



**Richard Fimbres**  
Councilmember  
Ward 5

**Ward 5 Council  
Office Staff**

**Chief of Staff**  
Mark Kerr

**Council Aide**  
Lupita Robles

**Council Assistant**  
Mary Kuchar

**Staff Assistant**  
Gabriel Holguin

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# City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

May 2020

Dear Friends:

This year has been an especially sobering one for our nation and world. We have had to make changes to our lives to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The future of Tucson, our young people, also have had difficulties, especially with their education. With the COVID-19 pandemic, our young people finished their courses, exams and the other obstacles they faced.

Congratulations to all the students that graduated. Graduation is just one giant step in a very important direction.

For some of you, this step has been a struggle full of obstacles, barriers, and distractions, for others it has not been that easy. However through your struggles you have still accomplished your goal, and we are here today to celebrate your achievements- this awesome achievement that you have made with the support of your parents and family.

I hope your schooling has taught you that life is an adventure. Don't be afraid to learn, Knowledge is weightless, a treasure you can always carry easily.

Treat others the way you expect to be treated and you will never have a problem.



Remember the key to success is through education. In today's age of technology we have to all become lifelong learners.





Remember, always give a hand to another in need and remember your civic responsibilities as citizens.

As stated, this accomplishment is the culmination of a lot of work, a lot of sweat, a lot of tears-but you are not finished. This is not final. It is however, a significant milestone.

Like Colin Powell has said “ There are no secrets to success: Don’t waste time looking for them. Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty to those for whom you work, and persistence.”

Don’t underestimate this accomplishment. Your education will open doors—it will serve you well. But what will serve you even better is the persistence you have demonstrated in working toward your diploma.

Congratulations and good luck, Class of 2020.

Thank you.

Richard G. Fimbres  
Your Ward 5 Councilmember  
“Education is the Key to Success”

#### **CARES ACT UPDATE**

At the May 27th, Tucson Mayor and Council meeting, the Mayor and Council voted on a strategic plan to distribute funding the City received from the federal CARES Act.

The plan includes criteria to distribute funds through an equity framework to reach the most vulnerable and underserved in the community.



The plan includes a total of \$22 million in community aid including forgivable grants for small business and non-profits, rental and utility assistance, funds for distance learning and wifi access, domestic violence prevention, childcare, food delivery for seniors, among other areas. In addition, the plan includes \$38 million in funding for the continuity of city operations and services, including meeting the payroll needs of our first responders, as the City faces projected budget shortfalls ranging in the tens of millions of dollars. Finally, the plan sets aside \$33 million in reserves for Mayor and Council to assess future needs and allocate funds accordingly.

I want to thank Councilmember Lane Santa Cruz and her staff for their work on this plan. I want to thank my colleagues on the Council who voted on this issue to move forward and act now. We need to move forward to help people who have lost their jobs, their businesses, their livelihoods and those who have been evicted from their homes, our most needy and vulnerable. This plan covers what the City Manager needs as well as helping our community.



### MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day means a lot to me as a 27 ½ year retired U.S. Army, Army National Guard and Army Reserve veteran.

My father, brother, uncles and cousins served our country in the military, instilling the values of patriotism for which I joined the U.S. Army to serve our nation. Here is the list from the family who served this country, for which I thank them for their service:

Gilbert Fimbres (Father), U.S. Army - W.W. II Pacific Campaign; Ernest Fimbres (Uncle), U.S. Navy Sea-bees; Rudy Fimbres (Uncle), U.S. Marines; Manuel Fimbres (Uncle), U.S. Navy - U.S.S. Goodrich, U.S.S. Monterrey; Fred Fimbres (Uncle) - U.S. Air Force - Arizona 162nd National Guard; John Gonzales (Uncle), U.S. Army - Wounded in Korea; Mike Gonzales (Uncle), U.S. Navy - U.S.S. Eberle; Manuel Gallardo (Uncle) U.S. Marines; Steve Fimbres (Brother) U.S. Army Reserves; Ronnie Gonzales (Cousin) U.S. Navy; David Gonzales (Cousin) U.S. Navy; Chris Leonardi (Nephew) U.S. Navy and Richard Kennedy (Nephew) U.S. Navy.

