

# pinal county

## *town hall*

*"Through leadership, Pinal County Town Hall aspires to engage and educate Delegates to build consensus and achieve positive change."*

January 14, 2018

Dear Town Hall Delegate:

On behalf of the Pinal County Town Hall Advisory Committee, it is my pleasure to provide you with the report and delegate directory from the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall. We commend you as delegates, for your attendance and serious consideration of the subject "Let's Be Civil – Promoting Positive Communication." It was certainly apparent throughout the Town Hall that you are ready to go forward into your community armed with the information presented.

The Report that follows includes a summary overview of the one-day Town Hall including a directory segment of delegates attending Town Hall.

I want to once again acknowledge and thank our Partners in Economic Progress, listed in this report, who provide both time and financial resources to help make the Pinal County Town Hall a continuing reality. Special appreciation is also extended to the Pinal County Board of Supervisors and their staff who have provided continuing support for the entire 31 years Town Hall has been in existence. Seeing the benefits of delegates coming together from throughout Pinal County to investigate, discuss, and understand a vast number of issues has been a wonderful experience for all of us working to provide the Town Hall. We also extend our thanks to the individuals and businesses that provided door prizes for this, our 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall.

Should you have questions concerning the report or follow-up activities, please contact members of the Pinal County Town Hall Advisory Committee or our Town Hall Director Maxine Brown at 480-322-1626 or email at [PinalCountyTownHall@gmail.com](mailto:PinalCountyTownHall@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing many of you at next year's 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall which is already being planned for the fall of 2019. Your support and interest in the Pinal County Town Hall is greatly appreciated as we continue to work together for the well-being of Pinal County. Best regards for a great 2019.

Sincerely,

Sandie Smith, Chair

**31<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL  
PINAL COUNTY TOWN HALL**



***“Let’s Be Civil – Promoting Positive  
Communication***

***2018***

**DRAFT**

**REPORT**

## DEDICATION

Our 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall Report is dedicated to Wayne G. and Pat Gerken. Wayne served as the inspiration and guide for the Town Hall from its beginning in 1988 through 2005. It was Wayne's idea and dream that if the people of Pinal County came together to discuss issues, much could be accomplished. Many lasting friendships have been developed through Wayne's dream of bringing people from across the county together as well as forming a better Pinal County by discussing problems openly in the Town Hall forum.

Wayne's right hand in developing each Town Hall was his wife Pat, who performed a host of planning and clerical duties including registrations, support materials, awards procurement, bookkeeping and much more.

Wayne and Pat forged the Town Hall through many years and taught those following in their footsteps how "it should and must be done."

*"True leaders are not those who strive to be first but those who are first to strive and who give their all for the success of the team. True leaders are first to see the need, envision the plan, and empower the team for action. By the strength of the leader's commitment, the power of the team is unleashed."*

**31<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL PINAL COUNTY TOWN HALL**

**OCTOBER 18, 2018**

**“LET’S BE CIVIL – PROMOTING POSITIVE COMMUNICATION”**

One hundred sixty-nine delegates, including 34 students, attended the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall meeting at Robson Ranch in Eloy for a one-day meeting on October 18, 2018 to learn more about civility issues facing everyone in Pinal County, the State of Arizona, and the U.S. in all walks of life and every age group. Keeping calm in today’s business world, home and social life is becoming more difficult as communication becomes more disrespectful. Communication with adults and children can become volatile quickly. We were able to watch a county supervisor, a local mayor, a large business representative, and a small non-profit business person handle disgruntled citizens! We were privileged to see how the professionals, working with angry citizens turn the conversation from anger to understanding. We listened and asked questions regarding the power of two-way communications on social media channels. To understand how to turn a conversation around to positive discourse can save an individual’s life.

