

WARD III



Karin Uhlich
Council Member

TUCSON, ARIZONA

News about your community . . .

APRIL/MAY 2009

A Note from Karin

Moving Forward

Dear Tucsonans,

A change in management occurred with the departure of City Manager Mike Hein on April 7th. I want to thank Mike for his service and wish him well in his future endeavors. Already the City Council, staff and community seem to be rallying with a focus on the future.

Action on our most pressing priorities continues. Our management team - Interim Manager Mike Letcher and Assistant Managers Richard Miranda and Marie Nemerguth - plans to meet the 2010 budget timeline and present their initial recommended budget to Mayor and Council on April 21. The Rio Nuevo District Board will be securing professional management to provide appropriate private sector oversight to balance the City's fiduciary role. Nine internal candidates have applied for the Police Chief position, with the public process and final recommendations to be readied soon for Mayor and Council by Mr. Letcher and Mr. Miranda.

I believe wholeheartedly that the Mayor and Council will proceed with intensity to meet this City's challenges. We recognize residents' priorities for City services - public safety and crime prevention, street maintenance, parks and recreation. We have demonstrated our ability to move beyond disagreements through our shared commitment to serve the public and achieve our established goals.

Just as the nation and the world now reach toward more sustainable

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Mary Okoye shares Stimulus Plan information at the last community conversation with Council Member Uhlich.

economic and environmental practices, so too does Tucson.

Times of transformation hold tremendous opportunity. Our City stands poised to seize the promise of progressive change as never before. I appreciate serving in public office during this challenging era. Our shared struggles will no doubt be made easier by holding together as a community and moving forward.

Karin Uhlich

EITC Effort Wraps Up by Miguel Ortega

If you are reading this article right now consider yourself lucky; you probably already dealt with at least one of Benjamin Franklin's certainties; taxes. We wish you many years before you reach the other!

Ok. So now that I have your attention, how can we make the topic of death and taxes more enjoyable? How about sharing how we helped put more money in people's pockets while they are still on this beautiful, green earth?

Getting cash to those hard working, tax paying families--you know, those that really deserve it!-- most certainly was the primary goal for the "The Credit You Deserve" campaign. This effort was an educational campaign that just wrapped up on Tax Day. The goal of this campaign was to use several strategies to inform residents of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other immediate assistance available to working families during this current economic downturn.

We did everything from passing out EITC flyers on City busses to educating people on this program by walking door to door. Vice Mayor Uhlich and other partners also appeared on several television and radio programs to talk about "The Credit You Deserve" campaign. In a phrase, we were working it!

Vice Mayor Uhlich partnered with the United Way and with Sun Tran to reach out to as many people as possible that might qualify for the EITC credit.

While we have not calculated the totals yet, we do know that we surpassed last year's numbers for those benefiting from EITC credits by a substantial margin. We plan on doubling our efforts to make 2011 an even bigger year to give folks the credit they deserve!



George Pettit shares the EITC benefits with a young bus rider.



United Way Staff provides goodies & Information while Karin talks to an interested citizen.



"Catch the Cash Bus" signs were placed in every Sun Tran bus for an entire month!

United Way Spends a Super Saturday by George Pettit

On March 21st, the Ward 3 Office was the local face of the National Super Saturday Volunteer Tax Assistance Day. If you happened to be driving by the Ward 3 Office you probably noticed the “Free Tax Assistance” signs. Not only could an individual get their taxes done free on that day, they could also talk to representatives from a number of organizations about different aspects of personal finances.

Council Member Uhlich would like to thank all of those who made Super Saturday a success: the Tax experts/VITA volunteers, many of whom have been with us for 2 years, all the folks from United Way that came out that day, representatives from: Intuit, Arizona Federal Credit Union, Consumer Credit Counseling Services (CCCS), Rio Nuevo Financial and LLC & Arizona Association of Mortgage Brokers. Information was also provided by One Stop and Tucson Electric Power (utilities assistance).



United Way Staff keeps Chris Patterson, of the Arizona Federal Credit Union, company.

Mortar Board Students Step Up by Miguel Ortega

While some students slept in on the Saturday morning of March 28, another army of young people woke up early to clean up several neighborhoods within Ward 3! Imagine the surprise and delight of Jefferson Park, Feldman's, El Cortez and Northwest neighborhood residents that morning when seeing a mass of 500 students marching in with shovels and rakes in hand!

They cleaned up alleys, pulled weeds for senior citizens, painted over graffiti, and much, much more. You would be surprised to see how much young, strong arms and minds can do to improve our neighborhoods.

This effort was part of a partnership between Ward 3, the University of Arizona Mortar Board College Senior Honor Society and Ward 3 neighborhood associations (Ward 6 also participated for their area). Our own Sam Sipe rolled up her sleeves to work alongside of Sarah Evans from the University of Arizona's Office of Community Relations and Mortar Board student leaders Stephanie Nguyen and Nicole McManaman.

