



City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

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May 2015

Dear Friends:

The work to keep the Cherrybell Post Office and Processing Center open and restoring the Tucson Postmark is not over.

The most recent announcement about the status of Cherrybell by the U.S. Postal Service is a welcome one and a positive sign.

Since 2011, our community has endured more than dozen announcements from the U.S. Postal Service that Cherrybell was going to close by a specific date, three this year alone.

Despite the assertions of postal officials, reports of mailing being delayed are coming in through the survey being conducted. This includes delays in prescriptions and packages being sent and received.

Reports of businesses being affected by mail operations have come in through the business survey.

Congresswoman Martha McSally, Ruben Reyes – Congressman Raul Grijalva’s District Director, State Senator Andrea Dalessandro and George Kalil and I toured the Cherrybell Processing Center and met with postal officials.

Postal officials again said that the numbers of pieces of mail being processed had declined since 2007 to the present. The point was brought up, by those present about the economic downturn, as well as the multiple announcements of Cherrybell’s impending closure could have had an effect. Who is going to do business with a company that announces they are closing?

During the discussion, the question about the jobs affected was raised. Our community has had a job loss of 128 employees from the U.S. Postal Service decision of consolidation. This had a negative impact to our economy, from the workers to the businesses where these workers spent their money. Postal officials said they had the figures on the impact, and these were requested by those present during the meeting. Postal officials added that if the consolidation went through, there would be only 35 employees still at the facility.

Postal officials expressed that some of the operations would continue, but when asked whether businesses or non-profits would receive the discounted rate usually offered when mailing bulk items or business mail, the postal officials said they would not and that they would have to travel to Phoenix to get this rate.



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When the question about medical prescriptions was raised, those present were told that the prescriptions would be sent to Phoenix to be processed.

Tucson and Southern Arizona has more than 1-million people and 26,000 businesses and non-profits. Our community has a large veteran and senior population, plus the Tohono O'odham nation and the Pascua Yaqui tribe. Tucson and Southern Arizona relies on the postal service. More than 750 responses have been received so far from the business and community surveys about Cherrybell have been received.



Congresswoman Martha McSally, Ann Kirkpatrick, Kyrsten Sinema, and Congressman Ruben Gallego, Raul Grijalva and Trent Franks have expressed their opposition to closing Arizona's second postal processing center and the negative economic impact that half the state could endure if the consolidation of postal services went through.

It isn't just about jobs at one plant, this is about our seniors, our veterans, our non-profits and our businesses. This is about Tucson and Southern Arizona. It is about our identity.

With the announcement by the postal service, the survey deadline has been extended. I ask you to take a moment and fill out the survey about Cherrybell.

The findings will be passed on to U.S. Rep. Martha McSally and other congressional delegations to be presented to U.S. Postmaster General Megan Brennan and Congressional leaders who are working on postal reform.

If you have filled out a survey, thank you. If you have not, please do so.

Postal survey for businesses: <http://svy.mk/1Ba6Xiu>
Postal survey for community: <http://svy.mk/1L6F0gA>
Postal survey for business in Spanish: <http://svy.mk/1L6ESxM>

Share this message with your friends and family. This is far from over and our community needs to speak out loudly on this.

Peace,

Handwritten signature of Richard G. Fimbres

Richard G. Fimbres
Your Vice Mayor

Ward 5 News

Cinemark Announces Plans to Construct New Theatre

Cinemark Holdings, Inc., one of the world's leading motion picture exhibitors, announced plans to construct a Century branded, 14-screen, all-digital movie theatre that will feature

Luxury Lounger reclining chairs in all auditoriums at the Tucson Marketplace at the Bridges, located at the northwest intersection of Interstate 10 and South Kino Parkway in Ward 5. The new theatre is scheduled to open in summer of 2016.



"Cinemark currently operates five theatres under our Century brand in the Tucson, Oro Valley and Sierra Vista market," commented Tim Warner, Cinemark's Chief Executive Officer. "Our new NextGen theatre located at the Tucson Marketplace will be the first complex in Tucson to offer guests our Luxury Lounger recliners and should quickly become recognized as one of the best places in the area to enjoy a great movie-going experience."

"The City of Tucson is very pleased that Cinemark has chosen to locate in our community," stated Vice Mayor Richard Fimbres (Ward 5). "This new luxurious theatre will join the already successful Costco and Walmart providing an excellent entertainment venue as well as employment opportunities. In addition we are excited that the theatre will be another step towards bringing other tenants to the Tucson Marketplace in the coming months. The City looks forward to working with Cinemark & Eastbourne Investments to ensure that the complex is successfully completed."

