

Greetings from Pinal County District 1 Supervisor Pete Rios,

The real work of managing Pinal County and serving my constituents began before I took my oath in January. Since then, I have been delighted to help or facilitate solutions for residents of my district. One thing is clear – these are trying times for you and for our governments. Be assured that my focus is on continuing to deliver quality services to you.

We have just returned from the 22nd Annual Pinal County Town Hall. The topic this year was “Gangbusters: It takes a Community” with a clear focus on the cold, hard truth – gang activity has come to Pinal County. Gang activity is linked to graffiti, drugs, crime and other social ills that affect our lives and livelihoods. To anonymously report gang activity or suspected gang activity, call 1-888-NO-GANGS.

Some bright news for our communities comes in the news that a deal is close to approval that will turn control of ASARCO over to a new company, Sterlite Industries. Sterlite is the Indian subsidiary of a global giant, Vedanta Resources. The current parent of ASARCO, Grupo Mexico, has been a less than stellar corporate neighbor. I am watching these developments in the hopes that we gain a valued, responsible company with a desire to invest in our communities.

Residents of the Oracle area have taken a keen interest in the Oracle Transfer Station Planning & Zoning application. P&Z approved the application on a 6-2 vote, with stipulations designed to minimize litter, dust and noise concerns of surrounding neighbors. As it stands now, the Board will be hearing the case on May 13. Be sure to check the actual agenda at [www.pinalcountyz.gov](http://www.pinalcountyz.gov) if this matter is of interest to you. Agendas sometimes change due to scheduling issues, availability of counsel and other late-breaking events.

Finally, let me shine the light on the staff at Pinal County for a moment. They recently organized a food drive to help re-stock the dwindling supply at the food banks that serve our needy residents. Drop boxes were placed at various county facilities and I am pleased to report that the staff effort rounded up about 620 pounds of donated non-perishable food items. That’s the spirit of our staff in action.

Best wishes to you and yours,

Pete Rios