



Richard Fimbres
Council Member
Ward 5

Ward 5 Council
Office Staff

Chief of Staff
 Mark Kerr

Council Aides
 Melinda Jacobs
 Javier Herrera

Office Assistants
 Heileen Evans
 Susan Gradillas

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City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

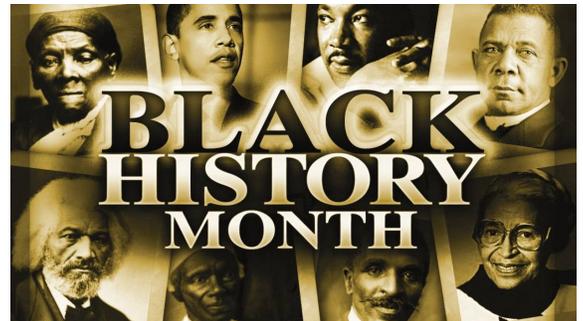
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February 2016

Dear Friends:

This February marked the 90th anniversary of creation of Black History Month.

From the struggles of Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglas and the Buffalo Soldiers to the victories in civil rights that were led years later by individuals such as Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks, Black History Month has served as a time to remember those who fought hard to improve the condition of our great Nation, but to also preserve the rights and dignity for all of those who live in America.



Black History Month was created in 1926 in the United States. It was chosen because it marked the birthday of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. Carter G. Woodson helped create the holiday with the hope that it eventually be eliminated when black history became fundamental to American history.

Negro History Week was met with enthusiastic response; it prompted the creation of black history clubs, an increase in interest among teachers, and interest from progressive whites. Negro History Week grew in popularity throughout the following decades, with mayors across the United States endorsing it as a holiday.

In 1976, the federal government acknowledged the expansion of Black History Week to Black History Month by the leaders of the Black United Students at Kent State University in February of 1969.

The first celebration of Black History Month occurred at Kent State in February of 1970. Six years later during the bicentennial, the expansion of Negro History Week to Black History Month was recognized by the U.S. government. Gerald Ford spoke in regards to this, urging Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history."

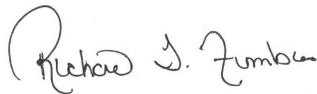
Black History Month in Tucson was marked with events, celebrations, discussions and symposiums across our great City by many organizations, faith based groups, neighborhoods, schools ranging from elementary to Pima Community College to the University

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of Arizona and efforts such as the Buffalo Soldiers Memorial bond campaign. In addition, there had been the Rosa Park Awards ceremonies with LULAC and Clarence Boykins.

As we move forward throughout the year, let us not forget the struggles that African Americans have endured and contributions that African Americans have made to our great country. The leadership and achievements of the African American community has helped tremendously to make America a better place.

Peace,



Richard G. Fimbres
Your Council Member

Cherrybell Post Office Update

SCM (Senate Concurrent Memorial) 1009 was introduced in the Arizona Legislature by Senator Andrea Dalessandro. SCM 1009 would urge Congress to fully protest and take action to prevent the closure of the Cherrybell Post Office and Processing Center and to have Congress restore all the postal functions back to Cherrybell. On February 25, the Arizona Senate voted



Thanks to everyone's work and effort, the Cherrybell Post Office and Processing Center is on the "TBD" or To Be Determined list by the U.S. Postal Service, who had previously announced in 2011 their intention to close it. This fight is in its fourth year and thanks to everyone, including Congresswoman Martha McSally, Congressman Raul Grijalva, Congressman Ruben Gallego and Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick, we are closer to being victorious, keep our center open for 26,000 business and 1.5 million people in Southern Arizona.

Ward 5 Business Update

Construction is ongoing for the HomeGoods Distribution Center, the Fed-Ex Ground Hub and for the CenturyMark 14 Theatre, all in Ward 5. These projects will cost more than \$125 million to construct and have more than 400 people working now to build them.

Initially 400 people will be hired for the HomeGoods Distribution Center in the first year and will hire an additional 510 (910




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total) when at capacity. An additional 160 jobs are being created by the Fed-Ex Ground Hub and more than 50 will be hired for the CenturyMark 14 Theatre.

Presently, the only company listing about hiring people is HomeGoods, and for more information, please go online to: <https://career8.successfactors.com/>

Fisher House Dedication

On Thursday, February 18th, I attended the dedication of the Fisher House on the grounds of the Southern Arizona V.A. Hospital Center, located in Ward 5.



