

Ward 6 Staff



Steve Kozachik



Ann Charles



Teresa Smith



Bonnie Medler



Diana Amado



Molly Thrasher



Ward 6 - Newsletter

Tucson First

March 11, 2013



Responsible Alternatives to Incarceration for the Sexually Exploited

About a year ago I began sharing in these newsletters the concept of diversion from mandatory jail sentences for victims of prostitution. I phrase it that way because those caught in that exploitative net are subject to physical, mental and chemical abuses – to name only a few.

The genesis of the idea was simply trying to save money on our City budget. It struck me that mandatory sentences for first time prostitution offenders was not doing the women (or men) any good in terms of treatment and getting them out from the abusive subculture, and it was also not doing the City any good from a fiscal standpoint. There must be a win-win that will touch lives while also not cost us money in these tough economic times.

Word gets around, and people who knew more about this than I did began to come forward and share ideas. One was Project ROSE – Reaching Out to the Sexually Exploited – that is operated in Phoenix. A group of us met with their organizers and members of the Phoenix Police Department and became familiar with their model. We decided to bring it to Tucson.

The theme was pretty simple:



And from that, we came up with Project RAISE (Responsible Alternatives to Incarceration for the Sexually Exploited.)



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

Planning and
Development
Services 791-5550

Southwest Gas
889-1888

Gas Emergency/
Gas Leaks
889-1888

West Nile Virus
Hotline
243-7999

Environment
Service
791-3171

Graffiti Removal
792-2489

AZ Game & Fish
628-5376

Continued: A Message From Steve

Prostitution is not a victimless crime. But, it is a crime. The trick was to get the criminal justice system to work with service providers to change their thinking and give this a try. To their great credit, the Tucson Police Department, City Prosecutor's Office and City Court all came on board and agreed to set aside a night and see if we could touch some lives in a restorative way. That night was last Friday, and we did in fact touch 9 lives (8 women and a guy) who were busted on that cold night for prostitution.

To be clear – there were ground rules that are established in law that either allowed people to take part in the diversion we were offering, or not. Three people (not included in the nine) were never offered the option of diversion simply as a result of having multiple serious prior offenses. They were booked, as per normal and never arrived at our intake center.

So, what did we offer that was different? A chance to opt-into a series of services that are geared towards helping these victims of sexual exploitation to get their lives back. Here's the story of how we came to Friday.

We needed to identify service providers – they exist in this community in the form of CODAC and Cactus Counseling (housed in the City Court system.) We needed the buy-in from TPD to change their normal route (to City Court) and bring them to our neutral and welcoming intake center. We needed an intake center – Our Savior's Lutheran Church (where I met my bride about 35 years ago) had the space, break out rooms for private counseling and they are conveniently located in midtown. They agreed to let us set up shop there.

We needed to get the Court and Prosecutors to move their operations down to Our Savior's. They agreed. We needed to be able to offer the women who were brought in food, clothing, and hygiene products. Tucson Metropolitan Ministries, the Tucson Women's Commission, and Southern Arizona Against Slavery all stepped up and brought the amenities, and they stayed until after 1am offering their volunteer help.

We needed people who could actually do the counseling. CODAC and the Cactus Counseling folks also brought their operations to the church and did their evaluations and needs assessments at the site – also until past 1am.

And we needed women who had walked in the shoes of the ladies (and guy) who were being brought into our makeshift intake center. Our 'survivors' were there through the valuable assistance of Beth Jacobs and her organization Willow Way – a group of people who have lived the life of being trafficked, and are now out of that and wanting to help draw out others.

Here's how the night went – TPD did what they normally do. That is, they made arrests for soliciting sex. Whether or not one agrees that it should be a criminal offense, it is. What changed was that the officers brought the people to us at the church instead of to City Court downtown.



Important Phone Numbers

Senator John
McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff
Flake (R)
520-575-8633

Congressman
Ron Barber (D)
(2nd District)
520-881-3588

Congressman
Raul Grijalva (D)
(3rd District)
520-622-6788

Governor Janice
Brewer (R)
Governor of Arizona
602-542-4331
Toll free:
1-800-253-0883

State Legislators
Toll Free
Telephone:
1-800-352-8404
Internet:
www.azleg.gov

Mayor Jonathan
Rothschild
791-4201

City Infoguide
[http://
cms3.tucsonaz.gov/
infoguide](http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/infoguide)

When they arrived, a records check was conducted. While that was going on, each was greeted with a meal and the advocacy of a ‘survivor’ who led each of the ladies around to our various stations to pick up the clothes, etc that we had for them. And they began the process of building relationship from the perspective of one who had gone through the trauma of having been used as a commodity.