**THE DAY’S EVENTS AND SPEAKERS**

**WELCOME**

Pinal County Town Hall Advisory Committee Chair Sandie Smith called the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall to order and introduced Anthony Smith, Pinal County Supervisor, District 4 and member of the Pinal County Town Hall Advisory Committee, who lead the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**UNVEILING THE NEW PINAL COUNTY TOWN HALL LOGO**

Chair Sandie Smith and Pinal County Manager and Advisory Committee Member Greg Stanley reviewed the past Town Hall logos going back 30 years. The Advisory Committee determined the Town Hall logo was tired and needed to be retired. Through the help of Moses, Inc. and owner Louie Moses, the Advisory Committee was able the view several logos, and although it was difficult for the committee to select only one, with the assistance of Louie, they were able to determine the best one for Town Hall. Chair Smith and Mr. Stanley assisted Mr. Moses in unveiling the new Pinal County Town Hall logo for the delegates attending the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall.

## 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall 2018

### A WARM WELCOME FROM THE COUNTY AND CITY

Supervisor Steve Miller welcomed attendees to District 3 of Pinal County, followed by Mayor Joel G. Belloc, Mayor of Eloy welcoming the delegates and providing information on the City of Eloy.

### *Quote from Barbara Brown Taylor*

*“The great thing about civility is that it does not require you to agree with or approve of anything. You don’t even have to love your neighbor to be civil. You just have to treat your neighbor the same way you would like your neighbor to treat your grandmother, or your child.”*

### Watch How Each Panelist Handles a Disgruntled Citizen!

The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall got off to an exciting start with moderator and PCTH Advisory Committee Member (PCTHACM) **Bob Jackson** keeping order while disgruntled citizens played by PCTHACMs **Donna McBride** and **Mike Sloan** asked the hard questions of: Pinal County Supervisor **Steve Miller**; Mayor of Superior and PCTHACM **Mila Besich**; **Janeen Rohovit** representing a large company (SRP); and President **Sue Anderson** with the Superior Chamber of Commerce and Rebuild Superior representing a small company. Our political and business representatives fielded tough questions from Donna and Mike with good, common sense and a great deal of humor.

### What Just Happened?

**Ken Strobeck** is Executive Director of the League of Arizona Cities and Towns, a nonpartisan advocacy, education and information organization for Arizona’s 91 incorporated communities. This is a position that provides Ken with countless experiences working through tough questions.

Ken stated the panelists all did very well. Listening with empathy to the panelists as they handled the complaints, Ken noted that no panelist disagreed with the issues thrown at them by Mike and Donna. Each panelist put their answers and discussions in the form of sympathy for the disgruntled citizens’ unhappiness. Putting themselves in the complaining persons position will usually calm the person down. A complaining citizen will listen to a person who indicates they hear you and hear your concerns. The complainant usually wants the situation reviewed and taken care of. Not listening to an angry individual will often serve no purpose and only make them angrier. The parties need to find common ground to get an issue resolved satisfactorily or to begin to work together on a solution or compromise.

All participants agreed that angry, disgruntled citizens are becoming a huge issue in our country, with disagreements often argued on a basis of personality rather than on the issue itself. Individuals at every level need training to handle conflicts.

***Quote from John F. Kennedy***

*“So let us begin anew – remembering on both sides that civility is not a sign of weakness, and sincerity is always subject to proof. Let us never negotiate out of fear, but let us never fear to negotiate. Let both sides explore what problems unite us instead of belaboring those problems which divide us.”*

**Communication Through Conative Strengths**

**Bret Loucks**, Kolbe Certified Master Consultant with Dynamynd, Inc. explained the importance of conation to students, teachers, and parents. Bret’s teaching career spanning nearly 30 years has focused on community building and developing while articulating the Kolbe Theory of Conation.

We learned that conative is a term meaning any natural tendency, impulse, or directed effort. Conative is one of three parts of the mind, along with the affective and cognitive. The cognitive part of the brain has to do with intelligence, the affective deals with emotions and the conative drives how a person acts on those thoughts and feelings.

Bret has been involved in education as an innovator in elementary, middle and high school instruction. He is devoted to advocating for student empowerment and improving student efficacy. Bret has found this teaching method is successful with special populations, gifted students, advanced placement and students in the regular academic program in public and private schools.

