



# City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

December 2017

## Richard Fimbres Council Member

### Ward 5 Council Office Staff

**Chief of Staff**  
Mark Kerr

**Council Aides**  
Matthew Pate  
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Dear Friends:

As this year concludes, I want to thank the good citizens of Ward 5 and Tucson for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Ward 5 Council Member and continuing the work on the Renaissance of Ward 5 and the Southside.

It has been a pleasure serving with my colleagues on the Council. Although it will be hard to see Karin Uhlich go we welcome Paul Durham as the newly elected Council Member in Ward 3. I have also enjoyed working with and watching the neighborhoods and businesses in Ward 5 and the City of Tucson continue to grow.

The work continues to bring Tucson through the dark economic tunnel that we've been in since the Great Recession.

When I was sworn into office in 2009, I got the message voters sent in terms of what was needed: reforming city government, economic development and creating jobs.

Over the past eight years we have accomplished much of this, drawing new businesses to Ward 5, helping other businesses expand their operations, annexing property and fighting to ensure that barriers to economic development are addressed, averted and that doors for new businesses are open.

This past year, Ward 5 has seen a tremendous amount of investment from business. The Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce has praised my efforts to make Ward 5 and Tucson more business friendly.

The City of Tucson lives off of sales tax. In order to have resources available for vital programs for our most needy and vulnerable citizens we must grow our business community.

I've worked hard to bring changes to the process to set up shop and to be able to operate in our city, including the Certificate of Occupancy, streamlining of the development process, approving the biggest commercial annexations of land in 15 years and adopted a proactive approach from my office in assisting businesses to open up or move into Ward 5.

In addition, we welcomed the largest residential annexation into Ward 5. The Swan-Valencia annexation encompassed 652 acres, 3,100 residents and is anticipated to bring the City \$25 million in revenues in the next decade. This is just one of the many accomplishments I am proud to see happen in the past year

Here are some of the other things we have seen in 2017 in Ward 5 and for our City:

#### **Lin's Grant Buffet**

January 13, 2017 was the official grand opening for Lin's Grand Buffet at the Bridges. This was a \$4.5 million dollar investment that created 80 jobs which the owners hired local people. More than 400 people turned out for the grand opening. I want to thank Frank Lam and the ownership team for opening this location, another part of the Renaissance of Ward 5. I want to thank the four neighborhood associations, Pueblo Gardens, South Park, Western Hills II and Las Vistas for their work with the developers to get the stores and businesses the neighborhoods need. I want to thank Councilmember Shirley Scott and her staff for attending the dedication. Welcome to Ward 5 and the Renaissance of the South Side.



#### **Rainwater Harvesting and Ward 5 Tree Dedications**

Thursday, January 26, Council Member Richard Fimbres, staff, and partnering organizations celebrated sustainability efforts at the Ward 5 office, with the dedication of four trees and a rainwater harvesting system.

The office is a rainwater harvesting demonstration site with a new 2,800-gallon cistern designed and installed by Dryland Design. The native fruit trees have been donated by Trees for Tucson. In addition, Dryland Design is creating earthworks projects as demonstration sites to show residents the benefits of water harvesting through moving earth on one's property.

The four trees are in honor of the current and former Ward 5 Council Members: Rudy Castro (1973-1977), Roy Laos (1977-1989), Steve Leal (1989-2009), and Richard Fimbres (2009-current).



### Chamberlain Door's Expanding Operations

In February, there was an announcement of a land purchase and construction of a built to suit distribution facility for Chamberlain Door's, located in Ward 5. This will be an expansion of Chamberlain's Door's business activity in Ward 5 and Tucson. This project will cost \$20,000,000 and create 200 construction jobs. The Chamberlain facility, including their Customer Service Center and Manufacturing and Distribution operations will create a total of 300 new jobs. A few of the manufacturing and distributing companies nearby Chamberlain are: Intuit, CAID Industries, Pepsi Cola Bottling, Modular Mining, Ray-

theon, Lisa Frank, Britannia, Cobalt Partners and Solar Industries.

### Greyhound Dedicates New Terminal

On Tuesday, March 14, I had the privilege of cutting the ribbon on the new greyhound bus terminal located at 801 East 12th street in Ward 5. Twenty jobs were created with the new terminal.

