Dear Friends:

On Monday, April 20, at the City of Tucson Ward 5 Council Offices. Congresswoman Martha McSally and I co-hosted a roundtable discussion about the future of the Cherrybell post office and processing center and its impact to our economy and community. More than 40 people were present for the forum.

Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild was present, as well as State Senator Andrea Dalessandro and State Representatives Chris Ackerely and Rosanna Gabaldon.

Governor Doug Ducey’s Southern Arizona director, Juan Ciscomani and his Deputy Director, Becky Barry, were in attendance.

The three business chambers were present as well, Lea Marques Peterson, President/CEO of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Robert Medler, the Government Affairs Director of the Tucson Metro Chamber and Clarence Boykins from the black chamber of commerce.

George Kalil of Kalil Bottling, Doug Martin of Good News Communications, Alma Gallardo of Arizona Bilingual were three of many business owners present in attendance, along with Mark Clark, President/CEO of the Pima Council on Aging, Ethan Orr from the University of Arizona and Richard Lemons, the Commander of Disabled American Veterans – Tucson and Clarissa Geberkoff, with Tucson Troop Support were in attendance.

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zona Bilingual, Ethan Orr - U of A, Carlos Ruiz, Alma Gallardo – Arizona Bilingual, Armando Valles, Ramon Macazani and Julio Galindo.

There were many accounts of how the changes made by the post office in January has delayed mail even further, costing one veteran his benefits, businesses losing potential offers and checks being delayed because of the situation with Cherrybell. Those present talked about now having it take a week to mail a letter in Tucson to another address in Tucson.

From these accounts, it was decided that a community survey of business, groups, organizations and individuals will be conducted with my staff working with Congresswoman McSally’s office to gather further stories for Congresswoman Mc Sally to present to those committee chairs, hearing bills on postal reform.

Also from the roundtable, it was learned that the United States Postal Service has now put the Cherrybell post office and processing center on the TBD (to be determined) status.

Cherrybell was supposed to have closed on July 11, but the pressure being exerted is paying off and there is not a closing date.

Congresswoman McSally and I thanked everyone who was in attendance and who spoke up about the importance of Cherrybell.

I also wanted to give special thanks to Congresswoman McSally for co-hosting this roundtable and helping to lead the fight to save our post office and processing center for the 26,000 businesses and 1.5 million people, veterans and seniors.

Peace,

Richard G. Fimbres
Your Vice Mayor

HomeGoods a Big Win for Tucson

A lot had been said and even downplayed about the recent action by the Tucson mayor and council about the proposed HomeGoods Distribution Center coming to our city.

With my motion, the mayor and council, approved the development agreement and PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Tax) for HomeGoods to build its new distribution center at 3649 E. Corona Road, which is located in Ward 5. This was the final step to have the HomeGoods distribution center come to Tucson.
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This distribution center will serve the retail outlets for HomeGoods, TJ Maxx and Marshall’s in the western United States. This distribution center will open next year and initially have 410 employees, a number that will rise, meeting its full employment with 910 jobs. HomeGoods also offers all employees health and dental insurance benefits.

This will be an economic boon for our city with the new jobs. These employees will buy houses and shop in Tucson, which will create other employment in the city. According to an independent economic analysis, the total economic impact of the HomeGoods distribution center will be $838 million.

Tucson enjoys being on I-10 and I-19, is on the main Union Pacific east-west rail line, is less than an hour from Mexico, has the Port of Tucson, has an international airport and has an ample workforce available for logistics businesses. Compared to locations such as California, Tucson can typically offer a lower cost of doing business.

With the location of the distribution center, HomeGoods also qualifies for the Global Economic Development District (GEDD) incentive. This is the first business located in the district, which encompasses areas within Ward 1, Ward 5 and Ward 4, and was created by me, Councilwoman Shirley Scott (Ward 4) and Councilwoman Regina Romero (Ward 1). Permit fee waivers will also be issued to HomeGoods for the construction of their new facility.