As your Councilmember for Ward 5, I continue my work to instill the values of patriotism in young people and for them to remember those who served this nation in the military. I work to ensure the City works with our Veterans groups to have a Veteran's Day Parade and I am proud to take part, each and every year.

For the past ten years, during Memorial Day and Veteran's Day, a contingent of elected officials, groups and organizations join me in going out to the Southern Arizona V.A. Hospital to present thank you cards to veterans at the hospital or getting treatment and the VA hospital staff for their work. More than three dozen schools across Tucson and Pima County, as well as groups and organizations, have volunteered to make thank you cards for our veterans.

I have had the privilege of representing the City of Tucson at the Salute to Community Service events, where our military branches honor graduating high school students who have committed to service in the military.

I have had the privilege to represent the City of Tucson when veterans, and the families of veterans are being recognized.

To remember the 396 Tucsonans of the Greatest Generation, who volunteered to serve our country during World War II and made the ultimate sacrifice, I worked to ensure the completion of the World War II Memorial that is located in Armory Park. This was the idea of the late Gilbert Quintanilla, who had served our country and saw our community had no memorial to those Tucsonans who served and died in World War II.

Thank you to the families of those who served our nation in the military. To all those who served and made the ultimate sacrifice, God bless you and you are not forgotten and here is the Veteran's Prayer:

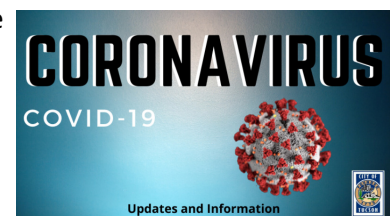
"Dear Lord, we honor our veterans, worthy men and women who gave their best when they were called upon to serve and protect their country. We pray that you will bless them, Lord, for their unselfish service in the continual struggle to preserve our freedoms, our safety, and our country's heritage, for all of us. Bless them abundantly for the hardships they faced, for the sacrifices they made for their many different contributions to America's victories over tyranny and oppression. We respect them, we thank them, we honor them, we are proud of them, and we pray that you will watch over these special people and bless them with peace and happiness. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen. Let us remember all of the veterans that sacrificed so much to keep our country safe. God bless all of our troops and may He watch over them forever."

#### **COVID-19 UPDATE**

I want to thank everyone during this COVID-19 health crisis who have been following the health guidelines of washing their hands, practicing social distancing, using masks and gloves and leaving their homes only for essential trips.

With the COVID-19 virus, it is important to wash your hands frequently and wash your hands immediately after blowing your nose, coughing, sneezing, using the bathroom or touching surfaces in a public space.

Wash your hands before eating or preparing food and before touching your face. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommend you wash your hands for 20 seconds.





If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Social distancing, also called “physical distancing,” means keeping space between yourself and other people outside of your home. Stay at least 6 feet from other people. Do not gather in groups or go to gatherings. Keeping space between you and others is one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to this virus.

The Pima County Health Department recommends that you wear a mask when you’re out in public and around others. It’s not for your protection, it’s to keep other people safe. People can spread COVID-19 before they ever show symptoms, or even if they show no symptoms at all.

The CDC recommends that you use disposable gloves when cleaning surfaces in your house or at a public location. Dispose of the gloves safely. Do not reuse the gloves. Wash your hands immediately after removing gloves.

I hope you will thank our locally owned restaurants who are trying to survive through this health crisis as well. Remember, support our locally owned restaurants by ordering food from them, either through a drive through, by delivery or by take out. Let’s do our part for our restaurants.

My Ward 5 staff and I are here to help you. Please call us at (520) 791-4231 or Email: ward5@tucsonaz.gov.

The City of Tucson is here to help our locally owned businesses affected by the COVID-19 health crisis. Please call (520) 837-4100, the City of Tucson business hotline, for help.

The City of Tucson also has a COVID Hotline, (520) 791-2540, to answer your questions about city services operating during this health crisis.

### **COMPLETE YOUR U.S. CENSUS FORM**

People can fill out the 2020 U.S. Census survey, which is also offered online.

