



## ABOUT WARD 4

Tucson's Ward 4 is represented by Council Member Shirley C. Scott. Shirley has represented the Ward since 1995 and is honored to continue serving the constituents of Ward 4 and the City of Tucson.

## In the Know

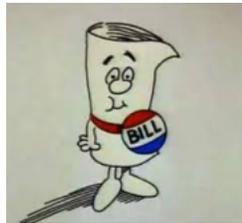
### HB2303

Congratulations to Vail School District's Superintendent, Calvin Baker, who was recently inducted into the 2015 Hall of Fame at Grand Canyon University (GCU).

Superintendent Baker graduated from GCU in 1973 with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. He has been recognized as Arizona Superintendent of the Year, Mentor of the Year by the Arizona Daily Star and has been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Tucson/Pima Metropolitan Education Commission.



The City of Tucson is 227 square miles, nearly 100 of those make up Ward 4. We are proud to say Vail School District covers almost half of our Ward. Unfortunately, some recent attempts at the State Legislature will directly hurt the highly recognized and successful Vail School District. House Bill 2303 would require all schools to start after Labor Day. If approved, the bill could have a huge impact on Vail's non-traditional calendar.



Another item of concern is the Governor's budget proposal to freeze funding for one of only two National Blue Ribbon Schools in Southern Arizona, Mesquite Elementary School. Superintendent Baker points out; there is a waiting list of students trying to get into Mesquite Elementary. If the

Governor's budget proposal passes, many of the highly successful programs at Mesquite Elementary will be unfunded. The impact of the proposed freeze has a minuscule impact on the State budget, but a large impact on our students. If you have an opinion about this proposed budget and HB2303 I urge you to contact your State Representatives.

*Shirley C. Scott*

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## A Little Extra

Just announced this morning, Mr. Michael Ortega has been selected as the new Tucson City Manager. We are excited to have his experience and expertise in the City of Tucson. Congratulations to Mr. Ortega!



## Citizens Transportation Academy

Have an interest in Transportation? Well, you're in luck! A new Citizens Transportation Academy, hosted by the Pima Association of Governments (PAG) and the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), will focus on the work of transportation planning and funding, while also helping people get involved in future planning efforts. The academy will be held over three, 90-minute sessions and will be limited to 50 participants. Anyone who is a resident of Pima County may apply (follow links below) to serve on the academy, which begins March 31. Participants will be selected through an application review process. Applications, due by March 16, must be emailed to [citizensacademy@PAGregion.com](mailto:citizensacademy@PAGregion.com). You also can send an application via regular mail to: Citizens Academy, Pima Association of Governments, 1 E. Broadway Blvd., Suite 401, Tucson, AZ 85701.

## Auto Safety

One of the worst feelings is the moment you realize that someone has broken into your car. Here are some reminders and safety tips from TPD.

### Vehicle Larcenies

- \* Make sure your vehicle is always locked.
- \* Do not leave anything of value in plain sight (computers, wallets, change in cup holder, brief cases).
- \* Do not leave windows or sun roofs open.
- \* Remember, if your vehicle is unsecured and your garage door opener is in your vehicle, thieves may now have access to your garage. Addresses can be taken of insurance and registration forms left in vehicle.



### Auto Theft

Tucson Police Department's Auto Theft Unit recommends a layered approach to auto theft protection:

Layer 1 – Practice Common Sense. Always lock your vehicle and take the keys with you. Never leave your vehicle running and unattended. Park in well-lit areas, and if possible, avoid parking in out-of-the-way locations.

Layer 2 – Use Visible and Audible Warning Devices. Enroll in the free Watch your Car program. Have your vehicle's VIN etched on windows. Use a steering wheel or brake lock. Install an audible alarm.

Layer 3 – Use Immobilizing Devices. Install a kill switch. Use starter, ignition or fuel-system disabling devices, or a "smart" key.

Layer 4 – Use a Tracking Device. They emit a signal to police or monitoring stations when vehicles are stolen. These devices are effective in helping law enforcement recover stolen vehicles.



This list is not intended to be an all-inclusive guide to personal and property safety, but rather a basic guide that provides some common sense and practical tips for citizens. With very little effort and no, or sometimes minimal, expense, we can all take steps to make ourselves less attractive targets for criminal activity.

For more crime prevention tips as well as contact information for our Neighborhood Watch coordinators, please visit our website at

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police/crime-and-prevention>.



