



# PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

December 4, 2015

**WARD 2 COUNCIL OFFICE**  
**7575 E SPEEDWAY**  
**791-4687**  
**WARD2@TUCSONAZ.GOV**

## PAUL'S NOTE

I'm a classroom teacher so I pay a lot of attention to the debates over school funding. The plan put forward by the governor and legislature is complex, and people who are normally on the same side of education issues are split on it.

The plan will be on the ballot in May as Proposition 123. This means that we as voters have the responsibility to get educated about the benefits and downsides of the plan. To help out voters, the Metropolitan Education commission will host speakers at their December 16<sup>th</sup> and January 20<sup>th</sup> regular meetings.

The December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature Dr. Timothy Ogle, Arizona School Boards

Association and Andrew Morrill of the Arizona Education Association. Ogle and Morrill support the proposition and their organizations were involved in negotiating it. The January 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature Arizona Treasurer Jeff Dewit. Dewit has been public about his opposition to the plan. I hope that you can go to both meetings to get the full picture and make an informed choice.

Both meetings will be in the Joel Valdez Library, Lower Level Meeting Room, 101 N Stone. The full agenda of the meeting can be found at the MEC office at 930 E Broadway, or you can call 670-0055. They can also be contacted by e-mail at [metcom@theriver.co](mailto:metcom@theriver.co)

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I'd like to extend my condolences to the family of Dr. Kathy Wilson, who died last week while doing one of her favorite things: hiking. She was passionately involved in senior issues in our community and my office got to work with her through her activity with the Pima Council on Aging and ITN Greater Tucson. Her advocacy will be missed.



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## MEMORY LANE WRITERS

Memory Lane Writers is a group of women who share their life stories with friends and family. They share chapters of their lives for their heirs.

They meet at the Ward 2 office on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month. For more information, contact facilitator Betty June Day, M.Ed., 290-2263.



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## VOLUNTEER WITH VITA

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) provides free tax preparation to low- and moderate-income Arizonans and helps them to leverage their tax refunds to achieve greater financial stability.

Make a difference and help people in your community by becoming a tax volunteer.

Top 5 Reason to Becoming a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance VITA Volunteer

- No Experience Needed
- FREE Tax Law training & materials
- Flexible Volunteer Hours
- Make an impact in your neighborhood
- Continuing Education Credits for tax professionals

JOIN the VITA volunteer team today! For more information please visit the our website <http://www.unitedwaytucson.org/> or contact Ellen Pott at [epott@unitedwaytucson.org](mailto:epott@unitedwaytucson.org)

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## HOUGHTON ROAD UPDATE

Good things keep happening on the corridor:

As we reported last time, the Houghton Road: Irvington to Valencia project received the National Project of the Year Award from the American Public Works Association.

We are happy to report that the entire Houghton Corridor was awarded a Common Ground Award by the Metropolitan Pima Alliance. We thank everyone for contributing to the great collaborations that made this award possible.

**Broadway Intersection Improvements:** Project is complete.

**Broadway Intersection Park & Ride:** This project is substantially complete.

We should have the new LED light fixtures in any day now, and will change those out, resulting in a much lower level of lighting. We are also adding some additional vegetation in the area near the openings to the wall nearest the neighbors to help block night lighting from the Park and Ride.

As we mentioned before, 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, environment and livability. We appreciate your patience while we get these lights adjusted.

**Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street:** The contract start date is March 30, 2015, with a scheduled completion date of September 20, 2016.

We are rapidly moving forward on this project and are about five months ahead of schedule. We are hoping to be complete by May, with a goal of having all but the final lift of pavement down by the end of this year. We hope to start placing the final lift of pavement in March when the temperatures start warming up.

We are completing the storm drain installations on the west side of Houghton, between Buffalo Loop and 22nd Street. We are also working on final excavations and placing the roadway base course on the west side of Houghton and north side of 22nd. Median curb on the west side of Houghton is also going in.

As we add the roadway medians, access to Houghton becomes slightly different. We have temporarily closed a few entrances to side streets, but will have those open again once our paving goes down.

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## CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

**Video Games:** The Carol West Senior Addition will have Wii Video Game Demos on Thursday, December 3, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The games include golf, bowling, tennis, race car driving, dance and more. Refreshments will be served. No cost.

**Holiday Party:** The Carol West Senior Addition will host a holiday party on Wednesday, December 15, 2015 at the Sheraton Hotel from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tickets costs \$25.00 per person. Tickets for sale until December 9, 2015.

**Downsizing your home:** An informative presentation on down sizing your home will be given in the Multipurpose Room of the senior addition on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. The presentation is free.

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



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## PARKS PROGRAMS

**Spring 2016 Program Guide and Class Catalog:** 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.

**TreeCycling:** Residents can recycle their Christmas trees through the City of Tucson's TreeCycle Program. The program begins on Saturday, December 26, 2015 and continues through Tuesday, January 12, 2016. TreeCycle sites are located throughout Tucson and Oro Valley. Details and a complete list of TreeCycling locations can be found at: <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/treecycle>

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**PAUL CUNNINGHAM,  
CITY COUNCIL, WARD 2**

Eastside City Hall  
7575 E Speedway  
Tucson AZ 85710

Phone: 520 791 4687  
Fax: 520 791 5380  
E-mail: ward2@tucsonaz.gov

Tucsonaz.gov/  
ward2

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**

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## MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Council members will be sworn in on December 7. The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on **Tuesday, December 8**. 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>

