Voices of the Generations

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TucsonChamber.org
WHAT WE DO
Retain and expand local business
Foster business growth and job creation
Promote our community

HOW WE DO IT

ECONOMIC EXPANSION AND JOB CREATION

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ADVOCACY
Support public policy that promotes economic expansion
- Create and promote a pro-business legislative agenda
- Advocate for the preservation and expansion of funding for education
- Protect funding for career and technical education
- Maintain the Project Prosperity program

Ensure the business position is represented in elections
- Evaluate candidates for public office
- Promote the election of public policy makers who understand and support job creation
- Promote passage or defeat of business-relevant ballot initiatives
- Administer the Tucson Metro Chamber Political Action Committee (PAC)

Increase the voice of business with local, state and federal officials
- Represent business at City Council and County Board meetings
- Schedule business leaders to appear at City Council and County Board meetings
- Mobilize Chamber investors to engage with policy decision makers
- Collaborate with the Southern Arizona Defense Alliance

Promote strategic problem solving between private and public entities
- Increase Chamber investor awareness of issues and candidate positions
- Maintain the Coalition Against Retail Theft (CART)
- Provide We Can Help online help desk resource

Host public policy forums
- Lead delegation of business leaders to Washington, D.C. to advocate with federal officials
- Host the State of the State Address
- Host the State of the City Address
- Host Issues Over Easy
- Host Interface

Create new economic opportunity for Tucson region
- Promote the expansion of air service at Tucson International Airport
- Host procurement workshops with federal, state, county and city entities
- Advocate for expanded military mission assignments throughout Southern Arizona

Improve workforce readiness
- Lead Intern to Career program for high school students
- Foster better alignment between education and private sector
- Collaborate with Earn to Learn program

Develop future business leaders
- Host the Emerging Leaders Council
- Collaborate with Greater Tucson Leadership

Promote economic expansion and job creation
Promote our community

TucsonChamber.org
Leading and advocating for a successful community.
Southern Arizona has many assets, one of which is Southern Arizona’s residents. One group in particular holds great promise for the future of the business community – the young professionals who have dedicated themselves to community and personal betterment, many of which participate in the Tucson Metro Chamber’s Emerging Leaders Council (ELC).

The original intent to gather top performing under-40 professionals and gifted technicians from a broad cross section of the region has been highly successful. The ELC has become a must join organization for upwardly-mobile young entrepreneurs and professionals who want to accelerate their career and grow professionally.

What differentiates the ELC from other groups is its demonstrated commitment to mentorship. Mentorships with accomplished senior business leaders have opened doors for many ELC members and have blossomed into meaningful exchanges of insight as well as advice on career paths, training opportunities and visioning of what the future holds.

The Chamber is dedicated to helping these young professionals advance their skills and knowledge of the political, economic and social challenges we face in Southern Arizona. ELC members interface with elected and appointed leaders from government and education, as well as with business and non-profit leaders of the region.

The Emerging Leaders Council has also become a trusted contributor to members of the Tucson Metro Chamber Board of Directors on issues involving strategies to keep Tucson competitive in a world economy.

Southern Arizona’s business community will one day be in the hands of these emerging leaders and it is imperative that we help shape these individuals so they are prepared to manage business operations, enrich the local economy and one day mentor the next generation.

Developing future business leaders and improving workforce readiness is a top priority for the Tucson Metro Chamber. I invite you to join us in this effort. If you are interested in becoming a mentor for a member of the Emerging Leaders Council please contact (520) 792-1212.

The Chamber will continue to work diligently to be the catalyst for business growth, convener of leaders and influencers and the champion for a stronger community, but together we can get more done.

Larry Lucero  
Chairman of the Board
Have you had enough of Washington politics yet? I have. As a matter of fact, I reached my limit about six years ago. That’s when I switched my voter registration to the big “I” for independent.

I am sick of hearing about conspiracy theories and identity politics.

I am sick of the contest about who is the biggest dirtbag.

I am sick of one transgression being justified by other transgressions.

I am sick of the party line being more important than serving the people.

But maybe all hope is not lost. In April of this year about a dozen area business executives joined a few execs from the Tucson Metro Chamber on a fly-in to D.C. to visit with our elected leaders. We met with nine of them in two days. The summary I wrote and sent to Chamber investors upon our return included (in part) the following:

“‘The purpose of our visit was to bring the voice of the Tucson and Southern Arizona business community to these elected officials. Looking back on our two very busy days, this was without question a “mission accomplished” experience.

Here is the first item on a list of takeaways:

1) CENTRISM Believe it or not, there appears to be a growing group of center-left and center-right moderates who are talking about bipartisanship and working together. The number of our DC representatives who expressed these views is far greater than we have experienced on our visits in 2015 and 2016. One Democrat even said that, ‘Sixty percent of Democrats are okay with negotiating’ (on the subject of healthcare).”

In August, we experienced another refreshing example of courage, problem solving and bipartisanship when Congresswoman Martha McSally announced that she and about 20 other brave souls from her side of the aisle and about 20 members of Congress from the other side of the aisle (including Arizona’s own Kyrsten Sinema and Tom O’Halleran) had convened to work on solutions to the volatile healthcare issue. The result was a five-point plan to “break the fever” of the debate (as Congresswoman McSally put it) and actually come up with some solutions that both sides might be able to sell to their counterparts.

The Chamber thought so much of her efforts and the five-point plan that we organized a meeting with Congresswoman McSally and representatives of small and large businesses, and executives from the healthcare industry and health insurance industry. During the meeting, Congresswoman McSally used the term “walk the plank” to describe the risks that she and the other members of the problem-solving coalition were taking. I assume that meant that the party bosses might not smile on their attempts to actually find middle ground and get something done. Since when is finding middle ground and serving constituents grounds for “walking the plank”?

The Tucson Metro Chamber salutes those elected officials who live and work in the “sane center” of the political spectrum. We need more like you. And as the fastest-growing bloc of voters, we independents look forward to hearing more from you.

Michael V. Varney
President & CEO

Why I Am an Independent Voter

Over our 15 year history with the Tucson Metro Chamber, we have seen firsthand how much they advocate for Tucson businesses and the Southern Arizona community. We are extremely grateful for the high level of service provided to us over the years and look forward to our continued relationship in the years to come.”
We’re proud to support Tucson Metro Chamber and the work they do to foster a strong and thriving business climate now and far into the future.
The Tucson Metro Chamber’s Public Affairs Council is comprised of investors immersed in public policy analysis. The group engages in discussions focused on pro-business initiatives at the local, state and federal levels with topics ranging from economic development and growth, to transportation, to healthcare.

The Public Affairs Council began in early April with budget presentations from the city manager and county administrator. Since then, the Council has heard updates on school finance policy, Border Patrol/U.S. Customs operations in the Tucson sector, and the Sonoran Corridor along with other large economic development projects. Every one of these presentations generated robust discussions and allowed the Council to create advocacy goals for the Chamber that pertain to these areas of interest.

