



# City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

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Ward 5

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October 2021

Dear Friends:

Friday, October 29, the Renaissance of Ward 5 continued with the ribbon cutting for the new WoodSpring Hotel in Ward 5.

Even through these challenging times and this pandemic, the work to continue the Renaissance of Ward 5 goes on and businesses are expanding and opening, including:

GEICO, who expanded its workforce by 1,500 employees,

Amazon, who opened their new distribution center in Ward 5 and are hiring for 1,800 positions,

Raytheon completed its latest expansion adding 1,900 jobs,

PackDash relocated its operations from Chicago to Tucson, hiring 80 people and,

JTED's Center for Innovation at the Bridges opened up with 600 students to name many examples of progress made.

Also, the two largest annexations, of 470 acres and 70 acres were in Ward 5 in 2021 and will have retail, commercial and residential development as the constituents wanted.

There was more that was accomplished by your Ward 5 Council Member, including:

Stopping the TEP power lines from going through our Ward,

The Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Dedication at the Quincie Douglas Center,

New road work projects and sidewalk repair,

The El Paso and Southwest Greenway,

Distributing food boxes to families and backpacks for school children,

Delivering thank you cards to veterans, which I look forward to delivering again for Veteran's Day,

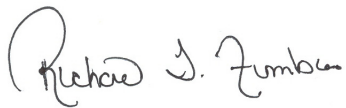


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**IMPORTANT  
PHONE NUMBERS &  
CONTACT  
INFORMATION**

My work to launch Ready Set Rec,  
Cherrybell Post Office is still open,  
Recognizing City of Tucson first responders and essential workers,  
Slow Street projects in several Ward 5 neighborhoods,  
Working with Tucson Water to preserve our water supply and keeping it safe to drink,  
Recognizing students, teachers and principals in Ward 5 schools and  
Working with the Pima County Health Department and Supervisors Adelita Grijalva and Matt Heinz to get more COVID testing and vaccination opportunities in Ward 5 and the South side.  
A lot done but the work continues on our Renaissance of Ward 5 and I look forward to it.  
Thank You.



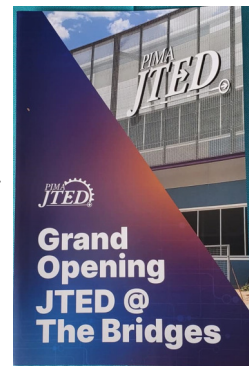
Richard G. Fimbres  
Your Ward 5 Council Member

**JTED Dedication:** October 8 was a great day for Ward 5 with the official ribbon cutting for the JTED Center for Innovation at the Tucson Marketplace at the Bridges.

This was a proposal discussed in a room at El Rio Health Center, during that dedication, to a reality, in record time. I want to thank Gary Brav, Alan Tanner, Don Bourn and City Manager Michael Ortega and City staff for the meeting, the collaboration so that the JTED Center campus was built in 18 months.

I want to thank Kathy Prather, JTED Superintendent, Alex Jacome and the JTED Board for their work and support for the JTED Innovation Center at the Bridges in Ward 5. I also want to thank the leadership of the Pueblo Gardens, South Park, Western Hills II and Las Vistas neighborhood associations for their support and working with JTED and Ward 5.

JTED has more than 600 students at the Innovation Center and construction on the second building will start soon on it and this new campus. Education is the key to success!



**PackDash:** On October 11, I had a great meeting with David DiCosola and Kameroon Norwood of PackDash who have moved their operations to Tucson in Ward 5 and who deal with E-commerce.

I am looking forward to working further with them and PackDash as they expand their operations. I want to thank City of Tucson Economic Initiatives Director Barbra Coffee for helping to arrange this meeting.



PackDash has 80 employees and will be hiring more. For more information on PackDash, go online to [packdash.com](http://packdash.com).

**Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Induction:** On October 15, I had the honor and privilege of being inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame.

I first want to salute my fellow 2020 and 2021 inductees for their service in the military for our nation. I want to also thank Lieutenant Colonel Jerry Peterson who submitted my nomination and his wife Helen, as well as the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Nomination Committee for their consideration and selection.

