

Councilman Paul Cunningham's Ward 2 Newsletter

F E B R U A R Y 8 , 2 0 1 3

UPCOMING DATES:

- Thru February 23:
Tucson SoccerFest
- February 9—
Reunion de el Fuerte
- February 12—
Lincoln's Birthday
- February 16-24—
Fiesta de los Vaque-
ros

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PAUL'S NOTE

I'd like to start with a bit of good news for our city. KUAZ reported this week that commercial vacancies are under 10% in Tucson. I have also talked to two hotels on the East Side that are reporting that they are full due to the gem show, soccer and other big events this month.

Things are looking up for our community.

This week's study session covered the condition of our roads. This is probably the complaint heard most often from my constituents and by, well, everyone in town.

Progress is being made and full credit goes to the city's new transportation director Daryl Cole and his team. The department measures the work they've done by "lane miles," in other words, a mile of pavement twelve feet wide. Since last May, the city has worked on 338 lane miles of major streets, plus 80 lane miles of residential streets. As the bond money that voters passed in November gets spent, we can expect even more work to get done.

We also received a preliminary financial report in preparation for our budget discussions later this year. In my first year, we had a \$50 million shortfall. Projections aren't complete yet, but it is expected that the shortfall could be down to as little as a tenth of that. Not great, and there are still some difficult decisions we are going to need to make. As with so many issues before the council, I welcome your input.

We also had some discussion about the future of the Ronstadt Transit Center. We need to keep some sort of transit center downtown to serve those who ride the bus, particularly low income citizens. Whatever arrangement is finally made needs to be good for the city on a financial basis: no \$1 leases that leave the taxpayer stuck if things go bad and no sweetheart deals for the well connected.

Of course, the most controversial issue before the council was the issue of gun shows at the Community Center. I supported the measures that were brought forth by Councilmembers Kozachik and Uhlich. I have heard from many of you that feel that this will restrict your freedom to buy and sell firearms. I don't think it will. The fact is, that many people who couldn't buy weapons at a store that performs a check turn to these shows. I saw that when I was a probation officer. My fellow P.O.s and I would go to the shows to make sure that prohibited possessors weren't trying to buy. Guess what? They often were.

To me the most important issue is this: as a member of the City Council, I am, in part, responsible what happens at our city facilities. Should, God forbid, there is another horrible gun related incident in our community, I don't want to find out that the we helped facilitate the purchase of the weapon involved.

There are a few things I'd like you all to keep an eye out for over the next couple of

**PAUL'S NOTE
(CONTINUED)**

months. I have had meetings to put together the youth sports summit. I'll be ready to announce who is helping to organize it and I think you all will like the names. We will also soon be bringing back the business roundtable and neighborhood legislature.

As always, have a great weekend and stay warm.

**CITIZENS' COMMISSION ON
PUBLIC SERVICE AND
COMPENSATION**

The 2013 City of Tucson's Citizens' Commission on Public Service and Compensation held its first meeting on January 17 with all seven commissioners attending. The commission completed its agenda and elected its officers. The Commission voted to hold its meetings on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. Public involvement with the Commission is encouraged and welcomed by either sending emails to the Commission at cityclerk@tucsonaz.gov and/or attending subsequent Commission meetings, which are held in the Mayor and Council Conference Room, 255 W. Alameda Street..

Written public input to the Commission should be submitted by February 15, 2013. This year's Commission will be holding weekly meetings through March 15, 2013. For more information, visit the City's website about the Commission's

SHRED-A-THON

2013 will mark the 6th year the Pima County Sheriff's Department has provided this valuable service free-of-charge to the community. All confirmed event dates are on Saturdays, and all shredding events will run from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

- April 6 at Casas Church- 10801 N. La Canada Blvd.
- September 14 at Kino Sports Complex- 2500 E. Ajo Way

- November 16 at Empire High School- 10701 E. Maryann Cleveland Way

DISPOSE-A-MED

The Pima County Sheriff's Department will be hosting Dispose-A-Med events intermittently throughout the year. These events are offered free of charge thanks to a grant provided by the Department of Justice.

Tablets, capsules, liquids, and creams will be collected. Metal or glass inhalation aerosol bottles, syringes, and epi-pens will not be accepted. For safety and confidentiality reasons, any items turned over for collection cannot be returned. We do not accept drugs from commercial organizations. For information about the disposal of needles and syringes, please visit the Pima County Health Department (<http://www.pimahealth.org/news/needle.asp>) website.

Our total collected weight for 2012 was 1553 pounds! 2012 was a very successful year and we wish to thank all those who participated in getting these unused or expired drugs off the street.

- April 27, 2013, 10am - 2pm, 4040 N. Oracle Road, (in front of Target)
- May 4, 2013, 8am - 12pm, 7575 E. Speedway Blvd., (down Prudence past fire station)

Note: Do not bring medicines or other medical waste to either location until the date.

proceedings and updates on the agenda and decisions at: <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/boards?board=76>

For more information or questions on ADA accommodations and accessibility for these meetings, call Yolanda Lozano, City Clerk's Office, at 791-4213.

FIRST BOOK BOOK SALE

First Book of Tucson will be having a book fair on Saturday, March 2 at 10 am at Barnes and Noble on Broadway. Bring your children and enjoy a fun time! Hudlow School has a wish list and you can purchase a voucher for the school to receive a "wish book." This is a wonderful way to help a local school and help the students learn the love of reading.