Some of the Public Affairs Council’s action items include drafting language for a “Fly Local” initiative that seeks to encourage companies to fly out of Tucson instead of Phoenix for business travel. The Council also evaluated several City initiatives that will be on the November ballot. The recommendations for the initiatives were forwarded to the Board of Directors, who then announced the Chamber’s formal position on these issues.

For more information, please contact Grace Gegenheimer (520) 792-2250, ext. 182.

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Rio Nuevo – A Great Turn Around Story

Since its inception in 1999, the Rio Nuevo Multipurpose Facilities District has been plagued with controversy. With failed proposed arenas and aquariums, it appeared that they were floundering and were not able to stay out of the news. We all remember reading about the financial audits and the mismanagement of funds and were in disbelief that this was happening. However, since 2012, there has been a significant turnaround and now is something that we can look favorably on. They are helping to turn Downtown Tucson into a destination location that all of Tucson can be proud of.

Rio Nuevo has been able to do this through leveraging private sector dollars to create more investment. Downtown has come alive with festivals and events such as Second Saturdays and TenWest and new restaurants such as Janos Downtown Kitchen & Cocktails and 47 Scott. For instance, in 2012 there were only a handful of restaurants in Downtown. Today, there are more than 80 restaurants and bars. There has been an explosion of nightlife as well with student housing driving a constant presence in the area.

Some of the projects that have been completed are renovations to the Tucson Convention Center and the Greyhound Bus Terminal. The Tucson Convention Center was viewed, by many, as a deteriorating eyesore. Since Rio Nuevo took over, they completed renovations that are now drawing concerts (all of which are sold out for 2017) and the Tucson Roadrunners (the Coyote’s minor league hockey team). The District also helped attract Caterpillar and will assist in the creation of their Tucson Mining Center, thus creating more than 500 jobs in Downtown Tucson.

These are wonderful accomplishments but they are not nearly done. There are going to be four new hotels downtown: the AC Marriott Hotel, a Marriott Moxy Hotel, a fully refurbished Hotel Arizona property and a new Tucson Convention Center Hotel. Another upcoming project is City Park that will be the new headquarters of Hexagon Mining as well as a food hall, similar to Eataly in New York City. They are working to create a pedestrian friendly, walkable environment for the community. There are even plans for a Starbucks to open downtown (finally…).

This is all great news but there is still work to be done. The Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) authorizing legislation is set to sunset next year. Rio Nuevo is planning to go to the Arizona State Legislature in the 2018 session to request an extension of the financing. The Tucson Metro Chamber will be following the development of the legislation and will support the reauthorization of the TIF to ensure the great success we’ve had now will continue for years to come.

Robert Medler
Vice President of Government Affairs
City Council Ward 3
Gary Watson (I)

City Council Ward 5
Richard Fimbres (D)

Ballot Propositions:
Proposition 204 (Strong Start Tucson)
OPPOSE

Proposition 406 (Mayor and Council Salary Increase)
SUPPORT

Proposition 458 ($180 Million School Improvement Bonds)
SUPPORT

Save this page and share it with employees, friends and associates. And be sure to take it to the polls when you vote.
In 2015, the Tucson Metro Chamber assembled a large group of local business leaders to listen to their challenges and identify ways the Chamber could address them. These Chamber investor “Roundtables” concluded that the biggest challenge facing local businesses is finding qualified workers. Lack of workplace talent was identified as the biggest obstacle to the success of business and the overall growth of our local economy.

Roundtable discussions with local educators were also held and we discovered that businesses were not aware of the curricula being taught and our high schools are not aware of the talent needs of local businesses.

Out of these discussions was born the Chamber’s Intern to Career (I2C) program. I2C is a one-of-a-kind collaboration between the Tucson Metro Chamber and Southern Arizona schools to connect outstanding, goal-oriented students.

The 2017 summer I2C program recently concluded with more than 20 students completing their internships connecting with businesses in automotive technologies, healthcare, hospitality, construction and engineering.

Building upon the success of the program, the Tucson Metro Chamber is pleased to announce the expansion of Intern to Career. New partnerships for summer 2018 include:

The Tucson Metro Chamber applauds these schools for providing this opportunity to their students and we will continue to reach out to additional schools with an invitation to participate. The Chamber believes that by working together we can help solve the current and future challenges facing our business community.

The Tucson Metro Chamber is currently expanding our database of businesses and would like to invite business owners to partner in building the future workforce for Southern Arizona.

If your business would like to participate, please contact (520) 792-1212.
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For decades, parents have had a difficult time figuring out what makes their children tick. The differences in dress and music of those who are growing up versus the generation that preceded them are legendary. Each generation is imprinted with its own tastes and ways of doing things. Societal norms and major events cause each generation to form its unique world view—a world view they will carry with them the rest of their lives.

We thought it would be interesting to compare the world views of senior executives and rising stars about Tucson and Southern Arizona. Members of the Tucson Metro Chamber’s Emerging Leaders Council (ELC) are under the age of 40 and are widely regarded to be the next generation of local leaders. ELC members have a high level of social, economic and political awareness. Each has been assigned a mentor who is a senior executive. Mentors and mentees meet regularly to tap into each other’s strengths, wisdom and community vision.

We thought it would be interesting to explore the perceptions of these two groups through the filters of what’s right and what needs fixing in our community. We asked six pairs of these senior executives and their younger protegees to answer three questions:

- **What is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset?**
- **What is Southern Arizona’s biggest liability or challenge?**
- **If I were the CEO of Southern Arizona for a day, I would _______________.**

You may agree or disagree with the viewpoints of these two groups, but we are quite sure you will find their responses interesting and provocative. Enjoy!
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What is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset?

Our natural environment. We live in a beautiful place. While much of the country is freezing half the year and muggy for much of the rest, Tucson is either perfect or hot… but that’s why we have air conditioning in our cars and buildings. It should be a slam dunk to recruit companies to Tucson. We have unbelievable vistas, sunsets and mountains, a very low cost of living, no snow, ice, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes and 286 days of sunshine per year. If you live on one of the coasts, it is cooler in the summer, but it’ll cost two to three times as much and (in my experience) the people aren’t as kind and genuine as they are here.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest liability or challenge?

“The principle goal of education in the schools should be creating men and women who are capable of doing new things, not simply repeating what other generations have done; men and women who are creative, inventive and discoverers, who can be critical and verify, and not accept, everything they are offered.” - Jean Piaget

In 2015, 74.3 percent of students graduated high school in Pima County. High school dropouts are disproportionately more likely to end up in poverty, at the same time our businesses desperately need a qualified workforce. As a small business owner, I can easily agree, the toughest thing in business is finding good people.

