



**May the New  
Year Be A  
Better One For  
All**

**FREQUENTLY USED  
PHONE NUMBERS**

**Emergency Services  
TPD & TFD  
DIAL 911**

**Permits 791-5550  
Housing Assistance  
791-4739**

**TCC - 791-5522**

**Code Enforcement &  
Graffiti removal  
792-CITY (2489)**

**Trash Pick up &  
Environmental  
Services 791-3171**

**Transportation &  
Street Maintenance  
- 791-3154**

**Tucson Water  
Billing - 791-5466  
Public Info. - 791-5041**

# City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 9

JANUARY 2011

## A LETTER FROM VICE MAYOR FIMBRES

JANUARY 8, 2011

Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords was doing what she wanted to do and loved on Saturday, January 8, serving her fellow citizens and upholding the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, for which she volunteered to read during a recent session of the U.S. House of Representatives.

U.S. District Judge John Roll was there, Gabriel Zimmerman, who organized the "Congress on the Corner" was there, Dorwin Stoddard, Dorothy Murray, Phyllis Scheck were there to speak with their Congresswoman. Christina Taylor Green, who had just been elected to her third grade class student council, was there too. Other Giffords staff members were there as well as the public, on that Saturday, to take part in government at its basic function, communication and interaction but the unconscionable actions of one troubled individual changed that for Tucson and the nation.

Our hearts go out to their families and friends who lost their loved ones, as well as the families and friends who now hope and pray for those injured in this attack. Our hearts beat prouder for the actions of Patricia Maisch, Roger Salzgeber, Bill Badger and Joseph Zamudio, who subdued the gunman; Daniel Hernandez, whose quick thinking helped Congresswoman Giffords as well as the other citizens on the scene who helped in the aftermath. Our thanks go to the paramedics, the trauma team and Doctor G. Michael Lemole, Jr. and Doctor Peter Rhee of the University Medical Center for their work. Our thanks go to the law enforcement officials whose actions will bring justice from this tragedy.

On May 3, 1968, then Senator Robert F. Kennedy, speaking about the Assassination of Martin Luther King, said that we "... have to make an effort in the United States. We have to make an effort to understand, to get beyond, or go beyond these rather difficult times ..." "What we need in the United States is not division; what we need in the United States is not hatred; what we need in the United States is not violence and lawlessness, but is love, and wisdom, and compassion toward one another, and a feeling of justice toward those who still suffer within our country..."

Please say a prayer for Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, that she may recover fully and quickly from her wounds. Please say a prayer for those families and friends of those recovering from their injuries.

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Help those who are in need. Give to the Community food Bank. For more information, call 520-622-0525

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Please say a prayer for those families and friends who lost loved ones on Saturday, January 8 and please say a prayer for our community and to paraphrase Robert F. Kennedy, "please say a prayer for our own country, which all of us love — a prayer for understanding and that compassion ..." When crisis and tragedy happens in Tucson, people come together to overcome and solve the obstacle.

### BUDGET AND TOWN HALL MEETING

Many things have been accomplished in Ward 5 and on Thursday, January 27, 6 to 8 PM at the El Pueblo Senior Center, 101 West Irvington Road, I will be holding town hall discuss what has been done in Ward 5 in the past year and what is upcoming in the next few months. The construction on the Costco store and the development of the Bridges Project, plus the progress on the U of A Biopark are two of a couple positive accomplishments for this new year.

In addition to the State of Ward 5, a discussion on the upcoming budget for the City of Tucson will take place, on the priorities for Tucson. Starting Tuesday, January 19, discussions on the City Budget for the next Fiscal Year (FY 2012) (starting July 1) will begin by the Mayor and Council. Between now and March for several meetings, the focus will be on setting the future priorities for the City of Tucson. The projected deficit the City of Tucson is facing is \$55.1 million dollars, so there will be expenditure reductions in programs and services but the question is from what programs and services.

