



PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

February 21, 2014

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PAUL'S NOTE

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- * Town Hall with Paul and Mayor Rothschild, April 9
- * Mark your calendars: Our next community Shred-It event will be April 19th

My friend Rudy Wagner passed away recently. I met him as the father of Brandon, who I knew in fifth grade and was later one of my buddies on the Rincon High School basketball team. Later, I worked with him when I joined with juvenile probation. He also went on to work for Child Protective Services for fifteen years in their young adult program.

He also was an actor who appeared alongside Paul Newman in *The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean*.

I learned a great deal about working with youth from Rudy. I don't like throwing "mentor" around too much, but I guess I could call him that.

Even more important that what I learned from him about work, was what I learned about parenthood. Growing up, Rudy was one of the few single fathers I knew. When I had to tackle the responsibilities of single fatherhood, I looked to Rudy for guidance.

Rudy was taken from us way too early. Condolences to his son Brandon, Rudy's

grandchildren and the rest of Rudy's family, we've lost a great Tucsonan.

The zoning examiner made his ruling on a piece of land called Schneider-Speedway this week. That's the parcel of desert between Magee Middle School and the Robb Wash.

The developer was asking for R-2 zoning, which would have allowed apartments. The developer's plans were actually for townhomes. Still, local residents were worried what the plans would be. They needed assurance that these would be single family homes and that their lifestyles would be protected.

Losing these beautiful patches of desert is always a concern for me and for many of us in the city. But, the choice is between higher density in the city or sprawl (and its attendant drain on resources) on the outskirts.

My office met with the developer and some neighbors. I also sent a representative to the zoning

hearing late last month. A funny thing happened at the zoning hearing. The examiner called a recess and the neighbors and the developer hammered out an agreement: the developer would get his zoning and neighbors would have assurances of things like setbacks, height restrictions and traffic mitigation. The zoning examiner wrote the agreement into the zoning, along with city demands for protections for the Robb Wash and the greenway.

I'm happy that my office played a part in getting an agreement rather than an ugly zoning battle. The bulk of the credit goes to the folks in the Carriage Park Neighborhood Association for making their demands known, but also being willing to compromise, be civil and work things out. More of our policy battles need to be done that way.

It's Rodeo Week in Tucson and I had the chance to read a few facts about our rodeo and parade celebration from the dais the other night. The rodeo was first

PAUL'S NOTE, CONTINUED

conceived as a way to bring in winter visitors by Leighton Kramer, the president of the, of all things, the Arizona Polo Association. The first rodeo and parade happened in 1925 at a place called Kramer Field, now in the Catalina Vista neighborhood. That was in the middle of prohibition. State Prohibition director Frank Pool had 3000 gallons of illegal liquor destroyed in the lead up to the festivities to keep celebrants sober. Parade prizes that year included a 100 pound sack of potatoes, a 750 pound block of ice and a "Big Cactus" Ham.

Have a great Rodeo weekend.

GARDEN OF GETHSEMENE

The City of Tucson and Knights of Columbus invite you to celebrate the restoration of artwork at the Garden of Gethsemane on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at 3 p.m. The Garden of Gethsemane has been open to the public for more than 30 years, and at one time sculptured figures were also in the Santa Cruz riverbed, as well as along the bank.

A sculpture and plaque dedicated to artist Felix Lucero, who died in 1951, is featured at the entrance to the garden. Lucero, with no formal training in art, originally created all the art pieces from sand from the Santa Cruz riverbed and originally used plaster, later cement. The site has been considered an important cultural site for the local neighborhood, with dozens of Quinceañeras and marriages performed there.

The Garden is located at 602 W. Congress St.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

The Tucson/Pima County Household Hazardous Waste Program has changed the 2nd Saturday Outreach Collection to a "mobile" event. Every month, the collection event will be in a different neighborhood so that more Tucsonans will have easy access to the program. The 1st Saturday collection at the Eastside Service Center, 7575 E Speedway, will still continue. The collections run from 8 am to noon. For more information, visit www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw or call 888-6947

IMPORTANT: Do not drop off household hazardous waste at the Ward 2 Council Office. We have no way of storing it. Please wait until a scheduled monthly drop off.

1st Saturday: Eastside Service Center, 7575 E Speedway. Enter site by turning north on Prudence.

2nd Saturday: March:, Himmell Park, 2000 N Tucson Blvd

HOUGHTON ROAD PROJECT

Houghton Road and Broadway Boulevard Intersection: Construction on this segment began in November 2013 and is anticipated to take approximately six months.