This signals to other major companies that Tucson is a competitive location for future expansion opportunities. HomeGoods follows Target as the second major national retailer to choose Tucson for a distribution center.

The construction of this new facility will include 259 construction jobs, with an economic output number of $32 million associated with the construction alone. The capital investment, equipment, buildings and other materials will bring the total to $75 million.

The mayor and council took the important steps to bring HomeGoods to Tucson. HomeGoods will become a major part of the Ward 5 economic hub, which has had more than 2,000 jobs created in the past five years.

I want to thank my colleagues on the council for voting to approve the agreement, and I look forward to welcoming HomeGoods to Ward 5 and working with them. I also want to thank Chris Kaselemis, Camila Bekat and the city’s Economic Initiative Team, and TREO, for their work on this project, bringing the HomeGoods distribution center to Ward 5 and Tucson.

The city relies on sales tax and revenues to operate, and this development deal will help the city to provide for the services the constituents want.

Pima County Bond
The Pima County Board of Supervisors recently voted 4-1 to send seven bond questions to voters on Nov. 3. The total of all packages is $815 million, but each question will be decided separately. The packages include money for road improvements, economic development, libraries, tourism promotion,
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parks, historic preservation, and other things. If voters approve all packages, the County says the costs to homeowners would be an extra $4.63 per month for the owner of the average home valued at approximately $152,000.

Bond Projects in Ward 5 include: El Pueblo Center improvements, Quincie Douglas Center improvements, Silverlake Park expansion, the Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Project, Willie Blake Park, South 12th Avenue Culinary and Cultural Corridor and the Innovation/Technology Building, UA Tech Park at The Bridges. Projects that are within Ward 5 total $29,555,000.00.

Ward 5 Roadwork
Crews from Southern Arizona Paving and Construction Co., under contract with the City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT), have begun work to improve the pavement conditions on 22nd Street, from Wilmot Road to Swan Road. Crews began by lowering manhole and water valve covers on 22nd Street, from Wilmot Road to Craycroft Road. Following this process, crews began milling (removing asphalt) and repaving 22nd Street. The work takes place from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. and is scheduled to be finished by Friday, May 8, 2015. During the work, at least one lane in each direction will be maintained. The pavement improvement project is part of the voter-approved, $100 million, five-year Road Recovery bond program.

In addition to these efforts, crews from the City of Tucson Department of Transportation Streets and Traffic Division conducted work to crack seal Kino Parkway, from Silverlake Road to the Interstate 10 overpass. The work finished on April 15th.

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City Budget
On April 21st, the Mayor and Tucson City Council received their first look at the City Manager’s proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2016. The $1.368 billion Recommended Budget presented by City Manager Martha Durkin is an increase of $103 million from the current fiscal budget. The City is counting on using $3.2 million from the Stabilization Fund, money from land sales, new revenue from annexations, and an expected uptick in sales tax, property tax and state-shared tax revenue to help fund the budget. Under the proposal, the City would spend $600,000 for swimming pools, $1.6
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million for graffiti removal, and there would be no increase in transit fares. The first of two public hearings on the spending plan is scheduled for May 5, with final adoption by Mayor and Council set for June 9th.

Road Recovery Bond Program Update

The Mayor and Tucson City Council held a public hearing on the expansion of the Road Recovery bond program to repair and maintain additional streets. Due to favorable bids and lower gas prices, the bond program is under budget by about $40 million. The excess bonding capacity will enable expansion of roadway rehabilitation. After hearing proposals from the Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT), the citizens on the Bond Oversight Commission (BOC) created a recommendation for Mayor and Council on how the extra capacity should be spent. After hearing the proposals, Tucson's Mayor and Council City Council unanimously approved adding 45 major roadways to the voter-approved Road Recovery bond program. The vote will also add about four different neighborhood areas to the resurfacing program and also includes pavement preservation work on roadways that recently have been repaved. Voters approved the five-year, $100 million Road Recovery bond program in November 2012. The Ward 5 projects on this list included: Nogales Highway (Irvington to Drexel), Nogales Highway (Valencia to Los Reales), Plumer (Medina to Elvira), Valencia (12th to Alvernon), 10th Avenue (18th to 19th Street), 22nd Street (Tucson to Alvernon), Corona (Tucson to Country Club) and Country Club (Drexel to Los Reales).