### Pre-Construction Invitation

The Ward 4 Office and the City of Tucson Department of Transportation invite you to a pre-construction Open House with TDOT staff and Southern Arizona Paving for Pantano Rd Reconstruction: Escalante Rd to Irvington Rd. This project involves the complete removal and replacement of all existing asphalt, over-excavation of the material underneath the existing asphalt, and relocation and replacement of Tucson Water facilities at the south end of the project. The meeting will take place at the William M. Clements Recreation Center, 8155 E. Poinciana Dr., from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Questions concerning the project may be directed to Joe Chase, City of Tucson Engineering Project Manager at 837-6619.

### Tucson Water Warns of Possible Phone Scam



Tucson Water is receiving complaints from customers who were contacted by telephone and asked to provide certain financial information to avoid shutoff of their water service. The persons calling are falsely representing themselves as Tucson Water employees and are asking for

money to prevent accounts from being turned over to collections. Tucson Water's policy is to provide two written notifications of account delinquency or service interruption, followed by an outbound automated phone asking a delinquent to contact the utility immediately. Tucson Water does not request payment or financial information over the telephone.

Customers may verify their account and status of service information by contacting Tucson Water Customer Service at (520) 791-3242 or e-mailing [TW\\_CustomerService@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:TW_CustomerService@tucsonaz.gov).

### Canine Walk for Cops

The 7th Annual Canine Walk for Cops is a great one-mile dog walk and breakfast that benefits the Tucson Police Department and TPD's K9 unit. The cost is \$20 per one walker and one doggie. With your entry you will get breakfast and your furry pal will get a goodie bag and bandana. Each additional dog is \$10. You can also purchase additional breakfasts for just \$5. On top of the walk and breakfast, there will also TPD K9 demonstration, doggie contest/awards and a terrific raffle! This fun event will take place on Saturday, April 4 at the Brandi Fenton Park (3482 E. River Rd). Online registration is now open and will close April 3 at noon. All participants will need to sign a Waiver at check-in to participate. Don't wait; this event is limited to the first 200 registrants! To register or for more information, follow this link <http://www.tucsonpolicefoundation.org/canine-walk-for-cops/>.



### Recreation Worker Recruitment

The Sport Unit is seeking individuals to work in its sports programs. This program implements track and field events, and provides score keepers for adult sport leagues. These positions will act as a scorekeeper and are responsible for set-up and breakdown of equipment used in league play. This individual will maintain accurate and official score and time of assigned sports, and will predominantly work weekday evening hours, Monday through Friday. Applications accepted from March 3, 2015 through April 5, 2015. Apply on-line at [www.tucsonaz.gov](http://www.tucsonaz.gov), and click on "JOBS." If you have any additional questions, contact Human Resources at 791-4241.



**Sam Hughes  
Tour**

If interested, the Sam Hughes Home and Neighborhood Tour will be on Sunday, April 12 from noon until 5pm. This self-guided walking tour of the one square mile neighborhood bounded by Campbell Ave./Country Club Rd. and Speedway Blvd./Broadway consists of private residences and gardens as well as several venues that represent the diversity of this historically-designated midtown neighborhood.

Tickets remain \$20 and will be on sale day-of-the-tour in front of Rincon Market (2513 E. 6th St.) beginning at 10am. Pre-tour ticket purchase will be available (although unnecessary) at Arte de la Vida (37 N. Tucson Blvd), open Mon.-Sat. 10-5; Sun. 12-4 beginning April 1. For more information, call 520-323-7891 or see [www.samhughes.org](http://www.samhughes.org).

**Roadwork Update** by Rick Ellis

This is an update for road work taking place on Valencia Rd: Alvernon to Wilmont

Pima County Department of Transportation (PCDOT), in cooperation with the City of Tucson and Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), is currently managing the reconstruction of Valencia Road from Alvernon Way to Wilmont Road. This project consists of widening Valencia from four lanes to six lanes between Alvernon and Wilmont (including widening the bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad, UPRR), and is part of the RTA's Transportation Plan approved by voters in 2006.



Construction efforts are ongoing throughout the corridor with work activities proceeding in an east to west direction. Starting in early March, the Pima County Department of Transportation and their contractor, KE&G Construction will begin the next phase of construction of the north side of Valencia Road from Wilmont to Alvernon Way.

This configuration is anticipated to last for the next several months as construction activities on the north side of Valencia are performed.

\* Mesquite Desert Trail: This road has also been closed and will reopen at 5 p.m. on July 30, 2015. The closure is necessary for crews to remove, replace and construct the north side of Valencia Road. Columbus Blvd at Valencia Road is the only alternate route. We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience and understanding.

The overall project is approximately 60% complete, and is on schedule to be completed in Fall 2015.

For any questions you may visit the project website at:

<http://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=66566>, or you may contact Rick Ellis at 724-6385 or email at [rick.ellis@pima.gov](mailto:rick.ellis@pima.gov), or Carol Brichta, Community Relations, (520) 724-6410 or email [Carol.Brichta@pima.gov](mailto:Carol.Brichta@pima.gov).

