

Richard Fimbres Councilmember

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IN THIS ISSUE:

Councilmember Fimbres Memorial Day Card Homecoming '21 Action Alert **Fight for Cherrybell Post** Office **City Employees Honored Tucson Budget Tool** Created Cinco de Mayo Action Alert **Buffalo Soldiers Memorial** Dedication Honoring U of A Women's Basketball Las Artes El Rio Health Honored Ward 5 Ground Breaking Thank You Cards to V.A. **Bilby Road Safety** Improvement Project Welcome Matthew Taylor Kino Parkway and 36th Street Traffic Signal Improvements **Project PPEP Update Kidco Starting Up**

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS & CONTACT INFORMATION



Veterans are a symbol of what makes our Nation great, and we must never forget all that they have done to ensure our freedom. For more than two hundred years, men & women of faith & courage have fought and served our Country. Memorial Day was created to honor those who have given the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedom.

May 31, 2021

Dear Honorable Veteran,

In honor of Memorial Day, we want to let you know that we are eternally grateful to you and all of our service men & women who have served in our military. Though our Nation is going through this health challenge with Covid-19, we can't forget those who have sacrificed so much to protect our freedom. May your Memorial Day be reflected of those like yourself who have made it possible. With respect & gratitude we thank you! God bless you and our great Country. Have a peaceful and safe Memorial Day!

Sincerely,

Richard G. Fimbres Council Member, Ward 5

Homecoming '21 in Tucson: On Friday, May 14, at the Gold Star Family Park located by Veterans Memorial Overpass, Tucson took part in Homecoming 21. This event honored those soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice in World War I, and their remains were returned on the USS Wheaton, the last ship to bring them home on May 23, 1921.

Tucson is one of many cities that held events through May 23.

Gold Star Mothers of America partnered with Homecoming 21 to hold these remembrances. Lorraine Obregon of Gold Star Mothers of Tucson coordinated the event. Congratulations Lorraine on the event!

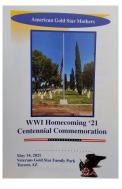
> Pima County Supervisor Adelita S. Grijalva, South Tucson Mayor Bob Teso, South Tucson Vice Mayor Herman Lopez, Shaq McCoy from Pima County Supervisor Matt Heinz office, Tucson City Manager Michael Ortega, Tucson Fire Chief Chuck Ryan and Rev. Luis Ferroni, joined me to honor and recognize the 82 people from Tucson and Southern Arizona who paid the ultimate sacrifice serving in World War I.

City Manager Mike Ortega read the City Proclamation issued by Mayor Regina Romero. South Tucson Mayor Bob Teso read South Tucson's Proclamation. Supervisor Adelita Grijalva read her letter of support and stated Pima County will be issuing a Proclamation as well.

I would like to thank Mayor Romero, for her support of the event with the City Proclamation. I want to thank Mike Ortega, Chuck Ryan, City of Tucson Parks and Rec, Pima County Parks and Rec, Lety Bazurto, the City of Tucson and the Tucson Homecoming 21 organizing committee, LULAC Council 1002, American Patriot Memorial and the Ward 5 staff for helping to organize this event.

Action Alert: The Tucson Mayor & Council voted unanimously on May 4 to oppose the flat tax. Unfortunately, the state budget proposed by the Governor and legislative leaders includes a 2.5% flat tax. If approved, this would reduce state revenues by \$1.9 billion per year, and would mean a \$27 million annual reduction in state shared revenues to the City of Tucson. This would be an enormous cut. If enacted, City leaders have said it would mean cuts to core services, as well as increases for bus fares, KIDCO and other programs to our residents and businesses, including public safety. The bill does include potential support for cities if they sustain losses. However, it only lasts for three years, while the tax cuts are permanent. This plan is insufficient to provide Tucson and other cities what we need to plan and fund our core services moving forward. I'd encourage anyone to please call, email, or text state legislators TODAY and urge them to vote no on the proposed state budget. The final vote on the budget could come soon, so please call 1-800-352-8404 and let your legislators know this hurts all cities in Arizona.





