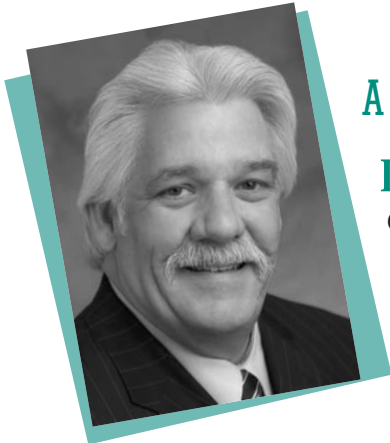


# West Side STORY

A newsletter from Phoenix City Councilman Claude Mattox, District 5 . Summer 2009



## A Message from Councilman Claude Mattox

Dear Residents,

Over the past several years, Phoenix has faced difficult budget decisions, working hard to respond to a nationwide economic crisis.

In light of these troubled times, I want to thank the residents in District 5 and across the city for their continued support of Phoenix through

providing invaluable feedback and taking an active role in community budget hearings. Resident input helped enable the City Council to make necessary cuts while minimizing impact to residents and city services.

Even in the face of economic hardship, Phoenix continues to make positive progress. From the opening of METRO Light Rail, the Convention Center, ASU and UofA Downtown Campus, to hosting the 2009 NBA All-Star Game, the Dodgers/White Sox spring training facility, to initiating efforts in sustainability, Phoenix is making affirmative strides in development.

Just as all things—good and bad—eventually come to an end, the economic downturn will soon be behind us. Until then, it is essential that we all lend a hand to push through current challenges and into a bright future.



*Remember to always watch kids around water.  
Have a wonderful and safe summer!*

*- Claude, Pat, Rebecca, Renie and Gracie*

Sincerely,

Councilman Claude Mattox

## 2009 Outstanding Young Man & Young Woman Awards

This year, I was proud to have two outstanding individuals from District 5 recognized for their hard work and dedication to the community. Congratulations to Tanairi Ochoa, who went on to receive further honors being named as the city-wide Young Woman of the Year, and to John Licas, who was the District 5 Outstanding Young Man for 2009. These students are two very accomplished young people. I commend them both for their achievements and give them my best regards for the future.

### Tanairi Ochoa

Ochoa has been active in debate and public speaking throughout her high school career at Alhambra. Having attended Junior State of America summer school and the Democratic National Convention, Ochoa also got involved with the Southwest Hispanic Culture Association where she strives to motivate young girls and boys to achieve their goals. Ochoa's life experiences have inspired her to pursue a career in politics and to dedicate her life to public service.



Tanairi Ochoa and Claude Mattox

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## Volunteer with the City of Phoenix

During this year's budget hearings, many residents expressed the desire to help in order to keep city programs operating. In response, the city has created a volunteer Web site where residents can view and register for upcoming opportunities, or take part in ongoing programs.

It is the hard work and dedication of city volunteers that make programs like Graffiti Busters, Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol and Let's Do Lunch effective. A sincere thank you to all who make an effort to keep our neighborhoods safe, clean and family-friendly.

For more information about how you can make a difference, visit [phoenix.gov/volunteer](http://phoenix.gov/volunteer).

## 2009 Outstanding Young Man & Young Woman Awards

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### John Licas

A senior at Apollo High School, Licas demonstrates strong commitment to volunteerism as a member of his school's Key Club and avid volunteer for the veteran's hospital. A true go-getter, Licas will begin his college career as a sophomore and aspires to become a nurse practitioner in a pediatric clinic.



## Solicitation Ordinance

In late April, the Phoenix City Council approved a proposal to establish a citizen's task force to explore the feasibility of developing a city ordinance that would prohibit certain forms of door-to-door solicitation without a license.

The proposal was initiated by the city's newest councilmember, District 6 Councilman Sal DiCiccio, who was appointed by the City Council in February. The aim of the ordinance is to help prevent crime that Phoenix police believe could be related to neighborhood canvassing. This proposal could suggest requiring solicitation groups to get a permit before going door-to-door.

Though neighboring cities like Scottsdale and Paradise Valley have ordinances against solicitation, the city of Phoenix does not. Ultimately, this means that Phoenix police are unable to respond to complaints concerning solicitors. This includes homes where "no solicitation" signs are posted and the time of day that solicitors can knock on doors.

Once the task force is assembled, they will prepare recommendations to be reviewed by the Public Safety and Veterans Subcommittee, chaired by Councilman Mattox. For questions or comments about the proposed solicitation ordinance, contact the District 6 office at 602-262-7491 or [council.district.6@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.6@phoenix.gov).