Every ten years, the U.S. Constitution states that a census of the population of the country will be conducted. The first Census was conducted in 1790 and has been done every ten years and counts every person only once in one place.

The U.S. Census is done to determine the population in each state and determine how many seats in the U.S. House of Representatives each state will have. States use the Census information to determine the boundaries for these seats, as well as for seats in legislature and county offices.

With the COVID-19 health crisis, it is even more important to fill out the Census which deals with federal funds for hospitals and medical efforts. Local governments use the census data for public safety and for emergency preparedness. Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores which create stores and jobs. There are a lot of good reasons to take part in the 2020 U.S. Census but there may also be questions.

It is against the law for the Census Bureau to publicly release responses that may identify anyone or anyone in a household. By law, your responses can not be used against you and can only be used to produce statistics. In the last Census, done in 2010, Tucson had a population under count and it cost us \$64 million in federal funds for programs that we use.

We can't do that again, we must take part in the 2020 U.S. Census and be counted so that we get our representation in the U.S. Congress and the federal funding for the programs our community needs.

Be Heard and Be Counted. Fill out the 2020 U.S. Census. It's estimated up to \$3,000 per person, per year is at stake for Arizona. The answers are kept confidential and are used only to produce statistics. For more information, go online to <https://2020census.gov>.

#### V.A. CARDS PRESENTATION

On May 22, South Tucson Vice Mayor Herman Lopez joined me in presenting thank you cards and letters that were made by school children to the Veterans at the Southern Arizona V.A.

In addition, I presented to the V.A. masks that were made by Jan Vasilus of the Kaimas Foundation. I want to thank Ann Charles with Ward 6 Councilmember Steve Kozachik's office for making the arrangements to get these masks. In addition, I also presented the V.A., an additional 250 thank you cards from my office for the Veterans, as well as Ward 5 Points of Light pens.

I want to thank Luke Johnson and the V.A. for letting us again, present the cards, which were made by Holladay School. This school year ended early due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The V.A. and I are hopeful we will be able to fully resume the presentation of cards over Veterans Day weekend.





### CONGRATULATIONS GISELLE MARIA DELCID!

It is great to get word about the academic success of our young people.

Giselle Maria Delcid graduated with Summa Cum Laude from the University of Arizona, in three years from the College of Education; majoring in Literacy, Learning and Leadership with an Emphasis in Community Education and a minor in Mexican-American Studies.

Giselle will be returning to the University of Arizona this fall to pursue a PhD in Educational Leadership and Policy. Giselle is the first in her family to attend college and her overall goal is to give back to the Southside Tucson community through education reform and community outreach.

Congratulations Giselle on your academic success and achievement.





Important Numbers  
and  
Contact Information

Ward 5 City Council Office  
4300 S. Park Avenue  
Tucson Arizona 85714

Phone: 520-791-4231  
Fax: 520-791-3188  
[Ward5@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:Ward5@tucsonaz.gov)

**Stay Informed!**  
Visit our other  
information outlets:



**HTTP://  
WWW.TUCSONAZ.GOV/  
WARD -5**

Help those who are in  
need.  
Give to the  
Community Food  
Bank.  
For more  
information call:  
520-622-0525



## Frequently Used Phone Numbers

### **Emergency Services**

Tucson Police Department or Tucson Fire Department  
DIAL 911

### **Permits**

Planning and Development Services Department  
791-5550

### **Housing Assistance**

City of Tucson Community Services Department  
791-4739

### **Tucson Convention Center**

791-4101

### **City of Tucson Code Enforcement**

791-5843

### **TPD Red Tag Unit**

837-7318, Email: [redtag@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:redtag@tucsonaz.gov)

### **Graffiti Removal**

792-CITY (2489)

### **TPD Non Emergency**

791-4444

### **Trash Pick Up & Environmental Services**

City of Tucson Environmental Services Department  
791-3171

### **TDOT Street Maintenance**

791-3154, Email: [tdotconcerns@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:tdotconcerns@tucsonaz.gov)

### **Tucson Water Department**

Billing - 791-3242, Public Information - 791-4331

### **Park Tucson**

791-5071

### **Pima Animal Care**

724-5900

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