If I were the CEO of Southern Arizona for a day, I would...

finally make the change everyone says they want, but don’t have the courage to do. Capture our region’s rightful portion of state tax revenue sharing and HURF funds by incorporating large sections of unincorporated Pima County. This is only possible by first changing the canard that is ward-only primaries and city-wide elections. Those in power won’t entertain a smidge of vulnerability to their single party monopoly by engaging in honest competition, instead choosing to isolate the city from funds and individuals who work and play in the city, but don’t participate in their sales taxes, property taxes or elections.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset?

The University of Arizona is Southern Arizona’s best asset, leading the way in education, research, innovation, workforce training and development and job creation. Go Cats!

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest liability or challenge?

1). Arizona ranks 48th in K-12 spending per student, and leads the nation in cuts to higher education. Investing in our students and home-grown college graduates is key to our region’s prosperity.

2). A perception that our region is not “business-friendly.” This perception over time has hurt business relocation, job creation and the economic health and vitality of our region.

If I were the CEO of Southern Arizona for a day, I would...

• Spur job creation, economic growth and prosperity.
• Bring the state’s legislators and educators together to develop a solution to increasing our state’s high school and college graduates.
• At the end of one day as Southern Arizona’s CEO, I would ask for an extension of my contract, since Rome was not built in a day…

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**What is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset?**

Southern Arizona’s biggest asset is its location, including weather. Having nearly 300 days of sunshine yields so many opportunities for the alternative energy industry. It also increases the chances of multi-national collaboration, and Southern Arizona is a great gateway into Mexico and Latin America. Its close proximity to California, the world’s fifth strongest economy, also serves commercial opportunities.

**What is Southern Arizona’s biggest liability or challenge?**

The first liability is to keep thinking of Tucson as the Old Pueblo, a small town with small ideas. Metro Tucson has a population of 1,000,000; that’s not a small town. We need to act big and in forward-thinking ways so we can keep growing in smart and sustainable ways.

The second biggest challenge is finding opportunities for Tucson’s young professionals to want to stay in Tucson. This includes having a better school system so that parents want to educate their kids here, as well as more cultural and entertainment events. Most importantly, we need larger businesses that compensate well and can support long-term career opportunities. For many educated and capable Tucson employees, professional upward mobility is a dream that is unlikely to come to fruition.

**If I were the CEO of Southern Arizona for a day, I would...**

try to figure out how to control, stop or improve urban sprawl. The more Tucson expands, the more it needs roads, infrastructure and upkeep, which puts a strain on resources. By limiting outward expansion and encouraging upward expansion, we’d have a better hold on the needs of our community. Related to this idea, I would also incorporate more of the city, which would redefine city limits.
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What is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset?

I was born and raised in Southern Arizona. I went to school, founded a company and started a family here. I believe that Southern Arizona has had some big wins in the past few years and has the potential to do so much more. Southern Arizona’s biggest asset is its size. In Tucson, people say we are the “biggest small town” and I see this as an opportunity. The area is small enough where if you want to make an impact, you can, but large enough to support great, thriving businesses.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest liability or challenge?

Southern Arizona’s biggest challenge is retaining talent. We have a top tier research institution that educates more than 40,000 students per year and we should continue to strive to create an environment that supports the employment needs and lifestyle desired by young talent. This means creating and attracting businesses, supporting those businesses and having an open mind when it comes to change.

If I were the CEO of Southern Arizona for a day, I would...

try to spark a more serious conversation between the cities all over Arizona. We sometimes focus too much on the differences between our cities, when the rest of the nation just sees us as “Arizona.” If we can bridge the short gaps between us, not only can we be a more productive Southern Arizona, but a more productive state.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset?

Southern Arizona’s biggest asset is the community of people that live and work here. The ability to make a difference in the community is very possible here in Southern Arizona. No matter what your passion is, there is a group that one can get involved in. Our community works at making sure Tucson stays a great place to live by supporting businesses and residents of Tucson.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest liability or challenge?

Southern Arizona’s biggest challenge continues to be in the areas of gaining corporations to headquarter here and workforce development. This has been a challenge over the years, although we have made strides, we must continue to look for ways to improve both situations. Having high paying jobs with a skilled workforce will bring economic gains to our region.

If I were the CEO of Southern Arizona for a day, I would...

reach out to similar cities that have successfully developed jobs and attracted companies and ask them specifically how they accomplished this in their region. This outreach would be in partnership with members of the economic development associations, the various chambers of commerce, informal and formal leaders of the community and the leadership groups in Tucson. A wide reach of varying experiences and skill sets could be brought together to impact the changes that are possible for Tucson.
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**Matt Ewing**
Owner
VP of Sales

**Josh Ewing**
Owner
VP of Operations
What is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset?

The young people of Southern Arizona are our biggest asset. I have had the privilege of working in K-12 education for the past 12 years and I can say with certainty that the youth of Southern Arizona are incredibly talented, bright and innovative. They give me hope for the future. We are fortunate to have a diverse educational community in Tucson with some of the best schools in the nation. With transformational educators and talented students, we should feel proud of this part of our community and recognize our local schools for the good work they are doing.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest liability or challenge?

Southern Arizona has an issue of its perception, and that is a liability for long-term growth. I was recently talking about Tucson to some colleagues from the east coast, and they were legitimately surprised that I was a native Tucsonan and chose to stay in Southern Arizona. As a proud resident of Southern Arizona, I know how rich and vibrant our culture is, and how much there is to do here. I want everyone to share this perspective. We need to shift the perception of the Tucson metro area, in order to attract businesses, organizations and families to this community. We are evolving as a community, and Southern Arizona is a wonderful place to raise a family. So much has changed in recent decades, we need to showcase the best of who we are and take pride in our unique, beautiful culture.

If I were the CEO of Southern Arizona for a day, I would...

start by asking leaders from private and public sectors to gather to identify our top priorities for a shared vision, talk about the issues that separate us and collaborate to solve problems together. We need to address job growth as a community and determine how we can attract organizations to our city. We need to discuss poverty and how we support those in need. We also need to discuss funding for preK-12 education and how we can connect schools (private, public and charter) to local businesses and state universities in a meaningful way that benefits all stakeholders involved. We need a clear plan for supporting young people in their education and in their path toward becoming working citizens of this community. Any strong leader knows that long-lasting change does not happen in a day, but with a shared vision and strategic plan, meaningful changes can occur.
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What is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset?

Southern Arizona is beaming with talent. We are a community of innovators, change-makers, compassionate and thoughtful leaders – who truly intend to build communities best prepared for the future, while honoring our strong cultural history. In particular, we have a myriad of strengths in our under-40 population, my generation… our future leaders.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest liability or challenge?

In order to cultivate our strengths, we need to ensure that Southern Arizona is a place for us to create strong foundations for our future and build careers with long-term stability and growth. We need to continue to make Tucson a place we are proud to call home. We can do this by investing in our shakiest structure, public education. Our education systems should be places that best prepare students, foster social justice and celebrate our communities. We need to support educators and administrators invested in the future of Southern Arizona by providing the appropriate resources, training and compensation.

