

## Ward 6 Staff



**Steve Kozachik**  
Council Member



**Ann Charles**



**Donovan Durband**



**Teresa Smith**



**Bonnie Medler**



# Ward 6 – Newsletter

## A Message from Steve

AUGUST 17, 2011

At the risk of appearing as though I'm ahead of myself, I'd like to open this week by sharing some community events that are not immediately around the corner, but that if they apply to you some advance awareness of them may be of value.

As a result of changes in legislation coming out of Phoenix last term, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System is undergoing some changes in terms of eligibility. There will be AHCCCS workshops held on Saturday, August 27th at both 10am and 2pm in the Pima Conference Room at TMC (5301 E. Grant Rd). These are important workshops if you are unsure of your status under the system, and need some help ensuring your paperwork is in order.

Also, the Streetcar construction is scheduled to begin late this year. In anticipation of that, the MainStreet Business Assistance Program is holding a workshop for businesses and commercial property owners on or near the Streetcar route. The workshop will cover what to expect, how to prepare and will present ways to keep your business up and healthy during construction. It's a free workshop that will be conducted on September 21st, but you need to RSVP ahead of time. To do that contact MainStreet at 838-4352, or [bdornquast@mainstreetinfo.org](mailto:bdornquast@mainstreetinfo.org). The workshop will be held at the University Services Annex Building on 220 W. 6th Street.

A couple more – these are very cool.

September 10th will be the next 2nd Saturday's. Last weekend there were over 12,000 people lining the streets during the 2nd Saturday's event. This was the 14th event since we restarted the downtown party early last year. It was also the largest. The party keeps growing and if you haven't participated yet, mark your calendar for the September event.

Also that weekend there will be a Tucson Memorial event remembering the September 11th tragedy that we all grew through together a decade ago. The events will include a memorial walk, Dr. Richard Carmona speaking at a memorial ceremony, and a concert put on by The Tucson Pops to be held at the Reid Park band shell. The link to learn more about the day's activities is <http://www.sept11tucson.org/>. The event is being organized by Jim Campbell, the Police and Firefighters. It's a full days' event so check out the site to learn more.



### 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

And finally, speaking of public safety, last week I was pleased to be asked to attend a Tucson Police Foundation event. What you may not realize is that TPD officers are expected to provide much of their own equipment, including items such as the protective vests they wear while on duty. The Foundation is raising money to help to fund the purchase of vests for the men and women who would otherwise be out of pocket to the tune of \$800 simply to be protected while protecting the interests of the citizens of our community. We exposed some interesting priorities during our last two budget cycles and we left the Foundation in the position of filling this important need. If you wish to help, you can participate at whatever level you're able by going to [www.AdoptACopTucson.org](http://www.AdoptACopTucson.org)

One significant reason we have the budget challenges we do is that we've been in a down economy for the past few years. The way out of that is to promote appropriate business in the community, thus creating jobs, income and sales tax. Thereby filling the City coffers.

To that end, Doug Martin of Good News Broadcasting is running a series of on-air promotions that will highlight the benefits of supporting the local private sector. You can speak some simple and on-target truth in a 30 second spot. For example, listen to these two:

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/8-17bus.mp3>

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/8-17bus2.mp3>

We just went through the pothole funding disagreement at the council. A strong business community helps to solve that. School is just about to start again. A strong business community provides jobs that will keep our kids here after graduation.

This Mayor and Council have made some strides in terms of easing the burden on opening and sustaining a business locally. We're not in the position of taking our eye off the ball though. I've begun discussions with our new Chamber of Commerce Director, Mike Varney and look forward to advancing that relationship in the days ahead. I'm in touch with several individuals who are in the process of developing some very new and exciting businesses that will pop up in the downtown core before the end of the year. And I will continue to work towards establishing a relationship with the reconstituted Rio Nuevo Board so together we can invest the Tax Increment dollars being generated in a way that is a catalyst for even more reinvestment, as was intended from the beginning of Rio Nuevo.

CLIMAS is a research arm of The University of Arizona that assesses the impacts in the region from climate variability and long-term change. That's a mouthful that simply means: they're studying our water future. In conjunction with Tucson Water, CLIMAS and other research organizations have produced the 2011 COT Annual Drought Monitoring report. It looks at various drought impact indicators and concludes with a recommendation on what our local and regional response should be for the upcoming year.