Fight For Cherrybell: Last time, I wrote about the tenth anniversary of the opening of the Costco at the Tucson Marketplace at the Bridges and how it was an important step in the Renaissance of Ward 5 and the South Side. Also in 2011, the battle to keep Cherrybell, Tucson and Southern Arizona's Post Office and Processing Center open began. The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) made the announcement that they were "consolidating their services" and closing Post Office Processing Centers. Tucson's Cherrybell was on the list to be closed.



I began spreading the word about the pending closure and how it would have affected: more than 26,000 businesses in Tucson and Southern Arizona who use Cherrybell to get bulk mailing discounts. I talked about seniors getting their pension checks and medications, veterans getting their medications through the mail from the Veterans Administration (VA) and the economy of Tucson and Southern Arizona and how Cherrybell affects all of them. I brought this issue up to the Tucson Mayor and Council at each meeting and got the Mayor and Council on record opposing the closure. I spoke out to the media on Cherrybell and its importance and it was a lonely battle in the beginning, but one that needed to be fought for our community. The USPS held a public meeting about Cherrybell on December 27, 2011, two days after Christmas at the Leo Rich Theatre.

With my actions at the Council meetings, press releases I sent out to the media and the public on this issue and meetings with community and business leaders, more than 600 people turned out for the meeting and an additional 70 business owners were present for the meeting beforehand with USPS on December 27. Postal officials were shocked at the attendance and shut down the meeting early and not letting Tucson speak on the importance of Cherrybell to our community. USPS also had a two week period that they were going to accept public comment on whether to close Cherrybell. More than 1,200 Tucsonans and people from Southern Arizona wrote letters in support of Cherrybell.

After this meeting, I continued my efforts, meeting and communicating with our Arizona Congressional Delegation, including former Senators John McCain and Jeff Flake, current Senators Mark Kelly and Kyrsten Sinema, former Members of Congress Ed Pastor and Martha McSally, who got then House Oversight Committee Chair, Mark Meadows to tour Cherrybell, and current Members of Congress Raul Grijalva, Ann Kirkpatrick, Tom O'Halleran, Ruben Gallego and Greg Stanton, Governor Doug Ducey, members of the Southern Arizona delegation to the Arizona Legislature, the Pima County Board of Supervisors and business leaders and organizations about the importance of Cherrybell to our community.

Our federal elected officials from both sides of the aisle have taken action, the Governor and Arizona Legislature have gone on record supporting Cherrybell, as well as the Pima County Board of Supervisors. These efforts have led to getting Cherrybell off the closure list, the restoration of a local postmaster and marketing director, as well as Cherrybell offering U.S. Passport service. The fight continues for the restoration of local sorting and Tucson's stamp back. Recently the USPS announced the consolidation of services and closing of 18 processing centers. Cherrybell was not on that list.

More than 26,000 businesses, big and small, across Tucson and Southern Arizona use the post office. Cherrybell serves more than 1,000,000 people across Tucson and Southern Arizona. Seniors, veterans and others get their prescriptions through the mail, while there are others who still get their retirement checks through the mail. Cherrybell is our post office and is a valuable asset for our businesses, veterans, seniors, community and for our economy. We must continue to fight to keep our post office and processing center open, for our future.

Page 4



City Employees/First Responders Recognized: I want to thank the City of Tucson front line workers and first responder employees for their work and commitment, especially during these times. With this health crisis ongoing, our City has worked to provide the core services needed.

Our City's front line workers and all the first responder employees have done so much for the good citizens of Tucson during these times dealing with the COVID-19 health pandemic. They have continued to work, with some coming down with COVID-19.

I and my office have given Ward 5 Certificates of Appreciation and Ward 5 First Responder Coins to City employees who have worked for the good citizens of Tucson and for our City to thank them for their commitment and service.