Tucson Pools

The spring swim schedules for Udall Park and Ft. Lowell Park began early April with extended summer hours at City pools beginning on May 26. For specific times, contact the Parks and Recreation Department's Aquatics Division at (520) 791-4245.

Recruitment is also underway for summer pool employees. The Tucson Parks and Recreation Department is looking for Water Safety Instructors (WSI) and Lifeguards this summer. More than 150 lifeguards and swimming instructors are needed for seasonal work at City of Tucson pools, beginning the week of May 25. Applicants must be at least 16 years old at time of hire and have knowledge of water hazards, lifesaving techniques and first aid. Learn more about the qualifications by following the link below. The application deadline is May 31. Job description: http://1.usa.gov/1EekObF

The City of Tucson and Sun Tran are also offering the SummerGO Youth Pass for unlimited summer rides on transit and entrance to City pools. The $45 passes are available now through June (follow link below for locations). High school students will need a valid student ID to purchase the pass,
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which will be effective from May 22 through August 5. Additionally, the SummerGO Youth Pass offers pass holders special summer discounts at Skate Country, Funtasticks Family Fun Park, and Goodness Fresh Food and Juice Bar. Pass sales will be tested and then evaluated to determine if the pilot program or similar program will be integrated into the public transportation fare structure on a long-term basis.
SummerGO Youth Pass details: http://bit.ly/1Dkzv8k

Bike Share Program
The City of Tucson is one step closer to launching a public bike share program. The Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT) just released a preliminary document that contains maps of both a station phasing plan and proposed station locations for the initial phases. The information is derived from months of technical analysis and public engagement as part of a Public Bicycle Share Feasibility Study and Implementation Plan. The proposed station locations for the first two phases are primarily in the denser urban core of Tucson, and there are station locations proposed for up to two miles from the Sun Link streetcar line. Phase 3 is intended to build upon phases 1 and 2. Other suggested areas would connect the Rillito River path and expand to the south, east, and southeast sides of Tucson. Bike share gives subscribers access to a network of bicycles through automated, self-service kiosks located throughout the community.
Map of preliminary bike share locations: http://1.usa.gov/1OaT9tQ
Tucson Bike Share: http://1.usa.gov/1FG6fuq

Do More Blue
A recent survey from the City of Tucson's Environmental Services department found that approximately 90 percent of Tucsonans regularly set out their blue barrels for recycling, but 20 percent of the material put in barrels is not recyclable. Contamination - especially food, yard waste, and dirty diapers - can ruin a complete truckload of recyclables. Plastic bags, garden hoses, and clothing also can cause problems. Some of the things that go through the plant also are potentially harmful to the health and safety of the workers. There have been a few cases of items like syringe needles going through the facility causing workers to be stuck. Recycling is a positive for Tucson. It helps conserve resources, extend the life of the landfill, reduce our carbon footprint, and it's economically beneficial for our City and customers, so it's important we do it right. The local recycling processor sells the recyclables and divides the profits with the City. Those revenues help ES offset a portion of collection costs and keep rates stable for our customers. ES residential collection rates have not in-
Be Safe this Cinco de Mayo
In the United States, Cinco de Mayo—like St. Patrick’s Day—is for many people just an excuse to drink with friends. Do you plan to join the fiesta on May 5th? If so, it’s important that you know the grim reality: 283 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes over the Cinco de Mayo weekend in 2013. Of those 283 people who lost their lives, 41 percent (115) of them died in drunk-driving crashes. And the drivers in those crashes weren’t just a little drunk. Sadly, one out of five (21%) of all the drivers in fatal crashes that weekend had blood alcohol concentrations (BACs) of .15 grams per deciliter (g/dL) or higher – almost two times the illegal limit in every state.