If I were the CEO of Southern Arizona for a day, I would...

increase support to our public education system. I would create structures and programming to encourage students to finish high school and be best prepared for postsecondary opportunities. I would empower educators and administrators to make necessary improvements on their systems.

There is much talent, opportunity, and strength in Southern Arizona, which is why I am blessed to call Tucson home.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset?

Our single biggest asset is the remarkable strength, diversity and resilience of our people across Tucson and Southern Arizona. Think about it. We span the full spectrum of exceptional world-renowned talent from foremost rocket scientists, to cutting-edge university researchers, to risk-taking entrepreneurs who have generated untold wealth. It is a source of pride to have and attract incredible individuals to our region. We have enjoyed a strong and healthy dose of well accomplished individuals in their fields for decades. Yet, at the same time, with some 350 thousand living in poverty and another large segment living at just above poverty, we are leaving enormous potential on the table, particularly in this current economic cycle where high-tech high paid jobs are increasingly difficult to fill.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest liability or challenge?

Our single biggest liability from my perspective is the mindset of ‘accepting’ to have a large portion of our population not reaching their fullest potential. Imagine how we could transform the region faster as an internationally competitive tech hub. What if we could move all children and deserving young adults from high-risk, low-motivation to high-skilled, highly-motivated career pathways in a much stronger, more robust and more efficient manner? Our regional workforce would be the envy of the world. To do so means that we must continue to build stronger regional alignment among all stakeholder groups, organizations and the private sector. Risk capital, the engine of new economic growth, tends to flow toward places where great ideas and strong talent is readily available. There is no reason on Earth why that can’t be here in Tucson and Southern Arizona where we have many other complimentary assets that help create a positive multiplier effect on the greater economy.

If I were CEO of Southern Arizona for a day, I would...

challenge the region to a bolder vision of what can be for Tucson and Southern Arizona. It starts with an inspiring vision, a clear and concise regional action plan and a massive appetite to go make it happen!
New Executive Welcome (NEW) is an immersive two-day educational experience that gives you an insider’s look at Tucson, Pima County and Southern Arizona. NEW is an ideal “crash course” in the systems that shape our community, our economy and our culture. NEW builds a solid foundation of community awareness and connections for business professionals.

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In two days, a series of local experts, representatives from key organizations, political leaders, civic leaders and stakeholders provide a deep dive into our region’s issues, affairs and character. Topics presented include:

- Southern Arizona history and demographics
- Economic development
- Political systems
- Education
- Arts and culture
- Regional planning
- Social systems
- Education
- Downtown revitalization

You may be new to our area or new to your executive position, but there’s no reason to behave like a newbie. NEW is instant awareness and instant connectivity.

For more information, a schedule of NEW sessions and to register, go to TucsonChamber.org/NEW
What is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset?

From an economic perspective, I believe that the University of Arizona is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset. For Pima County alone, the UA currently employs more than 10,600 full-time people and provides an economic impact of more than $6.5 billion. While Raytheon is Southern Arizona’s largest private employer, the largest primary employer, and provides a direct infusion of outside capital with an economic impact in excess of $3 billion, the UA provides more than 8,000 graduates every year. These highly educated graduates are an essential contribution to our human capital and workforce needs, which is a necessary resource to attract new business and drive Southern Arizona’s economy.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest liability or challenge?

Southern Arizona’s largest challenge is that we are losing the educated workforce and human capital that we’ve worked so hard to develop at the UA, Pima Community College and our other institutions. According to a survey done in 2013 by Start Up Tucson, only about 18 percent of UA graduates expect to stay in Tucson after they receive their diploma. This “brain drain” is a contributing force in our restricted growth opportunities. To combat this, we need to do a better job of attracting more business to Tucson and making sure that the education our students are receiving matches the needs of the current market.

If I were the CEO of Southern Arizona for a day, I would...

focus on immediately improving Tucson’s image and natural beauty by addressing the many weeds, ill-kept vegetation and trash seen along our major roads and freeways. I would begin by modeling Albuquerque’s “There’s a Better Way” work program, which employs panhandlers to clean up the city. I would also provide more enforcement for our existing Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance, which restricts weeds over six inches tall. This single day of authority would allow me to support my belief in keeping our city beautiful.

Aaron Skoczen
VP of Finance,
General Air Control, Inc.

Howard Stewart
President/CEO,
AGM Container Controls, Inc.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest asset?

Is it the University of Arizona??? Is it Davis Monthan Air Force Base??? Is it Fort Huachuca??? Is it Raytheon Missile Systems???

No, the correct answer is “none of the above”. Rather, without question, Southern Arizona’s biggest asset is our Sonoran Desert and the accompanying desert climate, which, in turn, makes Tucson one of the sunniest cities in the U.S. As such, our desert and its climate attract over a half-million visitors to our Southern Arizona region annually.

In turn, these visitors spend billions of dollars lodging in our region’s hotels, eating in our region’s restaurants, shopping in our region’s malls, golfing on our region’s golf courses, etc.

What is Southern Arizona’s biggest liability or challenge?

Without a doubt, Southern Arizona’s biggest liability and challenge is education. This is the number one issue for Southern Arizona businesses, in that applicants for employment are frequently not job-ready. As such, both local and state governments need to increase funding at the K-12, community college and undergraduate levels. In particular, our region needs to develop students with science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills. In addition, our region’s educators need to focus on having our students develop their critical thinking and communication skills. This is what our employers need!

Moreover, if far more of Southern Arizona’s students were able to attain such education, this would attract more job providers to come to our region, which, in turn, would raise our region’s gross domestic product, increasing the happiness factor for virtually all of our citizens.

If I were the CEO of Southern Arizona for a day, I would...

figure out a way to ensure that every Southern Arizona high school graduate has a viable action plan for what he/she plans to do after graduation.

Currently, only 30 percent of Southern Arizona graduates have such a plan! However, in my mind, at least 40-50 percent of such graduates should be college-bound.

Moreover, failure to obtain such higher education frequently results in it being much more difficult for the given high school graduate to meet his/her own economic needs, let alone having the requisite finances to raise a family.
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As many as 50 percent of Americans were likely impacted recently with the breach of personal information of one of America's largest credit bureaus. The internet and the world of IT are dynamic entities, ever-growing and transforming. What was secure yesterday may not be secure today and we all have something to lose through vulnerable data networks. Cybersecurity is crucial to companies regardless of their size. From clients' credit card information to employee social security numbers to personal medical data—a loss in any of these areas could prove devastating to most organizations.

Even more concerning is that it takes an average of 146 days before an organization first detects a breach. When a burglar robs your store, you know about it immediately, but there are no alarms or sensors that go off during a cyber-attack.

So how do companies protect themselves? “You can outsource the work,” says Kim Chantani, CPA, CGMA. “But you can’t outsource the responsibility.” You may think you’re covered because you outsource your IT operations to an IT service company, but many times these companies provide standard packages that may not be the right fit for your needs. They maintain service and troubleshoot problems, but are not proactively securing data and mitigating risk.

