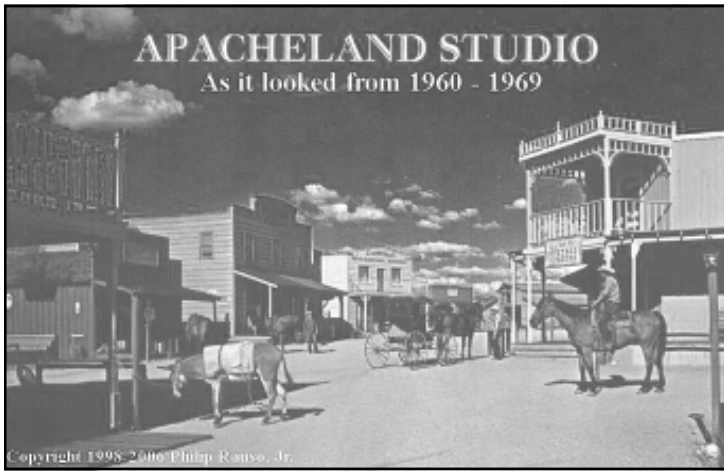


Apacheland Could Rise From The Ashes

Production company may replicate original Old West town for filming of movie



Apacheland Studio circa 1960's. (photo courtesy of Phil Rauso)

By Jill Jones
The News

GOLD CANYON- Apacheland may rise from the ashes in all its original glory to serve as the location for Astra Blue Media's production of "Fist Full of Blood" if all goes well, according to Phil Rauso of Preservation of the Cowboy Way Society.

The production company is also considering filming at Old Tucson Studios but according to Rauso, production company officials are leaning more towards the rebuilding of Apacheland to suit their needs.

Built in 1959, Apacheland Movie Ranch was intended to be the Western Movie Capital of the World and indeed, many famous Western movies and TV programs were filmed there, including Have Gun Will Travel, The Rifleman and Death Valley Days.

More recently the movie set town was enjoyed by locals who frequented the restaurant and shops on the property until most of the historic movie town was devoured by flames on Valentines Day 2004.

Now those same locals who mourned the loss of this unique piece of history can dream of walking those dusty streets once again, only this time the location will be a mile or two east at

Wayne Richardson's D-Spur Ranch, just off Peralta Trail in Gold Canyon.

D-Spur is one of the oldest pack stations in the Superstition Wilderness and is also a working cattle ranch that offers trail rides, camping, riding lessons and more. Astra Blue productions is looking at the D-Spur as possibly providing the perfect place to film.

"In exchange for letting them use the ranch to film their movie, they would build us a full scale Western town, as Apacheland used to look in the late 1950's to early 1960's, complete with saloon, post office, hotel, mercantile, bank, barn etc.," said Rauso.

Rauso has obtained original images of Apacheland when it was first designed as a theme park/movie studio by Walt Disney's park designer Nat Winecoff. Rauso said they would use those drawings to build the town as it once stood, even orienting it to its original views of the Superstition Mountain.

Negotiations are still underway, however, Rauso is hopeful. "This would be a gift to the community. It would be so wonderful to have it (Apacheland) back," said Rauso. "This would also open the door for many other feature films to be produced in Gold Canyon."

Bring A Toy, Get A Discount

Superstition Ford invites you to bring in a toy for a discount on service

A new tradition started last year when Superstition Ford employees adopted ten families and provided food and toys to make their holiday season a happy one. This year they've adopted ten families and each family has a member with a disability.

Superstition Ford, at Tomahawk Rd. and Highway 60 in Apache Junction, is offering the public a discount on service work in exchange for toys. There is a \$5 discount for any unwrapped toy or an even greater discount for more expensive toys if you bring the receipt with you.

The employees also have chosen to donate their substantial Christ-

mas party allowance to the ten families and buy Christmas dinner for them. In addition, the employees are providing items like laundry detergent, shampoo, pencils, note paper and tooth paste, anything a family might need throughout the year.

Superstition Ford would like to encourage other businesses or individuals to also adopt families by contacting: Mary Reed at Volunteer Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities, 602-485-0236x2227.



Photo: employees of Superstition Ford gave up their hefty Christmas party allowance to buy food for the 10 families the car dealership has adopted this holiday season. Pictured above: on the left is Ricky Henry (standing) and kneeling is Amanda Coss and Ken Seil; on the right standing is Ron Durbin and Christine Gibson with Laura Zimbal and Ted St. Yves kneeling.

Search And Rescue Holiday Celebration

Superstition and Sonoran Search and Rescue celebrate together

By Jill Jones
The News

Superstition Search and Rescue (SSAR) and Sonoran Search and Rescue held a combined holiday party at the Mining Camp Restaurant and Trading Post last Friday, December 9.

Friends, family and volunteer members of the two search and rescue organizations enjoyed a scrumptious dinner, entertainment by "West Wind" Blue Grass and Country Band, a White Elephant gift exchange, raffles and awards.

Members of the SSAR support team received a "Hands and Heart" Award, hand engraved and composed by SSAR member Mike Wallace in thanks for their continued support of the organization. The plaque reads: *It is as if you were there with hands on the rope and your heart beating under burden.*

A long stem rose was given to each spouse or partner of SSAR and Sonoran Search and Rescue members in thanks for their patience and understanding, with the first rose going to SSAR Commander Robert Cooper's wife, Lori.