First Book provides new books to children in need, addressing one of the most important factors affecting literacy access to books. An innovative leader in social enterprise, each year First Book distributes millions of free and low-cost books to disad-

vantaged children and the programs that serve them.



AARP TAX PREPARATION HELP

The AARP will be available to help out with tax preparation at several Eastside locations. Walk-ins are welcome at all three locations.

Udall Recreation Center, 7200 E Tanque Verde
520-791-4931
Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 am – 1 pm (except Feb. 18)

Murphy-Wilmot Library, 530 N Wilmot Rd
Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 9252 E 22nd St
Wednesdays, 12 pm – 4 pm



UDALL PARK

A square dancing program will be offered at the Udall Senior Addition on February 13, 20 and 27 from 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. The cost is \$3.00 per class. For more information contact the Carol West Senior Addition at 791-4121.

AARP will be offering tax assistance at Udall Center on Mondays and Wednesdays, through April 15 from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. First come, first serve basis. Contact 571-9884 for more information.

The Carol West Senior Addition will host a "Sweetheart Ballroom Dance" on Tuesday, February 12 at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$3.00.

A Rodeo Luncheon will take place on Thursday, February 14 at 1:00 p.m., and in the multipurpose room of Udall Cen-

ter. The cost is \$5.00 per person. The event will include live entertainment, food sponsored by Atria, drinks and dancing. Sign up at the center.

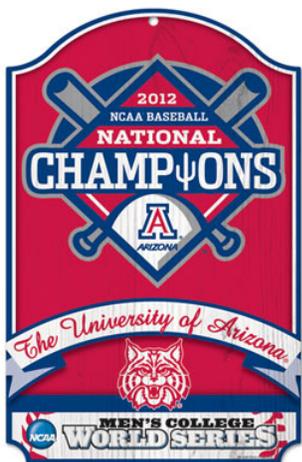
FACILITY CLOSURES

In observance of Presidents Day, all City Parks and Recreation facilities to include Recreation Centers and Administration Offices will be closed on Monday, February 18.



ARIZONA BASEBALL

The University of Arizona Baseball will have their opening day at Hi Corbett on Friday, February 15 at 6 p.m. They play against Coppin State. They also play against Coppin State on Saturday, February 16 at 2 p.m. and on Sunday, February 17 at noon.



TUCSON RODEO PARADE

The 2013 Tucson Rodeo Parade will take place on Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 9:00 AM. The event is free along most of the route and ticketed grandstand seating is available. The grandstand seating is next to the Rodeo Grounds on Irvington Road and includes pre-parade entertainment. The parade attracts over 150,000 spectators each year. For more information, contact the Tucson Rodeo Parade website at www.TucsonRodeoParade.org

LA REUNION DEL FUERTE

The 32nd Annual Fort Lowell Day Celebration, La Reunion de el Fuerte will be held on February 9, 2013 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Ft. Lowell Park. The event will include historic sites walking tours, cavalry drills, music, and youth activities. The event is sponsored by the Old Fort Lowell Neighborhood Association, Inc., and the event is open to the public. Free admission. The park is located at 2900 N. Craycroft Rd. For more information contact 318-0219.

TUCSON SOCCER FEST

Until February 23rd, Tucson will be treated to high level soccer. The games will be at Kino Stadium, as well as the newly improved Kino Sports Complex. Contact FC Tucson for ticket information at 334-1115 or visit <https://fctucson.ticketsocket.com/>

February 8
FC Tucson v Portland Timbers, 11 am

Desert Diamond Cup
All games at Kino Stadium

February 13
New England Revolution v Seattle Sounders FC, 5 pm

New York Red Bulls v Real Salt Lake, 7 pm

February 16
Seattle Sounders FC v Real Salt Lake, 5 pm

New York Red Bulls v New England Revolution, 7 pm

February 20
Real Salt Lake v New England Revolution, 5 pm

New York Red Bulls v Seattle Sounders FC, 7 pm

February 23
Consolation match, 4 pm
Championship match, 6 pm

KOMEN
SOUTHERN
ARIZONA

One in eight women reading this will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime.

These are your friends, your neighbors, your relatives, the people you brush up against at the grocery store or the car wash.

The mission of Komen Southern Arizona is to spread the word that early detection of breast cancer saves lives.

By taking part in the Race for the Cure on March 17, you'll be saving lives too. The money we raise on Race Day is turned into grants to diagnose, treat and educate women and men. And for every dollar raised, 75 cents net stays right here in our community. So join us on March 17 for our Race for the Cure, for the first time on the UA campus.

This year's Race for the Cure will be extra special. It's the 15th anniversary race, and Olympic silver medalist and UA undergrad Brigetta Barrett heads up the event as Honorary Race Chair. Brigetta's mother is a breast cancer survivor.

The 15th anniversary Southern Arizona Race for the Cure will take place on Sunday, March 17th, 2013 at the University of Arizona campus.

Register online at www.komensaz.org, or paper registration forms mailed by request. For more info call 520 319 0155.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on February 5. 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>.



We're on the web!
Cms3.tucsonaz.gov/ward2

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Newsletter**

Please bring these items to the Ward
2 Office for the following charities:
THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perish-
able Items
DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA—
Infant/Child/Adult Diapers
SAAF—Personal Hygiene Products and Per-
sonal Care Products
TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals
and Families in Need
ICU—Eye Glasses
DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—
Ballet/Dance Equipment