This new facility was the result of the collaboration between the Rio Nuevo District, the City of Tucson, the Ward 5 Council Office and the Barrio San Antonio Neighborhood Association. Barrio San Antonio worked with Rio Nuevo on the design, the traffic flow and other details, resulting in the facility in the shopping center on the northeast corner of 12th St and Euclid.

I want to thank the leadership and neighbors from Barrio San Antonio who came to the table, and worked with the City and Rio Nuevo on this project.



### Dave & Buster's Grand Opening

On Monday, April 3, another piece of the Renaissance of Ward 5 occurred with the grand opening of the Dave and Buster's at the Tucson Marketplace at the Bridges. More than 1,000 people turned out for the opening to enjoy great food and the 135 games in Tucson's first Dave and Buster's. I want to thank Ed Childs, general manager and staff for their work on the grand opening. The Dave and Buster's employs 270 people.

This project would not have been possible without the four neighborhoods: South Park, Pueblo Gardens, Las Vistas and Western Hills II work on the Bridges and collaborating with the developers, that took a piece of land for weeds and garbage and turning into the Bridges for which all of Ward 5 residents, City of Tucson and Southern Arizona uses and enjoys.

### Sister Jose's Women's Center Relocates and Czarina's Kitchen Dedication

April 20 was the dedication and ribbon cutting for Sister Jose's Women's Center, located in Ward 5. I along with my staff of Mark Kerr, Matt Pate and Lupita Robles, held meetings with five surrounding neighborhoods and their leaders and Jean Fedigan and staff from Sister Jose's.



The neighborhoods were supportive and Sister Jose's proceeded to get their new location in the Millville Neighborhood. Congratulations to Jean Fedigan of Sister Jose's, the staff and Monsignor Tom Cahalane for their work helping those women in need. I want to thank Pedro Gonzales of Barrio Viejo, Nicole Gonzales of Barrio Santa Rosa, Angie Quiroz of Barrio Santa Rita, Tim Vanderpool and John Burr of Armory Park for meeting and expressing their support.

I especially want to thank George Kalil of the Millville Neighborhood Association for his support and work for Sister Jose's. I worked to get final approval by Mayor and Council. My staff, led by my Chief of Staff Mark Kerr and Matt Pate, worked to help Sister Jose's through its construction, which opened its doors on April 23.

Sister Jose's Women Center, is committed to care for homeless women, providing them with beds and food; and giving encouragement and support to those ladies in need.

Thanks to the kindness and generosity of Mrs. Czarina Lopez and her husband Mr. Humberto López and the H. S. Lopez Family Foundation, they built an industrial kitchen, "Czarina's Kitchen" provides more than 30,000 warm meals to homeless women a year.

### Tucson Change Movement

The Tucson Change Movement was launched Wednesday, May 10. John Jacobs with the Downtown Tucson Partnership and Fred Ronstadt with the Fourth Avenue Coalition, Donovan Durband of Park Tucson and I, along with Mark Kerr and Matt Pate from my staff, worked to create the Tucson Change Movement, where 20 parking meters were situated for people to be able to make donations to help the homeless.



People are able to swipe a credit or debit card if they choose, use a QR code and make a donation online, for which funds raised will go directly to homeless programs. Tucson Change Movement announced that the first program funding will go to the Tucson Homeless Work Program. I am pleased that these meters will provide a funding source for the Tucson Homeless Work Program. With initiative from my office, Tucson has been able to make tremendous strides in helping the homeless in our community, and I want to thank all of the various organizations involved in these efforts.

### Love of Reading

In celebration of Love of Reading, I challenged all students to read one book a month. In turn, I presented each student with a certificate for their accomplishments.

We thank the following schools for their participation where we have issued close to 1,000 certificates: Math and Science Success Academy, Drachman K-8 Montessori Magnet School, Robison Elementary School, McCorkle Academy of Excellence K-8 and Sierra K-8.



### Ward 5 Memorial Day Thank You Card Event

On Friday, May 26, I along with a contingent of elected officials, went to the Southern Arizona VA Hospital to give out thank you cards and letters made by school children from schools in Ward 5 and across the City.