The mind works in an order: think; feel; do. The mind is a creative process, emotions, feelings, desires and then determines action. Kolbe developed a pattern and discovered a way to help students create a learning process.

People change very little in how they communicate and take-action. Individuals have a predetermined amount of information they need for them to take-action. The Kolbe Method has identified 12 talents or Kolbe Strengths. A good team needs to have each of the 12 strengths represented for a good team. We need to value the diverse, instinctive talents of others and what they bring to a team. If possible, we need to withhold judgement about methods of action. If goals can be set and then allow freedom of team action, goals can often be achieved creatively.

Dynamynd, Inc. focuses on learning and wellness in addressing how we learn. Finding a career equals getting to action. Where do your natural talents lead you? A person needs to enjoy their work and understand their natural talents are key to finding a career that is satisfying to them.

Learning the Kolbe Method of communication can be key in many situations and gives us much to think about. Civility in communication is extremely important and combined with the Kolbe Method provides the ability to pair the two for better understanding.

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This presentation sparked the interests of attendees to learn more regarding the Kolbe Method and Dynamynd, Inc.

### ***Quote from George W. Bush***

*“Civility is not a tactic or a sentiment. It is the determined choice of trust over cynicism, of community over chaos.”*

### **What Is going on in Social Media?**

**Louie Moses**, Moses, Inc. was the moderator for a panel of youth attendees that included: **Gloria Holt**, a senior at Casa Grande Union High School; **Dylan Condra**, a senior at Apache Junctions High School; **Olivia Ortega**, a senior at San Manuel Jr/Sr High School; and **Marisa Estatico**, a senior at Superior High School.

Very early in the panel discussion, it was obvious these students were totally understanding of the technology they used in their daily communication. This age group has always had technology available to them and choose well which program they use and like best. Each could articulate what and why their choice was important to them.

Dylan explained he used social media to take photos. He especially liked Snap Chat which he considered more personal and felt pictures helped to bring together his groups.

Gloria also liked Snap Chat. At first, she explained, it was just an outlet that you could choose who you send to and who you don't want to receive the information. Gloria liked that she could build life stories with pictures and share a story so others can learn more about you. You can be selective in who receives the information. Snap Chat can gain momentum quickly. Gloria shared that she had never had Facebook.

Louie pointed out there were 2.2 billion Facebook users.

Dylan explained he was not comfortable with Facebook due to the lack of privacy with 20 million users recently hacked.

Marisa stated her interest in social media was it provided another way to communicate with people. You can see what has been sent to you within seconds on Snap Chat. Facebook is often used for marketing almost immediately upon use and she considers this an invasion of privacy.

Louie asked, why not text?

Olivia explained that parents are older, so they communicate using texting and sometimes Snap Chat. With some friends and older relatives, it is easier to communicate over social media and

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texting is easier to communicate with older relatives. Olivia felt texting and Snap Chat are desirable parts of social media.

Louie acknowledged that social media keeps young people engaged and asked how they received the news.

The panelists agreed that they didn't believe any of their friends used or knew what a newspaper was. They all received the news through news-sites on social media. To explain to the older attendees, the panelists explained for local news Snap Chat can determine your geographic location and provide the news for that location.

Louie thanked the panelists for their insights and comments. Each panelist had offered comments to every question and offered much information.

### ***Quote from Barack Obama***

*"I believe that if we stop talking at one another and start talking with one another, we can get a lot done."*

### **The Power of Two-Way Communication on Social Media Channels**

**Richard Rosales** with Arizona Public Service (APS) introduced Eileen Burmeister, a co-worker at APS and provided a look at the image of a large electric company. He explained that the utility bill or an electrical outage created a negative impression of the utility. It was up to the utility to bring about a positive image such as a coffee maker, light in the dark, a hot water shower or the garage door opening. This set the stage for Eileen.