Houghton Road from Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street: This is being designed concurrently and will be constructed as work on the intersection is concluding. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2014 and last approximately 18 months. One lane of traffic will be maintained in each direction, and access to all properties and businesses will remain open throughout construction.

Open House: The City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT) and the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) invite you to attend an open house for the Houghton Road: Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street project. This project is part of the overall plan to improve Houghton Road from Tanque Verde Road to Interstate 10. The open house is scheduled for February 25th at Pantano Christian Church (1755 S Houghton Road) from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. It will be informal. Drop in any time.

RODEO ARTS CELEBRATION

The annual Rodeo Days Arts Celebration will be at Plaza Palomino at 2960 N Swan Road. This year's celebration will include a quick draw contest which will let local celebrities demonstrate their artistic abilities. The contest will be refereed by former mayor Bob Walkup. The celebration starts on Sunday, Feb 23 and runs from 11 to 7. Proceeds from the events will go to the Tucson Musician's Museum Youth Mentorship Program.



GRAFFITI

In an ongoing effort to combat the public nuisance of graffiti in our city and neighborhoods, TEP has launched a new tool to assist our customers in reporting graffiti on TEP equipment throughout our service territory. At tep.com, a link has been provided to allow customers to report graffiti in an efficient way by providing the location of the graffiti, nearest cross streets and a picture (if available) of the tagged equipment. Providing a picture greatly enhances the ability to respond quickly with the appropriate materials for safe and proper removal of the graffiti. Once a notice is received, the information goes directly to TEP staff dedicated to abating graffiti.

While TEP will continue to rely on the City for notifying TPD of the graffiti reported to us through the City Transportation Department, they are working to determine an efficient police reporting process for graffiti reports they receive directly through our website.

UDALL CENTER INFORMATION

Senior Athletics: Udall Regional Center is offering three new recreation programs including Wallyball, Dodgeball, and Pickleball. The programs started January 24, 2014 and runs 6 weeks. The games take place on Friday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Space is limited and the program fees include: \$2.00/individual and \$4.00/family per night.

Tax Help: AARP Tax Aide is offering assistance at Udall Center from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. April 14, 2014. Services are free and is on a first come first serve basis. Call 571-9884 for information.

Badminton: Udall Center will be hosting the Arizona State Badminton Competitions on March 1 and 2. The time is TBD.

PARKS PROGRAMS

Adult Spring Softball: The Adult Spring Softball season begins March 24 and registration begins February 25 through March 14. Walk-in registration takes place at the Sports Unit in Freedom Recreation Center located at 5000 E 29th Street and Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Registration is limited. Contact the Sports Unit 791-4870 for more information.

University of Arizona Baseball: Hi Corbett Field will be hosting home games for your Arizona Wildcats:
U/A versus Alcorn State: Friday, February 21 at 6 pm, Saturday, February 22 at 6 pm, Sunday, February 23 at noon.
U/A versus Seton Hall: Friday, February 28 at 6 pm, Saturday, March 1 at 6 pm, Sunday, March 2 at noon

2014 Leisure Classes and Programs: The January classes have started and take place January 5 through May 10. There may still be availability for the March classes and the deadline to register is February 28th. The 2014 Class Catalog and Program Guide can be viewed on line at www.ezeereg.com or can be picked up at any of City of Tucson Recreation facilities. For questions or more information on registration or programs contact Registration Services at 791-4877.

RX SAFE, SMART & SECURE

Amistades Inc., 4R Communities Alliance, Luz Southside Coalition and the Community Prevention Coalition of Pima County have teamed up with the Tucson Police Department to offer a safe way to dispose of your expired drugs.

A drop off service is being offered at five Tucson Police Department substations:

- Southside Santa Cruz Substation, 4410 S. Park Ave, at East Fair Street
 - Westside Police Service Center, 1310 W. Miracle Mile near North Flowing Wells Road
 - Midtown Substation, 1100 S. Alvernon Way at East 22nd Street
 - Downtown Main Station, 270 S. Stone Ave. near West Cushing Street
 - Eastside Rincon Substation, 9670 E. Golf Links Road near South Harrison Road.
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**PAUL CUNNINGHAM,
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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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on Tuesday, March 4, Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session. Note that the meeting is scheduled for a Wednesday rather than the usual Tuesday. 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>