This was the 69th Fisher House built and the first in Arizona. The Fisher House Foundation oversees the development of these facilities.

The Fisher House Foundation is best known for a network of comfort homes where military and veterans' families can stay at no cost while a loved one is receiving treatment.

These homes are located at major military and VA medical centers nationwide, close to the medical center or hospital they serve. Fisher Houses have up to 21 suites, with private bedrooms and baths. Families share a common kitchen, laundry facilities, a warm dining room and an inviting living room. Fisher House Foundation ensures that there is never a lodging fee.

Congratulations to the Arizona Fisher House Committee for their success and the opening of the newest Fisher House. For more information, go online to arizonafisherhouse.org.

City News

City of Tucson Budget Update

Since I last wrote, the Mayor and Council, and the City Manager, have continued their discussions about the current budget and next year's budget, reviewing the City's revenues and expenditures, considering potential short term and long options and making initial decisions to deal with the projected budget deficit and go forward for our community.

As of this writing, the projected budget deficit for FY 2017 has been reduced from \$42 million to \$25.3 million. The Mayor and Council are continuing their discussion of the budget during the Council meetings.



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The City Manager will be submitting his proposed budget for FY 2017 at the April 19 Mayor and Council meeting.

Since I began my service as your Ward 5 Councilmember, I have not seen a budget that didn't have a projected deficit. The Mayor and Council, working with the City Manager, dealt with the projected deficits and balanced each budget. During my service as your Councilmember, I've brought forward proposals to emphasize using the P-Card for purchases which has brought in \$850,000 in a rebate as well as saved the City more than \$4.5 million, in processing purchase orders. In addition, my proposal for the City to get proceeds for the sale of impounded vehicles, has brought in more than \$3.0 million in revenue to help cover public safety pension costs.

For the last two years alone, the majority of the budget deficit has been a result of the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) and the contribution rate the City has had to provide to it. PSPRS is overseen by the Arizona Legislature and the pension contribution rates by towns and cities in Arizona were changed as well by the Legislature in 2012. Lawsuits were filed against the Legislature and were successful. Cities and towns had to pay more in funding to PSPRS. Tucson will have to pay an additional \$27.3 million for FY 2017.

I will be hosting a budget forum on Tuesday, March 15, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the El Pueblo Senior Center (101 W. Irvington Road) that will feature City Manager Mike Ortega, CFO Joyce Garland and city staff to answer your questions.

City of Tucson Retirement Incentive Update

Tucson City Manager Michael Ortega stated that as of February 5th, 110 employees took advantage of a retirement incentive and retired from city service. This retirement incentive was part of the plan to reduce the City's ongoing expenses in the General Fund. Fifty-two positions in the General Fund were vacated by retirements for a projected annual savings of approximately \$4.5 million. The next phase is to begin the process of looking at those vacancies in Enterprise and Special Revenue Funds and attempting to fill them with General Fund employees.



These individuals had more than 2,200 years of service to our community and I want to thank them for their work, their service and commitment to Tucson. Thank you for all you did to make our community great!

I want to give a special note to Mary Fimbres, who was one of the 110 who retired from the City of Tucson. Mary served for 22.5 years in both the Ward 5 and Ward 2 Council offices, serving as an aide for Steve Leal, Rodney Glassman and Paul Cunningham. Mary gave her heart and soul to her work for the residents of those Wards and for the City of Tucson. Mary initiated many projects, including

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compiling the first Poverty and Urban Stress report and various neighborhood improvement projects for both Wards. Prior to working for the City Mary gave her time, serving on many Citizen's Advisory Committees for our City. Thank you Mary and to those who served the City of Tucson.

Announcements

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

The 2016 St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place Sunday, March 13th, 10 a.m. at Armory Park. This year's parade will mark the centennial of Irish Independence. From 1 to 6 p.m., the Knights of Columbus Council 1200 (601 S. Tucson Blvd.) will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day with a Corn Beef and Cabbage meal, \$9.50 per person, to RSVP call 795-1200. I would like to thank both the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee for their work organizing this year's event, and the Knights of Columbus Council 1200 for hosting this event.



Senior Scam Event

On Friday, March 18th, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the El Pueblo Senior Center (101 West Irvington Road), Senator Andrea Dalessandro and Councilmember Richard Fimbres will be hosting a forum to help Seniors not be taking by scams. The Arizona AG's office, the Better Business Bureau and the AARP will also be part of this forum. For more information, please call the Ward 5 Council Office, 791-4231.