Based on the results of the records check, those without significant priors were offered the diversion and counseling. Nobody was forced to opt for that – and the fact that this took place in a church does not mean that there was any religious component to what was being offered. The counseling offered by CODAC and Cactus Counseling is professionally geared to touch the varying needs of the people we were dealing with. Those include drug rehab, housing, transportation, and getting involved in a program that will help with job skills and other relational areas geared to help rebuild a life.

For those who came to our intake center and who were not allowed to participate in diversion because of having prior convictions for serious, disqualifying offenses, we still engaged them with our ‘survivor’ advocates, fed them and offered whatever outreach we could – planting a seed that might sprout when they’re out on the street again and looking for some legitimate help.

Let me toss in this sidebar note: at the beginning of the night, a group of people showed up (they had been tipped off to what we were doing) and objected on the basis that “sex workers have the right to do what they’re doing.” To that, I’d simply say that the law is the law – change it if you want to make the claim that the RAISE was an abuse of some sort of civil right. But the much larger point is that the women (and guy) we saw suffer high costs personally from being engaged in the lifestyle. Talk to our survivors and you’ll hear about physical assault, rape, isolation from positive social support, drug addiction, vulnerability to coercion and exploitation, and behavioral health challenges such as Post Traumatic Stress resulting from trauma experienced during prostitution. In fact, one guy was arrested during our operation last Friday and booked for his prior involvement in physical sexual abuse. What we offered was an holistic approach to addressing this multi-faceted problem. More and more law enforcement views prostitutes as human trafficking victims and they use them as conduits to get to the pimps as the traffickers – similarly to how they use small quantity drug busts to get to larger drug smuggling rings.

So after a year + of trying to put this together, Tucson had its Project RAISE last Friday, the results of which will be played out over time in the lives that were touched that night. If even one person is helped to get out from the dangerous and unhealthy life style that has them gripped right now, every volunteer who took their time last Friday night will consider it a success. Of course, we’re hopeful that more of them will avail themselves of what has been offered.

One personal anecdote: near the end of the night, one young girl was brought in who was certainly younger than my daughter. She looked scared as hell. Beth and her survivors loved on her, we got her the amenities she needed and she is now registered for the CODAC diversion program. I commented to Holly Darwin from that agency that seeing that young girl broke my heart and how tough it was to stay away and just let Beth and the others do their work. After the evals were done and she had been taken home (Released on her own Recog-

nizance – scheduled to show up at counseling on Monday) both Beth and Holly shared that this is one who may have been caught at just the right time. She acknowledged a heroin problem, a boyfriend who was dismissive of the issue, and how she may have received the first sense of affirmation as a person that she has had in maybe forever. She's now in the right hands.

So thanks to all of the following:

- Tucson Police
- City Court
- City Prosecutor
- TMM
- CODAC
- SAAS
- Cactus Counseling
- Our Savior's Lutheran Church
- Beth and Willow Way
- The Tucson Women's Commission

...and the person who did the leg work on keeping the momentum for this going, and getting the final details of this put into place (even taking a night and visiting Project ROSE up in Phoenix) my Chief of Staff, Ann Charles.

We'll debrief and talk about how to make it better – for next time.



On Tuesday, April 2nd at 5:30, we'll be hosting a presentation at the Ward Office put on by the Tucson Fire Department. Bring your family, including children, and friends.

The purpose of the meeting is to allow TFD workers to share the many areas in which they work, and to answer questions you may have about why they show up for certain calls with particular pieces of equipment, staffing, training and whatever else is on your mind. They'll also have some equipment on site for the kids to climb on – unless a call comes in / that's of course priority.

The Ward 6 office is located at 3202 E. 1st – across the street from The Loft Cinema on Speedway. I hope you'll make plans to come by and meet these men and women in a setting that isn't one in which your life and possessions are hanging in the balance while they do their work. I'm grateful to them for the work they do in our community.

Joe Cavaleri / Ohh Ahh Man / Retires



Back in the mid-'70's when I was going to UA baseball games at Sancet Field, Ohh Ahh stood on the chain link fence and got the crowd rowdy and into the games. He was a presence at McKale and other sporting events, as well. For 34 years, Joe has been the guy who would do the strip-tease and rally the crowd.