City of Tucson Budget Tool Created: The City of Tucson has created a new budget engagement tool in English and Spanish to provide a summary of the budget. Community members can assign discretionary funds to different areas of the City's budget. You'll find information about the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) tentative budget for departments that provide direct service to the community along with some information about the services those departments provide to the City. After review of the City Manager's proposed fund-

ing distribution, you'll have an opportunity to share how you would distribute funds to these departments.

The Mayor and Council will review the feedback from this process, Budget Town Hall Meetings, and the City Manager's recommendation prior to adopting the FY22 Budget. The full recommended budget has been posted to the City's website, and public hearings (listed below) will also be held before the final adoption. June 8, 2021 - Regular Agenda: Public Hearing on the Recommended Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget. Regular Agenda: Adoption of the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/22. https://www.tucsonaz.gov/home/announcement/use-our-new -budget-engagement-tool.

Cinco de Mayo: Cinco de Mayo is the holiday held on May 5, commemorating the Mexican Army's victory over French Forces at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862, under the leadership of General Ignacio Zaragoza Seguin. In the U.S., Cinco de Mayo has taken on significance beyond that in Mexico and the date is best recognized in the United States as a date to celebrate our culture and experiences of Americans of Mexican ancestry.

Latinos have had a profound and positive influence on our country through their commitment to family, faith, hard work and service. They have enhanced and

shaped our national character with centuries old traditions that reflect the multiethnic and multicultural customs of our community. Through the years, Latin Americans have played an integral role in our Nation's success in science, the arts, business, military service, government and every other field of endeavor and their talent, creativity, and achievement continue to energize our national life. The United States is a melting pot of a country made of and made for immigrants. But the Latinos have been in this area for thousands of years. And to say our culture has little impact on our community, would be a major understatement.









Page 5

Tucson was declared a City of Gastronomy by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and El Guero Canelo, with their Sonoran Hot Dog, won the prestigious James Beard Award for gastronomy.

With more than 50 million Latinos across the United States, Latinos now make up the largest minority group and represent billions in buying power.

I have worked to give the Latino community more economic opportunities by creating more than 13,500 jobs since taking office as your Ward 5 Councilmember.



Raytheon, Costco, Walmart, GEICO, VXI Tucson, Alorica Pharmaceutical, Curacao, HomeGoods Distribution Center, FedEx Ground, Century Mark 14 Theatre, Lins Grand Buffet, Modular Mining, Centene, Vanguard and Shared Services are just some of companies who have opened new businesses or expanded operations in Ward 5.

Latinos also represent the fastest growing segment of the American electorate. In Arizona, Raul Castro served as our first Latino Governor in the 1970's.

In 1991, Ed Pastor was the first Latino elected to represent Arizona in the U.S. Congress and today there are two Latinos in Congress representing Arizona: Raul Grijalva and Ruben Gallego.

In 2019, Tucson elected Regina Romero, its first Latina Mayor in its 144 year history.

Our community has faced challenges and succeeded, but now we face one of our biggest challenges with the COVID-19 health pandemic.

We must remember during this time, our community's health and safety must come first.

We are all eager to begin gradually re-opening our economy, however we must do so in a manner that is safe and consistent with the advice of public health experts.

As we resume our daily activities we must do so with the intention of staying safe and protecting the most vulnerable members of our community.

Please adhere to CDC guidelines and remember, working together, we can protect each other and our community.

As we reflect on the Latino contributions in this great country, let us not lose sight of where we, as Americans, Arizonans, Tucsonans need to go.

We must continue to work together to solve the challenges of today, so our community and our children will have a better tomorrow.

Page 6

Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Dedication: Monday, May 3, was a historic day for our city with the dedication of the first, voter approved Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Plaza in Ward 5, at the Quincie Douglas Neighborhood Center.

