



Ward 6 – Newsletter

DECEMBER 23, 2010



Steve Kozachik
Council Member



Ann Charles



Donovan Durband



Teresa Smith



Christal Ferree



Barbara Jacob



A Message From Steve

For our final newsletter of the calendar year, I want to brag on my staff. These are the folks you will come to know on a personal level as you interact with the ward office. They do a ton of heavy lifting, and simply wind me up and turn me loose with their support.

Christal Ferree has been a wonderful asset to the office both during the early days of the transition, and all year long as we have settled in. She will work with you on any of the room reservations, scheduling meetings with me and/or staff and general constituent services - and she takes on each task with a cheerful and helpful demeanor that you will find refreshing. Without Christal on our team the office would be bumping along. She serves to smooth out the rough spots in the terrain for us, and for you.

Barbara Jacob has been a great help in taking on many of the direct neighborhood association contacts, particularly in the middle to eastern portions of the ward. You will see Barb at many of your neighborhood association meetings, taking notes and reporting back to the rest of us your concerns. She's the voice on the phone that helps to direct you to the right city department when you feel lost in the bureaucracy. I have said that we can get fixated on the big picture issues such as budget, hotels, etc - but at the end of the day, you all want a ward office that is responsive to your individual needs. Between Barbara and Christal, you have that in our service to you.

Teresa Olson brings to the office a wealth of knowledge with respect to inter-jurisdictional relations, and policy involvement related to land use, water, public safety, and others. She has worked tirelessly to help guide us through the intricate politics of protecting the budgets of first responders, while building alliances with other council offices as we brought the issue to a successful vote a few weeks ago. Teresa will also be directly involved with many of the neighborhood issues in some of the associations that lie in proximity to the University. You will see her at meetings related to development in and around El Con Mall, the Red Tag Ordinances, and others as they emerge over time. I'm thankful to have her on the team.

Donovan Durband is my front line person in working relationships throughout the downtown area, and in the many neighborhoods that surround the downtown core. This is a critical position on our team as the revitalization of downtown is such a significant issue to the community as a whole.



Important Phone Numbers

Tucson Police Department

911 or 791-4444
nonemergency

Mayor & Council Comment Line

791-4700

Neighborhood Resources

791-4605

Park Wise

791-5071

Water Issues

791-3242

Pima County Animal Control

243-5900

Street Maintenance

791-3154

Development Services

791-4505

Southwest Gas

889-1888

Gas Emergency/ Gas Leaks

889-1888

West Nile Virus Hotline

243-7999

Environment Service

791-3171

Graffiti Removal

792-2489

Continued: A Message From Steve

So many of our local entrepreneurs are located along 4th Avenue and into the Downtown core that to leave those areas without a person who brings a special talent to issues related to urban development would be a huge mistake. So much of what we do is built on relationship building. I lean on Donovan to help me to achieve that on a wide basis with business operators, the Downtown Tucson Partnership, FAMA, and crucial city staffers as we navigate this task of bringing a successful economic turn around to the core of the City.

Ann Charles is my throttle. She and I work together at all hours of the day, and all days of the week, talking through strategic issues, working to establish and expand alliances throughout the community and looking at all of what we're doing at Ward 6 from an overarching standpoint. Driving both policy and approach, Ann helps to form the tactical basis on which we address the many and varied issues that confront us on a daily basis. All too often when my inclination is to go full out, she throttles me back, and when I'm content to relax, she's there to redirect my energies and get things moving again. Some issues require finesse, and others a direct head on approach. Ann guides me into our issues with the 'touch' that is appropriate to each one.

And finally, she's not technically on staff, but without her involvement, I would not be able to do the work involved with this job. My bride of 32 years, Ann, is my support team on the home front. Neither of us was ever in the public eye. She has become my true place of refuge, a place to decompress, and a place to know that regardless of what's being written or said, I can rely on her to stand along side me through it all. I am proud to have her along for this ride.

So, thanks to all of the team. The Ward 6 residents are fortunate to have them working on their behalf. And with so many of the issues we're facing that have an impact across the community, this team is making an impact all across the valley. I am fortunate to have them working alongside of me. In the days and weeks ahead, call us, visit us and share your concerns and your victories as well. We want to hear them all, and to work with you for the betterment of the entire community.

May God bless each of you and your families during this holiday season. Stay safe, and enjoy your loved ones to the fullest.



Sincerely,

Steve Kozachik
Council Member, Ward 6
<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/ward6>