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creased for four years.
ES Recycle it Right!: http://1.usa.gov/1OeMCOU

The City of Tucson Environmental Services department is also hosting a photo contest on its Facebook page to show people recycling. "Like" the Do More Blue Tucson page to enter. Simply take a selfie while recycling, complete a short form, and post your photo to the page. You can be alone or have someone take a picture of you and your family or friends. Follow the link below to go to the contest page.
Do More Blue Tucson Photo Contest: http://on.fb.me/1Dk5RDB

Parks and Recreation News
Tucson Parks and Recreation Department’s Summer 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog is available now at all Parks and Recreation facilities, including district offices, centers, and pools. The summer issue can also be viewed online at the link below. The Program Guide contains information on leisure classes, swim lessons, summer KIDCO, aquatics, sports programs, sports camps, registration, and the Discount Program. In addition, the guide contains information on other programs and services, including the department’s recreation, senior, and fitness centers, as well as Reid Park Zoo, Tucson City Golf courses, and 18 swimming pool locations. Online registration has also begun for City of Tucson residents and non-city residents for most summer programs for children, leisure classes, and swim lessons.
Summer 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog: http://1.usa.gov/1FSttxB
Register for classes: http://bit.ly/1u7q4db
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The unfortunate truth is this: many people might be making party plans for Cinco de Mayo, but they aren’t planning ahead for getting home. Only 64 percent of the drivers in fatal crashes on Cinco de Mayo weekend in 2013 had no alcohol in their systems. What about the other 36 percent? They were driving after drinking. Too many people are lying to themselves about the dangers of drinking and driving. Some fiesta-goers think that they can play it by ear, and wait until after they drink to decide whether they’re “okay to drive.” By then, it’s too late. If you don’t designate a sober driver ahead of time or have a solid plan for how you’ll get home safely, you are setting yourself up for disaster. When you drive drunk, you run the risk of killing yourself or someone else. You could be looking at jail time, the loss of your driver license, higher insurance rates, and dozens of other unanticipated expenses ranging from attorney fees, court costs, car or motorcycle towing and repairs, and lost wages due to time off from work. The average DUI costs about $10,000.

Cinco de Mayo can be a fun and festive time for those who choose to celebrate the right way: with a plan for a sober ride. If you make your plans when you’re sober, you won’t make a bad decision when you’re drunk. So before your first margarita, cold beer, or shot of tequila this Cinco de Mayo, make sure you have a designated sober driver. Decide today that you won’t ever drive after drinking. And if you know someone who is about to drive drunk, step in and help. Take their keys and help them make arrangements to get home.

Remember, Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving. Don’t do it.

Charter Review

At the April 21 Mayor and Council meeting, the proposed changes for Tucson’s City Charter were presented and discussed. I had brought the proposal of forming a citizen’s charter review committee in 2014, to the Mayor and Council, because our City needs a governing document that reflects the 21st century. No substantive changes have been made to this document since its initial passage in 1929. I want to thank the Citizen’s Committee and especially, Randi Dorman and Pastor Grady Scott, the Ward 5 appointees, for their service and commitment to this effort. The Mayor and Council are continuing discussions over the proposals and will have an update in next month’s newsletter.

Code Enforcement

The City of Tucson’s Code Enforcement Division is responsible for enforcing property maintenance codes throughout Tucson. These codes ensure owners maintain their property which helps to protect citizens’ health, safety and welfare. Code Enforcement has a direct impact on preserving the livability and property values of Tucson’s neighborhoods by enforcing the following regulations: Chapter 16 of the City Code, the Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance (NPO), Chapter 3 of the City
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Code, the Sign Code Portions of the Unified Development Code, formerly known as the Land Use Code. For more information, go online to the link below or call (520) 791-5843.

http://www.tucsonaz.gov/pdsd/code-enforcement

Sun Link Prepares for One Millionth Rider

Less than three months away from celebrating its first anniversary, the Sun Link streetcar is getting ready to serve its one millionth passenger. Current Sun Link ridership is a little more than 955,000, and the millionth passenger is expected to board in the next couple of weeks. The lucky millionth passenger will receive several special gifts when he or she enters the streetcar. Sun Link is experiencing higher-than-expected ridership numbers during its first year of service.