The first step is to recognize it as a priority and get a solid understanding of potential risks. A few questions you can start out asking yourself are:

- Is all of my software up-to-date? (i.e. the most recent editions of Word, Outlook, Excel, Windows, etc.)
- Have I had any virus/malicious software issues?
- Has my security system been tested to adequately protect against viruses?
- Can my employees spot phishing attempts?
- Do I have an IT disaster recovery plan?
- Have I tested my data recovery capabilities and successfully retrieved files from the backup system?
- Do I have an inventory list of all hardware and software?
- Most business owners might not be able to answer “yes” to all of these questions—what’s even scarier is when your answer is “I don’t know.”

The second step businesses should consider is hiring a third party to conduct an IT Risk Assessment. A Risk Assessment looks at security inventory, IT policies and procedures, backup systems, and vulnerability and penetration testing. At the end of your assessment you should have a clear understanding as to the status of your network risks and guidance on how to protect against unwanted threats so you can make more efficient use of your IT dollars.

R&A CPAs is one of the first firms in Tucson to offer third-party IT Risk Assessments. As auditors, it is our job to understand significant facets of each company we work with while also holding the unique position of being completely independent. It is in this same manner that we are able to provide the assurance of security to clients.

You owe it to your clients and customers to provide them with assurance and the comfort that their information is secure. Your company wants to preserve its valuable assets and you need the peace of mind to know that you’re covered, safe and secure! When you decide it’s time to take a closer look at your IT network security, call Nate Hutchings, CASP, with R&A CPAs for a complimentary consultation at 520-881-4900.
With over 33 colorful years of serving the local publishing community, Sundance Press is proud to be the printer of The Chamber Edge and a member of the Tucson Metro Chamber.

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For more than three decades, Greater Tucson Leadership (GTL) has been the catalyst creating and connecting vibrant and engaged leaders in the Southern Arizona region. Nearly 1,000 community leaders have graduated from the GTL program in its 37-year history. Each year, GTL accepts around 40 emerging and seasoned leaders, from diverse backgrounds, to participate in the GTL experience. The class hosts a monthly session focused on the following topics: government, economic development, education, arts and culture, criminal justice, healthcare, border, and environment.

The potential to become a great leader lies within each and every one of us, and programs like Greater Tucson Leadership offer a chance to identify and develop our talents to create positive change in our communities.

During the 10-month-long program, GTL fosters an environment where ideas are exchanged, skills are developed, and values are identified.

The program provides an experience in which people can truly immerse themselves in Tucson; and they leave the program with a renewed sense of pride in their community. This pride, coupled with a strengths-based positive leadership curriculum, prepares a new group of leaders who are equipped with the knowledge, passion and skills to tackle important issues and create a vital sense of place.

The GTL Class of 2018 kicked off in mid-August with an overnight retreat at the Triangle Y Ranch Camp in Oracle, AZ. The retreat offered participants a chance to connect, reflect on their individual strengths and values and to build a strong team dynamic. The class will participate in a monthly issue day and will also be tasked with a class project benefitting the community.

The Class of 2018 Participants:
Margarita Arellanes,
Tucson Metro Chamber
Shannon Baggini,
Lovitt & Touche
Andrea Barre,
Randstad
Erika Bartz,
Pfizer Inc.
Zachary Bickel,
Strongpoint Marketing
Dalilah Bui,
BeachFleischman
Gregg Busch,
Pima Community College
Diane Carlson,
Cushman & Wakefield | PICOR
Michaela DeYoung,
Goodmans Interior Structures
Kimberlyn Drew,
Long Realty

Emilia Eldridge,
Child-Parent Centers
Lisa Fahey,
University of Arizona Honors College
Brandy Ferrer,
Pathfinder Strategies
Robert Fischer,
Farhang & Medcoff, PLLC
Meredith Ford,
CASA de la Luz Hospice
Lorenzo Gonzalez,
Allylyn Consultants
Jeff Hatfield,
AAA Landscape
Shannon Heuberger,
University of Arizona
Dennae Huerta,
Cenpatico Integrated Care
Joyce Jaden,
Pima Community College
Zack Jarrett,
Layered Logic Inc.

Jeff Kiewel,
Goodmans Interior Structures
Jen Koehy,
University of Arizona
Jim Marten,
Tucson Medical Center
Scott Matlick,
Ronald McDonald House
Deena Mattias,
Desert Diamond Casinos
Katie Maxwell,
University of Arizona
Chris McNamara,
Beacon Group Inc.
Dan Moxley,
Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona
Albert Murrieta,
Child-Parent Centers Inc.
Elizabeth Nielsen,
Valley Medical Center Foundation
Heather Parker,
Caterpillar Inc.

David Perez,
Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Svetlana Pitman,
Gary Brown & April Worden Companies
Shawn Roberts,
Caterpillar Inc.
Jason Robinson,
Northwestern Mutual
Eric Smith,
National Bank of Arizona
Gemma Thomas,
Children’s Clinics
Brandon Thomas,
Desert Diamond Casinos
Dave Volk,
CBRE
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Since 1929, the Tucson Metro Chamber’s Military Affairs Committee (MAC) has maintained a continuously close relationship between Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and the Tucson community. Over the years that relationship has expanded to all military installations in Southern Arizona including the Western Army Aviation Training Site, the 162nd Air National Guard, the ROTC units at the University of Arizona, and the Navy and Marine units in Tucson. The MAC is dedicated to the tasks of building and maintaining bridges of understanding and cooperation between the military and civilian communities in Tucson and Southern Arizona.

MAC’s mission is to connect Tucson military with Tucson businesses while supporting the missions, personnel, and morale of local military with financial sponsorships, networking, education, continued encouragement and advocacy.

The last few months have been busy for the Military Affairs Committee.

Twelve A-10’s from the 354th Fighter Squadron along with approximately 200 Airmen from the 355th Maintenance Group from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base recently returned from a six-month deployment in support of Operation Inherent Resolve in the fight against ISIS. MAC was there to send them off with deployment goodie bags full of Tucson treats and words of farewell. MAC was also there to welcome them home upon their return.

The MAC visited the newly returned Maintainers with Operation OtterPop. Operation OtterPop gives our MAC members a chance to personally share their gratitude with the Airmen of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, many of whom are working on the flight line in the Tucson heat. More than 800 OtterPops and frozen bottles of water were handed out to these deserving Airmen.

On September 5, an Iraqi student pilot was killed when an F-16 Fighting Falcon crashed while conducting a routine training mission in conjunction with the Arizona Air National Guard’s 162nd Wing. The MAC quickly organized a collection point for items such as water, Gatorade, sun screen, and lip balm for the Emergency Operation Center team of 50-70 Airmen and first responders, who were at the crash scene for a few weeks.

If you are interested in learning more about MAC and how you can help serve Southern Arizona’s military, contact 520-792-1212.
Brian Barker
President
Barker Contracting, Inc.