I want to thank our Mayor Regina Romero, and City Manager Mike Ortega for joining me in the dedication of the Buffalo Soldiers Memorial. State Representative Andrea Dalessandro, Pima County Supervisors Adelita Grijalva and Matt Heinz, Pima Community College Chancellor Lee Lambert, Colonel Jerrod Moreland - Garrison Commander for Fort Huachuca and Col. Victor Pereira, 355th Vice Wing Command-

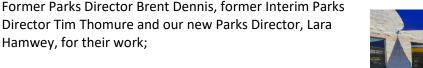
er, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, also took part in the dedication.

I also want to thank:



Engs, Dr. John Langellier, General Julius Parker, Otis Brown, Phyliss Montgomery, for their work and commitment to the Buffalo Soldiers history and memories, as well as working with me on this six year, successful effort;

The GSAAC 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry Association: Jon Covington, Sam Freeman, Lee Easter Jr., Les Morris, Dr. Michael



Jerry Neely the Director of the Quincie Douglas Neighborhood Center and Tom Fisher with Parks and Recreation, and his team;

M Anderson Construction, the contractor, on their work in constructing the Memorial Plaza;

Tucson Marble and Granite for their construction of the Memorial and the good citizens of Tucson who voted in favor of Proposition 407 in 2018.









Page 7

Honoring U.A. Women's Basketball Coach & Team: On Tuesday, May 11, I had the privilege of presenting to University of Arizona (U of A) Women's Basketball Coach, Adia Barnes, her coaching staff and to the U of A Women's Basketball team the Ward 5 Certificate of Appreciation and Ward 5 Medallions of Hope for their success on the court and academically. Congratulations to Coach Barnes, her staff and our team on their success and I look forward to working with her, her staff and the team on Ward 5 projects involving Love of Reading, education and athletics.

Want to get paid while earning your GED?

Are you between the ages of 17 & 22?

Las Artes offers a unique learning environment for youth ages 17-22. We combine structured classroom study with community art projects that help prepare students for the General Education Development (GED) test and learn valuable job-readiness skills.

Classes are held 30 hours per week and students must attend daily. The aim is to blend the best of classroom instruction with a hands-on project where attention to detail is emphasized. Las Artes pays students a weekly stipend.

Students who meet all of the program's academic and attendance requirements can earn a bonus!

Curriculum

Students are required to complete basic education courses and an eight-week community art project. They begin by taking a placement assessment called TABE that matches their level of education with coursework.





LAS ARTES



The time frame to complete the GED, when entering at: Level 1: 32 weeks, Level 2: 24 weeks, Level 3: 16 weeks Placement levels are determined at the time of assessment.



Art Projects Las Artes students create magnificent tile art murals that have beautified neighborhoods throughout Pima County.

Through an eight-week project, students work in teams on realworld projects that promote community involvement and build self-confidence. They gain a sense of pride and accomplishment, tools that are essential in developing a strong work ethic.



Student Services

Las Artes supports students emotionally, financially and academically with an array of services. Students often come to Las Artes facing many obstacles that made them unsuccessful in the traditional school system. Our qualified case managers offer the support students need to thrive.

Apply here: http://bit.ly/2ImNhpALasArtes

Contact us: Las Artes Arts and Education Center 23 W. 27th St., South Tucson, AZ 85713 LasArtes@pima.gov • 520-724-5050 • pima.gov/LasArtes

Page 8

El Rio Health Honored: On May 20, I had the privilege of taking part in the Ohtli Award Presentation by the Mexican Government to El Rio Health for their work getting healthcare to those in need and vulnerable populations in Tucson, Southern Arizona and for our sisters and brothers across the border in Mexico.

As a former Ohtli Award recipient, I was so pleased that El Rio Health, with a location in Ward 5, was recognized for their work providing healthcare to those in need. This was the first time an organization has been recognized for this award in its history.

I presented Nancy Johnson CEO of El Rio a Ward 5 Medallion of Hope, Ward 5 Certificate of Appreciation and Ward 5 First Responders Coin to thank them for their work, as well as their work as a partner with the Tucson Homeless Work Program, that has had more than 900 people take part since its inception.

