

LEADERSHIP West

Newsletter January 3, 2011

www.leadershipwest.org

Cultivating Leadership Capital for the West Valley



Leadership West is gearing up for a whirlwind of a 2011! Mark your calendars now! Watch your email for details.

- **Arizona Town Hall Luncheon** in collaboration with Leadership West and Rio Salado—*Arizona's Government: The Next 100 Years*— **Wednesday, February 23, 2011. 12:00 pm until 1:30 pm.**
- **Recruitment Mixer** for candidates and alumni who want to share. Thursday, February 24th, 5:00—7:00pm, TAPS Signature Cuisine and Bar (RSVP at www.leadershipwest.org.)
- **Nuts 'n Bolts Breakfast** for candidates serious about applying for Class 18— Tuesday, March 22nd, 7:30—9:30 am, City of Peoria Development and Community Services Building (Have your best recommendations RSVP at www.leadershipwest.org.)
- **5th Annual Summit—Regional Cooperation and the Future of the West Valley, Sponsored by SRP**—Thursday, April 28, Arizona Broadway Theater. Contact [Kathy](#) for Sponsorship Opportunities.

January Mixer!



Inside

Reality Check Final Report 2

Opportunities for WV Leaders to Serve

Mary Jo May 3
Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers
Melissa Holdaway and Othell Newbill

2009-2010 Annual Report

SIGHTINGS!
More Alumni News—submitted by YOU 4



DLR Group

Architecture Engineering Planning Interiors

DLR Group would like to wish all Leadership West Alumni Happy Holidays and invite everyone to kick-off the New Year "western" style. Bring your cowboys boots and join Class XVII for **free drinks, appetizers and bull rides**. Test your skills and watch other distinguished alumni attempt to tame the mechanical bull.

Saddle Ranch Chop House - Westgate
Thursday Jan. 6th, 2011
4:30pm - 7:00pm

(Melissa Holdaway Class XVI)

Who will take home the LW Class XVII Bull Riding Trophy?



West Valley Reality Check



Final Report

Click the image at left for the final report on the West Valley Reality Check held on November 30, 2010. Included are photos of each of the eight tables and their visions of the future of the West Valley, and a summary of the trends and highlights that surfaced through the analysis of the tables. Also included is a special note from Leadership West describing ways in which this information will be utilized, not the least of which is as the starting point for the LW Annual Summit on April 28, 2011.

SRP Provides Solar Systems

This year, nonprofit organizations in SRP's electric service area are eligible to receive one of three 10kW rooftop solar systems, each with an approximate value of \$100,000. Until 5 p.m. on Jan. 31, nonprofit agencies can submit a completed application to be considered for eligibility. Click [here](#) for a program application and more details. (This item submitted by Jen Martyn. Thanks, Jen!)



State Level Board and Commission Service Opportunities for West Valley Leaders

There are a number of Boards & Commissions spots open at the state level; many of which align perfectly with Leadership West's sustainability concerns in the West Valley. It would be wonderful to see West Valley leaders fill spots on boards or commissions that are important to many of the growth, business and community issues we face. To learn more, visit <http://azgovernor.gov/bc> (Thank you to Chuck Fitzgerald for sharing this information.)

On a related note, for an article from Blue Avocado on *How to Choose a Board that is the Right Fit for You*, click [here](#).

Get your Company in front of the Community Leaders of Leadership West.

Leadership West is a 501(c)3.

Issue Day, Mixer, Scholarship and Special Event sponsorships are available.

[Contact Kathy@leadershipwest.org](mailto:Kathy@leadershipwest.org)

Our Vision: Informed, engaged, and inspired leaders transforming the West Valley into highly livable, quality communities.



To see a slide show of the **Arizona Town Hall on Arizona's Economy** held on September 14, 2010, Click [here](#).

LEADERSHIP WEST-ERS MAKING GREAT THINGS HAPPEN



Dustin Jones and Kathy Knecht join Mary Jo on the Goldwater Gunnery Range in March 2010.