I followed my dear father and uncles and enlisted in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam Era.

I want to dedicate this honor to my dad, my uncles and my brother Steven, for whom I credit my 27 ½ year career.

With my service in the Army, I had the privilege of serving as a military policeman, patrol and narcotics dog handler, field medic, and patient administrative specialist. I also had the privilege of working with great men and women for this nation, protecting its ideals and freedoms.

I want to thank my father and my uncles for their service in the Army, Air Force C-Bees, Navy and Marines, their knowledge and wisdom they bestowed upon me and for their support when I enlisted, as well as my mother Irene and brother Steven.

I want to thank my Brother Steven Fimbres, who passed away this year. He served with distinction in the U.S. Army Reserves and had a career in the medical profession serving his fellow Veterans through the Southern Arizona V.A.



I would also like to thank my wife Mary, my sons Richard Michael and Joseph, Joseph's wife Ariel Maynes, my grandson Roman Trujillo, my sister Mary Helen and sister-in-law Vicky Leggett, Tucson City Manager Michael Ortega, Tucson City Attorney Mike Rankin, Charlene Mendoza with the Mayor's Office, Alma Yubeta from Pima Community College, Lorraine Obregon with Gold Star Mothers, Mel and Klariza Johnson from Tucson Troop Support, Tom and Georgia Boyle with American Patriot Memorial, Jason Winsky, Don Jorgenson and Joba Dickinson with TPOA, Vaughn Croft with Job Corps, my escort Bruce Hamilton, for traveling to the event and ceremony and Joan Smay and Mark Kerr for their support.



**Sugar Hill Neighborhood Community Resource Fair:** On October 2, I had the privilege of attending the Sugar Hill Neighborhood Resource Fair held at Mansfield Park. I want to congratulate the organizers for another successful resource fair.

Pima County Supervisor Adelita Grijalva, Pima County Attorney Laura Conover, Sarah Launius, Council Member Karin Uhlich's Chief of Staff and Ernesto Portillo from the Ward 3 Council Office, Justin Lloyd from the Ward 2 Council Office, TUSD Board Member Sadie Shaw, Jennifer Eckstrom with the Pima County Faith Based Office, Army Veteran and teacher, Lucy LiBosha, State Representative Randy Friese were among the many individuals and many community organizations present providing information to the community. In addition people had the opportunity to get a COVID-19 vaccine thanks to the Pima County Health Department.



I recognized members of the organizing committee and other community members present for their work to benefit our community with Ward 5 Medallions of Hope and Ward 5 First Responders Coins. It was a great day for our community.