I want to thank the Mexican Government for recognizing El Rio Health's work for the community. I want to also congratulate El Rio Health on their honor and for their work and commitment to our community.

Ward 5 Ground Breaking: On May 24, I had the privilege of taking part in the ground breaking for the new McDonald's at 4555 South Campbell in Ward 5.

This McDonald's will be open in October and will employ 70 people. I want to congratulate Leanne and Pat Richard's, the new owners for investing in Ward 5.

These jobs have benefits, college tuition and are the first opportunity for employment.

More than 13,000 jobs, ranging from entry level to Amazon, Home Goods, Costco, APAC Pharmaceutical and others have been created in Ward 5.

I also want to thank Barbra Coffee from the City of Tucson Economic Initiatives, Karla Bernal Morales, Chairwoman of the Tucson Hispanic Chamber and Lydia Aranda with CPLC, for their support and taking part in the ground breaking.

This was another chapter in the Renaissance of Ward 5 and the South side.







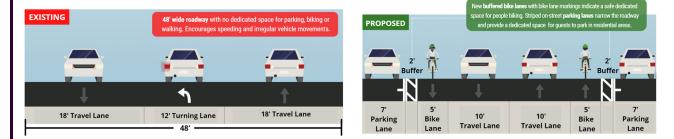


Page 9

Thank You Cards To The V.A.: On Friday, May 28, a contingent of elected officials will be joining me to present thank you cards made by school children for Veterans at the Southern Arizona V.A for Memorial Day.

Schools across Ward 5, the City of Tucson and across Pima county have taken part in this event that I started when I first took office, and this year, Drachman-Montessori, Mission View, Esperanza, St. Joseph's, Ochoa, Gallego and Van Buskirk took part for this Memorial Day event, and thank you to the students and teachers involved and was coordinated by Lupita Robles from my office.





Bilby Road Safety Improvement Project: The City of Tucson Department of Transportation & Mobility (DTM) held a virtual community meeting on April 14, 2021, to discuss preliminary design plans for safety improvements on Bilby Road from S. 12th Avenue to S. Campbell Avenue.

Since that time, DTM has been collecting further design input from residents and stakeholders in the project area. Preliminary design plans were also presented to the Sunnyside School Board on Tuesday, May 11, 2021. Superintendent Holmes directed his staff to review the plans and provide comments. The final draft will be complete by the end of May and a future community meeting will be held in mid-June.

DTM plans to hold any future meetings in a hybrid fashion to allow for residents without access to technology to attend and participate. For detailed preliminary design plans or additional information, please contact Jesse Soto via email at jesse.soto@tucsonaz.gov or by phone 520-400-9718.

Welcome Matthew Taylor: I want to welcome Matthew Taylor to the Ward 5 Council Office. Matthew Taylor was born and raised in Tucson, Arizona. He is currently studying Law at Pima Community College. He's involved with Ballet Folklorico Tapatio, a dance group in the center of South Tucson and has been dancing there for 17 years. Matthew has also served on the Board of Directors for the local nonprofit Tucson Pride, helping to organize and plan the Tucson Pride Festival and Parade, along with advocating for critical resources in the local LGBTQ+ community. Matthew obtained his GED from Pima Community College and began taking classes.



Kino Parkway and 36th Street Traffic Signal Improvements: The Tucson Department of Transportation and Mobility (DTM) recently made improvements to the traffic signals at the Kino Parkway and 36th Street intersection. Improvements included the installation of a new traffic signal pole and mast arm for northbound travel on Kino Parkway as well as converting the traffic signals to include flashing yellow arrows.