**Eileen Burmeister**, Communications Consultant with APS provided an in-depth look at the use of social media in a large company. Some communication on social media can be negative, but not all. When responding to a negative email, step back for a few minutes. This space will always give you time to re-word your first thoughts and reframe how you will work your message. Eileen's answer may speak for the 6,000 employees of APS. Be sure your message is respectful. All companies hear from trolls and try to give them an opportunity to change their opinion through a positive response. If a troll keeps coming back and is negative, a way of handling this is to move the conversation from social media to a telephone conversation or meeting for coffee to address the negative troll's issue. Try communicating in a different way.

Businesses can use social media to tell the company's story. Use the social media site to show employees volunteering in the community, employees participating in family activities, thus providing a different image of the company. Facebook communication allows the business to build stories and images on one another that customers can relate to. Facebook can be used to applaud community events and participation. This will provide information quickly and build



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positive communication. Great stories can be put out quickly that build on the positive. A favorite story involved APS employees going to an address to rescue a cat from a power pole. This type story brings out good feelings about the company.

Social media provides APS the ability to get emergency information out quickly. APS often works with a community to provide updated information.

An agency can control what goes out on social media but cannot control what comes in. Each message receives a response at APS and it is always kept as civil and positive as possible. Most people with a complaint or issue want a solution and deserved to be listened to. Putting yourself in the other persons place and understanding their position allows the complainant to feel they have been heard. Providing your understanding and empathy can help build the bridge to a mutual understanding and the beginning of a relationship with the company.

Businesses, large and small, must use all social media channels available to them including: Facebook; Linkedin; Instagram, Snap Chat and Twitter to support the business goals of the company both internally and externally.

### ***Quote from P.M. Forni***

*“Civility means a great deal more than just being nice to one another. It is complex and encompasses learning how to connect successfully and live well with others, developing thoughtfulness, and fostering effective self-expression and communication. Civility includes courtesy, politeness, mutual respect, fairness, good manners, as well as a matter of good health. Taking an active interest in the well-being of our community and concern for the health of our society is also involved in civility.”*

### **Past Scholarship Winners – Where Are They Now?**

**Donna McBride**, Vice Chair PCTHAC and chair of the Scholarship Committee explained that after 31 years of Town Hall, with many of those years offering scholarships to attending youth, the Committee wanted to hear where these youth were today as adults in the workforce.

**TJ Shope** explained that he believed he had received the PCTH Scholarship approximately 15 years ago. He is 33 years old now and at 17 he thought only old people looked back. The scholarship put TJ on a path to do good things that led to running for political office and working for the citizens of his district and Arizona. He now speaks to high school students as well as before the State Legislature as Speaker Pro Tem. He loves doing his job and always looks forward to speaking to youth and showing them around the state capitol. TJ especially encourages youth to spend the day with him at the capitol. TJ is now running for his 4<sup>th</sup> term and appreciates the

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opportunity to serve his district and the state of Arizona. He stated it was not only how far he had come but also how far Pinal County Town Hall had come.

**Kris Mejia** received her PCTH Scholarship in 2015 when the topic was “Where Your Tax \$ Goes!” Working, Kris can now talk on the topic of taxes. Kris worked 2 jobs, received the scholarship, went to Central Arizona College, went to China and had a great experience there giving a presentation, currently is working toward a degree in accounting, and will be transferring to the University of Arizona. Kris thanked the PCTH Committee and stated an experience she will not forget was the Town Hall on volunteering when the attendees did a clean-up project near Maricopa on a hot October day. Everyone was surprised at the amount of trash gathered at the end of the day. Kris enjoys her work and has continued volunteering in her community.

### ***Quote from Benjamin Franklin***

*“Be civil to all; serviceable to many; familiar with few; friend to one; enemy to none.”*

### **I Hear from Everybody!**

**Louie Moses**, Creative Director and President of Moses Inc. asked the question: “Has Social Media changed the world and if so how?”

Louie answered the question: The radio changed everything. TV changed everything. Communication changed with cable TV. Social media began a narrative: “Everything you write will be everywhere forever!”

Hiring today often involves the employer looking only at social media to decide to hire or not. Social media can dictate the right person to hire or not.

