



# PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

January 29, 2015

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## PAUL'S NOTE

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- \* Fort Lowell Day—  
January 31
- \* February 16—  
Presidents' Day

Friday night, I participated in a poker tournament sponsored by several organizations including Old Pueblo Community Services and Veterans of Foreign Wars District 5. The poker tournament was to raise money and awareness of homelessness among our veterans. I got to speak to Cliff Wade, a veterans advocate for Old Pueblo who helped me learn more about the issues around veterans homelessness.

The mayor's office has spearheaded an effort involving the Veterans Administration, Old Pueblo, COPE and many other agencies in an effort to eliminate veteran homelessness in Tucson. Since the effort was launched in the summer of 2013, 871 homeless veterans have been taken off the street and put into permanent housing. Mayor Stanton in Phoenix has

a similar effort going up there. It is something we can all be proud of.

Still, there is a lot of work to be done in our state. A 2013 Department of Economic Security report said that there were 389 homeless veterans in our state's rural counties. Services can be harder to come by in those areas and it's harder for agencies to do outreach.

If you are a vet that is in need of services or you know one that is, don't hesitate to get in touch with one of the following agencies:

Old Pueblo Community Services – Veterans Assistance Programs: 520 546 0122, [http://helptucson.org/help\\_tucson/services/veterans\\_assistance.php](http://helptucson.org/help_tucson/services/veterans_assistance.php)  
Comin' Home Inc - 520 322 6980, <http://www.cominhome.org/>

Rally Point –  
<http://www.rallypointtucson.org>

The Tucson Fire Department set an important milestone this week by appointing its first woman assistant chief.

Laura Baker has been with the department for 20 years. Her career has included time as a firefighter, a paramedic and in a number of leadership roles in the department. Her determination could also be seen outside of her career: she tried out for the WNBA three times.

Not only is it unusual to have a woman in a leadership role in a fire department, it is rare to find women at all in fire services. Chief Jim Critchley told the Arizona Daily Star that only half of departments nationwide have

## PAUL'S NOTE CONTINUED

any women employed as fire fighters.

To Chief Baker's credit, she has already been working hard to make sure that young women see firefighting as a possible career. She worked with the Girl Scouts and the Women's Fund of Southern Arizona to start a program called Camp Fury to introduce young women to fire fighting. This will be the sixth year of the program, and it has already been picked up in other parts of the country.

Having opportunities opened up for Chief Baker and women like her is a big part of what makes me proud of Tucson. Thank you, Chief, and I look forward to working with you.



## FT. LOWELL—REUNIÓN DEL FUERTE

The 34th Fort Lowell Day Celebration, La Reunión del Fuerte will be held at the Ft. Lowell Park (2900 N. Craycroft Rd) on Saturday, February 14, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Activities will include cavalry drills, tour of the Ft. Lowell and its new exhibit, 19th Century music from the 4th US Cavalry Band, 1800's vintage baseball game, and adobe brick making.

The event will also include a rededication of the historic Capillita.

For more information, visit the website:

<http://www.oldfortlowellneighborhood.org/OFLDayCelebration2015.htm>



## LOW-INCOME DISCOUNTS

The City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Department offers discounts that allow low-income residents to pay a 50 percent discounted fee for KIDCO, Jr. Leadership, In-Betweeners, Learn-to-Swim, and therapeutic programs. There also is a 25 percent discount for annual/quarterly passes at recreation centers and for a Senior Activity Card. To qualify for the discounts, you must be a City of Tucson resident, provide ID and address verification, and be able to prove your income falls within the discount guidelines. You can apply at any Parks and Recreation office. For more details on the requirements for the discounts, call Registration Services at [\(520\) 791-4877](tel:5207914877).