US ARMY AIR CORPS FLT C5TH SQN 1924 - 2019	SGT USMC '45 SP5 ALFONSO GALLARDO '61 US ARMY 60-65	ARMORED DIV BEN D. GROSS CLASS OF 1936 ARMY PHOTOGRAPHER	1900 - 1994 FM3 LESLIE H. PRENTISS JR. WWII 1943-45	US NAVY WWII BILL GRAYSON THS 1947 USMC 1947-50	KIA 7-15-00 SSGT TIMOTHY BOWLES THS 02 KIA 3-15-09
GEO SPRINKLE CLASS OF 1941 US NAVY 43-46	2LT JOHN GALLARDO USAF 12 - 2020	MSGT HECTOR M. PINEDO '71 USAF '72-2002	SC3C HAROLD ANDREE 1942 USCG 1942-45	AIC FRANK RAMIREZ 1972 USAF 1974-78	SGT JUSTIN GALLEGOS THS 00 KIA 10 - 3 - 09
D. MORELOS '65 U.S. ARMY VIETNAM 66-67	A. BRICHTA NAVY 1944-46 MARINES 51-52	SGT AHEE '45 ALL-STATE QB MAJOR USAF	SM2C BUD ANDREE 1943 USN 1943-45	GLENN SMITH WWII 1943-45 AMPHI ADMIN	SGT MARTIN LUGO JR THS 04 KIA 8-19-10
COMO HOWARD KLINE 1965 USN 30 YEARS	USMC GEORGE B. DOMINGUEZ WWII 1942-46	SGT RAUL REYES THS '45 ARMY 47-USMC 51	R. GOODING 52 USMA DUKE MD 101 ABN RVN	SGT F. RONQUILLO 12 RECON INT SQ VIETNAM 67-68	SGT DAMIAN QUIJADA THS 66 USAF 1966-1970
SN ALBERT P. ALDAY '62 NAVY 1962-67	SN JOSEPH F. RAMIREZ JR '68 USN NAM 68-70	QMSI ROY DEWEY WWII KOREA	SFC TIMO M. LUJAN US ARMY INF. KOREA	CPL FRANK OROZCO 1949 USMC KOREA 50-53	PVT WILLIAM C. NAVARRO '57 ARMY NAT. AG.
PVT FRANK G. ARMENTA '65 US ARMY '66-68	US ARMY RET. RICK VILLEGAS SFC VETERAN	JOSEPH L. CLARK 517TH AIRBORNE 1943-1945	CPL JOE L. TRUILLO '44 ARMY 1944-45	SPC4 JOE OROZCO 1953 ARMY 59-61	CPL RICHARD CARO NAVARRO ARMY 82AB
MAJ GAMBLE DICK THS '63 ARMY SF 65-73	QM2 ALFRED J. QUIROZ THS '63 US NAVY 63-67	ELLIS WEBB JR. (JUNE) 1938 WWII VET	DAVID TURNBULL CLASS OF 1941 US ARMY 43-46	CAPT MC JOHN OROZCO 1955 ARMY NAM 64-66	ALEX NAVARRO USMC KOREA PURPLE HEART
AMS2 LARRY VALENZUELA JET NAM THS '65	GREG A. NANEZ MSGT USAF 1985-2007	LTC FRANCIS E. 'BABE' HAWKE '40 USAF 1942-65	PVT BRUCE F. HANNAH JR. '37 US ARMY WWII	LTC BOB OROZCO 1958 USAF NAM 60-84	SGT RUBEN L. MORENO USMC 2B STARP HEART
SSGT QUINTERO CLASS 1995 0331 USMC	PAPA BROOKS SONS. JIM. JOHN ALL US NAVY	PVT-ROBERT O. HANNAH '40 US ARMY WWII	JOE TUPIKEN WWII 1940-45 AZ BUSHMASTER	SGT ROSALIO VALENCIA NAM KIA 5-26-68	

**Tucson High School V5TH AN Brick Dedication:** On October 23, I had the privilege of dedicating the Tucson High School dedication of Bricks Honoring Tucson High Alumni who served this country in the military. I want to thank the Tucson High Badger Foundation and the Brick Dedication Committee for their work. I also want to thank Pima County Supervisor and current TUSD Board Chair, Adelita S. Grijalva for her attendance and commitment to education.



**More Ward 5 Road Projects Beginning:** Thanks to my efforts and the work of the Mayor and Council and the City Manager's Office and his staff, Ward 5 will see more on-going road improvement projects.

These improvements are located in the South Park, Miles neighborhood, and the Park/White Rock Area. These projects are part of the neighborhood investment effort the Mayor and Council approved in this year's budget cycle. This additional investment is on top of the voter-approved Proposition 101, Tucson Deliver Better Streets program.



Thanks to the work of the City Manager, Transportation & Mobility, their staff and the Mayor and Council, Ward 5 residents and the good citizens of Tucson will have more road work and improvements in their neighborhoods.

I want to thank my colleagues on the Council, the City Manager and Transportation & Mobility for working together to make this happen. In addition, Transportation & Mobility and Tucson Water will also be doing infrastructure improvements FY 2023. This entails replacement of water main lines and roadway reconstruction in the 6th Avenue, Champion Stravenue and Oregon Street, also known as the Rodeo District. We are using different approaches to improve roadways in Ward 5 including a private partnership with Southwest Gas.

For our community to succeed, we must work together and develop ideas to make our community a better place to live, work and raise a family.