**EDUCATION:** Attended Pima College

**ORIGINALLY FROM:** Tucson!

**FAMILY:** Wendy (wife); Tyler (son)

**PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** When I started my own company, my vision was to fill it with employees who were excited to come to work every day and didn’t seek or need frequent direction. I’m very proud of the people I’ve brought on board. I trust them to accomplish their goals and to seek me out when they need me. I couldn’t be happier with my team. I’m also very proud of the work we do to support the community including working with our very dedicated and caring non-profits.

**BIGGEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE:** Moving up from the field to the president of Barker Contracting meant I had to let go of some tasks I really enjoyed and that led to my success, like managing projects. I had to work on my leadership and networking skills and had to learn how to build new strong alliances.

**WHAT I WOULD SAY IN TWO MINUTES IF I COULD SPEAK TO EVERYONE IN GREATER TUCSON:** When we work together and focus on this community we all love and less so on ourselves as individuals, we can accomplish great things!

**TOP THINGS ON MY BUCKET LIST:**
1. Visit the Great Wall of China
2. Go on an African Safari
3. Take a rafting trip through the Grand Canyon

Jeff Christensen
CEO
HealthSouth Rehabilitation Institute of Tucson

**EDUCATION:** Masters of Business Administration, Texas A&M Corpus Christi; Bachelor of Science – Occupational Therapy, State University of New York Downstate Medical Center

**ORIGINALLY FROM:** Jamestown, New York

**IN TUCSON AREA SINCE:** 2007

**FAMILY:** Deb (wife); Tyler (son); Hannah (daughter)

**PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** My proudest accomplishment so far is my ability to open a long term acute care hospital from the ground up in Charlotte, North Carolina as a relatively new CEO. I led a team who was tasked with establishing a board, creating all policies, hiring staff and securing all regulatory licensing. Since I’ve been in Tucson, my proudest accomplishment is helping to raise more than $700,000 for local non-profits including the American Heart and Stroke Association, Christian Youth Theater and Children’s Museum. During the 10 years I have been at HealthSouth, I am most impressed with my strong leadership team that has significantly improved patient satisfaction and employee engagement.

**BIGGEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE:** My biggest professional challenge so far was having to evacuate my hospital in Corpus Christi, Texas before a hurricane hit. I was a brand new CEO at the time. I had to close the facility after the hurricane but was successful in helping find jobs for nearly all of my employees.

**WHAT I WOULD SAY IN TWO MINUTES IF I COULD SPEAK TO EVERYONE IN GREATER TUCSON:** I am so impressed with how generous and helpful Tucsonans are. Their willingness to assist organizations and individuals, whether it’s by giving their time, knowledge or money, is unlike any other city I’ve lived in. I would express gratitude to the folks who make Tucson the incredible city it is.

**TOP THINGS ON MY BUCKET LIST:**
1. Visit the Galapagos Islands, Thailand and Australia
2. Own a ranch that includes rescue dogs, alpacas and miniature donkeys
3. Meet Jonathan Goldsmith, “the most interesting man in the world” from the Dos Equis beer commercials. People often say I could be a stunt double for him!
Alejandra Santamaria  
Vice President, General Manager and Director of Sales  
Univision Arizona

EDUCATION: BA in Communication Studies and Business minor from Loyola Marymount University

ORIGINALLY FROM: Los Angeles, CA

IN TUCSON AREA SINCE: August 2014

FAMILY: Married for almost 22 years to Atilio; twin 18-year-old boys Maximiliano and Sebastian who are Freshmen at the University of Arizona; two bulldogs Rex (Frenchie) and Daisy (English).

PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Being the first to graduate college in my family. My recent promotion to general manager and establishing the Women’s Leadership Council (WLC) at Univision. Working at Univision and being given the opportunity of professional growth within the company that empowers, educates, informs and entertains my community makes me very proud.

BIGGEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE: Learning how to articulate my aspirations and plans to advance in my career. Culturally I was brought up to be hard working but very modest and humble. Over time I learned that I needed to speak up for myself and share my career goals with management. Once I started doing that, my career got on a fast track to becoming a general manager.

WHAT I WOULD SAY IN TWO MINUTES IF I COULD SPEAK TO EVERYONE IN GREATER TUCSON: Pima County is home to almost 400,000 Hispanics. Hispanics are driving the population growth and represent 56 percent of the population under 18. Latino buying power in Tucson is estimated to be $10 Billion in 2019 and expected to almost double to $18 Billion in just 10 years! Univision is one of the most highly trusted household brands in the Latino community across the country. It’s the television network that many families seek for entertainment and information needed to successfully navigate this country. I’d like to extend an offer to the Tucson business community to reach out and learn more on how they can access this fast-growing consumer group and impact their business. Check us out at univisionaz.com

TOP THINGS ON MY BUCKET LIST:  
1. Visit Machu Picchu – Peru  
2. Live at least one year in another country  
3. Teach myself Italian or Portuguese

Barbi Reuter  
President  
Cushman & Wakefield | PICOR

EDUCATION: Studied political science and regional development at U of A; BSBM University of Phoenix

ORIGINALLY FROM: Upstate NY

IN TUCSON AREA SINCE: 1978, via Colorado Springs and Philadelphia

FAMILY: Married to David with four kids and two grandkids (his, mine and ours, who all feel like ours)

PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Serving community youth through our PICOR Charitable Foundation, Tucson Girls Chorus, and YMCA; creating and nurturing a unique corporate culture that supports and enriches 46 families.

BIGGEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE: Diversifying our commercial real estate sales/leasing team.

WHAT I WOULD SAY IN TWO MINUTES IF I COULD SPEAK TO EVERYONE IN GREATER TUCSON: There is no better place to live, work and play. Embrace what makes Tucson unique. We are on the cusp of improving prosperity community wide, and we advance it best when we keep the greater good front of mind. Public/private trust is higher than I have seen it. Let’s build on that momentum.

TOP THINGS ON MY BUCKET LIST:  
1. Learn to play the piano  
2. Visit my amiga in New Zealand  
3. Raft the Grand Canyon
I don’t believe in bucket lists but if I did:

TOP THINGS ON MY BUCKET LIST:
I don’t believe in bucket lists but if I did:
• Play Augusta National just once
• Take a luxury cross-continent train trip from sea to shining sea (preferably in an RV parked in their drive for part of the year)
• Move in with any or all of our seven children when we’re old (meeting any one of the Justices)
• Argue before the U.S. Supreme Court (I’d settle for just meeting any one of the Justices)

WHAT I WOULD SAY IN TWO MINUTES IF I COULD SPEAK TO EVERYONE IN GREATER TUCSON:
Transportation, education, water and business environment. We must pay attention to the basics and create an environment that business can thrive in.

