

Councilman Paul Cunningham's Ward 2 Newsletter

N O V E M B E R 1 5 , 2 0 1 2

UPCOMING DATES:

- November 17: Family Festival in the Park
- November 20: Mayor and Council meeting
- November 22: Thanksgiving

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Family Festival in the Park	2
Household Hazardous Waste	2
Household Hazardous Waste	2
Udall Park	3
Saguaro National Park	3
Thanksgiving Closures	4
Mayor and Council	4

PAUL'S NOTE

Mayor and Council passed a portion of the recommendations from a working group about single use plastic bags. I personally would have liked to have seen the full recommendations of the committee pass. These proposals were not just my ideas or suggestions from one interest group, but the result of months of work by citizens of all stripes in our community: business people and environmentalists.

The working group arrived at six recommendations. All were approved by consensus:

- Set a goal of 50% reduction on the consumption of single use plastic bags and a goal of an increase of 30% in the recycling of plastic bags in the City of Tucson by April 30, 2015. The goals will be applied to all businesses currently defined as a "Retail Establishment" in Tucson City Code 15-1.
- Establish the first reporting period as April 1, 2013 – June 30, 2013.
- Require retail establishments within the city limits to provide number of transactions and total number of single use plastic bags given out for each reporting period.
- Require retail establishments to provide list of stores to be included in the initial reporting period. The list will be updated with each report and will include the names of any retail establishments that are new, out of business or failed to report.
- Establish the measurement metric of Bags per Transaction as the official measurement metric to determine plastic bag con-

sumption.

Bags per Transaction shall be defined as how many single use plastic bags are given to each customer during a single purchase or transaction. For example, if a store gives out 100,000 bags

during a reporting period and has conducted 20,000 transactions the number reported for that quarter will be 5 bags per transaction.

Establish a Plastic Bag Recycling Formula to account for weight in tons of the amount of film plastic (shrink wrap, dry cleaner bags, sandwich and bread bags) present in conventional plastic bag collection programs. The formula will produce a weight in tons of plastic bags recycled and will be equal to: tons reported from recycling collection program multiplied by 30%. For example, if the total plastic bag and film plastic collection equals 100 tons, the amount of plastic bags recycled in tons will be 100 tons multiplied by 0.30 or 30 tons.

It was disappointing that some of my colleagues couldn't support the consensus that the working group came up with.

We also had a presentation from the Attorney



**PAUL'S NOTE
(CONTINUED)**

General's office on the ongoing issue of metal theft in our area. In particular, thieves have been stealing copper wiring and tubing from houses, but larger thefts have happened too. ASARCO recently recovered \$2 million worth of copper that had been stolen from them.

[A state legislative panel is working on the issue](#), but there are also things you can do to help. Copper recycling is limited to only a few authorized companies, so if you see

unmarked or suspicious vehicles harvesting copper in your neighborhood, report it.

Other issues that came up included the transit plan and how we will be integrating Sun Tran with the Sun Link modern street car system. Also, we will soon be talking budget. I welcome any suggestions you can give me on these issues.

I made a trip out to Case Park off of the 9100 block of Kenyon Avenue

where the residents have been cooperating with the city on building and maintaining a butterfly garden. Last Saturday, the neighbors put together a celebration of some new improvements that have been made to the garden. It is really great to have a quiet, natural oasis that our families can easily get to right in the middle of our city.

Congratulations to both Frank Salbego of the Eastside Neighborhood Association and Jim Conroy of

FAMILY FESTIVAL IN THE PARK

It's time for the 7th Annual Family Festival in the Park. This free festival will be held at Reid Park at 22nd and Country Club on November 17 between 10 am and 2 pm. There will be free admission to Reid Park Zoo, free rides on the Zoo Express train, 10 minute golf lessons on the driving range, swimming, entertainment, demonstrations, displays, games, arts and crafts and face painting.