**Thank You Ms. Sierra:** On October 18, I had the privilege of recognizing teacher and educator Debbie Sierra for her work with students at Pueblo Gardens K-8 school in Ward 5. Ms. Sierra is retiring after 18 years of service to our community.

I want to thank Pueblo Gardens Neighborhood Association President Cindy Ayala and Vice President Bernice Vanover for speaking with me prior about the wonderful work Ms. Sierra has done for students.

**WoodSpring Grand Opening:** The Renaissance of Ward 5 continued with the grand opening and ribbon cutting for the WoodSpring Hotel, on October 29, at the Tucson Marketplace at the Bridges.



The WoodSpring Hotel at 1420 East Marketplace Boulevard is a 122 room extended stay hotel that was constructed in eighteen months, costing \$8 million dollars and employs 14 people. Tucson’s newest hotel is a result of collaboration and cooperation between the developer, Eric Davis and Retail West, Ward 5, WoodSpring and the South Park, Western Hills II, Pueblo Gardens and Las Vistas neighborhoods, working together for the good of the entire community. This is the latest chapter of the Renaissance of Ward 5, the economic hub of our City. The WoodSpring Hotel compliments the GEICO Regional Office and the University of Arizona Tech Park Refinery Building.





**Raytheon’s New Gate Dedication:** On October 27, I had the privilege of taking part in the ribbon cutting and dedication of Raytheon's new Southern entry gate. I along with Tucson, Pima County and the state worked together to get the additional land annexation into Ward 5, Primary Jobs Incentive Measure from Tucson, that resulted in the expansion and creating 1,900 new jobs.



I want to thank City Manager Michael Ortega, Pima County Administrator Chuck Huckleberry, Raytheon and our Congressional delegation who worked together to make this happen.



**Speaking to U of A Students:** On October 26, I had the privilege of speaking to Dr. Ed Ackerley Communications Class at the University of Arizona. I had the chance to talk to the students about public service. Thank you to Dr. Ed Ackerley for this opportunity and thank you to the students for their questions and follow-up feedback.

## YOU ARE INVITED!

### VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING VALENCIA ROAD:

Kolb Road to Houghton Road Improvement Project

The City of Tucson Department of Transportation and Mobility and the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) invite you to a virtual public meeting to learn about the Valencia Road: Kolb Road to Houghton Road Improvement project. This project began design in spring 2020 and has reached the 60% design stage. Design is expected to be complete in summer 2022.

**Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2021**

5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

**Meeting Agenda:**

- Welcome and introductions
- Presentation about project design and schedule
- Question and answer session

**Ways to attend the meeting:**

**ONLINE** - Meeting Link:  
<https://bit.ly/ValenciaRdKolbtoHoughton>

**BY PHONE** - Call-in number: 213-293-2303  
Conference ID: 550 586 276#

#### OVERALL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THIS VALENCIA ROAD PROJECT INCLUDE

- Widening Valencia Road to a six-lane roadway with median
- Upgrades to traffic signals and intersections at Old Vail Road and Nexus Road
- Drainage improvements to provide all-weather access during storms
- Improved asphalt surface
- Bicycle and ADA-compliant pedestrian facilities
- Native landscaping
- Dark Sky-compliant roadway lighting
- Public art



**MORE INFORMATION:** <https://dtmprojects.tucsonaz.gov/pages/valencia-road-kolb-to-houghton>

For more information, please contact Tucson Department of Transportation and Mobility project manager Bob Roggenthen at 520-837-6836 or Bob.Roggenthen@tucsonaz.gov or Lori Lantz at Lori@gordleygroup.com or 520-327-6077.

Spanish captioning will be available during the online presentation. The meeting will be recorded and a link will be placed on the project website at <https://dtmprojects.tucsonaz.gov/pages/valencia-road-kolb-to-houghton> for later viewing.

For accommodation, materials in accessible formats, foreign language interpreters and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact Lori Lantz. Requests should be made at least one week in advance of the meeting to allow time to make arrangements for accommodation.