SSAR is a non-profit volunteer organization affiliated with, but not supported by, the Pinal County Sheriff's Department. This group of approximately 25 men and women donate their time and personal resources to assist individuals who may become lost or injured in the Superstition Wilderness area.

They receive no pay for their dedication and bravery, but revel in the thank-yous and the feeling associated with rescuing individuals who

are hurt or lost.

The SSAR team is highly skilled in wilderness first aid, technical rescue, orienteering and tracking and are sometimes required to spend days at a time in the wilderness. Many of these dedicated men and women work extra shifts to make up time at work or even use vacation days when involved in searches.

SSAR is funded solely by donations from businesses, community members or other entities. All donations are tax deductible and assist in providing members with the equipment and resources necessary in providing this life-saving resource. Last year alone, SSAR was credited with saving 154 lives.

If you are interested in becoming a member or would like additional information you are invited to attend an SSAR meeting held at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Pinal County Sheriff's substation in Gold Canyon, 5750 S. Kings Ranch Road. You are also welcome to visit their website at www.superstition-sar.org or phone 480-350-3993. Donations can be sent to SSAR, PO Box 1123, Apache Junction, AZ 85217.

Support Team members Renee Wagener and Victoria Goodrich were presented the Hands and Heart Award. Pictured (l-r) Renee Wagener, Mike Wallace, Victoria Goodrich and Robert Cooper.



We wish you a safe and happy holiday season!

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Central Arizona College Community Education

January

Spanish for Travelers I, Jan. 10, 12, 17 & 19, 6-8 pm, \$25
Spanish for Travelers II, Jan. 24, 26, 31 & Feb. 2, 6-8 pm, \$25
Master Gardener, Wed., Jan. 11- May 17, 1-4 pm, \$10, plus materials fee
Basic First Aid for Horses, Mon., Jan. 30-Mar. 6, 7-8 pm, \$60

February

Cooking: A Night To Remember, Feb. 2, 6:30-8:30 pm, \$35
Wire Wrapped Jewelry, Feb. 4, 11, and 18, 9 am-noon, \$20, plus materials fee
Selling on ebay, Feb. 11, 9 am-noon, \$25
Instant Piano for Hopelessly Busy People, Feb. 13, 6:30-9:30 pm, \$25, plus materials fee
A Fast & Easy Twist on Walls, Feb. 13, 6-8:30 pm, \$20, plus materials fee
Travel Like an Expert, Feb. 18, 9-10:30 am, \$10

March

Cooking: Ceviches of the World, March 2, 6:30-8:30 pm, \$35
Displaying and Selling Your Artwork, March 7, 6:30-8:30 pm, \$20
Organize Your Life, March 9, 6:30-8:30 pm, \$25
Horsemanship: Foundation Clinic, March 24, 25, 26, 9 am-noon, \$225
Horsemanship: Advanced Clinic, March 24, 25, 26, 1-4 pm, \$225
Concealed Weapons, March 25, 8 am-4 pm, \$60, plus materials fee

Catalogs, which include the registration and class information, can be picked up at Central Arizona College, the Chamber of Commerce or the Apache Junction Library.

For more information, contact Joel Beck at 480-288-4021.

Central Arizona College
Superstition Mountain Campus
273 Old West Highway,
Apache Junction, AZ 85219
480-288-4021 www.centralaz.edu



from Meth Dump, A-1

nia or cat spray.

Angelica Cardenas, manager of RC's, confirmed that the dumpster had to be replaced because the materials contaminated the large container.

A pamphlet published by the North Carolina Department of Health to protect first responders to a methamphetamine situation, like firefighters and police officers, reports that for every pound of drug produced, 5-6 pounds of toxic waste are left over.

Disposal of chemical garbage is a problem for meth "cookers" and they often get very creative in finding ways to dump it. It has been dumped in parks and forests, buried (which causes it to leach into the groundwater), left in hotels and public storage facilities and flushed down the toilet.

The publication goes on to say that acute exposure to the chemicals used in meth can cause everything from headache to death.

There are several clues that can tip you to a meth lab is working in your neighborhood: a strong smell that might resemble urine, or an unusual chemical smell like ether, ammonia or acetone; little or no traffic during the day, but lots of traffic at extremely late hours; extra efforts made to cover windows or reinforce doors; residents never putting their trash out; lab materials surrounding the property (lantern fuel cans, red chemically stained coffee filters, clear glass jugs and duct tape); vehicles loaded with trunks, chemical containers, or basic chemistry paraphernalia - glassware, rubber tubing, etc.; laboratory glassware being carried into the residence and inhabitants smoking outside due to fumes.

If you suspect a meth lab is operating in Apache Junction, contact the police department at 480-982-8260.

Happy Holidays from Goldfield Chevron



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- Ages 6 to 12: One Girls Bike & One Boys Bike**
- Open to ALL Ages 18 and Under: 2 DVD/VCR Player Combos, 1 Television**

CHRISTMAS GIFT DRAWING OFFICIAL RULES

RULES: 1.) Color and return picture. 2.) Complete an official entry form. 3.) Children must be present when picture is returned and entry form completed. 4.) Need not be present at time of drawing. However, children must be present when prize is awarded. 5.) Entry into drawing implies Parent/Guardian's consent to publish child's name and/or photo in local newspapers and/or on Goldfield Chevron's Official Web-Site. 6.) Winners will be determined in a random drawing to be held on December 22, at 7 PM

3265 S. Goldfield, Apache Junction • Just S. of US 60 on Goldfield Rd.
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