On Saturday at McKale, he came and did his last gig in the arena. He's going through some personal health issues and felt that this would be a good time to call it a day in terms of his mid-court cheerleading. We'll miss his important part of the show, and wish him all the best in the days and years ahead as he continues to work through the medical stuff. I know Joe was touched by the ceremony that Greg Byrne made happen on Saturday, and I know that many in the crowd, and throughout the community are thankful to Ohh-Ahh for the fun he has brought to us as UA sports fans. We look forward to seeing him in attendance in the stands – still being rowdy.

Legislature and Guns

This is the text of a recent bulletin put out by the NRA:

Arizona: NRA-Backed Bill Clears House of Representatives

Yesterday, the Arizona House of Representatives approved a common sense reform (my emphasis) that would prevent the destruction of seized or surrendered firearms. House Bill 2455, introduced by state Representative Brenda Barton (R-6), would require any firearms forfeited to or confiscated by a law enforcement agency to be sold to a Federal Firearms License (FFL) holder in exchange for money, new equipment or ammunition. As a result, collected previously owned firearms would maintain their value and their sale to the public would help recover public funds when budgets are strained. In a 36 to 23 vote, HB 2455 passed in the state House of Representatives and will now be assigned to a Senate committee for further consideration.

Thank you to all state Representatives who voted in favor of this pro-gun reform and to all NRA members who have contacted their state legislators in support of it. Although HB 2455 has not been assigned to a Senate committee, now is the time to contact your state Senator and politely ask him or her to support HB 2455. Your NRA-ILA will continue to keep you updated as more details become available.

The purpose of my underlining that portion of the Release is simply to point out that what one group feels is common sense might just be up for debate. This bill is an immediate and direct result of the Buy-Back that I organized on January 8th of this year. All they did was insert the word “surrender” into existing legislation to make it mandatory that when you surrender your property to TPD, if it's your gun, they cannot destroy it.

I'd like to join the NRA is suggesting that you forward your thoughts along to your State Senator about this proposed bill. It's not law yet – and if it is approved and signed by the Governor, it will effectively render the Buy-Back I conducted with TPD a thing of the past in this State.

More Legislation – tax breaks for Insurance Companies

...and while I'm feeling just a bit chapped at what's going on up there, let me add that the Arizona House just gave final approval to a bill that grants new tax breaks of up to \$50M over 3 years for insurance companies that invest in high tech. companies. How it works is that savings insurance companies receive from lowered premium taxes are funneled into a high-tech fund that the Arizona Commerce Authority will oversee. The insurers get a credit that they can carry for 15 years if they can't use it in the year that it's earned.

House Speaker Andy Tobin is on record as saying “there’s no guarantee any of the money would be repaid.” Wonderful – and the Film Incentive Bill that is a pre-paid rebate to clean film industry is still languishing in a committee, hoping to see the light of day. I’ve written about the Film Bill before. Now you have another ‘targeted tax break’ to compare it to – and lobby for one or the other if you so choose. I think it’s a pretty easy choice.

Quoting Tobin – “it’s (the insurance company credit) an interesting dynamic, we’ve not tried that before.”

Quoting me – we see how other States are winning the bidding war for films, television episodes and advertisements because they have incentives, and we don’t.

Youth and Peace Conference

On Saturday of this week, there are two events that I’d like to share with you.

From 9:30am until 4:30pm, over at Doolen Middle School they’ll be hosting a Youth & Peace Conference. It’ll include hands on art and other art exhibits, educational workshops on topics such as bullying and dating violence, and presentations by youth on MAS, LGBT, the environment and more.

A portion of the funding for this came from the Fund for Civility, Respect and Understanding – the UA based group who has formed in the aftermath of our January 8th, 2011 shootings. It’s good to see their engagement in the community.

Doolen is located on the northeast corner of Grant & Country Club.

Gun Control Forum

And beginning at 2pm over at St. Marks Church (3809 E. Third Street - a block west of Alvernon) I’ll be participating in a forum with several other people to discuss the issue of common sense gun control ideas. Also on the panel will be Pam Simon (January 8th survivor and member of DemandAPlan,) State Representatives Bruce Wheeler and Victoria Steele, State Senator David Bradley, and Tucson Attorney and gun rights advocate David Hardy. Possible attendees will also be Representatives Grijalva and Barber - depending on schedules and what’s going on out in D.C.