Student Issues Forum

The Ward 5 office has had complaints about the activities of college-aged students, ongoing disturbances (loud music, rowdy parties & disruption of the peace) at the student housing project at 12th St./Cherry.

The UA Office of Community Relations has stated that the Ward Office and the neighborhoods have an ally in their office and that they take seriously any complaints of UA students being bad neighbors.



They ask that any disturbance be reported to 911, whether day or night, decibel noise restrictions can be enforced. They also have a 24-hour neighborhood hotline for complaints, (520) 282-3649. The University of Arizona Community Relations team invites those to join a special seminar for local property owners and managers who rent to UA students. The event will include presentations by: Campus Health Dean of Students office, Off-Campus Housing, Office of Sustainability, Student Legal Services, UA Police Department, Tucson Police Department, City of Tucson Code Enforcement. We'll also have fun prizes, and refreshments will be served. Please join us on Wednesday, March 23rd from 9:00am to 12:00pm at the UA's Main Campus. RSVP by March 16 to MaryLaughbaum@email.arizona.edu for directions .

Announcements

USCIS Forum

The Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Citizens and Immigration Service will be hosting a forum on March 26th at the El Pueblo Activity Center, 101 West Irvington, from 10 am to 2 pm. Officials will be present to answer questions about the citizenship and immigration service. For more information call (520) 305-4110.



Presidential Primary Election

On Tuesday, March 22, voters across Tucson, Pima County and the state will go to the polls to vote in the 2016 Arizona Presidential Primary election. Three political parties have candidates running in the primary, the Democratic, Republican and Green. Voters who are registered with those respective parties may vote in this election. For more information, please call the Pima County Division of Elections, (520) 724-6830.



TPD Gets Grant to Focus on Human Trafficking

TPD GETS GRANT TO FOCUS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING - (TPD) is the recipient of a \$740,000 grant from the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) to focus attention on human trafficking cases. The money will be used to increase undercover operations, train other Southern Arizona agencies, and offer resources to victims. With the grant, TPD now can offer resources to every victim with whom they speak. TPD formed a task force with CODAC, a local recovery and wellness organization, which also received the same grant money from the DOJ. The National Human Trafficking Resource Center reports there were 116 cases of human trafficking reported to its hotline in 2015, compared to 77 in 2014.



National Human Trafficking Resource Center: <http://bit.ly/1KZogNr>

Tucson Police First Aid Kits Saving Lives

The Tucson Police Department is crediting its new Individual First Aid Kits (IFAKs) with reducing the number of deaths of crime victims and others in medical distress. Since the IFAKs were deployed in 2014, every officer can address traumatic injuries while a scene is still active, before emergency medical personnel can arrive. The practice has been very successful and has attracted the attention of law enforcement communities across the country. TPD reports 65 uses of the kits in 2014, followed by 88 uses in 2015. So far in 2016, seven IFAKs have been used. The military-style kits include tourniquets, QuikClot Combat Gauze, HALO Chest Seals, and more.



Announcements

Citizen Police Advisory Review Board Seeks Additional Members

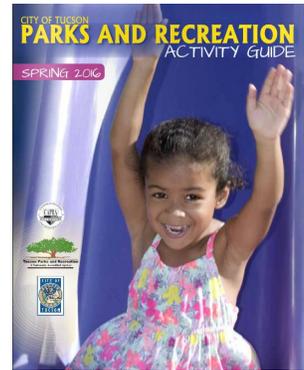
The Citizen Police Advisory Review Board (CPARB) is seeking applications to fill four advisory, non-voting positions for a period not to exceed two years. Formed by the Mayor and City Council in March 1997, CPARB helps promote a citizen/police partnership and reviews and comments on police investigation of citizen complaints.

You must be a resident of the City of Tucson to serve on the panel. The deadline to apply is April 1. For more information, call (520) 791-4213. Deadline is April 1.

Parks and Recreation Spring Activity Guide Available Now!

Tucson Parks and Recreation's Activity Guide for spring 2016 is available at all Parks and Recreation facilities, including district offices, centers and pools. Copies also will be available at the Family Festival in the Park event on Saturday, Nov. 21, at Reid Park, or can be viewed online at the link below. The Activity Guide contains information on leisure classes, KIDCO, aquatics, sports programs, registration and the Discount Program. Registration will open this Saturday for City residents and next Monday for non-City residents.