Dialogue on social media is what changed everything. Good advice in today's world is to go back and clean-up all negative postings in your social media. Emotion can be seen in social media more than in any other media including most verbal and written communications. The first test needed before putting anything on social media is: If you read what you wrote on social media to your mother and she thought it was okay - then it is probably safe to post it on social media. Read and re-read anything you are going to post and keep it positive.

Louie explained he gets frustrated with social media because it is not creative but is based on how many clicks or likes you can get. Things trending can be gone in 20 minutes and become negative. Communication moves quick and posts must be well thought out and positive prior to putting on social media. Louie suggested looking for things that make you tribal. Social media can help you find people to join your tribe. Social media can be hurtful and digital bullying does exist. Louie stated he believes the negative outweighs the positive on social media and it needs

to be dialed back, create a platform, take out the negative and improve the media. It is vital that parents, business leaders, and society become part of the tribe and pay attention to kids.

### ***Quote from Aaron Sorkin***

*“Don’t ever forget that you’re a citizen of this world, and there are things you can do to lift the human spirit, things that are easy, things that are free, things that you can do every day: civility, respect, kindness, character.”*

### **Positive Interaction Through Communications**

**Dyann Celise Garcia** with the National Institute for Civil Discourse located at the University of Arizona asked the question “How can I talk with those who think differently?” An individual can approach with curiosity, caring questions, and proactive listening. Proactive listening has 7 keys to skills including: pay attention; ask open ended questions; ask probing questions; request clarification; paraphrase what has been said; tune into the feelings; and summarize.

Many of us do not listen to other people. We are too busy thinking of what we will say. Good listening skills can include: staying focused; really listening; allow for periods of silence; from time to time repeat something that has been said so they know you are listening; and understand what the other person has said. Find ways to engage without being aggressive. Find a way to connect and if unsure, ask questions.

Interaction – often we care more to be understood than to understand. We take things personally. We must listen carefully

### ***Quote from Judith Martin***

*“The whole country wants civility. Why don’t we have it? It doesn’t cost anything. No federal funding, no legislation is involved. One answer is the unwillingness to restrain oneself. Everybody wants other people to be polite to them, but they want the freedom of not having to be polite to others.”*

### **Keynote Address: Turning Conversations Around to Positive Discourse**

**Jerald Monahan** is the Law Enforcement Liaison for End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI) and serves as police chief of Yavapai College in Prescott. He began his presentation with a description of his professional background. Jerald is a 39-year veteran public safety official in Arizona and past president of the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police. He has served as chief

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of police in the cities of Prescott and Apache Junction. Jerald now speaks on behalf of EVAWI through out the country and at their international conferences. He represents EVAWI in their webinars and on-line trainings.

EVAWI partners with groups fighting against sexual assault and intimate partner violence. EVAWI began their campaign “Start by Believing” in 2011 and Jerald has supported this program since its beginning when he was Chief of Police in the City of Apache Junction. The goal of Start by Believing is to be supportive of victims of sexual violence. Start by Believing is a public awareness campaign concentrating on public response to sexual assault. Civil discourse and positive communication play a crucial part in talking to stressed, criminal assault victims. The goal of the campaign is to change the world and outcomes for victims one response at a time and encourages the listener to “start by believing” to be supportive, to ask how you can help and to avoid “why” questions. This supportive and compassionate response is often able to lower rates of post-traumatic stress, keep the violated person from experiencing secondary trauma in the form of disbelief and blame.

Jerald continued providing real life examples of situations experienced through his work including possible ways, through civil communication an angry conversation can turn and lead to a more peaceful ending rather than assault. Individuals in domestic violence situations can often see the sequence of events leading to violence. With training and helpful, verbal responses the conversation can be turned into a less violent situation.

When any conversation is out of control, it is imperative to attempt to change the conversation around to avoid it escalating. Communication needs to be civil and respectful. We can agree to disagree. We can ask non-threatening questions or ease the conversation in a different direction or topic.