As your Councilmember, I am just one voice of seven, but for Ward 5, there are many voices which need to be heard, especially during these next few weeks. It is important that you be kept fully informed on the development of the City of Tucson budget for next Fiscal Year and my office kept informed of your concerns on this important matter. This will not be the only town hall meeting this year and not the only one dealing with the budget either.

Arizona's state legislature has gone into session and the State Government has a more than \$800-million shortfall to deal with for their current Fiscal Year (2011) budget (which ends June 30), as well as a projected deficit for the next Fiscal Year (2012) budget (which starts July 1), of more than \$1.4-billion. How could this affect the City of Tucson? Over the past two years, the City of Tucson (along with other cities and towns in Arizona) has had state shared revenue (sales tax, income tax and auto tax) swept, totaling more than \$70 million. With the pending budget shortfalls the State Government is facing, all cities and towns in Arizona face losing even more funds from the state shared revenue program. In the City of Tucson's case, it is more than \$110-million. There are many tough decisions the City faces in the upcoming future and your input and thoughts are wanted and needed. The budget proposal online is located: <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/announcement/budget-fy2012>.

### NEIGHBORHOODS

As you know, my good friend, Abe Marques retired from the Ward 5 Council (continues on next page)

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## (NEIGHBORS—Continued)

office on December 3. For more than 20 years, Abe has worked for the Ward 5 office helping the neighborhoods with their issues and concerns. He also had attending the neighborhood association meetings to report back on issues from city staff, answer questions and to listen to your concerns. With the budgetary cuts this office is facing, (reducing staff from 6.5 to three – Melinda Jacobs, Eileen Contreras and Mark Kerr who all go the extra mile and are so appreciated) some thought and consideration had to take place on how to fill those Burkenstock shoes of Abe's.

Starting this month, the Ward 5 office will have several of Tucson's future, its youth, working as volunteer interns for school credit and to help make our Ward an even better place. I, along with my staff, will be attending neighborhood meetings to introduce you to them. In addition, my staff will also be attending some neighborhood meetings as well. The Ward 5 Council Office is trying to do more work with even less resources. Our hearts and commitment are there but we will need your help too. If you have questions or concerns, and events to announce please don't hesitate to contact my office. Communication is a two way street which will lead to the betterment of all. I have a personal blog at <http://badger73.blogspot.com>, facebook page, the Ward 5 page on the City website <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/ward5> as well as current events summary during each weekly Mayor and Council meeting for people to obtain information.

## RIO NUEVO

During the Mayor and Council meeting of December 14, by a unanimous vote of the Mayor and Council, the IGA and term sheet agreement for Rio Nuevo was agreed to. On December 20, the Rio Nuevo District Board approved both agreements as well. This vote shows that the two bodies have agreed to work together for the community. It had been requested that another audit be conducted, for which the Mayor and Council has expressed support to cooperate if any further enquiries should happen. Both the Rio Nuevo Board and the Mayor and Council are ready to work on the TCC and other components the audit identified.

## NEWS AND NOTES

James Christopher and the wonderful people of the Pueblo Gardens Neighborhood Association have worked hard for the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Martin Luther King Breakfast at the Boys and Girls Club (January 15). The long and hard work to put this event on for the last 21<sup>st</sup> years is incredible. A big thanks and debt of gratitude goes to Christopher and Pueblo Gardens for this event.

I want to congratulate the El Pueblo Senior Center for their fifth anniversary of being in operations.

On Wednesday, January 26, I will be hosting a business roundtable at Hi Speed Hot Rods, 823 East 17<sup>th</sup> Street, from 6 to 8 PM, to talk about what progress has been made to create jobs for Ward 5 residents and Tucsonans and what needs to be done. For more information, please call the Ward 5 Council Office, 791-4231.

Saturday, January 29, 8 am to noon, Ward 5, Apollo Middle School and Graffiti Protective Coatings will be holding a Graffiti Abatement, covering Irvington and Drexel for the NS boundaries and 12th Avenue as the Western boundary and the railroad tracks on the Eastern boundary. For more information, please call the Ward 5 Council Office, 791-4231.

Peace  
Richard G. Fimbres