

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- ◆ Legislative Action Report
- ◆ April Member meetings
- ◆ Rodeo
- ◆ Re-caps
- ◆ Member of the Month

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Thank You, Voters of Buckeye!

As the President/CEO of the Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who voted "Yes" on Prop. 500. If I could thank you one by one, in person, I would! This proposition was critical to the welfare of the residents of the Town of Buckeye, and as such it was imperative that it pass. Fortunately for all of us, you the voters spoke and we may now look forward to continued services so vital to any community.

With the downturn in the housing industry and the consequent slowdown in residential building, Buckeye now has the opportunity to catch up with retail, commercial and industrial building. The passage of Prop. 500 will enable the Town to continue providing essential services, and expanding those services as needed to our current population, with an eye on the future. Buckeye's rapid residential growth created a need for more fire, police and recreational services almost overnight, without the added advantage of sales tax revenues. The increase in the ratio of commercial development to residential development will help decrease the rate at which those essential services must be acquired. The Town will be able to pay for what we do have, increase to the levels we actually need and begin exploring the possibilities of added senior services, recreational programs and parks. Without proposition 500's passage, none of these things could have taken place.

I would like to especially thank the following contributors to this campaign, for making passage of Proposition 500 possible; CORE Construction; Tartesso; Verrado; Jackie & Verlyne Meck; United Buckeye Firefighters; Pulte Homes; Golden Eagle Distributors; Bales & Bales; The Wodrich Agency; Stan Ashby; El Dorado Holdings; WVSV Holdings; Greg Vogel; JF Purchase; APS; Az Property Co; Sunbelt; Sterling Tartesso; Millennium; as well as the Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce. Deanna Kupcik, President/CEO

Budget Deficit Shrouds Other Important Issues

Though Arizona's Legislature has been in session since early January, it has been unable to come to agreement on how to close the over \$1 billion current-year budget deficit. As we approach the June 30, 2008 end of the fiscal year, lawmakers will need to combine this year's and next year's budget-balancing plan to remove an estimated \$3.1 billion combined deficit.

With fights over agency cuts, bonding, state shared revenue, spending the rainy-day fund and fund sweeps, the budget situation has rightly dominated the session. But at the risk of being flippant, the deficit's big enough to take care of itself. Many other important issues have not received the attention they would have in normal years.

Buckeye Valley is one of six chambers that came together to form the West Valley Chambers of Commerce Alliance to ensure that the region's business community is at the center of policymaking. Our attention this session has included the budget issues and many more.

Work has continued on a new transportation plan and a state trust land compromise that may result in ballot propositions this fall. Toll roads and other innovative public-private partnership concepts have been advanced to help alleviate strains on scarce resources and speed construction of critical infrastructure.

Arizona became a leader in state enforcement of immigration compliance last year with the passage of the Legal Arizona Workers Act (LAWA). Though the U.S. Ninth Circuit court of Appeals in San Francisco is expected to rule on the constitutionality of LAWA before the end of the year, lawmakers are again taking up the employer sanctions issue. Proposed changes to LAWA may in some ways make the law tougher and more costly on business while also clearing up certain ambiguities of LAWA that could make compliance easier.

The scheduled \$250 million a year reinstatement of a statewide property tax is tied up in the budget morass. Business taxpayers pay more than twice the property tax rate that residential property owners pay so this issue has been at the top of the business community's agenda for years. By not making the suspension of this property tax permanent, Arizona taxpayers face the largest property tax hike in the state's history.

Other important issues this session include workers compensation reforms, regulatory oversight and energy issues. The work of this chamber and our Alliance partners won't be over when the session finally concludes later this spring. It's a big election year with every legislative seat being up for grabs with many significant ballot propositions on our November ballot.

"Some people regard private enterprise as a predatory tiger to be shot. Others look on it as a cow they can milk. Not enough people see it as a healthy horse, pulling a sturdy wagon."