View guide and register for classes: <http://bit.ly/1u7q4db>



Parks and Recreation Offer Discounts

City of Tucson Parks and Recreation offers discounts that allow low-income residents to pay a 50 percent discounted fee for KIDCO, Jr. Leadership, In-Betweeners, Learn-to-Swim, and therapeutic programs. There also is a 25 percent discount for annual/quarterly passes at recreation centers and for a Senior Activity Card. To qualify for the discounts, you must be a City of Tucson resident, provide identification, household size, address verification, and be able to prove your income falls within the discount guidelines. You can apply at any Parks and Recreation office. For more details on the requirements for the discounts, call Registration Services at [\(520\) 791-4877](tel:5207914877).

Parks and Recreation discounts: <http://1.usa.gov/1D6qPCu>

Parks and Recreation website: <http://1.usa.gov/1ua6RJt>

City to Implement Mural Art Pilot Program on Traffic Control Cabinets

The Mayor and Tucson City Council approved a proposal for 12-month pilot program to give private parties the opportunity to install original mural art on City traffic signal controller cabinets. Proponents say mural art beautifies public spaces, builds community, and may discourage visual blight resulting from graffiti vandalism.

Under the proposal, sponsoring entities would be responsible for selection of an artist, creating an art design, and obtaining a letter of support from the registered, active neighborhood association where the art resides. Sponsors also would take full responsibility for all costs of the projects.

Australians Tour Streetcar

Members of the Australian Capital Territory Delegation visited Tucson to learn about the Sun Link streetcar. They're planning on building a streetcar route in the city of Canberra and wanted to gather information from Tucson officials, ride the streetcar, and learn about the economic development Sun

Announcements

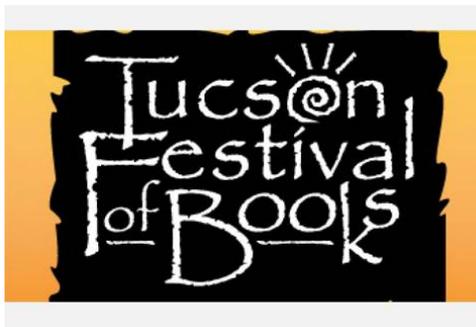
Link spurred since it debuted in July 2014.

Members of the delegation said they chose to stop in Tucson because of the similarities between Tucson and Canberra. While other city leaders have come to Tucson to learn about Sun Link, this is the furthest any group has traveled. More than a million people rode the streetcar last year, while an average 3,600 passengers board each week.



The Tucson Festival Of Books Wants You — As A Volunteer

The Tucson Festival of Books (TFOB) depends on volunteers to help run the annual event at the University of Arizona. This year's Festival is March 12-13, from 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. each day. Festival volunteers help with author events, assist at information booths, act as food court hosts, set up before the festival and clean up afterward, transport authors, help with the entertainment activities, and address the needs of the hundreds of authors and exhibitors. Since its launch in 2009, the Festival has contributed more than \$1.25 million to local literacy organizations. Last year, TFOB attracted about 130,000 visitors. For more information, go to tucsonfestivalofbooks.org

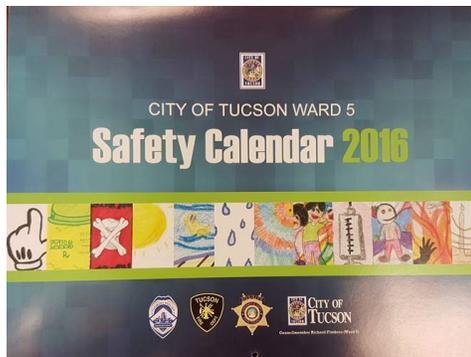


Congratulations and Thank You!

Ward 5 Safety Calendar

I was proud to present the 2016 City of Tucson, Ward 5 Safety Calendar to Tucson and Pima County's children and adults. This project showcases both the artistic talents of our youth and the important messages that their drawings represent.

Many injuries can be prevented or greatly reduced, with the simple actions, such as: buckling up; keeping your children secured in the proper restraints; wearing a helmet when riding a bicycle or motorcycle and being careful crossing the streets by looking twice at intersections and crosswalks.



This calendar provides children with safety messages to remind them, and others of how to be safe. It also serves as a reminder to adults that we must do all we can to keep our children safe. We encourage everyone to take seriously the messages contained in the calendar and to place this calendar in a highly visible location so that the valuable safety messages can serve as a daily remind to our children and grandchildren.