The forum is scheduled to last until 4pm. There will be opening remarks by the panel members, and then questions from the audience. I know each of the people who are on the panel and it is my expectation that this will be an opportunity to listen to varying viewpoints on this volatile topic in a way that is non-confrontational and respectful. With this topic, that’s not always the case.

So I hope you can pay a visit to the Doolen event and then swing by St. Marks to hear the exchange over there. Two very important topics being discussed in our community next Saturday. As I’ve said before, we’re the epicenter for these issues, as we should be with our recent history, and I’m honored to be asked to participate in the dialogue.

Spring Fest Blossoms at Tuller School – Saturday March 23

On the 23rd of March, Tuller School will have a Spring Festival. It's the result of some

very intensive teaching in courses that run from art to physics. The kids involved range from Kindergarten through eighth grade.

Tuller is one of our schools who really strive to use the inter-disciplinary teaching method. This event will showcase the results of those efforts. When you go, you'll be treated to a special seed mix in a recycled newspaper pot that you can replant at your home. The gist of the event is showing how the kids are taught the inter-relationships between environment and living conditions.

The event is free - and is certainly family friendly. It'll run from 11am until 4pm. Tuller is located in Ward 6 at 5870 E. 14th Street. They'll have food and other events, some of which will have a small donation attached to them.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF GREATER TUCSON

Finally, as most of you know, we've already entered a new election cycle. I'm running for re-election, as are Council members Fimbres and Uhlich. And as I report pretty much weekly, the State is in session and is considering bills that directly impact our community, and our region. For those reasons, it's important that you think about engaging with a non-partisan organization that is geared towards political education, and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson is one such group.

The League is involved with voter registration, research of current issues, hosting forums, passing petitions for issues the League supports, lobbying and testifying, and they conduct moderator training sessions. They do a lot more, but that gives you a pretty good idea of how broadly based their scope is.

The office is at 2424 E. Broadway (Ward 6) Suite 110, and their phone # is 327.7652. You can become a member for \$75 as an individual, or \$110 annually for a household. And yes, guys can also join.

For more information on what they're up to, go to their website @ lwvgt.org and it lays out all of their work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Kozachik". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Steve Kozachik
Council Member, Ward 6
Ward6@tucsonaz.gov

Arts and Entertainment Events Calendar

This week and next week at the arts and entertainment venues in the Downtown, 4th Avenue, and Main Gate areas . . .

Rialto Theatre, 318 E. Congress St.

Wednesday, March 13, 8:00pm. **“Bruce Cockburn”** all ages.

Thursday, March 14, 6:00pm. **“Pierce the Veil”** all ages.

Friday, March 15, 7:30pm. **“Local Love presents Hippie Fest”** all ages.

Saturday, March 16, 8:00pm. **“Josh Ritter & The Royal City Band”** all ages.

www.RialtoTheatre.com

Fox Theatre, 17 W. Congress St.

Friday, March 15, 7:30pm. **“Blues at the Crossroads”**

Saturday, March 16, 7:30pm. **“Suzy Bogguss”**

Sunday, March 17, 7:00pm. **“Barbara Cook”**

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Temple of Music and Art, 330 S. Scott Ave.

Arizona Theatre Company presents **“The Sunshine Boys”** by Neil Simon

Saturday, March 2 – March 23, 2013.

www.arizonatheatre.org

Tucson Convention Center <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/tcc/eventcalendar>

Leo Rich Theatre

Sunday, March 17 through Sunday, March 24. **“20th Tucson Winter Chamber Music Festival”**

Music Hall

Friday, March 15 and Sunday, March 17. **“Beethoven’s ‘Pastorale’ TSO Classic Series”**

Ongoing

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main Ave.

Ongoing exhibition, Opening Saturday, January 26 and ending June 16:

“Desert Grasslands,” “Feminina: Images of the Feminine from Latin America,” and “Elements in Western Art: Water, Fire, Air, and Earth”

www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org

Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), 265 S. Church Ave.

Current exhibition: **“Peter Young: Capitalist Masterpieces”**

Hours: Wednesday to Sunday, 12:00 to 5:00pm.

www.Moca-Tucson.org

Children's Museum Tucson, 200 S. 6th Ave.

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturdays & Sundays: 10:00am - 5:00pm

www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

The Drawing Studio, 33 S. 6th Ave.