WHAT I WOULD SAY IN TWO MINUTES IF I COULD SPEAK TO EVERYONE IN GREATER TUCSON:
We need to keep finding ways to keep Tucson true to its roots, but also attractive enough for our kids to want to stay and raise their families here. That involves keeping education levels high, making the city environmentally sustainable, and also attracting business and entrepreneurial opportunities.

PROUDEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE:
Navigating the issue of sovereign immunity.

PROUDEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE:
Immigrating, moving states, and having babies - all of these provide challenges to gaining traction in any career, and particularly in the law. I’ve been settled in Tucson for 12 years now, and have put down roots in this diverse, historically colorful, geographically gorgeous and kid-friendly town.

PROUDEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE:
Immigrating to America in 1999 and having to start my professional life over. I remember the pride I felt when I was handed my first American business card - I served as a deputy district attorney in Colorado Springs, Colo. - and feeling part of a system that I believe is mostly designed to do the right thing. A close second was arguing (and winning) at the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, making case law on the issue of sovereign immunity.

PROUDEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE:
Continuing to find employees who are passionate about serving our clients. Creating a common vision that can be followed by our staff. Breeding a culture of relevance in our respective communities.

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I served as a deputy district attorney in Colorado Springs, Colo. - and feeling part of a system that I believe is mostly designed to do the right thing. A close second was arguing (and winning) at the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, making case law on the issue of sovereign immunity.

BIGGEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE:
PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS:
• Marrying my wife and raising two outstanding young women. Growing a thriving family business.
• BIGGEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE: Continuing to find employees who are passionate about serving our clients. Creating a common vision that can be followed by our staff. Breeding a culture of relevance in our respective communities.

BIGGEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE:
PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Immigrating to America in 1999 and having to start my professional life over. I remember the pride I felt when I was handed my first American business card - I served as a deputy district attorney in Colorado Springs, Colo. - and feeling part of a system that I believe is mostly designed to do the right thing. A close second was arguing (and winning) at the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, making case law on the issue of sovereign immunity.

PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Marrying my wife and raising two outstanding young women. Growing a thriving family business.

PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS:
• Two beautiful teenage children, Finlay and Lucy; my partner David and his five children, his mother, father, step-mother, brothers, sister, sisters-in-law, and all their children, all in Tucson!
**American Heart Association/American Stroke Association**

**BETSY STUETZE**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Describe your organization and your organization's purpose. Who does your organization serve? How do you serve?
The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association is a national, voluntary health organization. Our mission is “Building healthier lives free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke.” Heart disease and stroke are the No. 1 and No. 3 killers of Americans.

To improve the lives of all Americans, we provide public health education in a variety of ways. We’re the nation’s leader in CPR education training. We help people understand the importance of healthy lifestyle choices. We provide science-based treatment guidelines to healthcare professionals to help them provide quality care to their patients. We educate lawmakers, policymakers and the public as we advocate for changes to protect and improve the health of our communities.

What are some of the challenges that your organization faces?
Access to healthy, affordable food and knowledge of heart healthy living are primary factors contributing to the current generation of youth that are not expected to outlive their parents.

How would you like to interact with the business community on a higher level?  
We have numerous opportunities for businesses to have a positive effect on the health and well-being of their workforce including our Workplace Health Solutions program, which offers a suite of evidence-based tools to help you maximize your current employee health program. We also encourage businesses to be a part of promoting the cardiovascular health of the Southern Arizona community through sponsoring CPR training kits for local high schools, Jump Rope for Heart and other community-wide initiatives.

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**Tucson Desert Art Museum**

**RHONDA SMITH**  
DIRECTOR

Describe your organization and your organization’s purpose. Who does your organization serve? How do you serve?
The Museum is dedicated to the preservation, exhibition and education of its visitors about the Desert Southwest and its surrounding areas. We exhibit and preserve a premier collection of southwestern art, artifacts and textiles as well as creating and hosting several rotating exhibitions each year on topics bringing history to life to our visitors through art.

What are some of the challenges that your organization faces?
Recognition and identification as a new organization is our biggest challenge.

How would you like to interact with the business community on a higher level?  
The Museum would love to host more networking groups to help us get the word out about the events and exhibitions of the museum.
New Investors

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## Investor Anniversaries

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<td>Arizona Theatre Co.</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Resort</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>Calvert &amp; Ivester, PLLC Hamstra Heating &amp; Cooling, Inc.</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>W W Williams</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Salt River Project</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Amerson Surveying, Inc. Arizona Historical Society Frontier Towing, Inc.</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Wright Flight, Inc.</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Williamson’s Heating &amp; Cooling, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>CopperPoint Mutual Insurance Company Granite Construction Company</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Reed’s Compounding Pharmacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Tucson Gem and Mineral Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Alorica - Tucson East Iron Mountain</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Varitech Commercial Services, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Agero The Home Depot Broadway/Pantano</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>4 Wheel Parts</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Jackson Hewitt Tax Services, Inc. Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest SA Recycling</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Crest Insurance Group, LLC</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>390th Memorial Museum Bon Voyage Travel Foothills Properties WSM Architects, Inc.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>ACH Retirement Plan Consultants, Inc. Chase Bank 22nd/Alvernon 22nd/Harrison 22nd/Wilmot 6th Ave/29th St Ajo/16th Ave Broadway/Camino Seco Broadway/Country Club Broadway/Houghton Broadway/Wilmot Campbell/River Campbell/Water Congress/Stone Golf Links/Harrison Golf Links/Kolb Grant/Alvernon Grant/Silverbell Houghton/Rita Ranch Irvington/Campbell Jenna Nicole/Cortaro Oracle/Golder Ranch Oracle/Magee Oracle/Rancho Vistoso Oracle/Roger Oracle/Rudasill Park/1st St River/La Cholla Speedway/Pantano Speedway/Swan Sunrise/Kolb Sunrise/Swan Tanque Verde/Sabino Canyon</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Catalunya Apartments GSW Telecom &amp; Consulting Heartland Hospice Miraflores Apartments Sonora Quest Laboratories 4th St/Appaloosa Highway 92/Foothills Innovation Park/Tangerine LaCanada/Continental Sonora Quest Laboratories of Tucson Alvernon/Fifth St Carondelet/Wilmot LaCholla/Ina LaCholla/Rudasill St. Mary’s/Anklam Valencia/Midvale Park Wilmot/5th St Strategic Issues Management Group Walmart Neighborhood Market Ina/Thornydale</td>
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<td>Arizona Communication Experts Mutual of Omaha Bank NuEar Hearing Center Professional Global Etiquette SCBS, LLC TRAK - Therapeutic Ranch for Animals and Kids U-Haul of Southern Arizona</td>
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### September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
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<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Waste Management, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>The Estes Co.</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>O’Rielly Chevrolet, Inc.</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>iheart Media Kaneen Communications</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Unicom Grafix, Inc.</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Robert Half International</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Tofel Construction</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Reid Park Zoological Society</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Office of Pima County School Superintendent Perfection Plastic Surgery and Skin Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>InTegriLogic Corporation</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>CARF Women’s Empowerment Partnership, Inc.</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort &amp; Spa Simpleview</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Casino Del Sol Resort - AVA Amphitheater Tucson Parks &amp; Recreation Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>East Lawn Palms Mortuary &amp; Cemetery Funeraria Del Angel South Lawn Shepard Exposition Services</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Arizona Technology Council</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>AARP Catholic Tuition Support Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>The Estes Co.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>O’Rielly Chevrolet, Inc.</td>
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### October

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<tr>
<th>Years</th>
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<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>DoubleTree by Hilton Tucson - Reid Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Tucson Association of Realtors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>OneAZ Credit Union Park/1st St</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASCENSUS, INC.
UA Tech Park, 9070 S. Rita Road #2500 • (800) 346-3860
Ascensus, a technology-enabled solutions provider that helps more than seven million Americans save for the future, hosted its ribbon cutting ceremony on August 22 in celebration of their new Tucson, AZ office. Mayor Rothschild and the Tucson Metro Chamber welcomed Ascensus executives and associates to the business community.