Winston Churchill

April Luncheon

Wednesday, April 16th

Golden Eagle Distributors

26815 Baseline Rd

Noon to 1 pm \$10 per person

Speaker: Farrell Quinlan

West Valley Chambers of Commerce Alliance

PLEASE RSVP BY MONDAY APRIL 14TH

623-386-2727

April Mixer

Tuesday, April 29

West Valley National Bank

Powers-Leavitt

111 E. Monroe Ave

Buckeye

5:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Join us to celebrate the opening of WVNB

Fun, Food, Prizes and a Great Time!

Buckeye Business Connection

Every Tuesday morning at 7:15 am

At the Chamber office

508 E Monroe

Buckeye

New Members...

Garage Floor Coating.com
Michelle Walden
4815 E. Carefree Hwy Ste 108-239
Cave Creek, AZ 85331
(602) 579-2628

Ian Horvath Development, LLC
Ian Horvath
309 N. 6th St.
Buckeye, AZ 85326
(480) 204-5601

Labor Finders of AZ
Roger Obermiller
9430 W. Van Buren St
Tolleson, AZ 85353
(623) 742-9993

Realty World Superstars
Art Welch
3939 N. Holt Circle
Buckeye, AZ 85396
(623) 239-0926

Renewals...

Jackie Meck, Jr Associate Member
Glen & Marilyn Smith, Associate Members
1 Guy, 1 Truck, & 1 Trailer
AAA Insulation
Arizona Federal Credit Union
Beard's Western & Country Store
Buckeye Health Mart Pharmacy
Buckeye Little League
Community Church
Eagle Tail Village
FastSigns SW Valley
First Southern Baptist Church
Grace Fellowship Academy
H-Four Farms
Haul-A-Way
Hospice of the Valley

Nominating Committee

According to the Chamber by-laws, the following slate was proposed for election to the Board of Directors at the March 20, 2008 Board meeting.

Todd Hornback; Verrado

Dorothy Lockard, Farm Bureau Ins.

John Sowers, Mesquite Power

Chip Wodrich, Farm Bureau Financial
Ambassador Chairman

Anyone wishing to propose an additional name for nomination must file the name with the President/CEO—Deanna Kupcik— prior to the general meeting April 16, 2008, either by fax or e-mail.

Prospective directors must be an active member in good standing, and must have agreed to accept the responsibility of directorship for the two year term. Board members who have served two terms (4 consecutive years) are ineligible for election unless two years have elapsed since they last served.

deanna@buckeyevalleychamber.org

Fax—623-386-7527

Hunt & Caraway Architects, Ltd.

KB Homes

Kirk's Automotive

Martin Agency

Meritage Active Adult At Sundance

Mt. Pleasant Church

PC Dilemma LLC

Pomeroy & Pomeroy

RE/MAX Assured—Karla Walters

Tonopah Tails, Inc

Western Pilot Service

Wisteria Hair & Nails



“Success is a journey, not a destination. The doing is often more important than the outcome.”

Arthur Ashe

Ribbon Cuttings



M & I Bank hosted a lovely ribbon cutting in February with the local ROTC unit performing a beautiful flag ceremony. Courteous staff showed off the new building and served cake and ice cream. M & I also sponsored the return chute at both of our Helzapoppin' Rodeos! We wish you the best, M & I Bank.

Chamber Ambassadors along with the Airport Board members, several council members and the Mayor cut the ribbon to celebrate the new runway at Buckeye Municipal Airport. This ribbon cutting kicked off the February Air Fair.

Senior Pro Rodeo...

From the early morning pancake breakfast to the



bucking stock, mutton busters and barrel racers, then on to the Steak dinner and Scholarship Auction, the Senior Pro Rodeo on Feb. 2 & 3 was a hoot' and hollering' good time! At left, committee members Shelly Butler and Viki Nelson assist with breakfast preparations. At right, one big bull trying his best to win the round.



Below, is a shot of the patio during the steak dinner, at center a small cowboy clings to a wooly sheep and at right

the auction is in full swing.