## Water Safety Tips for Summer

You can keep your kids and loved ones safe this summer by following the ABCs of drowning prevention:

- ◆ A – Adult supervision: NEVER allow children to be alone near a pool or any water source. This includes bathtubs, buckets, toilets, ponds and canals.
- ◆ B – Barrier: Use an approved barrier to separate the pool from the house.
- ◆ C – Classes: Enroll your family in children’s swimming lessons, adult CPR and life-saving classes.

Additionally, have life-saving devices near the pool, such as a hook, pole, or flotation device and keep large objects such as tables, chairs, tricycles, and ladders away from pool fences.

Always remember to watch your kids around water. For more life-saving tips, visit [SaveRKids.org](http://SaveRKids.org).

## Camelback Ranch

Rivaling Florida as a prime spring training spot, Arizona is quickly drawing more professional baseball teams to the area. Camelback Ranch Stadium, the largest stadium in the Cactus League and its picturesque campus, is situated on 141 acres of Glendale-owned land in Phoenix city limit. The new home to the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Chicago White Sox, it welcomed 220,291 fans in its first spring of operation.

“Our first-year attendance at Camelback Ranch-Glendale is a harbinger of things to come,” offers Greg Corns, CBR-G’s vice president-business operations. “Now that the Dodgers and White Sox spring-training partnership in this beautiful and unique new complex and setting in Maricopa County is stamped into the consciousness of baseball fans, the best is yet to come.”



The pleasing Southwest aesthetics of the stadium and complex were common accolades from fans of both clubs. The stadium also boasts top-notch workout facilities, practice fields, concession stands, plenty of greenery and a lake.

And this year, District 5 got to be part of the baseball buzz. Councilman Mattox spent an afternoon talking with Tommy Lasorda about moving from Dodgertown to Camelback Ranch. Lasorda shared that the entire club is extremely pleased with the facility and even more excited about winning a championship this year. Being close to Los Angeles, they’ve noticed their fans are coming out in droves to watch their favorite team in action. To view the interview with Councilman Mattox and the Dodger legend and to see Mattox’s other adventures at the ballpark, visit [phoenix.gov/video/d5oti.html](http://phoenix.gov/video/d5oti.html).



## Precinct Updates

### Squaw Peak Precinct: A Message from Cmdr. Allen Smith

Though the economic downturn has fueled increases in transient and prostitution activity, Squaw Peak Precinct had anticipated this trend and put programs in place to deal with these issues. For example, the Street Crime Reduction Program was implemented to address crimes associated with the transient population, and Operation Clear Access was designed specifically to deal with street and highway panhandlers. Stepping up enforcement has proven to be successful in reducing these high-visibility crimes.

Additionally, work recently began on the Light Rail extension along 19th Avenue, and Squaw Peak Precinct has assigned a liaison to the planning committee to ensure that traffic issues are mitigated and safety concerns of the community are addressed effectively.

### Cactus Park Precinct: Ocotillo Glen Neighborhood Clean-Up and Enforcement Program

In collaboration with Cactus Park Precinct, the Ocotillo Glen Neighborhood Association conducted a neighborhood clean-up as part of its resident-led neighborhood improvement mission. Efforts focused on revitalization, sustainability, crime and blight reduction, resident participation and neighborhood leadership to enhance and improve their community.



The Phoenix Police Department kicked off the neighborhood clean-up with a two-day enforcement program conducted April 23 and 24, to remove potential problems from the area scheduled for clean-up on April 25. From 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., a police command post worked to proactively enforce the following initiatives:

- ◆ Prostitution and Customer Apprehension Enforcement by Cactus Park Precinct Neighborhood Enforcement Teams
- ◆ DUI Enforcement by Traffic Bureau to focus on DUI and Traffic Enforcement
- ◆ Major Offender Bureau and Crime Free Multi-Housing Program working together on warrant round up and Section 8 (subsidized housing) locations
- ◆ Probation Violation Enforcement by Maricopa County Adult Probation
- ◆ Prohibited Possessor, Pawn and Gang Enforcement by Gang/Gun Squad and Maryvale Neighborhood Enforcement Teams
- ◆ Panhandler Enforcement, Prisoner Transport and Booking, Traffic Enforcement and Ocotillo Glen Neighborhood Clean-Up assistance and security for the volunteers by Cactus Park Precinct Community Action Squad

Enforcement and clean-up efforts on behalf of the police department were highly effective, and the precinct is continuing to work with the City Prosecutor's Office to increase the bonds, sentences and restrictions for repeat panhandler offenders.



“West Side Story” is posted on the city’s Web site at [phoenix.gov/district5](http://phoenix.gov/district5). For information, disability accommodations or materials in alternate formats, call 602-262-7446 or 602-495-5810/TTY.

Your comments, suggestions and story ideas are welcome by calling Councilman Mattox at 602-262-7446, e-mail [council.district.5@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.5@phoenix.gov) or mail to City of Phoenix, 200 W. Washington St., 11th Floor, Phoenix, AZ 85003.