I want to thank Lupita Robles from my staff who coordinated the effort with the following schools: Apollo Middle School, Drexel Elementary, Gallego Primary School, Ocotillo Learning School, Rivera Elementary School, Sierra 2-8 School, Desert View AFJROTC, Alice

Vail Middle School, Blenman Elementary School, Booth-Fickett Magnet School, Cavett Elementary School, C.E. Rose K-8 School, Carrillo Magnet School, Dodge Magnet Middle School, Drachman Montessori K-8 School, Grijalva Elementary School, Holladay Magnet Elementary School, Lynn/Urquides Elementary School, Manzo Elementary School, Ochoa Community Magnet School, Pueblo Gardens K-8 School, Robison Magnet Elementary School, Tully Elementary Magnet School, Utterback, Wright Elementary School, Tucson International Academy-Broadway, Tucson International Academy-West, Mexicayotl Academy and Nosotros.



### Structurally Balanced City Budget

At the June 6, Mayor and Council meeting, the Mayor and Tucson City Council voted unanimously to adopt a \$1.3 billion spending plan for the fiscal year that began July 1.

Through the work of the Mayor and Council, the City Manager's office and staff, the City of Tucson has a structurally balanced budget, revenues meet expenses. I want to thank my colleagues on the Council, the City Manager, his leadership team and our great staff for their work on this budget.



### Ward 5 Hosts Water Quality Informational Event

On Saturday, July 15, in partnership with Vice Mayor Regina Romero, we hosted a public information event about Tucson's water quality and how Tucson Water (TW) ensures that all of the water it delivers is safe.

State Representative Rosanna Gabaldon was present for the event, as well as Pima County Supervisor Ramon Valadez. Tucson City Manager Mike Ortega attended as well as Tucson Water Director, Tim Thomure. Mary Aycock and five others from the EPA attended and gave a presentation to those in the audience. My Chief of Staff, Mark Kerr, as well as Matthew Pate, Lupita Robles and Mary Kuchar were in attendance. Steve Arnquist from Ward 1 was also present.



We have also met with and held several discussions with the Pima County Health Department regarding the community's health concerns.

TW operates the TARP and AOP facilities in collaboration with other partners, including the U.S. EPA. A local EPA-sponsored citizens group – the Unified Community Advisory Board (UCAB) – oversees the monitoring and cleaning of water at the facilities. UCAB meets quarterly and meetings are open to the public. Dates, times, and locations of UCAB meetings can be found on Tucson Water's website at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water) or by calling 791- 2666.

### Sierra 2-8 School Speed Tables

During the Spring semester, students and their teacher, Melissa Monk from Sierra 2-8 School contacted the Ward 5 Office about the safety situation and their concerns for children trying to get across the street to get to school. I along with my staff, worked with the City Manager and the Transportation Department to get speed tables installed at Sierra 2-8 School. These were paid for by savings from the Ward 5 Council Office budget from the last Fiscal Year.



I want to thank the students, teacher Ms. Monk, the City Manager Michael Ortega, Transportation Director Daryl Cole and Jesse Soto



with the Transportation Department for getting the speed tables built. Ms. Monk wrote in an email: "On behalf of my students and myself, I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your very generous donation of the speed humps. I can not believe how fast you put that into motion! The students that came up with this idea feel a sense of pride that they made a difference for the current students of Sierra 2-8 school and the surrounding community. This truly shows that no matter what age, your ideas matter and you can make a difference in your community. My current students are now motivated to do more to help out with the community they live in. Thank you so much!!"

### Art Project To Honor Quincie Douglas and Buffalo Soldiers

I hosted two dedications for this year's Pima Association of Governments (PAG) Youth Art Project. The dedications took place July 28 at the Quincie Douglas Center and August 5, at the Ward 5 Council Office.

The project is a partnership between the Arts Foundation for Tucson and Southern Arizona, the Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT), City of Tucson, and the Pima Association of Governments (PAG), and consists of three murals located in Ward 5. Three locations for the proposed artwork were selected: the Quincie Douglas Center, the Quincie Douglas Library and the Ward 5 Council Office.