Congratulations to Ward 5 Schools Receiving Grants For Trees

Tucson Clean & Beautiful, in cooperation with the Southern Arizona Environmental Management Society and the Arizona Native Plant Society-Tucson Chapter, recently awarded $4,000 in minigrants, in addition to more than 130 trees, tools, and additional technical assistance to 11 Tucson area schools. Applicants were able to apply for a cash grant of up to $500 for environmental improvements, plus assistance with tools and up to 30 trees and related technical assistance for a school site planting project from Trees for Tucson, a program of Tucson Clean & Beautiful.

2015 grant winners from Ward 5 included: Borton Magnet School, STAR Academy and the Western Institute for Leadership Development. Congratulations in helping to beautify our community with more planting of trees.

Ward 5 Conserves Water

With the discussion of changing the rates Tucson Water customers would pay, Vice Mayor Fimbres had requested a breakdown from Tucson Water, of the water usage by Ward and outside the City for which Tucson Water serves. The numbers showed that Ward 5 residents are doing a great job in conserving water. Keep up the good work.
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Volunteers Needed!
Do you have the DRIVE to help people? Our seniors need your help! Winter visitors are great volunteers and now is the time that they take all of their precious volunteer hours back to their ‘home’ communities. ITNGreaterTucson needs YOU more than ever! Our seniors still need to go places and we can take them there with your help. Volunteer to drive once a week for the next few months and help keep our seniors active! Even people who take the bus other times of the year can’t wait outside during the hot summer months, increasing the ever-growing demand for drivers. Please help by volunteering to drive between now and September. We will work with your schedule, just tell us what works for you!! Please contact Kathy or Bob at 520-209-1645 or visit our website at www.itngreatertucson.org

Congratulations and Thank You!

26th Annual LULAC Educators Banquet
The 26th Annual LULAC Council 1057 Educators Awards & Scholarship Banquet took place Thursday, April 16th at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Tucson – Reid Park. Retired Pima County Supervisor Dan Eckstrom and LULAC District 3 Director, Javier Herrera were the Master of Ceremonies for the Banquet.

With 500 guests in attendance, 8 outstanding community leaders were recognized for bettering the lives of youth through their investments in the community and in education. This year’s honorees are for LULAC’s Presidential Citation Award included: Frances Erunez (Los Jarritos), Alma Gallardo (Arizona Bilingual Magazine), Lee Lambert (Pima Community College), Saturnino “Curly” Santa Cruz (Teacher/Coach), John C. Scott (Radio Personality). Also, honored were Dr. Vicki Balentine (Lifelong Educator), Hon. Clarence Dupnik (Sheriff of Pima County County), and Bishop Gerald Kicanas (Diocese of Tucson) with the Soldado de Cuero Lifetime Achievement Award for their ten or more years of leadership and service to our community.

In addition to these exceptional honorees, 4 students were each awarded with $1000 scholarships for their dedication and commitment in achieving their personal and academic goals. All proceeds raised at the Banquet will go on to support LULAC Council 1057’s effort to send students to the National LULAC Washington National Youth Leadership Seminar and to provide further scholarships in coordination with LULAC’s National Scholarship Foundation. For the past 26 years, the League of United Latin American Citizens Council #1057 has been actively involved with the community in providing educational assistance to the youth.
Protect Your Pooches!

...at our FREE vaccination clinic for Rabies, Parvo and Distemper

Saturday May 2
7 to 10 a.m.

