



PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

September 11, 2015

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PAUL'S NOTE

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The Mayor and I attended the ribbon cutting for the new Dick's Sporting Goods location at Wilmot Plaza. The developers on the project have also announced a Nordstrom's Rack location will be going in as well.

The development was important to the San Rafael neighborhood, located just north of the center. They had an interest in getting Wilmot Plaza, which was becoming run down, revitalized, but they also wanted to make sure that they had some say over redevelopment plans.

I worked with both them and the developer and I'm proud to say that things

worked out well. The redevelopment employed 300 construction workers and has brought the area back to a good place for east siders to shop.

We talk so often of conflicts between neighbors and developers. I hope that what we've been able to do for this project and others becomes a model for how we get things done in Tucson.

Starting this month, 4th grade students can go to www.everykidinapark.gov to complete an activity and obtain a free annual entry pass to more than 2,000 federal recrea-

tion areas, including all 408 national parks. This is part of the National Park Service's centennial celebration and an initiative of the White House.

There are many locations within driving distance, including Mount Lemon, Madera Canyon and Sabino Canyon. Remember, though, that we have a gem that's a short bike ride away for many of us in Ward 2: Saguaro National Park.

Darla Sidles, the Superintendent at Saguaro, and her staff have gotten ready to welcome every fourth grader and their family with many

PAUL'S NOTE (CONTINUED)

educational programs. Make sure to check out the park's website at <http://www.nps.gov/sagu/index.htm>.

This newsletter goes out on September 11. Over 3,000 people died that day, including many first responders. Keep them in your prayers.

I joined our fire fighters today for the 9-11 Tower Challenge. This remarkable event, where fire fighters climb the stairs at the U of A stadium in full gear, is put on by the 100 Club and raises money for the Fisher House, a program for veteran's families.

Anniversaries like that and the recent anniversary of Hurricane Katrina are a reminder not just what our first responders do, but what more we can do to prepare for emergencies. The City's Department of Emergency Management is participating in National Preparedness Month. For tips, you can go to ready.gov.

YOU'RE INVITED—STAKE HOLDER FOCUS GROUPS

The Tucson Parks and Recreation Department wants to know how it can improve recreation and leisure opportunities for all of its users.

This July the City of Tucson Parks and Recreation department kicked off a process of information gathering that will result in a five-year master plan that anticipates future needs and outlines the actions necessary to deliver high quality recreation facilities, programs and services to the Tucson area. Public and stakeholder input are essential and critical to the success of the master plan.

As a component of the planning process, a series of focus group meetings with community leaders and residents will be held to assess current and future needs. Because we value your opinion, we invite you to participate in one of these focus groups. The meetings will consist of approximately 10-20 participants and may last up to 60 minutes. The purpose of these meetings is to assess customer satisfaction, parks, recreation and open space needs of the community, and issues that should be addressed in the master plan. With a focus group, there are never wrong answers, so everybody is encouraged to participate and freely express their thoughts.

The focus group meetings will take place on September 9th, 10th and 17th. We have posted a complete list of them at the Ward 2 website: <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/ward-2/news/parks-and-recreation-stake-holder-focus-groups>



HOUGHTON ROAD UPDATE

Broadway Intersection Park & Ride: This project is substantially complete, and we are delighted that we finally have the signs in place.

We are actively working on changing out the lighting fixtures in the parking lot. For those of you that don't live directly adjacent to the facility, the new LED lighting fixtures that were installed do not meet the City's requirements for lighting. We have pulled the fuses of the lights near the neighborhood, and are working with the lighting vendor to get the appropriate fixtures. LED lighting is quite different from the type of lighting the City used to use, and we are finding that not all fixtures are created equal. LED is a wonderful energy saver, but also needs to be selected for the right color and luminance to be compatible for our observatories and livability. We appreciate your patience while we get these lights adjusted.

Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street: The scheduled completion date is Sept. 20. We are rapidly moving forward on this project and are about five months ahead of schedule. We are wrapping up our water line connections at the side streets and there are only a few locations left where there will be restricted or closed access. As you probably know, if there are any water outages, they will be a night and you will receive a 48 hour advance notice. This work should be finished by next week.

PARKS PROGRAMS

Carol West Senior Addition: The Carol West Senior Addition will host a Senior Health Fair on September 24, 2015 from 10 am to 2 pm. The free event will have refreshments, door prizes and exhibitors. Flu shots will be offered as well.

Seniors will have an opportunity to enjoy a trip to The Forum of Tucson on Thursday, September 10, 2015. Departure from the center is 11 am and return is 2 pm. The cost is \$2.00.

A trip to Apple Annie's is scheduled for Tuesday, September 29, 2015. The cost is \$10.00 and includes lunch, dessert and transportation. Departure from the Carol West Addition is 9:30 am and return is 2 pm

For questions, please contact the Carol West Senior Addition, 791-4121.

Leisure Classes: Watch for the Spring 2016 Program Guide and Class Catalog to be available Monday, November 9, 2015. It will be available for free pick-up at all Parks and Recreation facilities. For questions or more information, contact the Registration Office at 791-4877.

Tucson Pops: The Tucson POPS concerts will be held at the Reid Park, DeMeester Outdoor Performance Center (OPC), 900 S. Randolph way, on Sunday, September 13, 20, and 27. Concerts start at 7:00 p.m.. There is a limited amount of seating and fills up quickly. A chair(s) or a blanket is recommended.

Arizona Symponic Winds: The WINDS Concert series will take place Saturdays, September 12, 19, 26 and October 3. The program will take place at the Lazslo Veres Amphitheater in Udall Park, 7200 E Tanque Verde Rd. Concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. Bring a chair or blanket.



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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 not be on the regular Tuesday, but will instead be on Wednesday, October 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>



