

## Ward 6 Staff



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# Ward 6 - Newsletter

TUCSON FIRST

December 23, 2013

*All of us at the Ward 6 office  
wish you and you loved ones  
a healthy and joy-filled Holiday season.*

### **Auntie Claus**

And in that spirit, I thought I'd share with you a video that shows a trailer for the newest stop-motion film my brother is beginning work on. It's in the season.

Auntie Claus is modeled after a kid's book by the same title. They're beginning production, and of course expanding on the script in order to cover 75 minutes on the big screen. This video clip shows the process stop-motion film makers go through to produce their work (and a 2 minute trailer of Auntie Claus.) If you haven't seen stop-motion sets or how painstaking it is to make the movies, you'll find this short video interesting.

You can access the animation on Vimeo at:  
<http://vimeo.com/athenastudios/auntieclaus>

To view the video you will need to enter the password:  
**AuntieClaus**



### **Puppy Mills**

Touching this issue is similar to the gun control issue. Passions run high. My hope is to find a place where we acknowledge legitimate and humane breeders, include them in the supply chain of pets and service animals, but protect the welfare of dogs from the conditions that now are allowed by USDA administered regulations that set a very low bar.

The Animal Welfare Act (AWA) is a federal law that was passed in 1966 to regulate certain animal activities, including commercial dog and cat breeding. The AWA defines the minimum standards of care for dogs, cats and certain other species of animals bred for commercial resale, research, and exhibition. It also requires that certain commercial breeders be licensed and routinely inspected by the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA).

As we get further into the idea of drawing lines around the retail sale of dogs in Tucson, we need to understand what it means when somebody says a breeding facility is USDA inspected. The standards are far from what most people would consider to be humane. They are merely survival standards for dogs. For example, dogs in federally licensed breeding facilities can legally be kept in cages that are only six inches wider than the dog in each direction for their entire lives.

Here are a few examples of USDA regulated breeding facilities – keep it in mind as the topic ramps up in the next few weeks.



**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



**Barbara Kays**  
Richland, MO  
USDA Licence # 43A3651  
Breeds: Terrier, Lhasa Apso, Silky Terrier

**Wee Paws Kennel, Beth Conley**  
Salem, MO  
USDA Licence # 43A2976



**Shadyhill Kennel, Helen Shelly**  
Hiawatha, KS  
USDA Licence # 48A1488  
Breeds: Shetland Sheepdog, Yorkshire Terrier, Papillon

Compare those facilities licensed by the USDA with the standards of care required by the American Kennel Club (AKC) for member breeders:

**A. Care of Dogs**

*Dogs should have access on a daily basis for play and exercise.*

*Dogs must have access to fresh water as appropriate.*

*Dogs must have access to fresh food provided at appropriate intervals to maintain a healthy weight.*

*Appropriate health care, including routine and preventative care, must be provided for all dogs.*

*Dogs should be provided with daily positive human contact and socialization.*

*Each dog should have its overall health and behavior assessed daily. Any deviation in health condition must be addressed expeditiously and appropriately.*

*Dogs should be free from internal and external parasites.*

*Dogs should be afforded regular grooming to ensure health and comfort.*

*When euthanasia is necessary, it must always be performed humanely.*

**B. Kennels and Housing**

*The primary enclosure must be large enough so the dog(s) can sit, stand, lie down, or*



### Important Phone Numbers

Senator John  
McCain (R)  
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff  
Flake (R)  
520-575-8633

Congressman  
Ron Barber (D)  
(2<sup>nd</sup> District)  
520-881-3588

Congressman  
Raul Grijalva (D)  
(3<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.azleg.gov)

Mayor Jonathan  
Rothschild  
791-4201

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

*turn around comfortably, with no overcrowding.*

*The primary enclosure shall be constructed and maintained so that dogs are securely confined and does not cause injury to the dogs.*

*Protection from adverse or extreme weather conditions must be provided.*

*While flooring that provides solid footing is preferred, if wire is used as flooring of a primary enclosure, it should be comprised of a material featuring a protective coating, be of an appropriate size to prevent injury (especially to feet), and must be kept in good repair. If wire is used, a solid platform of sufficient size should be provided to allow the dog(s) to attain solid footing and to offer a space for resting.*

*Facilities must be lighted to provide a regular lighting cycle for the dogs.*

*Bedding material made available to dogs should be clean and not pose a risk to the dogs.*

In the case of puppies, their reaction to the statement from the guy at the door "I'm from the government and I'm here to help" would fall on deaf ears if it were a USDA inspector of the kennel.

With Phoenix adding a new Ordinance last week related to the retail sale of dogs, that makes about 40 jurisdictions who are now on board with the idea that some level of local control over the source of the puppies is warranted. I believe the Phoenix Ordinance has some flaws and will be working with colleagues and local rescue and shelter groups to try to correct those before coming to the M&C with a draft.

It will also be important to remember this. The United Kennel Club (UKC), the second oldest all-breed registry of purebred dog pedigrees in the United States and the second largest in the world, asks all of its member breeders to agree to a Code of Ethics which includes a pledge not to sell their puppies to pet stores. Similar pledges are included in Codes of Ethics for many breed clubs for individual breeds. At its most basic, the reason is that responsible and registered breeders want to eliminate the middle-man in the transaction and ensure the new owner is providing a loving and supportive environment for the dogs they breed. That's lost when using a pet store as the point of sale.