We thank our many sponsors for making this yet again a successful event: Bales Hay Sales; Buckeye Feed & Country Store; M & I Bank; Global Water; Golden Eagle; Powers-Leavitt; Tom Jones Ford; Town of Buckeye; AAA Arizona; Allied Waste; Buckeye Health Mart Pharmacy; Buckeye Sun; Buckeye Valley News; Core Construction; Dean Farms; Goodyear Glass & Mirror; RE/MAX Assured, Karla Walters; West Valley View; Sundance Dental Group; S&B Pest Technologies; RE/MAX Assured, Kevin Johnson; Duncan & Son; VMC Enterprises; Hometown True Value; Hunt & Caraway Architects; GV Enterprises; Hickman's Egg Farm



February Mixer...



The February mixer was held in the rodeo office at the Helzapoppin' Rodeo arena to kick off the Sr. Pro Rodeo. Great food, great company and a really great turnout marked this annual event hosted by Sr. Pro Rodeo Chairman Ron Noble and wife Tammy, **Buckeye Feed & Country Store**. At right, bottom, Marshall Grandy, tractor man for all the arena events, receives the new pair of boots he ordered "way back" that were picked up, paid for and hidden by the PRCA Rodeo Committee. The Helzapoppin' Arena garnered third place on the Turquoise Circuit for "Best Footing" thanks to Marshall. The Committee decided to use the prize money for those beautiful boots!



"Part of being a person is about helping others"
Seth Caplan

A Little Excitement in Town....!



At left: Dorothy Huntsman is honored in front of the "learning tree" with a bench dedicated to her many years of service to the community of Buckeye. Dorothy established the first literacy program in Buckeye, founded the Friends of the Library and has served on numerous boards and committees. At 96 years of age, Dorothy is still a vital force in our community.

At right: The world famous Clydesdale Hitch, otherwise known as the Budweiser horses, made an appearance at the Buckeye Wal Mart, much to the delight of many area shoppers.



April 12th, 5 AM, is the opening date of the final chapter in the epic saga of the Nels Benson (Raney) House. Developer Ivan Horvath will be escorting the house to a permanent home on S. 4th Street in Buckeye. The public is invited to attend this final move to "Save the Raney House" which began nearly three years ago. Horvath plans to convert the home to a restaurant.

Mark your calendars! **April 25th** is the date for the annual **Community Awards Banquet**, sponsored by the Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce. This year's event will take place at Roman Comer's western village, hosted by Roman's Oasis. Keep an eye on your mail boxes for invitations to this always popular community event.

May 10th is the date for the **Spring Demolition Derby and Riding Lawn Mower Races**. Always a bang up good time, make a note of this one!

In The Park After Dark, sponsored by the Buckeye Main Street Coalition, will be held sometime prior to the May 20 election. Date to be announced. Included will be a meet and greet for our mayoral candidates, and several other activities. Watch for more information on this one.

Board of Directors

2007-2008

Chairman of the Board:

Tammy Noble, *Buckeye Feed & Country Store*

Chairman-Elect

Tim Grandy, *NRCD*

Past Chairman:

Ken Wolf, *APS*

Treasurer:

Dee Barber-James, *Buckeye Little League*

Directors....

Steven Bales, *Bales Hay Sales*

Jay Broadbent, *Broadbent Leavitt Building*

Todd Hornback, *Verrado*

Dr. Beverly Hurley, *BUHS District*

Kevin Johnson, *RE/MAX Assured*

Jessica Melton, *Home Town True Value*

Mike Oglesbee, *Golden Eagle Distributors*

Dave Rioux, *#1 Buckeye Plumbing*

Board Liaison...

Levi Beard

Vice Mayor, Town of Buckeye

Legal Counsel—Paul J. Faith, Esq.

Faith, Ledyard, Nickel, & Shelsky, PLC

Staff....

Deanna Kupcik, President

Chief Executive Officer

deanna@buckeyevalleychamber.org

Jan Hessel, Administrative Assistant

Special Events Coordinator

jan@buckeyevalleychamber.org

Chamber Office:

(623) 386-2727 Phone

(623) 386-7527 Fax



Member of the Month...