The three murals individually honor civil rights pioneer Quincie Douglas, the legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers, and a tribute to the five branches of the U.S. Military and Tucson veterans who served. The project's goal is to provide youth with an opportunity to be employed and participate in all phases of the design and installation of a public artwork under the guidance of a professional artist.

The selected artist and students, in collaboration with staff from the Tucson Department of Transportation, the Ward 5 Council Office, and the Arts Foundation, determined the design of the artwork. Eleonor Leon was the teaching artist selected for the project and worked with high school students from Ward 5.

I want to thank Ms. Leon and the students for their work with my office and city staff. I was pleased to meet the students from my Ward who have helped to create these murals, which will be a part of our community for a long time. The students were: Jose Reyes Rios Morales, Dustin Ray Cook, Emil Granados, Fernando Quintero Mejia, Eric Bradford, Bryan Martinez, Jessica Noperi, Alexis R. Lopez-Jimenez.



### Project PPEP Celebrates 50th Anniversary

I want to congratulate Dr. John Arnold and Project PPEP for 50 years of great service to our community.

On August 27, PPEP marked the occasion with a great dinner and event at the Tucson Convention Center. I had the privilege of presenting the Pioneer Awards.

### 3rd Annual Mash Spay/Neuter Clinic

The third annual Free Spay/Neuter-a-thon took place, Saturday October 14 and Sunday, October 15, at Mission Manor Elementary, more than 250 dogs and cats were spayed and neutered.

I want to thank Pat Hubbard for her work again to ensure Ward 5 and Southside residents have this opportunity to help their pets.



### Richard Ortiz Barker Dedication

I, along with the El Pueblo Operations Committee, and Tucson Parks and Recreation hosted a dedication Saturday, September 23, to recognize the community contributions of Richard Barker with the naming of Richard Ortiz Barker Regional Complex at 1010 W. Irvington Road.

This complex hosts the El Pueblo Activity Center, Senior Center, Neighborhood Center, and Pool facilities, as well as other services.



During his 39-year tenure with the parks department, Barker worked to improve the quality of life for the neighborhood and community on Tucson's southwest side. His accomplishments include working with neighborhood residents, community agencies, City departments, and local officials to expand the El Pueblo Neighborhood Center from its original five buildings to the larger complex it is today.

### Army Recruiting Center Opens In Ward 5

On Friday, September 8, as a former Army Veteran, I was honored to be at the dedication of the new Army Recruiting Center in Ward 5, located at 2031 E. Irvington. Congratulations to Captain Michael Anderson and his top cadre of NCO's, who are recruiters.

### Swan-Valencia Annexation

At the October 10, Tucson Mayor and Council meeting, the Council voted 7-0, to approve my motion, to accept the annexation of more than 652 acres, southeast of South Swan and East Valencia roads and north of the Los Reales landfill.



The annexation is estimated will bring in a combined \$25 million in revenues over the next decade.

This annexation will bring in businesses, such as the Triple T Truck Stop, Freightliner, Circle K, Taco Bell, Pilot Travel Center and other small businesses.

More than 1,600 homes with 3,100 people are now a part of Ward 5 and the City of Tucson, effective November 10.

Thanks to Mike Czechowski for his work on this project.

### FBI LULAC Community Service Awards

On October 6, I attended the 29th Annual FBI LULAC Community Service Awards held at the Viscount Suites Hotel.

The Community Services Awards honor individuals from various parts of our community for their work making our city a better place to live, work and raise a family. Among those from the City of Tucson also honored were: Tucson City Manager Michael Ortega, TPD Captain Bob Wilson, TPD Lieutenant Corey Doggett, TPD Sergeant Joe Merrill, TPD Sergeant Jason Winsky, Mark Kerr, Matthew Pate, Lupita Robles and Mary Kuchar from the Ward 5 Council Office, Pat Tapia with EGS and Donovan Durband from Park Tucson. Congratulations to all those honored and recognized for their work for our community.



### Cherrybell Expands Passport Office

On October 26, I attended the ribbon-cutting for the new U.S. Passport Customer Service Center at the Cherrybell Post Office and Processing Center.

The U.S. Postal Service now offers this service, which will bring in \$1 million in additional revenue and shows the importance of Tucson and Southern Arizona's postal processing center.

