



# PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

December 12, 2014

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

## PAUL'S NOTE

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

\* The next "Beat Back Buf-felgrass Day is January 24, see page 3

I attended the Public Service Appreciation and Barbecue put on this year by the Erik Hite Foundation.

Although the event was free, there were food trucks and services there that donated their proceeds to the foundation.

For those of you who don't know, Erik Hite was a 21 year Air Force veteran who joined the Tucson Police Department in 2004. In 2008, he died of wounds sustained when pursuing a suspect that had wounded a Pima County Sheriff's deputy.

The Foundation runs a number of programs to support the families of those in public safety, including providing child care. They have done remarkable work in our community and deserve to be recognized.

La Mariposa Resort here in Ward 2 will be hosting the First Responders Circle of Care Dinner and Silent Auction on February 19<sup>th</sup>, which is a fundraiser for the Erik Hite Foundation. The resort has supported the foundation for a number of years, and a memorial for Erik Hite is located on their property.

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We all do our public service in different ways, and for a long time I couldn't talk about a group of women who serve the community that meet at the Ward 2 office every week. They preferred to keep their work anonymous.

They've let me know that they'd like me to mention them now. The Helping Hands Crafters meet every Thursday from 10 am – noon. Their mission is to knit

and crochet clothing and comfort items for those in need in our community. They make afghans for the homeless, premie hats for babies in neo-natal units, blankets for veterans, comfort blankets and toys for children in foster care, shawls for patients in hospice and a variety of items for people undergoing cancer treatment. They also support the Pima County Library in their annual distribution of hats and scarves to children in need of winter clothing.

These are just a few of the things that they have done in their ten years as a group. They are always looking for new members to help them in their efforts to support the Tucson community. Even if you can't attend, they can make arrangements to pick up donations you may have for

## PAUL'S NOTE (CONTINUED)

them to distribute. Their door is always open, so drop in and join the fun.

For more information or if you'd like to donate yarn, e-mail Lynne at [toughkid@theriver.com](mailto:toughkid@theriver.com).

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The Carol West Senior Center had its tenth anniversary this week. I was happy to attend the ceremony and, even better, to be able to share the spotlight with my predecessor, Councilmember Carol West.

Carol had the idea for the senior center when she realized that, as good as the Udall Center was, they did not do as good of a job serving older members of our community as they could have. She pushed for an addition to the building. It got built, and since then it has hosted holiday parties, pool tournaments, exercise classes and a range of other programs. Even during the anniversary party, there were people using the pool tables, lounge and computer learning lab.

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Happy belated Anniversary to Tino's Pizza. Congratulations on 30 years in Ward 2. Have a great weekend. Stay dry.

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## TMC HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Join TMC for the Holiday Open House at the new 16 bed short-term inpatient facility for older adults experiencing acute emotional and behavioral disorders. Nibble, take a tour and meet our multidisciplinary team who will serve patients starting January 2015.

The Open House will be on Wednesday, December 17 from 4-7 pm at Handmaker, 2221 N Rosemont Blvd. Please join Director Terri Waldman for the following short discussions:

- 4 pm Signs and symptoms of the most common geropsychic disorders
- 5 pm Caring for the caregiver: Coping skills and resources
- 6 pm Aging healthfully and happily

Celebrate the first night of Chanukah with the lighting of the menorah at sunset and feel free to participate in our canned food and adult diaper drive.

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## HOT SHOT HOOPLA

City of Tucson Parks and Recreation and USA Youth Sports are hosting the 2nd Annual Hot Shot Hoopla basketball competition. Contestants will be given two, one minute rounds, to shoot from six spots to accumulate their highest score. All participants will receive a ticket to the January 3, 2014, University of Arizona Women's basketball game. Friends and family will receive a discount promotional code to purchase tickets for \$4. First and Second place winners from each age group and gender category at each site will receive a University of Arizona Women's Basketball Gameday Experience which will include: a tour of McKale Center before the game, a prize pack with University of Arizona souvenirs, team poster, ability to meet Coach Butts, introduction at halftime, and shooting exhibition at halftime.

Age groups are 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12 and will be split into boys and girls (Must not exceed the age of 12 years old by 12/13/14, due to NCAA rules)

Registration will be on-site from 8 a.m. – 9 a.m. on a first-come, first-served basis. Cost is \$1 (only accepting the first 100 kids to register at each site).

The camp will be on Saturday, December 13 at Randolph Recreation Center, 200 S. Alvernon Way

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## BEAT BACK BUFFELGRASS



The next "Beat Back Buffelgrass Day" will be on Saturday, January 24. The Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center, Tucson Clean and Beautiful, and other groups are hosting buffelgrass removal events at sites all across the Tucson valley (there's even a site up in Phoenix). North, South, East or West we have a location near you!

To volunteer visit: <http://www.buffelgrass.org/beat-back-buffelgrass-day-sites>

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## CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

**Holiday Party:** A Holiday Party will be held for Eastside Senior Club members at the Sheraton Hotel on December 17 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the front desk in the Carol West Senior Addition. The tickets cost \$25.00 per person.

For more information on the events above, contact 791-4121.



## PARKS PROGRAMS

**Spring 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog:** The Spring 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog has been published and is available for pick up at all Parks and Recreation facilities. The program guide can also be viewed on-line at [parks.tucsonaz.gov](http://parks.tucsonaz.gov) The program guide contains information on leisure classes, KIDCO after-school program, aquatics, sports programs, registration and so much more.

The Spring classes run January 4, 2015 through May 9, 2015.

Registration is open for the classes and programs. Contact Registration Services at 791-4877 for questions or additional information.

**Holiday Arts and Crafts fair:** The Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair in Reid Park (900 S. Randolph Way) will be held Thanksgiving weekend, November 29-30, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event will be held at the DeMeester Outdoor Performance Center, which is accessible from Country Club and Concert Place. Attached is the flyer with additional information.

**Santa's Calling:** Santa's Calling program will take place on December 2nd, 3rd and 4th for Children ages 3-8 years of age. Santa's Calling forms can be picked up at any City of Tucson Administration Office or Recreation Facility. Forms will need to be turned in no later than Friday, November 28th.

**Senior Olympic Festival:** The 31st Annual Senior Olympic Festival will be held Monday, January 12 through Sunday, February 1, 2015. The festival is a celebration to promote fitness, health and an active lifestyle among adults 50+. The program features nearly 100 events and activities at more than 20 venues throughout the City of Tucson. Registration is on-line or by phone through December 31 at [www.ezeereg.com](http://www.ezeereg.com) or 573-3933. For more information, contact Mike Davis at 791-3244 or log onto [www.tucsongames.org](http://www.tucsongames.org)

**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

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on Tuesday, December 16. 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>