You can learn more at: <http://parks.tucsonaz.gov/parks/youth-and-teen#discount>

## BIKE SAFETY

If your child is just learning how to ride a bike, or you want to brush up on your safety knowledge, the Tucson Fire Department (TFD) has a dedicated page on its website to educate people about bicycle safety. The site includes tips about helmets, bike inspections, visibility, and more. Each year in the United States, more than 500,000 people are treated in the emergency room for bicycle-related injuries, with children under the age of 15 accounting for 59 percent of those injuries, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Head injuries account for 62 percent of all bike-related deaths.

Learn more at <http://fire.tucsonaz.gov/fire/bicycle-safety>

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## DUETS AND DINNER

Save the Date for the Tucson Girls Chorus Duets and Dinner.

Sunday, March 15, 2015

Festivities begin at 5 pm

Tucson Jewish Community Center

3800 E River Road, Tucson, AZ

\$100 per person, \$1000 per table of ten

For sponsorship opportunities, call 520 577 6064.

For more information, email [info@tucsongirlschorus.org](mailto:info@tucsongirlschorus.org) or go to [www.tucsongirlschorus.org](http://www.tucsongirlschorus.org)

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## CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

**Bingo Bash:** The Carol West Senior Addition is hosting a Bingo Bash event on Thursday, January 29 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$2.00 per person. The event will include great prizes, refreshments, snacks and lots of fun. The event is sponsored by Handmaker.

Contact the Carol West Senior Additional at 791-4121 for questions on the events mentioned above.

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## PARKS PROGRAMS

**Spring 2015 Leisure Classes:** The Spring classes run January 4, 2015 through May 9, 2015. The deadline to register was Tuesday, December 23rd. Watch for the Summer 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog to be available on Monday, April 20, 2015; It will be available for free pick-up at all Parks and Recreation facilities and it can be viewed on-line at [www.ezeereg.com](http://www.ezeereg.com) Contact the Registration Office at 791-4877 for additional information.

**Senior Olympic Festival:** The 31st Annual Senior Olympic Festival will be held Monday, January 12 through Sunday, February 1, 2015. The festival is a celebration to promote fitness, health and an active lifestyle among adults 50+. The program features nearly 100 events and activities at more than 20 venues throughout the City of Tucson. Registration is on-line or by phone through December 31 at [www.ezeereg.com](http://www.ezeereg.com) or 573-3933. For more information, contact Mike Davis at 791-3244 or log onto [www.tucsongames.org](http://www.tucsongames.org)

**La Reunión del Fuerte:** See page 2 for details.

**Summer 2015 Lifeguard Recruitment:** The Parks and Recreation Department is recruiting lifeguards for Summer 2015. On-line applications and recruitment process are available at [www.tucsonaz.gov](http://www.tucsonaz.gov) Click on JOBS. Applicants must be at least 15 year old at time of hire, Experienced swimmer and available to work required hours/locations, American Red Cross certification in CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer, American Red Cross certification in First Aid Basics, and American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification. For questions or assistance for completing any of the above mentioned lifeguard certification requirements, contact 791-4245.

**Junior Staff in Training Program:** The Junior Staff in Training program provides teens with an experience aimed at improving leadership skills and preparing teens ages 14-17 for possible future employment in the field of recreation.

Program requirements include a mandatory interview (takes place the week of March 16-20, 2015). Call Mike Davis at 837-8137 to schedule the interview by March 11, 2015, paying a registration cost (\$70 City Residents/\$889 Non-city Residents), and attending orientation prior to start of program

**Facility Closures:** All Tucson Parks and Recreation facilities will be closed on Monday, February 16 in observance of Presidents Day.

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**PAUL CUNNINGHAM,  
CITY COUNCIL, WARD 2**

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Tucsonaz.gov/  
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Remember to like  
Paul on Facebook!

Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office  
for the following charities:

**THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable  
Items**

**DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA—  
Infant/Child/Adult Diapers**

**TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals  
and Families in Need**

**LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses**

**DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/  
Dance Equipment**

**CASA MARIA—Plastic bags**

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## MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will not be on a Tuesday. The meeting will be on Wednesday, February 4. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session. There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs>

