which means that the system can manage any type of waste water—sewage, mining effluent, fracking waste

water, well water or industrial waste.

Soneera would like to establish a manufacturing facility in this part of the state and met last week with representatives from the Arizona Senate to discuss opportunities. The proposed facility is expected to employ up to 80 staff across a range of technical, skilled and unskilled positions.

For more information on Soneera Water, or to attend a future demonstration at the Mining Camp, contact Glen Marshall at glen@soneera-water.com.

¡QUÉ PASA!

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Time Out



see page A-10

State To Reimburse County For Wintory Legal Fees

\$27,500 spent for his defense without Board approval

By Bill Van Nimwegen
The News

Pinal County has settled its suit against the Arizona Attorney General's Office (AG), filed last month, to recover County funds spent to defend Pinal County Attorney's Office Chief Criminal Deputy Attorney Richard Wintory.

In the suit, Pinal County and Wintory asserted that the State and AG had a duty to defend Wintory against an Arizona State Bar complaint.

The Settlement and Release, signed by all parties on April 3, 2014, requires the State and the AG to pay Pinal County

\$40,000 and Richard Wintory, through his attorneys, \$15,000 to settle all claims and dismiss the litigation.

\$27,500 of county funds were spent by the time the supervisors took action to stop subsidizing Wintory's defense last July, 2013. The county then had to hire a third party to try and recover what was spent.

The Arizona State Bar was investigating alleged misconduct by Wintory while he was working for the Arizona Attorney General's Office in 2011.

Last month, Wintory agreed to a 90-day suspension from practicing law because of his



Richard Wintory suspended for 90 days without pay from his duties with the Pinal County Attorney's Office.

Wintory's suspension was effective on March 15, 2014. He was ordered to pay \$1,911.10 to the State Bar of Arizona for costs and expenses incurred during its investigation.

conduct during a capital murder case in 2011 while he was an assistant Arizona Attorney General. He was also

Public Meetings

Apache Junction City Council work session
7 p.m. Monday, April 14, 2014
City Council Chambers
300 E. Superstition Blvd.

Apache Junction City Council regular meeting
7 p.m. Tuesday, April 15, 2014
City Council Chambers
300 E. Superstition Blvd.

SFMD Governing Board regular meeting
5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, 2014
Fire District Board Room
565 N. Idaho Road

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Earth Heart Park Plant Theft Reveals 'Silver Lining'

Community rallies to replace plantings stolen last month

By Bill Van Nimwegen
The News

Apache Junction businesses have again stepped up to help—pledging goods and services to donate to Earth Heart Park after theft and van-

dalism decimated the thriving community garden last month. "A number of people from the community have offered to help," said Gustavo McGrew, director of wellness for Mountain Health and

Wellness where the park and gardens are located. "It's a silver lining."

Late last month, McGrew noticed that the apple and peach trees that had been growing in the community garden at Earth Heart Park were missing.

Flowering plants in the park's garden and vegetable plants in the community gardens had been stolen earlier in March, but the "theft of the fruit trees was especially disappointing," said McGrew.

The fruit and vegetables were being grown for people in need and the gardens were tended by community groups like the Girls Scouts, local schools, RV Parks and churches and would have been given away when they were ready to pick.

"But the plants are meant to stay," McGrew told the News. "We do not want to fence the gardens in, but maybe there is another solution so this doesn't happen again."



Architect's rendering of Earth Heart Park shows planting beds in the center areas.

see Plant Theft, A-5

City Council Meets

Monday agenda includes discussions on advertising, 4/10 work week and 2014-15 budget

By Bill Van Nimwegen
The News

The City Council will meet Monday, April 14, to see a presentation and discuss with city staff proposed guidelines for advertising on city vehicles. The Superstition Fire and Medical District began a similar program last year as a way to add revenue to its coffers.

In 2007, the city received an assessment from IEG Advisory Services outlining the potential for corporate sponsorships that fall in line with the city's mission. According to a poll of Council members, advertising on city vehicles has some natural connections: Book companies for the Library; Fitness equipment for Parks and Recreation; Pet supply products for Paws and Claws Care Center.

City staff met in October last year and developed some guidelines for ad-

vertising on city vehicles which will be presented and discussed tonight.

Also on Monday evening, the results of a survey of city customers and employee regarding Apache Junction's 4-day, 10 hour work week will be presented. Councilman Jeff Serdy reported last October 15 that customers had concerns about unavailable city services on Fridays.

City Manager George Hoffman suggested that a survey would provide data to the council for consideration. Those attending Monday night's work session will also have an opportunity to hear and see a 2014-2015 fiscal year budget presentation by City department directors to the Mayor and City Council.

The City Council meetings take place at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 300 E. Superstition Blvd. in Apache Junction.

The News Kidcast

Mostly sunny with highs in the mid to upper 80's with overnight lows around 60 degrees.

This week's Weather "Artoonist"

Marlene
Age 5
Superstition Mountain Elementary