As this topic unfolds you'll also hear about the Hunte Corporation. They're a broker of puppies, buying them en masse and selling them to retail outlets. They're likely selling over 100,000 annually. Hunte is the largest distributor/wholesaler of puppies in the United States. They also export dogs overseas.

Hunte buys dogs from commercial kennels across the Midwest and then resells them to pet stores. They're both a puppy mill and the middle-man between the puppy mills and the pet stores. The pet stores are yet another step removed from the conditions under which the parents of the puppies live. In their ads they call themselves the "World's Leading Supplier of Quality Puppies" and claim: "State of the art facilities offering constant attention to health, care and comfort of every puppy ... pioneering delivery system with continuous fresh air exchange, constant temperature, purified drinking water, sanitary compartments, air ride for animal stress reduction." Sounds great, but they never mention what conditions the parents of the puppies live under. That's what this effort is all about. The Hunte Corporate, as a broker of puppies to pet stores, is covered under the Animal Welfare Act which is enforced by the United States Department of Agriculture. Earlier I noted the flaws in assuming the USDA label means a high level of quality for the dogs being housed.

We have an oversupply of dogs in our City and County shelters, as well as in the nearly 70 additional rescue organizations. Millions of shelter dogs go unadopted and die each year. Meanwhile, Hunte Corporation and its suppliers profit from making commodities out of the dogs and broker them to pet stores. Phoenix and about 40 other cities have taken a stand against that. I'm working on language that helps to address the oversupply in Tucson and Pima County, while recognizing the role of responsible breeders, and isn't so broad in its application that we create problems for access to special classifications of dogs (service animals, police K-9 Units, etc.)

Back to the passion thing. This is not trying to stop the adoption of a pet. It's simply an attempt to assist the shelters and rescue folks by placing them in a favorable position in the supply pipeline. And it's an attempt to touch the issue of the unethical treatment that the parents of the puppies in the window have to endure.

### Child Protective Services

Moving from puppies to our kids. In the case of the CPS kids, it is they who are taking the brunt of a system that has failed to keep pace with the workload being assigned to it.

You've seen the horrific stories of thousands of calls for investigation going unaddressed. And you've seen that this is an issue that impacts our own residents.



While the Governor has put together a new team to study the issue, and the State Legislature is likely going to address the issue of funding, we should give credit to law enforcement agencies who have offered to help investigate the unaddressed cases.

Jerald Monahan is the head of the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police. Below is text from an email he sent to the new committee formed by the Governor in which he offers the assistance of local law enforcement agencies:

*On Dec 10, 2013, at 12:23 PM, Monahan, Jerald wrote:*

*Chairperson Flanigan, as President of the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police (AACOP), I wanted to pass along my appreciation and the association's full support of the work of the CARE team that has been assembled by Governor Brewer to address the recent issues that have come to light in the Child Protective Services of DES. Our members stand ready and willing to assist the team and you will find the police chiefs very interested in the outcomes of the work you are overseeing. If any of our member departments can play a role in getting these cases back on track, we would welcome that opportunity.*

*Jan Strauss, as I'm sure you are aware, not only has prior experience as the Mesa Police Chief and service on the Governor's Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women, but she is the current executive director of the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police. We, as an association, are proud of Jan's appointment to the CARE team and know she understands well the commitment of Arizona law enforcement to seeing the CPS system corrected. Please let me know if AACOP can assist in anyway.*

*Thank you and the rest of the CARE team for the work you are doing on behalf of Arizona's children.*

*Jerald Monahan*

I have confirmed that our own Tucson Police Department is totally on board in offering to assist where they are asked to do so. Note of thanks to Chief Villasenor for having been proactive in getting involved.

### January 7<sup>th</sup> @ The Loft



Reminder – the screening of *Living for 32* and a panel discussion to follow at The Loft Cinema on January 7<sup>th</sup> – doors will open at 6pm.

This is the story of the Virginia Tech mass shooting in which 32 students were murdered. The documentary features survivor Colin Goddard, his experiences during the shooting, and subsequent efforts to see background check legislation adopted. In addition, the issue of mental health assessments and work we're doing locally on that topic will be discussed.

Joining me on the panel will be Chief Roberto Villasenor, Sheriff Clarence Dupnik, NAMI CEO Clarke Romans, Founder of Bens Bell's Jeanette Mare and Mayor Jonathan Rothschild. The evening will be moderated by Jim Nintzel of AZPM's Arizona Illustrated Politics.

We'll also all get an update from the January 8<sup>th</sup> Memorial Committee on the progress that has been made in terms of finding a site for, and the 'look' of a commemorative artistic element. This'll be a free event hosted by Peg Johnson and the great folks at The Loft – please join us.

**And an idea that I'll be proposing to Mayor Rothschild and our Transportation Director Daryl Cole – in lieu of spending money on photo radar cameras to slow people down...**

**Canadian speed Controls**  
Speed controls being used in Canada



This would certainly slow me down! People slow down and try to "straddle" the holes.

This is an actual speed control device currently in use, cheaper than speed cameras, radar guns, police officers, etc.



Pretty clever -- especially when they move them around every day.



**Isn't art wonderful?** Maybe we get TPAC to commission some artists for trial runs.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season. Be safe out on the streets.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Steve Kozachik in black ink.

Steve Kozachik  
Council Member, Ward 6  
[ward6@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:ward6@tucsonaz.gov)