Neighbors were "hoping, praying, wishing and fighting" for a movie theater at the site for 10 years, said Cindy Ayala, president of the Pueblo Gardens Neighborhood Association and a member of the project's design review committee. Ayala said she's "over the moon" about the news.

"Having Cinemark join the Tucson Marketplace marks another milestone for the Tucson Marketplace at the Bridges," said Frank Egan, President of Eastbourne Investments, who is developing the project along with Retail West of Boise, ID and Land Advisors Organization of Scottsdale. "We are currently negotiating with other entertainment and retail uses to complement Cinemark and fulfill our vision for the site that has been in process for over a decade."

Long recognized as a leader in the theatrical exhibition industry, Cinemark's new complex will offer guests the latest options and cutting-edge technology, including:

- Cinemark's Luxury Loungers: Electric powered recliners with footrests and cup holders that will provide guests with an oversized, luxurious seating experience
- State-of-the-art viewing environment with wall-to-wall and ceiling-to-floor screens in all 14 auditoriums
- 4K crisp, clear digital projection
- Seven auditoriums will offer Cinemark's immersive RealD 3D capability
- Enhanced digital surround sound systems in all auditoriums
- Cinemark's innovative concession stand – offering freshly-popped popcorn, Coca-Cola fountain beverages and favorite candy brands
- Cinemark XD: Extreme Digital Cinema auditorium

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Moviegoers can download the Cinemark app to view show times and purchase tickets on-the-go. Guests can also use CineMode and earn rewards for being courteous in the auditorium. Cinemark fans are invited to stay connected through Cinemark's social media channels: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Finally, customers can sign up online to receive free, weekly show time emailers that contain online coupons for discounts at the concession stand and other weekly special offers.

I want to congratulate Eric Davis and to thank Cindy Ayala and Sara O'Neil for their work on the Bridges Design Review Committee to make this happen. Another great day in Ward 5!

City News

City Budget Update

At the May 19 Mayor and Council meeting, the City of Tucson approved the tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2016 totaling \$1.368 billion. Presented by City Manager Martha Durkin, the City will use \$1.5 million from the Stabilization Fund, money from land sales to help fund the budget. The discussion of the final adoption of the budget by Mayor and Council, is set for June 9.



Voters to consider City Charter Revision Proposals

The Mayor and Tucson City Council have decided to send to the voters for their consideration in November, charter revision proposals that would give the mayor full vote on all matters and standardizing the process for appointment and removal of department directors, lifting the cap on the secondary tax rate and the option to allow the Mayor and Council to put a proposal forward to the voters, to consider raising the sales tax for a specific purpose and time frame. Approval of changes to the City Charter by voters would only be the first step. Any tax increase proposal would also need to be approved by voters in a separate ballot measure.

Read more about Charter changes: <http://l.usa.gov/lric9Ps>

Tucson Water Update

You all know what has been going on in our state and city with water. At the Ward 5 Town Hall, Belinda Oden of Tucson Water talked about water usage and the proposed changes to the Water Rate schedule that was before Mayor and Council. Tucson Water is a self-supporting department of the City of Tucson. Its rates and fees must cover all costs associated with delivering quality water to the 712,000 customers within its service area. In addition, the rate also helps Tucson



Water to secure its full allotment of CAP water which helps to protect our community's future. The Mayor and Tucson City Council have approved a rate change for Tucson Water. That means overall monthly rates will increase by \$4.13 for the average residential customer and takes effect July 6. Thanks to Tucson Water customers, the City has its full allotment of CAP water, a 100 year supply, an out-

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standing water conservation effort (highlighted in last month's newsletter) and other cities, such as Phoenix, coming to Tucson to learn about our effort.

Tucson Means Business

The WalletHub website lists Tucson as the No. 1 place to start a business in the state. On a national scale, the study ranks Tucson 67th. The website compared five-year business survival rates, cost of office space, and workforce education to come up with the rankings.

If you're thinking about opening a business in Tucson and have questions, the City offers a service to give you the answers you need. The City of Tucson's Small Business Assistance Line, (520) 837-4100, is available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Help is available in both English and Spanish. Staff members from the City Manager's Office of Economic Initiatives answer the calls. The Small Business Assistance Line is one of a number of City initiatives to make the City of Tucson more business-friendly, along with 21 business incentives, streamlined permit processes, and more.

New SunGO Sales Outlets Along Streetcar Line

Sun Tran and City of Tucson's Department of Transportation announced the addition of six SunGO sales locations, providing more options to transit passengers. SunGO is the smart card fare payment system used throughout the region on Sun Tran, Sun Express, Sun Shuttle and the Sun Link streetcar.

