



City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

Tucsonaz.gov/ward-5

June 2020

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Councilmember
Ward 5

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WARD -5

To the Community:

I want to express my sincere condolences to the family of Carlos "Adrian" Ingram Lopez.

They lost a Father, Grandson, Brother and Son. They are all in my thoughts and prayers.

I abided by the wishes of the Lopez Family and did not speak publicly about the tragic incident, until the Family had viewed the police video with their attorney. Nor did I wish to have the Family to relive this tragedy again.

They are grieving and Tucson is grieving for Carlos.

We need to continue to work, as one community to ensure that an incident like this never happens again.

We need to continue to work, as one community, to put policies in place, which are followed, so that the Mayor and Council, and the community, are immediately made aware of any tragedy in our City.

We need to continue to work, as one community, to ensure our agencies reflect the population and values of the community they serve.

As I have said before, our City does not scapegoat, point fingers or place blame. We roll up our sleeves together and work to solve the challenges we face.

Our prayers are for the Lopez Family and our City.

Be safe and stay healthy.

Richard G. Fimbres
Your Ward 5 Councilmember

REGISTER TO VOTE

2020: Be Heard and Be Counted, is a saying I came up with to encourage people to take part and fill out the 2020 U.S. Census.

It also applies to the elections being held this year and the importance of our community to be heard and be counted at the ballot box.

The primary election in Arizona will take place on Tuesday, August 4, for which voters will go to the polls to select their party nominees for federal, state, county and local elected offices.

If people in the community, who are registered to vote don't vote, as well as those in the community who are not even registered to vote, don't get registered, our community loses out by not being heard and being counted.

This is not about supporting a candidate or political party, it is about taking part in the electoral process. Many people made the ultimate sacrifice, defending this nation and ideals, so that you can have the right to vote and be heard at the ballot box.

There are many issues and people have opinions and feelings on the issues we face, and our nation faces many problems, but if they don't go to the polls and vote, these issues remain and the problems are still there.

The deadline to register to vote for the August 4 Arizona primary election is Monday, July 6.

People can register online at servicearizona.com.

People can also register to vote through the Pima County Recorder's Office, online at recorder.pima.gov/regvote, or by calling (520) 724-4350.

Also with the COVID-19 pandemic, a person could request their ballot in the mail through the State's Permanent Early Voting System, known as PEVL. In Pima County, you can register for this through the County Recorder's office at the link and phone number listed above.

So please be heard and be counted by filling out your Census form and your voter registration form, if you are not registered, and be heard and be counted at the ballot box, starting Tuesday, August 4.



COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

The COVID 19 pandemic crippled our economy, for which the Tucson Community Food bank has had to deal with many more people and families needing food just to get by.

On June 25, more than 1,200 people took part in Feed Tucson 2020 at their drive-through food bank at Kino ballpark.

According to the Community Food Bank, people were there three hours prior to the opening of the drive-through.

Families were given nonperishable groceries as well as some fruit and basic supplies. The Community Food Bank will be holding more drive-through food banks, starting in July.

On June 15, Raytheon, located in Ward 5, made a much needed \$319,000 donation to the Community Food Bank to help them feed those in need, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to the current COVID-19 crisis, the Community Food Bank is not encouraging food drives, as donated food items have to be quarantined and disinfected, and take more staff time and resources to transport and sort. The Food Bank is unable to accept donated food. The best way to make a difference is to donate online or host a virtual food drive.

For more information, go online to communityfoodbank.org or call (520) 622-0525.



COMMUNITY
FOOD BANK
OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA

FACE COVERINGS REQUIRED ON TRANSIT

All passengers are now required to use a face covering or mask on public transit vehicles and at transit centers. Passengers can wear non-medical masks, cloths, bandanas, or scarves.

Sun Tran, Sun Link, Sun Van, and Sun Shuttle have the right to refuse a ride to passengers not wearing a mask. Sun Tran will have a limited supply of masks available at the information booths at Ronstadt Transit Center and the Laos Transit Center (while supplies last). The booths are open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Passengers who are five years old and under, and those who are medically unable to wear a face covering are exempt. Please do your part to make transit safe for everyone.

Tucson Mayor Regina Romero has issued a proclamation requiring face coverings to be worn in Tucson city limits, and the Pima County Board of Supervisors passed a mandatory face mask rule following the mayor's proclamation.



Face Coverings are
STRONGLY RECOMMENDED
on Transit Vehicles.

Se recomienda cubrirse la cara en
vehículos de tránsito.





