

Councilman Paul Cunningham's Ward 2 Newsletter

AUGUST 8, 2013

UPCOMING DATES:

- August 8: Day ballots will be mailed for the city primary
- August 20: Happy Birthday Tucson!
- August 27: Primary Election day
- November 5: General Election day

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PAUL'S NOTE

One of the things that both neighborhood leaders and historical preservationists have wanted for years is something to be done with historic officers' quarters for Ft. Lowell. It has taken years of planning, but the Ft. Lowell Neighborhood Association, Pima County and the City of Tucson put a plan together and found the money to do something that could make the community proud. Unfortunately, plans hit a snag in the last couple of weeks when there was a dispute between the city and the county over a parking lot. The parking lot is required by city regulations, but the county didn't have the money budgeted to pay for it. The back and forth made the papers, and it could have stopped a good project.

Many of you have read that the city and county came to an agreement to do the important historical preservation work necessary on the officers' quarters (they have been neglected for decades), and worry about the parking lot later. It is a good, common sense solution to something that could have easily become one of the ugly disputes that happen too often between local jurisdictions.

I'd like to thank County Supervisor Ray Carroll. My first call when I found out about the trouble was to Ray, my counterpart in County government. I also spoke with County Administrator Chuck Huckleberry, Fred Gray of Tucson Parks and Recreation, City Manager Richard Miranda and his staff and Jonathan Mabry of the Historic Preservation office. We had frank but civil discussions about the matter and I'm glad that we were able to find a way to get this done for the community.

Speaking of getting folks together, in the time since I wrote my last newsletter, the grounds of Schumaker Elementary School have been opened as a neighborhood park. Just to remind you, this was something my office was able to put together

with Bryant Nodine of TUSD and Jim Conroy of Parks and Recreation after the tireless advocacy of Ken Bertschy of the Carriage Park neighborhood.

I got a question from someone

in local media about graffiti and vandalism. What's interesting is that one of the reasons why TUSD was enthusiastic about the idea was that they wanted people on the campus. Rather than thinking that more people invites graffiti, they feel that people using a vibrant place in the neighborhood prevents it.

To close out this week's newsletter, I'd like to make a personal note about the Pima County Board of Supervisors' decision to spend \$280,000 as an inducement to bring more Major League Soccer teams to Southern Arizona for preseason training.

Keep in mind that Tucson is competing with Orlando for teams in preseason. Orlando has the backing of not only Disney (which brings with it ESPN), as well as a six-figure subsidy from the state of Florida to bring teams in.

The County has taken leadership on this, and I thank



PAUL'S NOTE CONTINUED

them for that. This next MLS preseason could bring in as much as \$4 million, much of that spent in Tucson restaurants, hotels and stores.

I really love to brag about this, not only as a fan of soccer but also because this emerged out of a meeting in my office back in 2010. That's when I met with a few leaders in the local soccer community and hatched the idea for the original Desert Cup. That tournament had only two MLS teams, one of which didn't even stay in Tucson. That next year's events could have up to ten MLS teams (that's more than half of the league) plus one from Mexico's Liga MX makes me proud to see how much it's grown so quickly.

By the way, if those of you that organize the tournament are reading this, I'd like to make a plea to get the Cruz Azul

here. Just a thought.

As usual, I wish all of you a great weekend. Take the time to enjoy the monsoon.

WATER HARVESTING

Join your Ward 2 neighbors at an east-side rain garden retrofit at the foot of the Catalinas. We will route roof, landscape and hardscape runoff through a front yard to beautify, screen and shade a rental property.

Harvested rain will support trellised vines and native trees and shrubs selected specifically for this special Foothills micro-climate. Come learn about elevations, gentle grades, and seamlessly integrating earthworks into a natural landscape. Workshop instructor Joe Silins will lead this workshop.

Visit watershedmg.org to register.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Starting in July, the Tucson/Pima County Household Hazardous Waste Program is changing 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:*
- August: El Rio Neighborhood Center, 1390 W Speedway Blvd
- September: Himmel Park, 1000 N Tucson Blvd
- October: TOPSC Lower Lot, 4004 S Park Ave
- November: Mansfield Park, 2000 N 4th Ave
- December: Purple Heart Park, 100050 E Rita Ranch Rd

HOME WATER AUDIT

Whether temps soar to 106° or plunge to 23°, being water efficient is important every day of the year. Tucson Water offers free expert advice to help you conserve water, stop leaks and reduce utility bills.

A water efficiency expert from the Tucson Water Zanjero Program will visit your home, review water-use habits, check water fixtures and irrigation systems and install free faucet aerators and showerheads, if needed. Customers also receive a survey of their water use. You must be at home during the two hour Zanjero visit.

For nearly 17 years, Zanjeros have helped Tucson Water customers use water more efficiently inside and outside the home. Schedule your free Zanjero visit today via e-mail TW_web@tucsonaz.gov or phone 520 791-3242

CENTER CLOSURES

The following East District Recreation Centers will be closed for annual maintenance on the dates listed below:

Randolph Center, 200 S. Alvernon Way
August 5-10

Udall Center, 7200 E. Tanque Verde
August 12-17

RECREATION GUIDE

The Tucson Parks and Recreation Summer 2013 Program Guide and Class Catalog has been published and is available for pick-up at all Parks and Recreation facilities. The summer issue can also be viewed on-line at www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec.

The Program Guide contains complete information on leisure classes, swim lessons, summer KIDCO, aquatics, sports program, sports camps, registration, the Discount Program, and much more.

SENIOR PROGRAM

The Carol West Senior Addition will host a movie matinee on Thursday, August 29 with the viewing of Oz The Great and Powerful. Showtime is at 1:30 p.m. and the cost is \$1.00 per person. Snacks will be provided by CareMore. Sign up at the front desk, 791-4121.

SOUTHERN ARIZONA TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM

The Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, located in the Historic Depot Downtown, is having an open house on August 10th from 10 am to 4 pm.

There will be art exhibits, prizes from Amtrak, historic vehicle displays and a birthday cake cutting for Tucson at 11 am.

The Depot is at 414 N Toole Avenue. Parking and admission are free. Call 623-2223 for more information



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.

- September 14 at Kino Sports Complex- 2500 E. Ajo Way
- November 16 at Empire High School- 10701 E. Maryann Cleveland Way



T.E.P. PARTNERS

Lower your electricity bill by tracking your power use! TEP is enrolling participants on a first come first serve basis to join an energy monitoring project to help you save on your electricity bill.

Enroll now by visiting enroll.teppowerpartners.com and sign up while spaces last. You will be contacted by a representative to schedule your installation. A technician will set up and install equipment at your home and show you how to track your use and see your energy savings online.

This program is a free-of-cost pilot program to help TEP customers save electricity and money, so sign up while there's still time! Learn more and sign up by visiting enroll.teppowerpartners.com.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL



Mayor and Council meetings are still on their summer schedule, so the next meeting will be on Spetember 10. 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

AUGUST 8, 2013

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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