The new SunGO sales locations near the Sun Link streetcar line are:

- Antigone Books, 411 N. 4th Ave., (520) 622-3345
- Arizona Riverpark Inn, 777 W. Cushing St., (520) 239-2300
- Maynards Market & Kitchen, 400 N. Toole Ave., (520) 545-0577
- Sky Bar & Cafe, 536 N. 4th Ave., (520) 622-4300

Additional SunGO sales outlets around town are:

- Archer Neighborhood Center, 1665 S. La Cholla, (520) 791-4353
- Santa Rosa Neighborhood Center, 1080 S. 10th Ave., (520) 791-4589

Passengers wishing to pay-by-the-ride can purchase a SunGO Card and load cash value onto the card at all SunGO Sales Outlets. Riders can also purchase the SunGO 1-Day Ticket or 30-Day Ticket for unlimited rides for their given time periods. All SunGO products work on Sun Tran, Sun Express, the Sun Link streetcar and select Sun Shuttle routes, and riders can seamlessly transfer between these three systems using the SunGO system.



Two of the new SunGO sales outlets, the Archer Neighborhood Center and Santa Rosa Neighborhood Center, are also SummerGO Youth Pass sales outlets. The SummerGO Youth Pass is currently on sale for a limited time and offers high school students with unlimited rides on regional transit from May 22 – August 5. For more information on the SummerGO Youth Pass and a list of additional sales locations, visit: <http://www.suntran.com/summergo.php>.

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For more details on SunGO, visit www.suntran.com, or call Sun Tran's Customer Service Center at (520) 792-9222 (for individuals with TDD equipment, call 520-628-1565).

Los Reales Update

The City of Tucson's pilot commercial composting program will expand to become a regular service, involving more grocery stores, restaurants, food service businesses, and other commercial customers throughout the City. The announcement came in conjunction with International Compost Awareness Week (celebrated May 3-9), one of the composting industry's largest and most comprehensive education initiatives about recycling food scraps and yard waste. The City of Tucson's Environmental Services (ES) department estimates that 80



percent of what is disposed of in landfills is compostable or recyclable, and that about 50 percent of food thrown away is compostable. The City of Tucson's pilot composting program began last June. It began as part of a collaboration with the University of Arizona and 16 restaurants, grocery stores and hotels. The program has grown incrementally since then. Businesses interested in compost collection service are invited to call 520-791-3171 to speak with an ES representative.

Environmental Services: Environmental Services: <http://1.usa.gov/1rcmU8f>

ES Food scrap collections: <http://1.usa.gov/1AA8xcV>

University of Arizona Compost Cats: <http://bit.ly/1bX5jKG>

Veteran Homelessness

Two projects by nonprofits to build subsidized apartments for homeless veterans in Tucson are in the works. La Frontera Partners and Esperanza En Escalante are developing the specialized housing projects. Both projects would use the Housing First model, which means veterans get quick access to housing first and then help with other problems, such as mental health issues or substance abuse problems. The Public Housing Authority board, which is made up of the Mayor and City Council, approved contracts with the two groups yesterday. One of the new sites will be located downtown (101 S. Stone Ave.) and the other is on Tucson's southeast side (3700 S. Calle Polar).

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Library Update

The Pima County Board of Supervisors voted to increase the library district tax rate to keep all libraries open and fully functioning. Thanks to the people and especially those who use the libraries, such as Quincie Douglas and Santa Rosa, which are located in Ward 5, who spoke out about the importance of the libraries to our community, especially students who may not have a computer or access to the Internet at their homes. Library staff would still conduct usage and volume studies to determine whether future efficiencies could be found in the library system and the County could then use the findings to present any proposed changes in library operations.

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Summer Reading Program

The Pima County Public Library wants to keep kids reading, learning, and having fun when school is out. This year's Summer Reading theme — Every Hero Has a Story — helps young readers discover their inner superhero. Now, through July 18, kids can pick up a Summer Reading game board at any library to discover their superhero reading level. When they read 20 minutes a day, they'll receive stickers for their game board to mark their progress. The library also is giving away free books to kids the week of June 1 (while supplies last) and they can pick up another free book after July 1, when they've finished reading for 15 hours. The reading program also is offering a Reid Park Zoo free admission pass (ages 2-14) on the game board tracker to visit Nandi, the baby elephant, and the Zoo will hold an invitation-only special celebration on July 18 for program participants.