The Regional Transportation Authority, a political subdivision of the state and independently governed, has invested more than \$1.4 billion in transportation projects and services to improve mobility, safety, economic vitality and quality of life in the region. The RTA collects a half-cent excise (sales) tax from its special taxing district within Pima County to fund its 20-year regional transportation plan. The plan and tax were approved by voters in May 2006. The Valencia Road project is part of the RTA plan and is managed by City of Tucson. For more information, visit [RTAmobility.com](http://RTAmobility.com).

**Halloween Tips:** Halloween is a fun and beloved tradition, but due to the ongoing pandemic, the Pima County Health Department is asking everyone in the county to celebrate Halloween this year in a manner that reduces the risk of spreading COVID-19.

Many traditional Halloween activities involve close contact with different people, which increases the risk of exposure. Even in masks, which could fit right in with a costume, celebrants face risks unless they take precautions. Therefore, the Health Department recommends AVOIDING the following activities this year:

Halloween gatherings, events or parties with non-household members – remember, the fewer people you interact with the better you control your exposure. Carnivals, festivals, live entertainment, and haunted house attractions – even when outdoors, these events require close contact with others and frequent close contact for staff working at those events.

Door-to-door trick or treating - It is difficult to maintain proper physical distancing on porches and at front doors, and sharing food is risky whether reaching into a shared candy bowl or being given candy by hand. “Trunk or Treat” events - where children go from car to car instead of door to door to receive treats – even though it is outside, it is difficult to avoid crowding and contamination in candy bowls. Instead, the Health Department has suggestions for having fun while protecting your health.

“The entire holiday season will look different this year,” Dr. Theresa Cullen, Director of the Health Department, said. “I encourage everyone to have fun, but do so safely. Regardless of how you choose to celebrate Halloween, it is important to continue to wear facemasks, wash your hands frequently or use hand sanitizer, and follow physical distancing.”

If you are sick or have been around someone with COVID-19, or symptoms of COVID-19, stay home.

Be Safe and Be Healthy!

**City of Tucson Resource Line:** Please call (520) 791-2540 with questions about how City business is being conducted during this ongoing community emergency. Call takers are available for both English and Spanish speakers.

If you have questions about your business, please call the City's Small Business Assistance Line at (520) 837-4100. The Economic Initiatives team is available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, or submit questions and comments any time using the Small Business Assistance Form.

**2-1-1 Arizona:** The hotline, in both English and Spanish, is administered by 2-1-1 Arizona and the Crisis Response Network and will offer a place to answer questions and concerns from Arizona residents about COVID-19.

The line operates from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day of the week and can be reached by dialing 2-1-1 while an individual is located in Arizona. More information can also be found at [211arizona.org/covid-19](https://211arizona.org/covid-19).



Ready, Set,  
**REC!**

# Find the Ward 5 van!



- Nov. 2, 3-5 p.m. - Manuel Herrera Park**
- Nov. 4, 3-5 p.m. - San Antonio Park**
- Nov. 6, 9-11 a.m. - Silverlake Park**
- Nov. 8, 3-5 p.m. - Bristol Park**
- Nov. 9, 3-5 p.m. - Bravo Park**
- Nov. 10, 3-5 p.m. - Mirasol Park**
- Nov. 16, 3-5 p.m. - Swan Park**
- Nov. 18, 3-5 p.m. - Santa Rosa Park**
- Nov. 19, 3-5 p.m. - Ochoa Park**
- Nov. 22, 3-5 p.m. - Rudy Garcia Park (Rodeo)**
- Nov. 23, 3-5 p.m. - Silverlake Park**
- Nov. 24, 3-5 p.m. - Manuel Herrera Park**
- Nov. 29, 3-5 p.m. - San Antonio Park**
- Nov. 30, 3-5 p.m. - Pueblo Gardens Park**



# **DON'T MISS YOUR SHOT TO STOP COVID-19**

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](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

### **DTM 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

### **University of Arizona Neighborhood Hotline**

520-282-3649

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[Ward5@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:Ward5@tucsonaz.gov) and include the word *unsubscribe* in subject line.