More than 70% of Tucson Water's annual water demand is met through the CAP. Snowmelt and runoff from the Upper Colorado River Basin provide the most critical supplies to the CAP. According to CLIMAS, that inflow will be about 120% of the 1971-2000 average. Thank La Nina for the above average snows up north.



### Important Phone Numbers

Senator John  
McCain (R)  
520-670-6334

Senator Jon Kyl (R)  
520-575-8633

Congresswoman  
Gabrielle Giffords  
(D)  
(8<sup>th</sup> District)  
520-881-3588

Congressman  
Raul Grijalva (D)  
(7<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 Bob Walkup  
791-4201

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

Some of the indicators the study considers are the aquifer storage levels, our potable production capacity, gallons of potable water produced daily by Tucson Water, and our reclaimed production capacity. Water is one of the most complex issues we deal with at the M&C level. I'm grateful that Tucson Water includes local and regional researchers in helping us to develop policy in this area.

The conclusion of this year's report is that we should continue with what's called a Stage 1 Drought Response. That's the least stringent of the response levels. It calls for increased community awareness of drought and the continued promotion of water use efficiency through Tucson Water conservation programs. As a community, and as a region, we're paying attention to the need to be protective of this essential resource.

Finally, the 9-1-1 puddin' storm continues. We simply must turn the corner from talking about the problems with the system to identifying solutions to those problems. This week I believe we started to turn that corner. That was due to the combined gutsy actions of some of our dispatchers and 911 operators who joined me in a Monday Press Conference, the purpose of which was to lay to rest some of the misinformation that has been floated about the condition of the system and to also shine a light on the fact that these workers are simply finding ways to work around systemic glitches and in so doing insure your safety to the best of their ability.

Why was the action "gutsy"? Because until now, they had been working under an instruction to refrain from speaking out about the condition of the system. That instruction was contrary to their rights under a Supreme Court ruling (Pickering) that clearly states public employees have a First Amendment right to speak out on matters of public concern. Why was it "gutsy"? Because since I made this issue public nearly two months ago, they have been subjected to inappropriate harassment on the Communications Center floor, from a variety of levels of workers. This is a work environment that is identified by the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the EEOC as being one that management has an obligation to eliminate. This is a letter I handed out to the media during the Press Conference to make the point [http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/call\\_center.pdf](http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/call_center.pdf)

They did a great job of simply being authentic and truthful when seated in front of several cameras and microphones, answering questions from the media about this very important issue. Continuing to discuss it is not "beating a dead horse" as one City official called it. It is worthy of better judgment than hanging up on the media, as was done by another City official when asked to comment.

We also started to turn that corner because finally, finally the other agencies have been asked to join the conversation. Well, one was – I sort of encouraged the other four members of the 911 Northwest Fire Consortium to join in the meeting. The 911 Administrator from Northwest Fire will be visiting the Communications Center this week to begin the discussion of their view of the new system. That conversation is months behind schedule, but it's happening. The Avra Valley, Picture Rocks, Three Points and Golder Ranch Administrators will tag along and offer their input as well. They should have been included in the initial invitation. But they'll be there.

And the City Manager has finally asked the Fire Chief from Northwest Fire District to meet

with him. The “interim” Chief from TFD should also be invited. I’ll try to plant that seed, along with one that strongly encourages the City Manager to immediately eliminate the “Interim” title and recognize the importance of establishing some stability in that essential position.

So some movement, incremental, but forward. The other Fire agencies, including TFD did not even want some of the elements that the new system includes. That revelation came as a surprise to some of those who are now charged with managing the system. Other agencies have advised the City Manager to “trust but verify” the information fed to him by some of those same individuals. Ask the front line people, conduct some independent research, or consult with other agencies. It seems to be finally beginning. In the process, the City Manager has got to protect the Public Safety Dispatchers who have stepped forward and spoken freely about the conditions under which they are working. No more put-downs, ridicule, mockery or attempts at intimidation. The City is automatically liable if supervision acts in that manner. The City is similarly liable if co-workers act that way and it is brought to the attention of management but is not acted upon. Enough of that. Fix the problems and work together.

Kathy Walker and Barbara Paganu are researchers and authors in the field of business affairs. In a recent paper entitled “Clear Path to Leadership Credibility” they cited nine elements necessary for building credibility in leadership. As I read them slowly, I could identify how this 9-1-1 process has failed at some level on each one.