#### ***Quote from Jerald Monahan regarding the Campaign for Start by Believing***

*“For me, this is a message of support for survivors of sexual violence when they choose to disclose their victimization and a message of accountability for rapists that they cannot hide behind victim silence. This message is much bigger than just for the criminal justice community, it is for all of society, each one of us can be prepared to respond appropriately by taking the pledge to Start by Believing when someone discloses, they have been raped.”*

#### **Wrap Up – Pinal County’s Direction**

**Greg Stanley**, Pinal County Manager and member of the Pinal County Town Hall Advisory Committee offered the following Key Take-Aways from the Pinal County Town Hall sessions.

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**Initial Panel** – Citizens complaints. Noted that all panel members were calm in their reaction, showed a desire to get correct information so they could review the complaints. They treated everyone with a caring attitude and desire to understand the issue.

**Ken Strobeck** – Noted importance to control meetings/issues. “Fight principles, not other men.” Use of persuasive speech good. Stated when the council fights, so does the audience – so essential to work together. Pointed out that government is self-correcting, and how important it is for local governments to have civility – essential because at local level you must work together.

**Bret Loucks** – Conative Strengths – Use of the Kolbe Strengths (Fact Finder/Follow through/Quick Start/Implementer) to understand team make-up and the need for representatives across the spectrum. Value diversity/embrace talents and allow team members freedom of action.

**Social media panel** – youth. Snap Chat and Instagram are the apps they primarily use now. Not Facebook as much. Snap Chat allows them to tailor groups. Learned that “older” is over 50???

**Eileen Burmeister**– APS. Walk away before hitting post – meaning do not respond emotionally. Take your time and make sure your response reflects values. Everyone is ultimately responsible for what they post. She used “Give trolls a chance.” (I relayed story of Maxine and I on phone with her when she said sign she had posted was “Don’t feed the trolls but remember not everyone is a troll” APS has not yet figured out how to get on Snap Chat but is working on it.

**TJ Shope and Kris Mejia** – great examples of past scholars. Good session for youth to see. I found interesting that Kris valued the “Where does my tax \$ go!” session. She also thought the Volunteerism Town Hall was great and set her on her current path.

**Louie Moses** – Discussed evolution of media – from monologue to now a “dialogue” because of social media. His response to a question from a youth member about how to change the social media dialogue was “Start by being kind.”

**Dyann Garcia** – came on short notice as a fill in speaker. Gave us exercises that reflect the need to be better listeners. Use Active Listening.

**Jerry Monahan** – Importance of communication, personal relationships. I thought great how he related to individuals in the audience and the influence they had on him over the years. Some quotes from him “Don’t burn bridges,” and “There are always differing opinions, and both may be correct.” Important to be able to listen. Said bias is real and encouraged all to take the Implicit Bias Test from the Harvard University website.

### **AWARDING OF THE WAYNE G. GERKEN SCHOLARSHIPS**

The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall had 34 youth from participating high schools and organizations – Casa Grande Union High School (Youth Commission); San Manuel Jr/Sr High School, Superior Unified High School, Vista Grande High School, Empowerment Systems, Inc., Future Voices Organization, and Apache Junction High School. Junior and senior high school students were eligible to participate in vying for the Wayne G. Gerken Memorial Scholarships this year. Town Hall is a one-day event and the Scholarship Committee has developed a round table discussion format. Students were required to actively participate in Town Hall and be present for the round table discussion that was moderated by Town Hall Advisory Committee Vice Chair and Youth Committee Chair Donna McBride.

Students engaged in conversation based on three main questions: “When you first heard about the Town Hall topic, how did you think it would have an impact on the things you do as a young person? Now that you have spent the morning educating yourself about this topic, how do you think it affects YOUR life as a young person? What are 2 ways the issue affects you personally?” The discussion was observed by members of the Youth Committee who scored participants on criteria specified by the Town Hall Advisory Committee.