Ongoing Exhibit, Opens March 2 and runs March 30

“The Journey Continues: Pat Frederick, Mikaela Quinn, Roberta Miller”

<http://www.thedrawingstudio.org/>

Jewish History Museum, 564 S. Stone Ave.

Open Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday, 1:00-5:00 and Friday, Noon to 3:00pm

Special hours for school and group tours, for more information call 670-9073

www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

Meet Me at Maynards

A social walk/run through the Downtown area

Every Monday, rain or shine, holidays too!

Maynards Market and Kitchen, 400 N. Toole Avenue, the historic train depot

Check-in begins at 5:15pm.

www.MeetMeatMaynards.com

Tucson Farmers' Market at Maynards

Saturdays 9:00am – 1:00pm

On the plaza at Maynards Market & Kitchen. 400 N Toole in the Historic Train Depot

Santa Cruz Farmers' Market Mercado San Agustín, 100 S. Avenida del Convento

Thursdays, 4:00 – 7:00pm.

For other events in the Downtown/4th Avenue/Main Gate area, visit these sites:

www.MainGateSquare.com

www.FourthAvenue.org

www.DowntownTucson.org

Other Community Events

Loft Cinema www.loftcinema.com/

Arizona State Museum – Woven Wonders (beginning April 28)

The Arizona State Museum is debuting a sample of 500 pieces from the world's largest collection of South-west American Indian basketry (over 25,000 pieces). Visit www.statemuseum.arizona.edu for more information.

UA Mineral Museum – Ongoing

“100 Years of Arizona's Best: The Minerals that Made the State”

Community Food Bank Citrus Gleaning for 2013

The Community Food Bank is offering to pick surplus citrus from homes and businesses in some areas of town. They term this service “Gleaning” or harvesting food that would otherwise go unused. They are currently accepting and picking up already picked fruit now, but will begin the actual gleaning program on January 22 and end on April 30. For more information on how to turn your excess fruit into food for those who need it, contact Lou Medran at 449-8340 or lmedran@communityfoodbank.org

Sam Hughes Historic Neighborhood and Home Tour – Sunday, April 7

Sam Hughes Historic District encompasses one square mile bordered by Speedway/Broadway and Country Club/Campbell. This popular self-guided tour features homes, gardens, businesses and sample-serving restaurants. Unique this year are four alternative living arrangements that display the diversity of this mid-town neighborhood. The tour is Sunday, April 7 (12-5). Tickets are \$20, available beginning March 28 at Arte de la Vida (37 N. Tucson Blvd., just north of Broadway---398-6720 or day-of-tour at Rincon Market (2516 E. 6th St.).

Tucson Winter Chamber Music Festival – March 17 – March 24

From Sunday March 17 to Sunday March 24, Arizona Friends of Chamber Music will bring to town the **Twentieth Tucson Winter Chamber Music Festival!!** One of the finest such festivals in the US, called by classical radio station WMFT in Chicago “A jewel of a festival”, and by American Record Guide, “one of the best and most adventurous in America”.

It will bring to Ward 6 fifteen outstanding musicians from all over the world, including two great composers from Australia and the Czech Republic Five concerts, a great gala dinner at the Arizona Inn. For more information, please visit <http://www.arizonachambermusic.org/>

Tucson Clean & Beautiful 2013 RUMBA Contest

Tucson Clean & Beautiful’s 2013 Re-Used Materials Becoming Art (RUMBA) Contest invites students, educators, and community group to participate in this exciting showcase and competition. This event will be held at the 2013 SAHBA Spring Home and Patio Show. Any previously-used materials can be used to make recycled art for R.U.M..B.A...scraps of plastic, paper, wood, metal, etc. are all welcome. Contact Beki Quintero at Tucson Clean & Beautiful for more information 791-5000.

The Lacey Jarrell Foundation Art Display at the Ward 6 Office

Ward 6 Gallery and The Lacey Jarrell Foundation proudly announce the presentation of award winning artwork at the Ward 6 Gallery, 3202 E. 1st St. The exhibit will feature work by carefully selected artists from Arizona, Texas, Brazil, Mexico and France. All come from diverse backgrounds and will present varying styles created in a number of different mediums. There will also be events each weekend that includes special art demonstrations, interactive group projects, music, and other entertainment. The exhibit will be on display at Ward 6 Gallery from April 6, 2013 through May 30th, 2013 with an opening reception on **Saturday, April 6 from 5:00 - 9:00pm.**