1. Being overwhelmingly honest
2. Gathering intelligence
3. Being composed
4. Letting your guard down – authenticity
5. Keeping promises
6. Properly handling mistakes
7. Delivering bad news well
8. Avoiding destructive comments
9. Showing others that you care

We need to be about solutions. I’m grateful to the dispatchers, other agency representatives and to the media who have stuck with this issue for over a month. Now I’m looking forward to seeing City Management expand the dialogue and come up with the solutions to the issues the community deserves while protecting the rights of the workers who operate this critical piece of our public safety system.

Sincerely,



Steve Kozachik  
Council Member, Ward 6  
[www.tucsonaz.gov/ward6](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/ward6)



Close friends to the Ward 6 office started a 501c3 non-profit called myTEAM TRIUMPH-Southern Arizona. Inspired by Team Hoyt, it is an athletic ride-along program for children, teens, adults and veterans with disabilities who would not normally be able to experience an endurance event such as a triathlon or road race. The inaugural event is the Diamond Ventures El Tour 10K/5K Adventure Run and Walk on September 17, 2011. The disabled athlete is known as a "Captain" and they are assisted by "Angels" who guarantee them their moment of glory as they cross the finish line. If you are interested in becoming an Angel, and running in the race please email Teresa Smith in our office at [teresa.olson@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:teresa.olson@tucsonaz.gov). If you want to participate but aren't able to run, we are accepting donations to help offset the cost of transporting the racing wheelchairs from Michigan to Tucson. To learn more about the inspiration for myTEAM TRIUMPH click here <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDnrLv6z-mM>

### Beach Birthday Bash – Saturday, August 20, 2011

Celebrate Tucson's 236<sup>th</sup> Birthday at 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Main Gate Square. There will be free live music, prizes, entertainment and other family friendly activities from 5:00pm to 9:00pm. The event will be held at two locations South Beach (4<sup>th</sup> Avenue) and North Beach (Main Gate Square). Merchants will be offering specials, birthday cake, and other fun activities. Please visit <http://www.fourthavenue.org/> for more information.



### Sam Hughes Farmers Market—Friday August, 19

The Village at Sam Hughes (2501 E. 6th St.) will be hosting a farmers market from 8a.m to 2p.m on Friday August 19. They will be offering fresh fruit & vegetables, sidewalk sales, and much more by the various businesses. For more info call 322-2940.

### Men's Wearhouse National Suit Drive - Accepting donations August 1-31

Bring your gently used professional attire to Men's Wearhouse to benefit at-risk men transitioning into the workforce. All donated items are given directly to Old Pueblo Community Services to distribute throughout the community. They ask that all donations are in ready-to-wear condition- clean and on hangers for the clients. They are collecting:

- |               |                            |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| ◇ Suits       | Sport coats                |
| ◇ Slacks      | Dress shirts               |
| ◇ Dress shoes | Ties and other accessories |



Please bring your items to Men's Wearhouse and Tux at the Tucson Mall, upper level near Macy's 4500 N. Oracle 887-0010 or to the Ward 6 Office. To find out more, visit

<http://www.nationalsuitdrive.com>

## Congress Street Entertainment District Events

**This week at the entertainment venues on and near Congress Street in Downtown Tucson...**

**Rialto Theatre**, 318 E. Congress St.

Saturday, August 20, 5:00pm. *KXCI Community Radio Celebrates 1971*, featuring “awesome local bands” covering the best rock music of 1971. All ages show. [www.RialtoTheatre.com](http://www.RialtoTheatre.com)

**Fox Theatre**, 17 W. Congress St.

Friday, August 19, 7:30pm. *Jurassic Park* (1993 film)

Saturday, August 20, 7:30pm. *Jurassic Park*

Sunday, August 21, 8:00pm. “An Evening of Bluegrass and Comedy”, with Steve Martin and the Steep Canyon Rangers. (sold out show)

[www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org](http://www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org)

**The Screening Room**, 127 E. Congress St.

**Sunday, August 21, 5:00pm**

### **STARTUP WEEKEND TUCSON PRESENTATIONS**

StartupTucson.com and the Arizona Technology Council are proud to announce the first ever Startup Weekend Tucson. People from different skill backgrounds join together for an exciting weekend of pitching ideas, working on cool projects and hopefully building the next great Tucson startup! Teams present their product prototypes or business plans and receive valuable feedback from a panel of experts. Visit: <http://tucson.startupweekend.org>.

**Beowulf Alley Theatre Co.**, 11 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.

No performances this week.

[www.BeowulfAlley.org](http://www.BeowulfAlley.org)