"A" MOUNTAIN FIREWORKS CELEBRATION POSTPONED

The City of Tucson is postponing this year's annual "A" Mountain Fireworks celebration that was scheduled for July 4. The decision was made due to the risk of increased community spread of COVID-19 and the extreme fire danger in the region as evidenced by the ongoing battle with the Bighorn Fire. A news release will be issued and announcements made via the City's website and social media platforms when the event is rescheduled.

JUNETEENTH MARKED IN TUCSON

June 19 marked the 155th anniversary of Juneteenth. The holiday commemorates June 19, 1865, the day slaves in Galveston, Texas, learned about the Emancipation Proclamation, making them among the last to be freed.

Concerns surrounding coronavirus caused the cancellation of the large Juneteenth event traditionally held in Tucson and virtual, online events took place. It is during this time, I remember my dear friend, the late Burney Starks, who organized the original Juneteenth Event in Tucson and who I had the privilege of working with on many community events and community organizations. I want to congratulate the organizers of the Juneteenth events this year. With the COVID-19 pandemic, these wonderful individuals kept Juneteenth going in Tucson.



BIGHORN FIRE UPDATE

On June 5, 2020 at 10:22PM a lightning strike started the Bighorn Fire in the Catalina Mountains northwest of Tucson, Arizona on the Coronado National Forest. As of this writing, the Bighorn Fire has consumed more than 80,000 acres and it is still 33% contained.

The IMT and USFS conduct public briefings at 8 pm on the incident Facebook via Facebook Live at: <https://www.facebook.com/bighornfireinfo/>. Pima County webpage dedicated to fire information: www.pima.gov/bighorn. Smoke and air quality impacts can be viewed at <https://wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks/EasternArizona>. For further information on the fire, here are more phone numbers and websites. Fire Information Phone Line: (520) 329-7439, 8AM-8PM. InciWeb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6741/>. Facebook: www.facebook.com/bighornfireinfo. Smoke Outlook: <https://wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks/EasternArizona>.





RED CROSS TESTING FOR COVID-19 ANTIBODIES

The American Red Cross announced it will be testing all blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies. The antibody testing will be offered throughout the summer or longer based on financial donations.

This will provide donors the insight into whether they have been exposed to the coronavirus within 7-10 days after the donation by checking their Red Cross Blood Donor App or donor portal at [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org). The test has been authorized for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Antibody testing will indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether they developed symptoms. A positive antibody test result does not confirm infection or immunity.

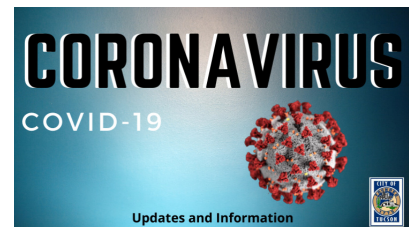
There continues to be an urgent need for blood donations as hospitals resume surgeries and treatments that require blood products. Donation appointments can be made by downloading the free Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org), calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

For questions regarding antibody testing contact Colin Williams, Regional Communications Officer (480) 243-4956, or Courtney Slanaker, Executive Director, Southern Arizona Chapter (520) 419-1157.

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.

Tucson's Mayor, Regina Romero issued a proclamation requiring people to wear masks in public places when social distancing can't be practiced. There are exceptions for people who may not be able to wear a mask, and they are:

When a person is in a personal office or similar space (a single room) where others are not present as long as the public does not regularly visit the room. For any person who falls under CDC guidance for those who should not wear a face covering, including but not limited to any child under the age of five.

For any person who cannot wear a Face Covering because of a medical condition, mental health condition or developmental disability, or who is unable to remove the Face Covering without assistance. A person who cannot wear a Face Covering because of a medical condition is not required to produce medical documentation of the condition, provided that an employer may require such documentation from an employee in accordance with state and federal law.

For restaurant patrons while they are eating or drinking at their table or seating area. For public safety employees and/or emergency responders, when wearing the Face Covering would interfere with or limit their ability to carry out their duties or functions; and for any person acting at the direction of a public safety employee. In settings where it is not practicable or feasible to wear a Face Covering, such as when receiving dental services, medical treatments or while swimming. For persons exercising outdoors, or while walking or exercising with other persons of the same household, as long as Physical Distancing from others is maintained.

The Pima County Board of Supervisors also passed an ordinance requiring the wearing of masks, also with similar exceptions. The County's ordinance does not have civil or criminal penalties. The City of Tucson has either a fine of \$50 or five hours community service. 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 and businesses 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.

REMINDER TO 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.

The U.S. Census is also done to determine where the more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and cities will be distributed and spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.

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 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>.