**M&C**

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be held Tuesday, March 17 with Study Session beginning at 2pm and Regular Session at 5:30pm. Here are a few items on the upcoming agenda.

**Study Session:**

- Item #1. Update on Fiscal year 2016 General Fund Budget Process and Decision Regarding PSPRS Contribution.
- Item #3. Update and Discussion Regarding "Ban the Box." Relating to the Removal of the Criminal History Questions on Job Applications.

**Regular Session:**

- Item #8. Public Hearing: Major Streets and Routes Plan Amendment (PA-14-02), Grant Road Alignment Between Oracle Road and Swan Road.
- Item #13. Amending (Chapter 16) Relating to Streets and Sidewalks, Prohibiting Camping on Public Property.

If you would like the full agenda, please visit <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs>. You can also watch the live streaming by going to [www.tucson12.tv](http://www.tucson12.tv).

*Coming Up...*

The sun is shining, weather is warm, and the trees are blooming! It's that time of year for us when we have an abundance of events. These below are just a few, but if you are looking for other options please go Visit Tucson's website <http://www.visittucson.org/events/calendar/>. They have a long list of local events; you are sure to find some that spark your interest.

**Tucson Festival of Books**

Sat, March 14 – Sun, March 15, 9am-5:30pm, University of Arizona Mall (1209 E. University Blvd)

Tucson celebrates books and literacy at one of the largest book festivals in the U.S. This two-day event features nearly 400 authors participating in 320 presentations at 36 venues as well as countless opportunities to meet authors, poets, screenwriters, and journalists. There are book signings, panel discussions, staged entertainment, food vendors, children's and Science City programming and dozens of free activities for all ages. This is a free event to the public.



**4th Ave. Spring Street Fair**

Fri, March 20 – Sun, March 22, 10am-dusk, 316 N. Fourth Ave.

What a great time to celebrate the start of the upcoming warm months. The Fourth Avenue Street Fair brings together 400+ arts/crafts booths, 35+ food vendors, two entertainment stages, street performers, kids' art area, and more. Free to the public!

**EGGstravaganza**

Sat, April 4, 10am-1pm, Donna Liggins Recreation Center (2160 N. 6th Ave.)

The annual community-wide EGGstravaganza attracts more than 2,000 people. This is a FREE family fun event that includes activities such as; games, inflatables, prizes, egg hunts, music and the Easter Bunny. A variety of foods will be available for purchase from local vendors. Don't forget to bring an empty basket for the egg hunt.



Egg hunt times are as follows:

- Ages 2 and under – 10:30 to 11am
- Ages 3-4 – 11 to 11:30am
- Ages 5-7 – 11:30 to noon
- Ages 8-12 – Noon to 12:30pm



## In the 411

Eastside Police Substation – 791-5700

9670 E. Golf Links

For additional information in regards to tickets or other departments within the Tucson Police Department log on to <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police>

Transportation (TDOT) - 791-4259

201 N. Stone Ave. 5th Floor.

Got a question about construction, traffic, streets, graffiti removal, landscaping, stormwater, RTA or anything along these lines? Visit

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/transportation> to get more info.

Environmental Services - 791-3171

Information on trash, recycling, landfills, brush and bulky and even neighborhood cleanups is what you can find here. They even do Hazardous Household Waste Collections. Visit <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/es> for more info.

Tucson Water - 791-4331

310 W. Alameda St.

Have questions on billing, water conservation, water quality or general service, then call the public info line or check out <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/water>

William Clements Center - 791-5787 or 791-4730

8155 E. Poinciana

There is a lot happening here! Additional information, including calendar of events, go to <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec/clements>

Miller-Golf Links Branch Library - 594-5355

9640 E. Golf Links Rd

Get info of scheduled events or what's currently happening at this library. Better yet go to [www.library.pima.gov/locations/golfinks](http://www.library.pima.gov/locations/golfinks)

Pima Council on Aging - 790-7262

8467 E. Broadway

This is a great place that offers programs and services to older adults and their families living in Pima County. Learn more about this great organization by going to

[www.pcoa.org](http://www.pcoa.org)

Code Enforcement - 791 - 5843

310 N. Commerce Park Loop

Chapter 16 and 3 fo the City Code is what they enforce. If you suspect property or housing violations within the City give them a buzz or go online for more information visit <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/pdsd/code-enforcement>

Graffiti Removal Program - 792 - 2489

If you see someone "tagging" call 911. If The graffiti is already there, then call the number above to report it. Check out <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/graffiti> for more information on removal or reporting.