DTM is upgrading intersections throughout the community with flashing yellow left turn arrows to improve safety. Research has indicated that left turn collisions are reduced with flashing yellow arrows. The conversion to flashing yellow arrows also provides operational flexibility; during certain times of the day, left turns can be prohibited unless there is a green arrow. Also, when pedestrians want to cross parallel to traffic, left turning traffic can be stopped with a red arrow until the pedestrian has safely crossed the intersection. During a flashing left turn arrow, motorists should yield to pedestrians, oncoming motorists and bicyclists and proceed with caution when turning left.

Submitted by Project PPEP.





Since February of 2021, Portable, Practical, Education, Preparation Inc. (PPEP) has delivered emergency food boxes to the residents of South Tucson every Thursday. In partnership with the 3,000 Club, another local nonprofit, PPEP distributes boxes of fresh food every week meant to feed a family of four. These 35 lbs. boxes include potatoes, onions, milk, cheese, fruits, vegetables, and other nutritional staples. When available, PPEP also provides fresh produce from the organization's organic farm in Patagonia, Arizona. These boxes can be picked up at the Sam Lena South Tucson Library every Thursday beginning at 9AM.



Dr. Arnold, CEO of PPEP, Inc. (pictured above wearing the hat) is a long-time Tucson resident, having attended Pueblo High School and graduated from the University of Arizona. His commitment to the development and well-being of Southern Arizona first moved him to create PPEP, Inc. in 1967. Driving an old school bus named "La Tortuga", he spent time with remote communities of Bracero farmworkers, teaching them English and other vocational skills. Today, PPEP, Inc. serves as a

comprehensive provider of social services to marginalized communities in Southern Arizona, with international projects operating in Mexico and West Africa.



Locally, PPEP's operations are centered along the south side of Tucson. PPEP Tech High School is located at 1840 E Benson Highway; PPEP administrative offices and their Integrated Care facilities are just a mile down the road, on E 46th street. In August of 2019, PPEP opened a medical supply distribution center also on 46th street. An organization previously known as Southwest Medical Aid merged with PPEP in May of 2019, becoming PMHDC Southwest Medical Aid (PSMA) in the process. PSMA's mission is to improve community health and resilience by providing durable and non-durable medical supplies to underserved individuals at no cost. The items housed at the distribution center range from hospital beds and wheelchairs to ostomy supplies and adult incontinence materials. Working in partnership with 40+ non-profit partners, PSMA has collected, prepared, and re-allocated over 115,000 lbs. of medical goods in the past 9 months. Collaboration between PSMA and other community organizations addresses unmet need in Southern Arizona, providing for the elderly, the homeless, the disabled, veterans, and tribal populations. If you or someone you know needs help obtaining medical supplies, more information on PSMA can be found on their website:

https://pmhdcsma.org/ or via Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pmhdcsma/

City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter



The KIDCO SUMMER recreational program offers safe and structured activities for youth ages 5-11 (completed kindergarten through 5th grade). Planned activities may include sports, games, nutrition, fitness, arts and crafts, performing arts and special events.

FULLArcher CenterFULLBloom ElementaryFULLCherry Avenue CenterFULLClements CenterDavidson ElementaryDonna Liggins CenterEl Pueblo Activity CenterEl Rio Neighborhood CenterErickson Elementary

Freedom Park Center Grijalva Elementary Hudlow Elementary Keeling Elementary Marty Birdman Center Prince Elementary FULL Randolph Center Santa Rosa Center



SPACE IS LIMITED



Register online at: EZEEreg.com

Tucson Parks and Recreation A Nationally Accredited Agency

Call (520) 791-4877 for registration information.

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

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



City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

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

> Graffiti Removal 792-CITY (2489)

TPD Non Emergency 791-4444

Trash Pick Up & Environmental Services City of Tucson Environmental Services Department 791-3171

DTM Street Maintenance 791-3154, Email: tdotconcerns@tucsonaz.gov

Tucson Water Department Billing - 791-3242, Public Information - 791-4331

> Park Tucson 791-5071

Pima Animal Care 724-5900

University of Arizona Neighborhood Hotline 520-282-3649

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