

# Councilman Paul Cunningham's Ward 2 Newsletter

N O V E M B E R 2 8 , 2 0 1 2

## UPCOMING DATES:

- November 29: Special Mayor and Council meeting
- December 7: Pearl Harbor Remembrance day
- December 8: Hanukkah begins at Sundown
- December 15: Downtown Parade of Lights

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## PAUL'S NOTE

The Council did not meet this week, but there were still some important goings on that I want to share with you.

Tucson Unified School District released its [list of schools it may have to close](#) last week, and [moved along with that process at their board meeting on Tuesday](#). Some of these are in our neighborhoods. We all know that the TUSD board and staff have tough decisions to make because of population changes and budgets, but all of our neighborhood schools have a story to tell. The decision makers need to hear those stories before the list is finalized.

One school I am concerned about in particular is Sewell Elementary. Two nearby schools, Duffy and Rogers, were shuttered in the last round of closures in 2010. I've already had the chance to meet with neighbors in the area and I hope to stay engaged in the process.

Thursday the council will have a special session to approve the canvass for Proposition 409. The proposition, which will allow the city to sell bonds for road improvement, passed by the barest of margins: 953 votes, or just shy of two-thirds of one percent. There aren't many people out there that don't want their streets fixed. What that margin indicates is that people are leery of big promises from city government. That's why it is important for those of us in city government to make sure that when the committee that administers these bonds is appointed, the process is as transparent and

open as possible.

At next week's council meeting, we will discuss the attempt to remove the requirement that new homes be gray-water ready. I've given my reasons for why I oppose doing this in [my last newsletter](#), and [Tony Davis from the Star did an excellent job reporting on the issue](#). It's been a week and I still have not been convinced that this move is anything but shortsighted.

I appreciate the supportive e-mails I've been receiving from the public on gray-water. Keep it up, my colleagues and I need to hear from you.

There are a few notes of congratulation I'd like to close with. First off, to Dr. Ann Weaver Hart, who has her official inauguration as President of the University of Arizona on Friday. She's already been serving in the position since July, but her inauguration gives me the chance to congratulate her and give her best wishes from the U of A family in Ward 2.

Also, congratulations to Ironwood Ridge football coach Matt Johnson, whose team defeated



**PAUL'S NOTE  
(CONTINUED)**

Centennial on Saturday to win the state high school football championship. Johnson is a former coach at Rincon High School . You did us Rangers proud, Matt.

*[We] want to live in a vibrant community with quality schools...Paul Cunningham said that he and Councilman Kozachik aim to compete with outlying areas in attracting families to settle in mid and east Tucson, and that requires good schools, among other things. I like that kind of talk!*

*-Sewell area resident*

**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>.

**PARADE OF LIGHTS**

The Downtown Tucson Partnership is presenting the the 18th Annual Downtown Parade of Lights. The 2012 Parade will take place on Saturday, December 15th, 6:30pm. The parade is one of Tucson's most beloved holiday events. Each year thousands of spectators line the streets of downtown Tucson to watch entries wind their way through Downtown streets.

The 2012 official entry form is available for [download here](#). You will find

all information regarding entry into the parade including times, locations and general rules.

The parade route has changed to the lovely El Presidio neighborhood. [Please download the new route](#) and enjoy all the businesses along the route that evening.

The [Tucson Museum of Art](#) and [Lohse Family YMCA](#) will be providing pre-parade entertainment that evening. Visit [El Charro](#)

[Cafe](#) and [Old Town Artisans](#) before the parade and end the evening with dancing at [La Cocina](#).

If you'd like to sponsor or volunteer, call Brandi Haga at the Downtown Tucson Partnership, 837-6501.

U D A L L P A R K

S A N T A ' S  
C A L L I N G

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.

For additional information, contact Class Registration at 791-4877.

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 791-2507.

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](http://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 am. Registration for non-city Residents begins Monday, November 19 at 6 am.



S A G U A R O N A T I O N A L P A R K

I N T E R S E C T I O N  
I M P R O V E M E N T S

*Star Party* December 13, 7 pm: Join park naturalists for an introduction to astronomy and a look at the desert night sky. Telescopes and binoculars will be available. Reservations required. Call 733-5153, Wheelchair accessible.

ly scheduled hikes, contact the visitor's center at 733-5153 or check the website (<http://www.nps.gov/sagu/planyourvisit/things2do.htm>)

The City of Tucson Transportation Department will be re-aligning the intersection of Camino Seco and Wrightstown Road. The construction is being done to make the intersection a ninety degree angle and includes new traffic signals and improved drainage.

*Holiday Caravan* December 27, 5:30 pm: Explore the natural lore of the solstice holiday on a unique nighttime drive through the park's loop drive. Auto tours will be offered at 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30 and 8:00 p.m., and will feature several stops along the 8-mile Cactus Forest Drive. Each tour lasts approximately 1½ hours. Cookies and cider will be offered at the visitor center all evening. Reservations required. Call 733-5153, wheelchair accessible. For additional daily programs and week-

The construction is slated to begin on December 4 and the anticipated completion date is April 24.

## T R E E C Y C L E

The TreeCycle program begins December 16 and ends January 6. The program is a way for Tucson residents to recycle their Christmas trees. Remember to bring your own container to bring home woodchips that can be used in your garden. Please remember to remove all ornaments, decorations and tree stands before dropping off at the TreeCycle sites.

Another way you can help the environment is to “tree pool.” Bring your neighbor’s tree too. Fewer trips mean less pollution for all of us.

The east side locations include:

Udall Park, 7200 E Tanque Verde Rd., South of the ball fields (follow signs)

Golf Links Sports Complex, Northwest of Craycroft Rd and Golf Links Rd.

Purple Heart Park, Southeast corner of Rita Rd. and Esmond Loop

Randolph Golf Course, 600 S. Alvernon Way, Southeast portion of parking lot

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

There will be a special Mayor and Council meeting on November 29 at 4 pm to approve the canvass for the special election on Proposition 409.

The next regular Mayor and Council meetings will be on December 4, 11 and 18. 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](#)



We're on the web!  
[Cms3.tucsonaz.gov/ward2](http://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 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