### Caridad Community Kitchen Dedication

On Wednesday, October 18, I had the privilege of attending, along with Vice Mayor Regina Romero, the ribbon cutting for the expansion of their kitchen and food storage facilities. Caridad is a partner with the Tucson Homeless Work Program, providing meals to those who are working that respective shift and day.

I want to congratulate Caridad Community Kitchen for their work on helping to feed those in need in our community and help those to get training to have a career in being a chef.



### HOPE Fest 2017

On Saturday, October 28, I attended HOPE Fest 2017, held at the Tucson Convention Center. For 24 years, HOPE Fest has devoted its energy to passionately serving the hungry, needy and under-represented members of our community.

Congratulations to Lisa Chastain of HOPE Fest, Roy Tullgren of the Gospel Rescue Mission, the staff of HOPE Fest, volunteers and organizations taking part to help those in our community who are in need.



### Tucson Roadrunners Kick Off Luncheon

On October 3, I attended the 2018 Inaugural Kick-off Luncheon for the Tucson Roadrunners, held at the TCC. Tucson was introduced to the new Coaching staff and Roadrunners who took the ice on October 7.

### Thank You Cards to Veteran's

On Thursday, November 9, I, along with Vice Mayor Regina Romero, Councilmember Shirley Scott, State Representative Todd Clodfelter, Pima County School Superintendent Dustin Williams, Pima County Clerk of the Court Toni Hellon, Ted Prezelski from the Ward 2 Council Office, Jeremy Thompson from Senator Jeff Flake's office and representatives from the Arizona Air National Guard 162nd, the Marine Corp League, American Patriot Memorial and Tucson Troop Support, went to the Southern Arizona V.A. and presented more than 3,200 thank you cards and letters made by school children from 34 schools in Ward 5, Tucson and Pima County.



### Sixth Annual Thanksgiving Festival

Also on Saturday, November 18, I attended the Arizona Bilingual's Sixth Annual Thanksgiving Festival held at Clinica Medica Familiar in the Fry's Shopping Center at 16th Avenue. More than 1,000 turkeys were distributed. I want to congratulate Arizona Bilingual and Clinica Medica Familiar for this event.

### Perfecto's Mexican Express Ribbon Cutting

On November 16, I had the privilege of attending the ribbon cutting of Perfecto's Mexican Grill Express located at 1055 East Irvington in Ward 5.

This is the second restaurant for Perfecto Leon and his family. Congratulations on the new restaurant and the five new jobs.





### MPA Honors Seven Ward 5 Projects with Common Ground Awards

On Friday, December 1, the Metropolitan Pima Alliance (MPA) held its 13th Annual Common Ground Awards ceremony, recognizing exemplary projects that adhere to MPA's mission to create a prosperous community by promoting collaborative real estate development policies, building partnerships and finding common ground.

The seven projects in Ward 5 that were recognized this year by MPA, included: Atlas COPCO, Sister Jose's Women's Center, the Greyhound Terminal Location, the Tucson Marketplace at the Bridges, the Tucson Homeless Work Program, the Tucson Change Movement and the Tucson Homeless Coalition. The Tucson Homeless Work Program, the Tucson Change Movement and the Tucson Homeless Coalition received a special honor at the Common Ground Awards.

These projects in Ward 5 were recognized by MPA for the work that has been accomplished in Ward 5 and in our community. I want to congratulate the honorees on their work and success. I am so pleased that the work and support of the South Park, Las Vistas, Pueblo Gardens and Western Hills II neighborhoods and the developers of the Bridges again were recognized for their collaboration. The Bridges is a special project bringing neighborhoods and business together for the common good of Ward 5, the City of Tucson and Southern Arizona; bringing jobs and opportunity and continuing the Renaissance of Ward 5 and the Southside. MPA, Barker Contracting and additional partner, National Bank, gave special recognition to the Tucson Arts Brigade, the Tucson Homeless Coalition, the Tucson Change Movement and the Tucson Homeless Work Program at the Awards Ceremony.

The Tucson Homeless Coalition, the Tucson Change Movement and the Tucson Homeless Work Program were three efforts, I and my office developed and created. I am pleased that the Homeless Work Program, a collaboration with many non-profits and support of businesses has succeeded in its first year and is being recognized for its ground breaking approach.