BLACK BEAR DINER
6095 E. Broadway Boulevard • (520) 790-8881
Black Bear Diner wishes to thank Tucson for the warm welcome. Their team looks forward to connecting with this community. Go in and say hi – open daily 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, CATALINA COUNCIL
2250 E. Broadway Boulevard • (520) 750-0385
The Boy Scouts of America have been developing the character of Southern Arizona’s youth since 1911. Their youth organization offers programs and activities that instill values and teach life skills to an ever-increasing number of youth by coordinating community resources to build tomorrow’s leaders today.

CLEAR VISION EXPRESS
6691 N. Thornydale Road, Marana • (520) 395-2619
Clear Vision Express is Tucson’s new, premier, full-service optical practice. Offering the highest quality optometric and optical care, they are excited to bring services to the greater Tucson community. They look forward to meeting you soon!
JADE STAR ACUPUNCTURE AND WELLNESS
6440 E. Broadway Boulevard • (520) 881-0827
Jade Star Acupuncture opened in 2011 and is owned by Jennifer Parks. They currently have four licensed acupuncturists who have completed a master's degree in acupuncture and Chinese medicine. They also offer holistic nutrition counseling and massage therapy. At Jade Star Acupuncture, they simplify the mysteries of Chinese medicine.

KOOL AIR MANUFACTURING, LLC
929 S. Tyndall Avenue • (520) 900-5665
Kool Air Manufacturing is proud to announce the grand opening of their fabrication shop at 929 S. Tyndall Ave. They are committed to eliminating the carbon footprint traditionally in fiberglass insulated sheet metal ductwork. The Kingspan KoolDuct System, provides more value while avoiding the fundamental flaws faced by installers for years.

IDEAL IMAGE
4343 N. Oracle Road • (520) 877-2800
Ideal Image is a leader in cosmetic medical services including laser hair removal, CoolSculpting® fat reduction, Ultherapy® skin lifting, Broad Band Light skin therapy and a full range of injectables, including brand names such as Botox®, Juvederm®, Voluma® and Kybella®.

MCDONALD’S
5225 S. Palo Verde Road • (520) 741-1634
The Cowgill Organization is excited to continue serving the community and look forward to many years of continued partnership.

MCDONALD’S
2525 S. Craycroft Road • (520) 747-7670
Roger Canchola, president/CEO for Arcos de Oro, LLC/McDonald’s, celebrated his McDonald’s re-grand opening at 2525 S. Craycroft in Tucson. This location now features the self-order touchscreen kiosks for patrons to customize their meals, order and pay.
High school sophomores, juniors, and seniors can jumpstart their careers with tuition-free Construction and Heavy Equipment Operations programs at the Dr. Alan L. Storm Center on our new 7,000 square-foot JTED @ STAR central campus. For more information, or to enroll online, visit pimajted.org.

Panera Bread is proud to open its most recent café. This café is state of the art with several options for placing your orders. Panera also has a fantastic catering service. When planning your next event please give Panera Bread a call.

Rusing Lopez & Lizardi proudly celebrates 25 years of business. RL&L is a recognized leader in commercial litigation and business counsel. Teamwork plus experience has enabled RL&L to grow into one of Tucson’s most prominent and dynamic full-service law firms and has become home to some of the Southwest’s most accomplished attorneys.
Arizona Virtual Academy and Insight Academy of Arizona celebrated the grand opening of a new Tucson K12 Blended Learning Center. Their schools are excited to offer online learning through this in-person blended program and serve more students in the Tucson area.

Sunset Ranch Ventures, LLC celebrated the groundbreaking for the initial phase of the redevelopment of the historic Sunset Ranch. Silverbell Self Storage is an aesthetically designed, next generation design for self storage, incorporating site optimization and low-profile buildings in a low carbon footprint and offering photovoltaic solar, LED lighting, water harvesting and native plants landscaping with high-definition security cameras and individual unit alarms. Their groundbreaking event was the kickoff for the development with completion anticipated in early 2018. Visit silverbellstorage.com for specials and information.

If you are celebrating a grand opening, anniversary, expansion or new location look to the Tucson Metro Chamber and our Ambassador committee to help you celebrate your milestone.

Contact Tammy Jensen at tjensen@tucsonchamber.org.
CONGRATULATIONS
2017 WINNERS

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona
Best Place to Work
3-30 Employees
Fangamer
31-75 Employees
Contact One Call Center
76-250 Employees
Pueblo Mechanical and Controls

Cenpatico Integrated Care
Workforce Development
3-30 Employees
Village Bakehouse
76-250 Employees
AAA Landscape

Tucson Electric Power
Charitable Non-Profit Business
$50,000 - $500,000 Total Revenue
Tucson Girls Chorus
$500,001 - $2,000,000 Total Revenue
Literacy Connects
$2,000,001 - $5,000,000 Total Revenue
Youth On Their Own
$5,000,001 - $10,000,000 Total Revenue
SAAVI Services for the Blind

Nextrio
Innovation
3-30 Employees
Silverado Rooter & Plumbing
31-75 Employees
Paragon Space Development
76-250 Employees
Simpleview

CopperPoint Small Business
Leader of the Year
Barbi Reuter
Cushman & Wakefield | PICOR

TucsonChamber.org/CopperCactus
UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit the event calendar at TucsonChamber.org for more information and to register.

October 24
Chamber Exchange
Autobahn Indoor Speedway
300 S. Toole Ave.

November 15
Issues over Easy
Hacienda Del Sol
5501 N. Hacienda Del Sol Rd.

November 16 & 17
New Executive Welcome
Tucson Metro Chamber
465 W. St. Mary’s Rd.

November 30
Interface
Tucson Metro Chamber
465 W. St. Mary’s Rd.

November 30
Public Officials Reception
World View Enterprises
1805 E. Aerospace Pkwy

January 9
State of the State
Tucson Convention Center
260 S. Church Ave.

Dates, times and venues are subject to change without notice.