A special thanks to the winning school entries from Challenger Middle School, Gallego Intermediate,

Congratulations and Thank You!

and Hollinger Elementary, and the students who created the entries: **Danny Ruiz, Frida Dominquez-Doiricio, Monalisa Lopez, Rachel Burruel, Karla Sanchez, Gabriel Rico, Jesus Lopez, Larisha Fuentes, Alyssa Duron, Sofia Samaniego, Jennifer Galvan, Karla Medina, Andrea Sonoqui, Gabriela Barboa, Lisbeth Leon, Alex Robinson and Aztlan Romero**, and the sponsors of this year's calendar, the Pima County Sheriff's Department, the Tucson Police Department and the Jim Click Foundation.

Love of Reading at C.E. Rose

Recently I had the privilege of helping to hand out Honor Roll Certificates to the students at C.E. Rose, located at 710 W. Michigan. The librarian at the school invited me back to do an additional Love of Reading event at the school. My staff, Melinda Jacobs, Heileen Evans and Mark Kerr took part for the Love of Reading Week at various schools in Ward 5 during that week. Reading is a key to success.



91st Annual Tucson Rodeo Parade

I want to thank everyone who came out to watch the 91st Annual Tucson Rodeo Parade, the largest non-mechanized parade in the United States.

The Grand Marshal for the 2016 Tucson Rodeo Parade was Chandler Warden. Chandler moved to the Tucson area full time in 1993 and has since dedicated his time to supporting charitable organizations and causes in the area. From his ranch, Chandler oversees the charitable work of his family's philanthropic organization, the Bert W. Martin Foundation. The Foundation has touched many worthwhile organizations.



It was great to have Tucson Police Chief Chris Magnus and City Manager Mike Ortega ride along with me to enjoy the parade and see the crowds who come out for this Tucson tradition. I also want to thank Mayor Rothschild for again riding in the parade, on a horse named "Biggin."



I also want to thank the participants in this year's Parade, as well the Tucson Rodeo Parade Committee, an all-volunteer organization for their work on the parade and for the great time had by all.

27th Annual LULAC Youth Leadership Conference

The 27th Annual LULAC Youth Leadership Conference will be taking place Friday, March 11, at the Pima Community College West Campus, 2202 West Anklam Road. For the past 27 years, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) in southern Arizona has promoted the importance of learning and

Congratulations and Thank You!

how vital it is to all children. By providing educational assistance to the youth in our community through various initiatives and programs, LULAC has worked to encourage and motivate students to remain in school, set goals, and reinforce education as the key to success. For more information, go to lulac.org. This year's prime sponsors for the conference are the Pima County School Superintendent's Office, the Pima County Attorney's Office and the Pima County Sheriff's Department.



Mexican Consulate

I want to congratulate Mexican Consul Ricardo Pineda Albarran and his staff for their successful, official grand opening of the new Consulate offices in Tucson. Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs Claudia Ruiz-Massieu came to Tucson to officially open the offices, and Sonora Gov. Claudia Pavlovich attended the event. Arizona Governor Doug Ducey was present, as well as our Mayor, Jonathan Rothschild, Councilmember Regina Romero and other city officials.

A-10 Planes

Tucson received the great news that the A-10 planes will not be grounded anytime soon. I want to thank Senator John McCain, Congresswoman Martha McSally and Congressman Raul Grijalva, Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick, our federal lobbyists, Terry Bracy and Tracy Tucker, as well as Dr. Barry Blechman, the Mayor and Council and the DM 50 for their work on keeping the A-10 flying and at Davis Monthan.



Meet our new Police Chief!

The Ward 5 Council Office will be hosting a meet and greet with our new Police Chief, Magnus on Thursday, March 24, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the El Pueblo Senior Center, 101 West Irvington.

Children's Museum in Running for National Award

Children's Museum Tucson is one of 30 finalists for the 2016 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. The downtown museum is the only museum in Arizona to be recognized as a finalist. Presented by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the award is the nation's highest honor given to museums and libraries for service to the community. The winners will be announced later this spring.

Children's Museum Tucson: <http://bit.ly/1Egv7uh>



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



Community Food Bank

**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.

Ward 5 City Council Office
4300 S. Park Avenue
Tucson Arizona 85714

Phone: 520-791-4231

Fax: 520-791-3188

Ward5@tucsonaz.gov

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