VIANNEY CARDENAS

Congratulations to Vianney Cardenas on her academic success, with Merit of Excellence from the College of Journalism and Community Engagement Merit Award in Latin American studies. Good luck in your future endeavors!

**BRENT DENNIS**

Brent Dennis has been the City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Director and has made tremendous accomplishments for the Parks and Recreation Centers in Ward 5 and across the City during his time as Director. Brent has been offered a similar position for the Parks system in Long Beach, California. We thank Brent Dennis for his service to our community and wish him well in his endeavors.

MARK BILBO

On June 24, I attended the funeral of Mark Duane Bilbo, Air Force Veteran and owner of Sunny Daze Cafe in Ward 5. Mark was interred at the Veteran's Cemetery in Marana. Mark was a businessman, supported efforts to improve Ward 5, a man who loved his family and a person I called a friend. My condolences to his wife Erika and his family. He will be missed.

**CATHY RODRIGUEZ**

Cathy Rodriguez was one of the founders of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Youth Leadership Conference. The Conference was formed in 1989 and has been held annually for 30 years. Cathy, along with her husband David, helped me and my wife Mary to form the Youth Leadership Conference as with as the LULAC Educators Banquet, honoring those who helped our youth succeed academically. Cathy passed away and her knowledge, leadership and expertise will be missed.

SHOMBAY

The Reid Park Zoo and Tucson said good-bye to our majestic male lion, Shombay. He was a guest favorite from the time he arrived with his half-grown, young lion mane. He was a staff favorite because he was such a patient dad, a playful cat, and an excellent training participant.

He challenged our staff's creativity in care and training to meet his needs. Shombay, who was nearly 12 years old, was diagnosed with polycystic kidney disease in 2016. While there is no cure for this disease, Reid Park Zoo's animal care team had been managing Shombay's condition by supporting his kidneys.



Shombay was trained by his Zoo Keepers to line up along a training wall where veterinary staff could administer subcutaneous fluids in his rear hip. These treatments helped mitigate Shombay's underlying health issue, but could not stop his kidney disease from continuing to progress.

CARES ACT FUNDING UPDATE

At the May 27, Mayor and Council meeting, the Council, by a 4-3 vote, approved the setting up of three grant fund opportunities to help businesses, non-profits, workers and families.

Three organizations would oversee these: The YWCA of Southern Arizona Women's Business Center, the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona and the Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona.

These organizations have created the application, review process and how the funds are distributed. The City will oversee and audit financial statements.

The Community Foundation of Southern Arizona will oversee \$500,000 to be given, as grants to non-profit organizations. The cap on grants will be at \$20,000. For more information, go online to cfsaz.org or call 770-0800.

The Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona will oversee \$3 million to be given to families and workers. Call 622-8826 for more information. The grant cap is \$1,200 for families, \$700 for individuals.

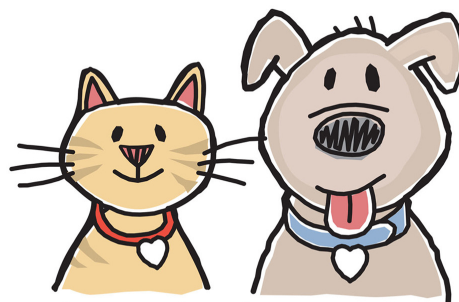
The YWCA of Southern Arizona - Women's Business Center will oversee \$2 million for businesses, which will also include non-profits. The grant cap will be \$10,000. For more information, call 884-7810.

PIMA ANIMAL CARE CENTER GETS GRANT FOR FOSTER PROGRAM

Spring Point Partners is awarding Pima Animal Care Center (PACC) a \$150,000 grant.

The funds will be dedicated to further expanding the shelter's foster program, creating a system to reduce pets' length of stay in the shelter and get them into foster and adoptive homes more quickly. The grant was donated to Friends of Pima Animal Care Center, PACC's official nonprofit partner.

With the funds, Friends of PACC will hire a program manager to oversee the intake-to-foster program. They will aim to send most pets to foster homes within 72 hours of arriving at PACC and will work to increase the number of volunteers who help make the foster program a success. Funds also will be used to cover foster supplies, training support, medical care for foster pets, and more.



pima animal care center

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

Graffiti Removal

792-CITY (2489)

TPD Non Emergency

791-4444

Trash Pick Up & Environmental Services

City of Tucson Environmental Services Department

791-3171

Transportation & Street Maintenance

Tucson Department of Transportation

791-3154

Tucson Water Department

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

Park Tucson

791-5071

Pima Animal Care

724-5900