

Councilman Paul Cunningham's Ward 2 Newsletter

M A R C H 2 1 , 2 0 1 3

UPCOMING DATES:

- March 23: Little League opening day (page 3)
- April 22: Earth Day (Be on the lookout for a free shredding event that day)

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PAUL'S NOTE

I was very happy to see my fellow council members unanimously support a new ordinance on plastic bags. I helped shepherd it through the process, but the real credit goes to the citizens that sat through hours of meetings and arrived at a consensus. It's something that we don't see enough of at some higher levels of government.

The final product isn't everything that I wanted. Neither is it everything the retailers and business wanted. It wasn't everything that environmentalists wanted. But all of these interests were willing to work together to come up with a solution that was good for the community. How often do we see the Sierra Club, Chamber of Commerce and the Arizona Retailers Association sit down and have a good discussion, much less come to a consensus? Not often enough. I'm proud to have been a part of that.

Over 100 billion plastic bags are made every year, requiring 12 million barrels of oil to manufacture. Many of these bags are single use, and contribute to the 46,000 pieces of plastic that are floating in each square mile of ocean, according to the UN Environment Program.

The ordinance is part of a larger effort we've undertaken in the city that includes initiatives on grey water, recycling and solar power. Tucson's leadership on these issues will better enable us to meet the long term challenges communities like ours will face in the next century.

Many of you know about the plan to shut down the Cherrybell mail processing center in Tucson. The post office has already taken steps to move many operations to Phoenix. If this move is completed, it will leave Tucson as the largest city without its own processing center. Mail within Tucson and Southern Arizona will be trucked up to Phoenix, delaying delivery even to your own neighbors. This will have a major impact on local businesses that depend on mail, as well as put many Tucsonans out of work.

As an elected official, I've already made my views on this move known, but you'll have a chance to make your voice heard this weekend. Groups representing postal workers and letter carriers will be having a rally on Sunday at the corner of 22nd and Cherrybell Ave to protest the move from 2 – 4 pm.

I'd like everyone to take a few minutes to remember Hank Oyama. Oyama was an educator for decades in our community and I was very sad to hear that he passed away on Tuesday night.

Oyama grew up on Tucson's Southside. Even though he grew up in a Mexican-American neighborhood and thought of himself as a Mexican-American, he and his family were interned together with thousands of other Japanese-Americans during World War II. He didn't let that dampen his love of country, and he served in Army intelligence in Panama in the waning years of the war. When he returned to Tucson, he became an educator. He was part of the group that founded Pima Community College, started our community's bilingual educa-

PAUL'S NOTE, CONTINUED

tion efforts and was a long time advocate for youth and education issues.

Oh, and along the way, he also was part of the landmark case that got rid of Arizona's racial miscegenation laws.

My father and grandmother had the privilege of working with Hank over the years. His interest and commitment to our community and country is incomparable. He will be missed. This community is a much better place because of Hank.



WARD 2 BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

Councilmember Paul Cunningham is holding a Ward 2 business roundtable and you are invited. The Ward 2 office holds these events to keep local business owners up to date on issues about the business climate in Tucson and Southern Arizona.

The next roundtable is on March 26th at 11:30 at the Ward 2 Council office, 7575 E Speedway. The topic will be sports tourism and its impact on the local economy.

The program will include remarks by Felipe Garcia of the Metropolitan Tucson Convention and Visitors Bu-

reau and Greg Foster, managing partner of FC Tucson.

We will be providing lunch, so we'd like you to RSVP to our office. Lunch will be free, but we are requesting a \$5 donation for the Community Food Bank.

Thank you. Feel free to call Ted at the Ward 2 office if you have any questions, 791-4687.

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.

UDALL PARK

The Carol West Senior addition is hosting a 'March Madness' event on Monday, April 8th. The event will include food, games and viewing of the NCAA Championship Basketball Game. The cost is \$3.00 per person and the deadline to sign up is March 25.

AARP will be offering tax assistance at Udall Center on Mondays and Wednesdays, thru February 4-April 15 from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. First come, first serve basis. Contact 571-9884 for more information.

PUTTING KIDS FIRST

The Blair Charity Group is staging its first Putt-ing Kids First Mini Golf Tournament & Family Fun Night. It will be hosted at Golf N' Stuff , 6503 E Tanque Verde Rd, on April 6th from 6pm-10pm. Registration begins at 4:30pm for golfers.

Each foursome of players will play 36 holes of miniature golf with different food and drink opportunities on the course. The top finishers will receive awards and prizes. All of the attractions of the venue will also be open to the attendees at no additional charge, including the use of the go-carts, bumper boats, laser tag, batting cages, and all of the video games. The event will also consist of a silent auction, raffle, face painting, food, games, and even a beer garden for the adults.

SUMMER PROGRAM GUIDE

The Summer 2013 issue of the Program Guide and Class Catalog will be available Monday, April 15 at all Parks and Recreation Facilities.

FRIENDS OF FT LOWELL

Friends of Fort Lowell Park is embarking on fund raising for beautifying and securing the Wildlife Oasis at the pond in the park. The goal is to overlay the existing chain link fence with ocotillo fencing which is beautifully natural, adding to the nice scenery and the security of the wildlife refuge created along the pond's edge.



This fencing will cost approximately \$2500. Funds raised to date: \$150. Please help us to further beautify and secure the Wildlife Oasis by sending your donations for the ocotillo fencing to Friends of Fort Lowell Park at P.O. Box 31474, Tucson, AZ 85751. Your donation of any amount is great appreciated. The Friends of Fort Lowell Park is an all volunteer non-profit (501c3) organization, so any contribution is tax deductible.

KIDCO STAFF IN TRAINING

The Junior Staff in Training is a program for teens, ages 14-17, and teens are placed at various KIDCO sites throughout the city. The teens work closely with staff and learn what it takes to be a future parks and recreation professional. The Junior Staff in training are required to interview and attend an orientation. Interviews will be held March 25-29. The cost is \$70 for City Residents and \$88 for Non-city Residents. For more information or to set up an interview contact 837-8137.

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

S H R E D - A - T H O N

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

**P R O C U R E M E N T
F A I R**

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Pima County Procurement and City of Tucson Housing and Community Development are hosting a procurement fair at Kino Sports Complex, 2500 East Ajo Way, Friday, April 5 9am – 2pm.

This year's fair features over 175 representatives from Federal, State and local procurement agencies. It also features Construction Zone plus other businesses wishing to make new connections.

Various workshops will also be provided.

No cost to attend Nominal fee for booth holders. No fee for government or non-profit entities.

For more information contact Monica Dennis at 520-724-3807 or monica.dennis@pima.gov

**R A Y D A V I E S
A W A R D
N O M I N A T I O N S**

The City of Tucson Human Relations Commission is seeking nominations for the Ray Davies Student Service Award, which will be presented to three Tucson-area high school seniors in the 2013 graduating class.

The award honors seniors who have best exhibited qualities of leadership, community service, compassion for others, and who have encouraged mutual respect among diverse groups. The HRC will select three students who embody these values through school and/or community activities and involvement in worthwhile causes.

The HRC nomination form, two letters of recommendation, and a letter from the nominee must be submitted for consideration. Complete details and the form are available by calling Lindsey O'Neill, City Clerk's Office, at 791-4213, or email: Lindsey.O'Neill@tucsonaz.gov

The deadline for delivery or postmark is 5 p.m., April 8, 2013.

M A Y O R A N D C O U N C I L

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on March 19. 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>.



*Henry "Hank" Oyama,
1926-2013*

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

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**Councilman Paul Cunningham's Ward 2
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