#### Tucson Homeless Work Program

The Tucson Homeless Work (HWP) Program just turned a year old. Mayor and Council In November voted to continue the program which helps those experiencing homelessness and beautifies our community.

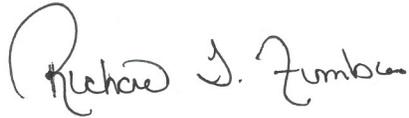
As of this date, the HWP has cleared/cleaned 115 sites, including 73 miles of roadway, and removing 67,230 pounds of trash from the City of Tucson and areas within greater Pima County.

This program was made possible through start-up contributions of \$25,000 from the City of Tucson, \$25,000 from Pima County, and \$50,000 from H.S. Lopez Family Foundation. Shortly after implementation, the Tucson business community stepped forward with additional support, including Cox Communications (\$5,000), Southwest Gas (\$2,500), Tucson Medical Center (\$3,000) and Wal-Mart (\$10,000). Additionally, Cenpatico Integrated Care's support has also been vital, providing an in-kind contribution of \$68,000 in dedicated staff time.



I encourage everyone to have a safe and happy holiday season. I look forward to continuing working for all the citizens of Ward 5 and Tucson.

Peace.



Richard G. Fimbres  
Your Ward 5 Council Member

### Christmas Tree Recycling

Once again, residents can recycle their Christmas trees through the City of Tucson's TreeCycle Program. The program begins on Tuesday, December 26, 2017 and continues through Monday, January 15, 2018. TreeCycle collection sites are located throughout Tucson and Oro Valley (see list of TreeCycle sites below).

Please remember to remove all lights, ornaments, decorations, plastic tree bags, and tree stands before dropping off at the TreeCycle sites. Trees collected are chipped and these items can cause damage to people and the equipment.

Additionally, from January 4 through January 15, 2018, the City of Tucson will have wood chips from shredded Christmas trees available for pick-up at Randolph Golf Course and the Los Reales Landfill. Bring your own container and take home some free Merry Mulch for your garden.

The following TreeCycle sites are open during daylight hours, please check the schedule for each site. (Most are open seven days a week.

1. Oro Valley Naranja Park, 810 W. Naranja Dr., (Only open through January 7, 2018)
2. Tank's Roll-offs & Recycling, 7301 E Speedway (turn north on Prudence Rd., Open M-F, 7 am - 4 pm; Sat, 7 am - 2 pm; ONLY DURING BUSINESS HOURS
3. Golf Links Sports Park, 2400 S. Craycroft Rd. (7 am - 5 pm)
4. Tucson Rodeo Grounds, on 3rd Ave. (east of Rodeo Grounds, on S. 3rd Ave.)
5. Los Reales Landfill, 5300 E. Los Reales Rd. (Entrance is at intersection of Craycroft Rd. & Los Reales Rd., follow signs) 6am-5pm \*\*Closed Sundays\*\*
6. Silverbell Site, (northeast corner of Silverbell Rd. & Goret Rd (follow signs)
7. Purple Heart Park, 10050 E. Rita Rd.
8. Randolph Golf Course, 600 S. Alvernon Way, (southeast corner of parking lot)

**IMPORTANT:** The City of Tucson will not collect Christmas trees from curbs and alleys. Other green waste cannot be accepted at TreeCycle sites. Commercial tree lot overages are not accepted at TreeCycle sites, except for Los Reales Landfill at posted landfill rates.

Questions? Call the Recycling InfoLine at 791-5000



Important Numbers  
and  
Contact Information

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information call:  
520-622-0525



**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

**Tucson Convention Center**

791-4101

**City of Tucson Code Enforcement**

791-5843

**TPD Red Tag Unit**

837-7318

**Graffiti Removal**

792-CITY (2489)

**Trash Pick Up & Environmental Services**

City of Tucson Environmental Services Department  
791-3171

**Transportation & Street Maintenance**

Tucson Department of Transportation  
791-3154

**Tucson Water Department**

Billing - 791-3242, Public Information - 791-4331

**Park Tucson**

791-5071

**Pima Animal Care**

724-5900

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