

the **Superstition Mountain Lost Dutchman Museum** to absorb the grandeur of the Alps, the glory of the Rockies, the magnificence of the Grand Canyon and adding an indefinable something that is most awe inspiring and most sublimely beautiful.

Submitted by Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce

ARIZONA CITY

At the Center of It All

Arizona City combines a scenic desert setting with a small town charm, metropolitan convenience and economic opportunity. Nestled amid desert mountains, **Arizona City's** convenient location at a halfway point between Phoenix and Tucson, offers visitors and residents wide-open spaces with the friendliness of a small community and the convenience of nearby metropolitan amenities.

Outdoor attractions include year-round golf on an 18-hole desert course, sailing and fishing at a 48-acre man-made lake, hiking and camping at Picacho Peak State Park (the site of Arizona's only Civil War battle) and Jamestown Wild West Town where gunfight reenactments occur monthly.

Arizona City is an official part of the Juan Bautista de Anza Historic Trail. In 1775 Bautista and his party rested in the area which is now **Arizona City** after having come out of Apache land. The historic trail begins in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico and ends at the Presidio in San Francisco.

Arizona City offers a wide

variety of architectural styles in housing from adobe and classic southwest to contemporary abodes and winter retreats. Here among the sprinkling of cotton fields, agricultural farms and cattle ranches, you'll also find some light industry and family-owned businesses. Western Daze in February each year celebrates our western heritage and brings together our community and others by enjoying a parade, carnival, arts and crafts, and lots of entertainment. We always welcome new neighbors and businesses... come visit and stay awhile!

For additional information, contact the **Arizona City Chamber of Commerce** at (520) 466-5141 or visit our website at www.azcchamber.com

AVONDALE

The story of **Avondale** is so entwined with a place called Coldwater that both stories must be told concurrently. There was a man named Billy Moore who owned a freight station on the west bank of the Agua Fria River which means in Spanish "Cold Water" where he had a well with cold water.

For the river name and his clear, cold water well he called his place Coldwater. Still many old-timers referred to it simply as Billy Moore's. His freight station was near a ranch known as **Avondale**. The railroad established a station a mile west of Coldwater. The station was on the **Avondale** ranch, however it was called



Helzapoppin' PRCA Rodeo (photo courtesy Creative Images by Michael, Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce)

Litchfield. A budding metropolis began to form.

When Moore's freight station lost importance the name Coldwater was abandoned. It is not known why the United States Post Office, was established as Coldwater on July 2, 1896 and discontinued October 3, 1896.

On March 23, 1911, the United States Post Office was re-established using the name of **Avondale**, instead of Coldwater. The United States Post Office ruled that a once used post office name could not be re-instated.

BUCKEYE

Thomas Newton Clanton arrived in the area around 1877, bringing his family west from Iowa in search of a better climate for his failing health. Another settler, Malin Monroe Jackson, along with two others began construction on

the canal that was to bring life giving water to the area. Jackson named the canal Buckeye after his home state of Ohio. Ten miles of the canal were completed in 1886, and several small farms were established along the nearby canal.

Thomas Clanton applied to the U.S. Postal Service for the first post office in the area. When the request was granted in 1888 the new station was named **Buckeye** after the canal. Clanton had big plans for a new town.

In September 1888, he teamed with Phoenix surgeon Oscar L. Mahoney to subdivide 160 acres of their land to establish a business district in the new town, then named Sidney. With the all important canal called Buckeye, most of the locals also referred to the town by that name and in 1910, it was officially changed from Sidney to **Buckeye**.

Superstition Mountain Museum




4087 N. Apache Trail (SR 88)
(3.5 Miles N.E. of Apache Junction)

Elvis Presley Memorial Chapel

(480) 983-4888 • Open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Daily
www.superstitionmountainmuseum.org • E-mail: smhsgold@aol.com
\$1.00 off Museum Admission



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