Ward 5 Council Office
4300 S. Park Ave 85714

For more information, contact Jenny Kading
724-5976 or Jenny.Kading@pima.gov

PIMA COUNTY
ANIMAL CARE

DOGS ONLY, PLEASE
FAMILY LEADERSHIP & EDUCATION CLASSES
FOR THE LATINO AND AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITIES

ARE THERE CHILDREN 0-5 YEARS OLD IN YOUR FAMILY?

ENROLL NOW!
CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF MAY 11, 2015

CLASSES ARE HELD AT THE AMISTADES FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES BUILDING 921 W. PRINCE RD 85705

WEEKLY PARENTING WORKSHOPS CONSIST OF 20 CLASSES. PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE $150 UPON COMPLETION OF 10 CLASSES AND AN ADDITIONAL $150 UPON GRADUATION.

SERVICES OFFERED:
PARENT EDUCATION
FAMILY LEADERSHIP
PROMOTORA HOME VISITS
MEN'S/FATHERHOOD COUNCIL
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

WHY JOIN?
FREE CHILD CARE
HEALTHY SNACKS
FREE BILINGUAL CLASSES
TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE
GRADUATION CEREMONY & CERTIFICATE

CONTACT XAVIER TESO AT (520) 882-8777 OR AT PARTICIPE@AMISTADESINC.ORG
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK: FACEBOOK.COM/AMISTADESINC/RAZALOGIAFAMILYENGAGEMENTPROJECT
Chicanos Por La Causa Tucson

Homeownership Assistance Program

Save $$ Towards the Purchase of Your New Home

Receive these services at no cost to you:

- Down Payment & Closing Costs Assistance
- Homebuyer education workshops
- One-on-one counseling to help you with the process
- Referrals to Lenders & Realtors

If credit is a problem, we will counsel you on credit repair.
Tucson Clean & Beautiful volunteers donated 26,000 hours to beautifying Tucson in 2014!

This is our community - let's clean it up!

VOLUNTEER!

Tucson Clean and Beautiful is seeking community volunteers to adopt parks, streets, washes, and other available public areas on an ongoing basis!

There are over 700 sites available for adoption!

What does “adopt” mean?
- Your group agrees to clean ‘your’ site up (remove litter and debris) once a month!
- We provide supplies such as litter grabbers, gloves and bags!

Who can adopt?
- Groups of at least five individuals commit to monthly cleanups.
  - A permanent sign recognizing your group will be placed at the adopted site and we will celebrate your first six months with a ceremony!

Why do this?
- We can make Tucson better with everyone’s participation!

Give a few hours of your time to bettering the community!

Adopting a park allows groups to show pride in their community. It is set up for groups to visit the chosen park on a regular basis to pick up litter and perform other tasks to help keep the park clean.

Adopting a street or traffic circle allows groups to take an active role in the appearance of neighborhoods by transforming a litter strewn and weed infested area into a clean area.

Adopting a wash allows groups to free the washes of litter so that these corridors are clear for wildlife and prevent flooding.

Make a meaningful, long-lasting contribution to Tucson. Adopt a park, street, or wash today!

To become a part of Tucson Clean and Beautiful’s environmental stewardship efforts and for more information visit www.tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org, email adoptaparks@tucsonaz.gov or call 791-3109.
Frequently Used Phone Numbers

Emergency Services
Tucson Police Department or Tucson Fire Department
DIAL 911

Permits
Planning and Development Services Department
791-5550

Housing Assistance
City of Tucson Community Services Department
791-4739

Code Enforcement & Graffiti Removal
792-CITY (2489)

Trash Pick Up & Environmental Services
Abandoned Shopping Carts
City of Tucson Environmental Services Department
791-3171

Street Maintenance and Potholes
Tucson Department of Transportation
791-3154

Tucson Water Department
Billing - 791-3242
Public Information - 791-4331

ParkWise
791-5071

Loose or Dead Animals
Pima Animal Care Center
724-5900

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

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and include the word unsubscribe in subject line.