The **Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix/Avondale** is located in the progressive West corridor of Phoenix, close to numerous office buildings, industrial parks and recreational facilities. The Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix/Avondale is certain to please the busy executive or leisure traveler. Crisp, metropolitan decorated rooms with Garden Sleep System VSS beds, 26" Phillips Flat Panel HD TV, MP3 compatible clock radios and complimentary High Speed Internet access. One king-sized bed or two queen beds, either a sleeper sofa or chair with ottoman, large work desk with ergonomic chair and speaker phone with data port and voicemail. The Hospitality Center comes with refrigerator, microwave and coffee maker, iron and full-sized ironing board and hair dryer. Some king rooms have oversized shower only. Handicap accessible rooms are available.



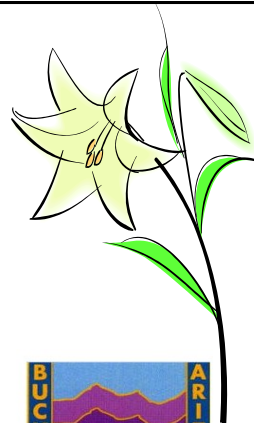
Other hotel features include:

- Great American Grill® open for breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Evening Room Service
- Pavilion Lounge with plasma LCD television
- Complimentary 24-hour business center
- Complimentary Wireless Internet service in all public areas including the beautiful outdoor pool
- Complimentary workout facility and Stay Fit Kits
- Over 4,000 square feet of meeting/banquet space accommodating from 10 to 350 guests
- Meeting specialist on staff dedicated to focus on the details
- Grand ballroom with 15' ceilings connected to an oversized Terrace with fireplace and fountain

On-site catering with the highest quality and varied menus to compliment every pallet



As always, we extend a big Thank You to the following corporate sponsors for their generous support of our Chamber and our Community



PRCA RODEO...

The 2008 PRCA Rodeo was one of the best ever!



The crowd was LOUD, the cowboys and the bucking stock did their jobs amazing everyone and the excitement just kept on coming! Contestants were here from all over the Southwest to participate and it was "thrills and spills" all over the arena.

Jesse Knudsen, our announcer, did a fantastic job, Hollywood Don Yates danced with children from the audience and the Honeycutt crew was on top of every thing.

This was the first year the committee has crowned the incoming Miss

Helzapoppin' Rodeo Queen at a rodeo performance and the ceremony was lovely. Outgoing Heather Barnes took her final lap, beginning slowly then picking up speed, bringing the audience to their feet. Flowers were presented to both young women, then Jessica Brooke was crowned Miss Helzapoppin' Rodeo Queen 2008. Jessica is a 19 year old student at Grand Canyon University who believes having the "opportunity to represent professional rodeo and the Town of Buckeye will be an exciting challenge." She will spend the next year representing our PRCA Rodeo and the Town at numerous events all over Arizona, making friends and lasting memories. Congratulations Jessica!



The PRCA Rodeo Committee members are: Tim Grandy, PRCA Chairman; Ron Noble, Sr. Pro Rodeo Chairman; Viki Nelson; Shelly Butler; Charlotte Hunter; Marshall Grandy; Bobby Strander; Richard Hopkins; Dick Sartor; Debi Vetter; Wayne DePuy; Jay Broadbent; Deanna Kupcik and Jan Hessel.

The committee would also like to extend huge thanks to our volunteers, Anita, Tina, Mel, Cindy, Betty, Phyllis, Mary, Dorothy, JJ, Ericka, two young men named David and Levi who came out of nowhere when we needed extra hands and anyone else I might have missed! The timing was tough for this rodeo and hands were hard to come by!

We would also like to thank our sponsors who make this all possible: AAA Arizona; Tartesso; Global Water; Allied Waste; Cricket Wireless; Golden Eagle Distributors; CORE Construction; Buckeye Health Mart Pharmacy; Buckeye Sun; Buckeye Valley News; Buckeye Feed; Karla Walters-RE/MAX Assured; Goodyear Glass & Mirror; WalMart DC; Cracker Barrel; Chipotle; La Placita; Dean Farms; Menke Funeral Home; Avondale Dodge; M & I Bank; Powers-Leavitt; Bales Hay Sales; VMC Enterprises; Roman's Oasis; Pulte Homes, the rest of our corporate sponsors and the Town of Buckeye!