Competition was extraordinary, and all the students are to be congratulated on a “job well done.” The Town Hall Youth Committee awarded 2 scholarships. Congratulations to 1<sup>st</sup> place winner **Augustine-Lou Ong Hing** receiving a \$1,000 scholarship and 2<sup>nd</sup> place to **Adrianna Guerra** receiving a \$500 scholarship.

## Partners in Economic Progress

**“Excellence is the result of caring more than others think is wise, risking more than others think is safe, dreaming more than others think is practical, and expecting more than others think is possible.”**

**Quote from Alice Walker**

*“Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding”*

**The Pinal County Town Hall Advisory Committee**

**Thanks, Our Esteemed Sponsors.**

## Partners in Economic Progress

It is through the collective efforts of both the public sector and the private sector that the Pinal County Town Hall has been made possible. The Town Hall Advisory Committee expresses appreciation to the following organizations for their financial support of the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall as well as their participation and interest in this county-wide endeavor.

### Pinal County Board of Supervisors

Special appreciation is extended to the **Pinal County Board of Supervisors** for their continuing commitment to the financial support for the Pinal County Town Hall.

Vice Chairman Pete Rios, Supervisor, District 1

Mike Goodman, Supervisor, District 2

Steve Miller, Supervisor, District 3

Anthony Smith, Supervisor, District 4

Chairman Todd House, Supervisor, District 5

### Pinal Partnership

Special thank you is also extended to the **Pinal Partnership** for their Premier Sponsorship of Town Hall. Their dedication to the on-going efforts of Town Hall is appreciated.



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

<b>GOLD:</b>	City of Maricopa Town of Queen Creek
<b>SILVER</b>	City of Casa Grande City of Apache Junction
<b>BRONZE:</b>	Town of Marana
<b>COPPER:</b>	City of Coolidge Town of Kearny Town of Superior

## CORPORATE AND BUSINESS PARTNERS

<b>Platinum:</b>	Robson Ranch Communities Salt River Project (SRP)
<b>GOLD:</b>	Abbott, Casa Grande
<b>SILVER:</b>	AECOM ARCADIS Harrah's AK-CHIN Casino Resort
<b>BRONZE:</b>	Arizona Public Service (APS) Central Arizona College (CAC) empowerment systems, inc. Wilson and Company
<b>COPPER:</b>	Pinal County Federal Credit Union

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**Raffle Prizes**

Arizona Zipline Adventures, Oracle  
Barleens  
The Dolly Steamboat at Canyon Lake, Arizona  
Goldfield Ghost Town  
Tortilla Flat  
Windmill Winery, Florence

**Door Prize Donations**

On behalf of the Pinal County Town Hall Advisory Committee and staff, we wish to thank all those donating to the raffle drawings, gift bags, and baskets for the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pinal County Town Hall. We express our extreme gratitude for your support and assistance with the event.

***WITH SPECIAL THANKS AND RECOGNITION***

Pinal County Town Hall Advisory Committee  
would like to send a special thank you to:

**Robson Ranch Communities, Eloy Staff**

**Holiday Inn Express & Suites Staff, Casa Grande**

**Joe Pyritz – Game Show Host**

**Donna McBride and Mike Sloan, Disgruntled Citizens**

## PINAL COUNTY TOWN HALL HISTORY AND INFORMATION

### MISSION:

*Through leadership, Pinal County Town Hall aspires to engage and educate Delegates to build consensus and achieve positive change.*

### VISION:

*Pinal County Town Hall's Vision is to preserve and improve the quality of life for all who live, work, and visit Pinal County.*

### Pinal County Town Hall History

Pinal County Town Hall is an assembly of delegates, annually convened, that identifies critical issues facing Pinal County; creates a forum for education and exploration of the topic and fosters networking and collaboration among its participants. By drawing upon Pinal County's diversity of citizens the Town Hall process promotes public consideration of these issues, offering information and ideas for public review, and grassroots efforts for desired outcomes.

The overall goal of Pinal County Town Hall is to educate citizens to affect positive change. The strategies are developed in such a manner that a Town Hall delegate or group of delegates can identify and pool resources from their community or extended networks and launch a grassroots campaign to educate others in the issues discussed.

