

## Councilman Dave Pearson's 2012 Expectations

in the *Arizona Republic Newspaper*

City workers will continue to provide exceptional service in 2012 as our community maintains its reputation as a great home town.

Peoria leaders struggle with an economy that is improving but not yet "glowing". Competition among Valley cities continues -- tasking our leaders to think more regionally and cooperatively. Less finger pointing and more diplomacy is needed.

Many challenges face Peoria including: escalating utility costs; proposed increases in residential water and sewer rates; a greatly reduced public construction program; union salary negotiations as well as increasing demands for taxpayer subsidies.

There is plenty to celebrate, however. Arizona's 100th birthday officially heralds in the new Peoria Centennial Plaza. The inaugural "P83 Party" street music festival, headlined by *Candlebox*, will rock the opening of MLB Spring Training on March 3.