Thank you, students! Hope to see you again next year!



Nicole McManaman, Miguel Ortega & Sam Sipe relax after the Mortar Board Event.



Karin, Tori Stypula (El Cortez), Chuck Humphreys (El Cortez), Grace Rich (North University) and Students celebrate after the Mortar Board Clean-up.

Community Conversation with Council Member Karin Uhlich: Crime and Fraud Prevention Forum by Linda Mehall

Mark your calendars for Monday, April 27, but note that this special community conversation has a new site and a new format.

Here's the details:

What: **Crime and Fraud Prevention Forum** with the Honorable Terry Goddard, Arizona Attorney General as Moderator.

Who: The panel will consist of Council Member Karin Uhlich, Captains Brett Klein of Westside TPD, David Neri of Midtown TPD, Vicki Reza of the Property Crimes Division of TPD and Michael Ray, President of the Limberlost Neighborhood Association.

Where: Westside TPD at 1310 W. Miracle Mile

When: 6:00 to 7:30 pm

NOTE: The Attorney General will welcome and introduce the panelists. Questions will come from the audience. (Note cards will be provided at the door for you to write your questions).

Please join us for an informative evening of crime and fraud prevention questions...and bring yours!!



Volunteers have a restful lunch at the Northwest Center after the Mortar Board clean-up.



Marchers head out at the City sponsored 9th Annual Cesar Chavez March.

Census Bureau Canvassing by Hector Arellano

If you see someone outside your door with a handheld device and a messenger bag don't be alarmed, it is most likely a census person working on address canvassing.

The Census Bureau has sent out address canvassers as a part of early operations for the 2010 Census. This workforce is walking or driving through the streets of Ward III from April 6th through June 19th. They are checking that all addresses are in their database when the Census questionnaire is delivered in March 2010.

The purpose of address canvassing is to identify all housing units and other living quarters. Census workers will use hand held computers with maps on them to verify and list structures, including the collection of GPS coordinates for each location.

All Census workers wear an official identification badge and many address canvassers carry U.S. Census Bureau bags, making them easy to identify.



The Chavez March began at El Pueblo High School and ends at Rudy Garcia Park.

WARD III STAFF

Karin Uhlich, Council Member

Holly Lachowicz, Council Aide

Linda Mehall, Office Supervisor

Miguel Ortega, Chief of Staff

George Pettit, Council Aide

Tamara Prime, Council Aide

Sam Sipe, Executive Assistant

Hector Arellano, VISTA Volunteer

One thing to remember is that all information collected by address canvassers and other Census employees is kept strictly confidential and cannot be shared with any other persons, institutions, or agencies.

Also, Ward III is excited to announce that it has become an Official 2010 Census partner! Through various events and activities, we will be working in promoting the 2010 Census. Here at Ward III we want the most complete and accurate 2010 Census, so we are thrilled to be a part of this monumental effort.

If you have questions or concerns please contact the Tucson Census Office at 520-918-1781. For more information about the 2010 Census visit www.census.gov.

Another Successful EITC Effort! by Hector Arellano

For the second year in a row, Ward 3 and the United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona have concluded another successful year of the EITC task force program. Here are the numbers for the Ward 3 site as of 4/13/09:

Grand total of all returns: 295 (113 have been eligible for EITC)

Total Earned Income Tax Credit: \$184,896

Total Child Tax Credit: \$60,225

Total Federal Refund: \$372,097

Here are the total numbers for all United Way sites in Tucson as of 4/13/09:

Grand total of all returns: 4,596

Total Earned Income Tax Credit: \$3,104,615

Total Child Tax Credit: \$1,571,754

Total Federal Refund: \$6,615,691

Sign Up to Save A Life by Ronna Darby

A Continuous Chest Compression CPR class will be offered at the Ward III office (1510 E. Grant Road) on Tuesday, June 9th from 9:00-10:00 am. An off-duty member of the Tucson Fire Department will teach the class.

A fee of \$10.00 (cash only) is payable at the time of the class. Please contact Save A Life at 623-8484 or log onto www.savealifetfd.com to pre register!



Council Member Uhlich and Mayor Walkup proclaim March 15-April 15 "EITC Awareness Month. They are joined by representatives from United Way.



Karin waves to spectators during the St. Patrick's Day Parade

Council Member Karin Uhlich Ward III

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Important Phone Numbers

- City Clerk's Office — 791-4213
- Community Services — 791-4171
- Code Violation — 791-5843
- Development Services — 791-5550
- Dept. of Transportation— 791-4371
- Environmental Services — 791-3171
- Graffiti Removal — 792-2489
- Legal Aide — 623-9465
- Mosquito Hotline — 243-7999
- Suntran— 792-9222