The Pinal County Town Hall began in 1988. A few individuals and organizations realized the importance of convening a cross-section of county citizens to discuss issues of importance, especially those related to economic development.

Pinal County Town Hall receives substantial financial support from the County Board of Supervisors, as well as its many "Partners in Economic Progress." A committee of volunteers, the Pinal County Town Hall Advisory Committee, meets monthly to plan and facilitate the annual conference.

Each fall, approximately 150 to 190 delegates assemble to discuss a topic that impacts the county, and its respective communities and citizens.

Topics over the past 31 years include:

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- 1988 A Symposium on Economic Development
- 1989 Pinal County Futures: Tomorrow's Vision – Today's Plan
- 1990 Horizon 2000: Strategies for Action
- 1991 An Inside Look at Pinal County Government: Taxes vs. Services – A Delicate Balance
- 1992 The Year for Action: Implementing a County-Wide Economic Development Plan
- 1993 The Changing Workplace: Education's Challenge
- 1994 Today's Crisis: Confronting Juvenile Crime in Our Communities
- 1995 Pinal Tomorrow: Building Healthier Communities
- 1996 Volunteers in Service to Communities: People Making a Difference
- 1997 Environment and Growth: The Delicate Balance
- 1998 Aging of the Population: A Public and Private Challenge
- 1999 Pinal's Commitment to The Future: Meeting the Needs of Our Youth
- 2000 Charting Our Future
- 2001 Intellectual Capital – Tomorrow's Dividend
- 2002 A Call to Serve: Being Vigilant, Being Normal
- 2003 Rural Health Care: Today's Challenge
- 2004 The Changing Face of Pinal County
- 2005 The Economic Puzzle: How to Put It Together
- 2006 Safe at Home: Residential Emergency Preparedness
- 2007 Rediscovering Our Neighborhoods
- 2008 The Greening of Pinal County: Conserving for Future Generations
- 2009 GangBusters': It Takes a Community
- 2010 Exploiting Technology for Success – Building Connections Using Social Media
- 2011 Reactivating the Regional Economy
- 2012 Workforce Next Gen: Cultivating Success in Pinal County
- 2013 Step Up, Involve, Connect: Uniting Communities through Volunteerism
- 2014 Economics of a Healthy Community
- 2015 Where Your Tax \$ Goes!
- 2016 Linking Transportation: Paving the Way to Economic Growth
- 2017 Pinal County's Workforce Puzzle...Preparing Today's Communities for Tomorrow's Opportunities
- 2018 Let's Be Civil – Promoting Positive Communication

An annual report, which includes speakers' summaries, is prepared after each Town Hall, and distributed to delegates and partners. While Town Hall possesses no official power or authority,

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it is significant to note that many of the delegate ideas have been implemented because of the Town Hall process.

The report serves not only as documentation of the speakers' information and contributors' collaborative spirit, but also as a guide to assist in understanding the topic and educating residents of Pinal County. The report is designed so it can be shared with friends, co-workers, members of local civic groups and others that can help spread the information in local neighborhoods and communities.

### **WAYNE G. GERKEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

The Wayne G. Gerken Memorial Scholarship – Pinal County Town Hall Youth of the Year Scholarship exists to memorialize Wayne Gerken who led the Pinal County Town Hall for 20 years. The purpose of the Youth Committee is to provide encouragement and financial assistance to deserving students who demonstrate exemplary leadership qualities and a personal interest in improving the quality of life in Pinal County.

High school students in their junior or senior year attending Pinal County Town Hall are eligible to apply. A subcommittee of the Pinal County Town Hall Advisory Committee evaluates student participation and applications based on established criteria.

For more information about the 2018 Town Hall contact: Maxine Brown, Executive Director, Pinal County Town Hall at (480) 322-1626 or by email at [PinalCountyTownHall@gmail.com](mailto:PinalCountyTownHall@gmail.com)

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**Quote from James Goldsmith**

**“If you see a bandwagon, it’s too late.”**

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## Special Acknowledgements

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