The event is sponsored by Tucson Parks and Recreation, Tucson Lifestyle Magazine, Wendy's, Carondelet, Bear Essential News and the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona.

Even though the event is free, please show your support for the Community Food Bank by bringing a can of food.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE



At one time, your Ward 2 office would do collection of household hazardous waste. We don't do this at this time, and we'd like to remind our constituents that we do not accept household hazardous waste at the ward office.

On the first Saturday of each month, the Department of Environmental Services does a collection near the Ward office at 7575 E Speedway (turn on Prudence to enter the drop

off line) from 8 am until noon. We ask that you only drop items off at that time. You can bring in items like pesticides, pool chemicals and fluorescent lamps. For a complete list of items and other drop off locations, you can visit <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw>.

UDALL PARK

Udall Center will host a Wii Bowling Tournament on Monday, November 26 at 11:45 a.m. Refreshments will be served and the cost is \$2.00 per person. Sign up at the Udall front desk. Limited space is available.

The Eastside Senior Club (ESC) Holiday party will be held at the Hilton East Hotel on Thursday, December 15 at 11:30 a.m. Tickets available at the Udall front desk. The event is \$25.00 per person.

The Spring 2013 Program Guide and Class Catalog has been published and is now available. Pick up a free guide at any City of Tucson Parks and Recreation facility or visit www.ezeereg.com. Registration for City of Tucson residents

begins Saturday, November 17 at 6 a.m. using the EZEereg online only. City residents will be able to register for Therapeutic Recreation programs on Monday, November 19 at 6 a.m. Registration for non-city Residents begins Monday, November 19 at 6 a.m. For additional information, contact Class Registration at 791-4877.

SMASHBURGER

On November 20, a new dining option will be available to people living near Swan and Grant. Smashburger will be opening up its first Tucson location at Crossroads Festival. Southern Arizona Restaurant Company plans on opening four locations in Tucson over the next two years.

They plan on offering burgers with “burger soul,” along with crispy chicken sandwiches, black bean burgers and scrumptious salads, along with Häagen-Dazs shakes.

Note: The previous opening date was moved because of construction issues. We apologize for the inconvenience.

SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK

Saguaro National Park is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) as part of a proactive plan to restore park resources. The park is hosting a public meeting on November 27 at the Wilmot Library, 530 N Wilmot, to discuss proposed actions in the plan. One of the proposed strategies includes aerial application of herbicide in the park’s back-country to combat infestations of buffelgrass. Drop in any time between 4 and 7 pm.

“Buffelgrass is a significant threat to park resources. We are concerned about the increased potential for a major

wildland fire due to this invasive grass and a changing climate,” according to Darla Sidles, Superintendent of Saguaro National Park. “This EA will evaluate the environmental impact of restoration treatments, and allow the public to identify any concerns they have about the proposal.”

For more information, contact Natasha Kline, Biologist (520) 733 5171, or visit www.nps.gov/sagu.



SANTA'S CALLING

It's that time again! The Tucson Parks and Recreation Department and the North Pole presents "Santa's Calling." This wonderful program allows children ages 4-10 years to have an opportunity speak with Santa and listen to his elves hard at work. To participate, a Santa's Calling form must be completed and mailed to: Santa's Calling 2012, 900 S.Randolph Way Tucson AZ 85716. The entries must be post-marked by Saturday, December 1st. Forms can be picked up from any Parks and Recreation Administration Offices and Recreation Centers. For additional information, contact 791-4504.

THANKSGIVING CLOSURES

All City Center's and Administration Buildings will be closed on Thursday, November 22, 2012 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Also, the Ward 2 office will be closed on November 23rd.



Happy Thanksgiving

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meetings will be on November 20 and 27. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm. 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](#).



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

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Newsletter**

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
SAAF—Personal Hygiene Products and Personal Care Products
TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals and Families in Need
ICU—Eye Glasses
DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—
Ballet/Dance Equipment