Mary Jo May, Class 6, has retired from her position as Chief of Community Relations and Public Affairs for the 56th Fighter Wing at Luke Air Force Base. She has given more than 35 years of incredible service to the nation. A retirement ceremony and reception at Club56 is scheduled on January 5th, 2011. Contact [Barbara Plante](#) if you would like to attend.

Mary Jo has been a steadfast supporter of Leadership West and an unbeatable liaison between the base and our organization. She has facilitated tours of the base and the Goldwater Gunnery Range every year since the beginning of Leadership West. She will be missed. Of course we intend to see much of her in her role of LW Alumnus!

Avondale Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers (LW Class 1) has been elected as Second Vice President of the National League of Cities. The election took place on Dec. 4 at the organization's Annual Business Meeting during the Congress of Cities & Exposition held in Denver, Colo. Rogers will work with the organization's President and First Vice President in shaping NLC's priorities and directing the organization's advocacy, research and membership activities for the coming year. Congratulations!



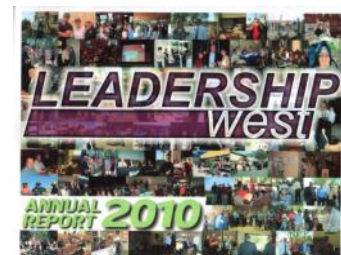
LW Board member and Class 15 Alumnus, Tom Payton is a graduate of the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture at Taliesin West. His outdoor structure, "Glass House" built in the desert surrounding the campus was highlighted in an article published in the Arizona Republic. To see the article and the photos, click [here](#).

Melissa Holdaway, Class 16 and Othell Newbill, Class 15, who met through Leadership West, recently collaborated for a common passion: kids. Arizona Charter Academy in Surprise, which is owned and operated by Melissa, recently launched its "Pizza with Professionals" program. Students can sign up for the program, and head to the gym lobby during lunch to enjoy a slice of pizza and hear first-hand information from a professional who works in a featured career. Othell, the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Goodyear, was the first speaker. About 25 students came and enjoyed lunch with Othell, and heard stories about his job. They were challenged to have a plan to attend college. Melissa plans to continue the program in 2011.



Othell Newbill answers questions from students at Arizona Charter Academy.

The Leadership West Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2009/2010 is available [here](#). Thank you to Karen Keith for her service as designer of the document!



**Thank you to our
Wonderful Supporters!**

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 Zac Storey
 Michael White

Friends Afar

(living and working outside of the West Valley, but still contributing to LW)

Bob Kopp
 Heather Murphy
 Jerene Watson

73 \$100 Members

**LEADERSHIP Sightings!
West**

You know Leadership West is impactful when our alumni are so thoroughly engaged in the community.



Seen at the Jobing.com arena with “the Great One,” Wayne Gretzky: **Melissa Holdaway and David McGrew.**



Seen at the AARP Health Care Discussion: **Lyn Truitt, Brian Nelson, Bob Saunders, Diane McCarthy, Scott Lekan, Jen Farrell and (pictured) David Mitchell,** Cheryl Matheis, Senior Vice President of AARP, **Kathy Knecht and Todd Aakhus.**

**Alumni Invited
to Focus Tour**

If you'd like to attend the **Glendale Media Center and University of Phoenix Stadium** tour on February 11, 2011, please contact Larry Woods, Tour Coordinator, at lwoods@leadershipwest.org.



Members of Class 17 on a Focus Tour at APS's Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station



Click the image for more information.

SUBMIT YOUR NEWS, ALUMNI SIGHTINGS, AND RECOGNITIONS TO THE LW NEWSLETTER. SHARE AND PROMOTE AMONG THE WEST VALLEY'S LEADERSHIP COMMUNITY. FREE TO DUES-PAYING ALUMNI! PLEASE SEND RELEVANT LINKS WHEN SUBMITTING TO [KATHY@LEADERSHIPWEST.ORG](mailto:kathy@leadershipwest.org).