



PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

June 5, 2015

**WARD 2 COUNCIL OFFICE
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PAUL'S NOTE

Burney Starks, a well-loved educator, singer and actor in town, passed away while he was attending church last Sunday. His work in the community will be missed.

Starks was a friend to just about all of us, but I felt a particular bond because he and I were both army reservists, and he served in the same unit as my father. Starks retired from the army reserve as a Major, and organized reunions of the Desert Dragons who served with him.

As if that didn't take up enough of his free time, he also put together our annual Juneteenth Celebration and served on the board that restored the Dunbar School. Our history and heritage were very important to him.

His day job was serving as a counsellor to students at Pueblo High

School, the same school he graduated from in 1969. He only recently retired from that job, one that he loved and was dedicated to.

What a lot of us most remember about him, though, was his talent as an actor and singer. He was well known for blowing away different karaoke bars in town with his rendition of old soul songs, and sharing his encyclopedic knowledge of Motown with KXCI listeners. He appeared in many local stage productions and even got a role in an episode of Young Riders when that show taped here in Tucson.

Burney was a giving and kind citizen of our community whose talents will continue to make an impact on us for a long time. Services will be held for him, appropriately enough, on Saturday, June 13th, 2015, 9 am, at Pueblo High School

Lever Gymnasium.

Judging from several conversations I've had with some of you, I'm not the only one irked by how long it has taken to implement the council directions on parking fines that we passed last October.

I have already requested the issue be agendaized for the June 23rd meeting and with a goal of having the new fines take effect July 1st.

Those of us that go downtown have seen the new meters (solar powered and they take credit cards) and that's a big improvement. But when the public, through their representatives on the council, ask for a change in policy, we need to see action on it.

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EDIBLE NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR

Metro-Tucson receives more rain than we pump out of the ground AND import from the Colorado River. And we waste nearly all of it.

We can prepare for an uncertain future and create abundance and beauty by harvesting what we waste, and by setting priorities for what we have.

Be part of a discussion of our opportunities and take a short BIKE tour of the existing Edible Urban Forest in the Jefferson Park neighborhood. Learn about:

- * Food we currently waste
- * Food we can sustainably grow
- * Ways to transform Tucson into a Food Oasis in the Sonoran Desert

For more information, contact Tres English (tres@SustainableTucson.org). Discussion and tour sponsored by Sustainable Tucson. Bring your bike, water and hat.

Time 9:00 to Noon, June 13 at Ward 3 office, 1510 E Grant.

VETERAN'S FRIEND

Veteran's Friend's Mission is to make a positive difference in the quality of life of all senior veterans by providing a free service to inform and educate veterans, their families, and surviving spouses about a special VA pension for which they are often entitled but fail to understand.

VA Accredited claims Representative Robert Dhillon has a 100% success rate in obtaining VA pensions benefits. Join Robert for a free educational briefing where you will learn the truth about Veterans Benefits.

Robert Dhillon, president of REAL Solutions Services, operates Veteran's Friend to assist World War II, Korea and Vietnam wartime veterans and their spouses collect their tax-free VA pension, up to \$25,000 a year, to pay for long term health care.

Date: June 20

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Ward 2 Office, 7575 E Speedway.

RSVP: 495-0045

HOUGHTON ROAD UPDATE

Broadway Intersection Improvements: Project is complete.

Broadway Intersection Park & Ride: We are very happy to announce that the Park and Ride is now available to use. Sun Tran routes 8, 108 express, and 4 are now stopping at this facility. Details are available at http://suntran.com/commuter_park.php

We are still waiting for the final bus driver's offices/restrooms building, which should be in soon. It is currently in fabrication.

Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street: Contract start date was March 30, 2015 with a scheduled completion date of September 20, 2016

We continue to work on installing water lines, storm drains, and box culverts on the east side of Houghton. Once we have this preliminary work completed, we will be constructing the temporary pavement on top of them so we can shift traffic to the east side of the road, and begin this work on the west side of Houghton. We are also installing this same infrastructure on the southeast portion of 22nd Street.

Traffic impacts for this work involve some temporary narrowing of the residential side streets adjacent to Houghton. We are narrowing down the residential side streets to one lane, while we complete the water work for each side street. That work at each street takes less than a day, so please bear with us while we make these adjustments. We will have several types of barricades and a few flaggers to help you through this area.

In the near future we will be removing some dirt from Houghton and moving it over to 22nd, so you will also see 22nd, east of Houghton, starting to take shape. We are also going to have a lot of water work in the middle of the Houghton and 22nd Street work, and we are looking at ways to approach that work with the least amount of traffic disturbance.

The artists have submitted some concepts that we would like to present at a Ward 2 CDRC meeting that we are in the process of scheduling. As soon as I have some drawings to share, I will add them to this update.

Adjacent project: Broadway, Camino Seco to Houghton is starting up and we will let you know when the public meetings for this project begin. We will also invite them to a Ward 2 CDRC meeting to provide you with an update.

Adjacent Road Recovery repaving work: On Tuesday, May 26, 2015, crews from Southern Arizona Paving and Construction Co., under contract with the City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT), began work to improve the pavement conditions on Speedway Boulevard from Pantano Road to Camino Seco and on Pantano Road from Speedway Boulevard to Broadway and on Broadway from Pantano Road to Camino Seco.

More information on the Road Recovery Program can be found at www.tucsonaz.gov/streetbonds or by calling 520-837-6686.

CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

Catching Healthy Habits: A free informative presentation, Catching Healthy Habits will be given on June 10 at 10:30 a.m. The presentation will be given in room 102 in Udall Recreation Center.

Movie Matinee: On Thursday, June 11, The Eastside Senior Club will host a Movie Matinee. and with showing of the drama film, The Longest Ride stars Scott Eastwood and Britt Robertson. The cost is \$2.00

Mt. Lemon Trip: Seniors will have an opportunity to enjoy a field trip to Mt. Lemmon on Tuesday, June 16. Departure from the center is 9:00 a.m. and return is 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$2.00 per person.

Casino Night: The Carol West Senior Addition will host Casino Night on Thursday, June 25 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The event will have entertainment, food, 10 gambling chips and prizes. The event will be sponsored by Sunrise Senior Living.

PARKS PROGRAMS

Spring Swim Schedule: The Spring Swim schedule for Udall Park and Ft. Lowell Park started April 1st. Contact the Aquatics Division at 791-4245/791-5352 or visit <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/parks/aquatics#hours> for pool locations and swim schedule.

Summer 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog: The Summer 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog is available. The catalog can be picked-up at all Parks and Recreation facilities. It can be viewed on-line at www.ezeereg.com Contact the Registration Office at 791-4877 for additional information.

The Arizona Symphonic Winds Concerts: The WINDS Concert series will take place May 30 and June 5. The program will take place at the Lazslo Veres Amphitheater in Udall Park. Concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. Please bring a chair or blanket.

Summer Road Races and Track and Field: Summer Track and Field events will be held at Roy Drachman Stadium near Plummer & 15th every Tuesday from June 2 through July 15.

Summer Road Races will be held each Thursday from June 4 thru July 16 at various parks around Tucson. For more information, call 791-4870.

Onsite registration for both events begins at 5:45 pm with the competition starting at 6:30 pm. Registration is \$3 for children and \$4 for adults. Ribbons will be given to the top finishers. For details, please call 791-4870.

**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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on Tuesday, June 9. 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>