Summer reading at Pima County Public Library: <http://1.usa.gov/1d01F3S>



Free Family Leadership and Education Classes

Parenting education classes start May 11 and spots still are available. The goal of the Amistades program for Latino and American Indians is to help families break the cycle of poverty through education and empowerment and getting children ready for kindergarten. The free program for parents, relatives, and children (0-5) consists of 20 weeks of classes, once a week from 9 a.m.-noon at Amistades Family Support Services, 921 W. Prince Road. Classes include parenting, family leadership coaching, workforce development, early childhood education, and home visitation. Attendees may be eligible to receive food, transportation, clothing and food vouchers, emergency assistance, new winter coats for children, and financial rewards for attendance and graduation. For more information, please call (520) 882-8777 or email participe@amistadesinc.org.

Amistades: <http://bit.ly/1bXyMUR>



\$2 Swim Lessons

The City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Department, in partnership with the American Red Cross Aquatics Centennial Program, still has spots available for \$2 summer swim lessons (ages 6 months to 17 years) for those who qualify for the Discount Program. Find out if you qualify by viewing the Discount Program at the link below, or by calling 791-4877. You must register for the discounted lessons in person at 900 S. Randolph Way. For those who don't qualify, swim lessons will be \$15. Lessons are offered in four, two-week sessions, with eight lessons per session during June and July. Eighteen pools



Announcements

throughout the city will be open from May 28 through Aug. 5. Parks and Recreation discounts: <http://1.usa.gov/ID6qPCu>
Parks and Recreation website: <http://1.usa.gov/1ua6RJt>

Movies in the Park

Are you looking for some family-friendly entertainment on Friday nights over the summer? Movies in the Park, a Tucson summer staple since 2003, has returned at Reid Park. Residents are invited to bring blankets and chairs to enjoy a free movie every other Friday at the DeMeester Performing Arts Pavilion, 900 S. Randolph Way. Pre-movie events begin at 5:30 p.m. with live music, jumping castles, balloon animals, and arts and crafts exhibits from nonprofits. Popcorn, soda, and food truck vendors also will be available for an additional charge. The Movies in the Park program is hosted by Cox Communications and the Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance.



Memorial Day

Monday, May 25 was Memorial Day, a day for remembering the men and women who fought bravely and died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. The holiday, which is observed every year on the last Monday of May, originated as Decoration Day after the American Civil War in 1868, when the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans — established it as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. It became a federal holiday in 1971.

I hold this day very dear to my heart, as I am a proud 27 year veteran of the active Army, Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserves. We celebrate Memorial Day so we can never forget the price that has been paid by our men and women in the military for the freedom we have today.



My office was fortunate to participate in two activities for Memorial Day. On Saturday, May 23, the Honoring Christian Soldiers Ministries held their 20th Annual Prayer Breakfast. I want to congratulate Evangelist Cherry Jackson, Ron Burton and the Breakfast Committee for a job well done. I also want to congratulate this year's honorees who served our Country and the two youth who serve our community: Robert Cooper, Otis Dees, Deacon Jerry Hill, Sylvia Ann Johnson-Brown, Aaron G. Snowden, Burney O. Starks, Martina Thompson, Deonte Washington, William O. Wills, Shanequia Wofford.



In addition to the breakfast, Congresswoman Martha McSally, State Representative Chris Ackerley and Tucson Councilmember Shirley Scott, joined me in presenting thank you cards made by students from Dodge Middle School, Pistor, Mary Belle McCorkle Academy, Dietz, Sierra Middle, Challenger and

Announcements

Morgan Maxwell schools. Ryan Anderson from Mayor Rothschild's office was there as well. I want to thank my intern Heather Sieh, who coordinated the effort of the cards, my Chief of Staff, Mark Kerr who coordinated the invitations and event with the VA. I want to give special thanks to Kimmy Kammerer, Steve Sample and Luke Johnson from the SAVACHS, who helped to make this a success. I also want to thank Congresswoman McSally, State Representative Ackerley and my colleague on the Council, Councilmember Scott for attending the event. Also to those students and teachers who created the 1,000 thank you cards, my thanks and the thanks from those who served our country. They really appreciated the cards and sentiment.



For more than two hundred years, men and women of faith and courage have laid down their lives to secure freedom for this country. Blood was shed (and continues to be shed) so that Americans no matter what color they are, can enjoy liberty, democracy and freedom without fear of reprisal.

To our Women and Men serving in our Armed Forces, I offer this prayer for their safety:

“Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Amen.”

After Memorial Day, I ask that we continue to remember those who served our country and to thank those who are doing so now either at home or abroad. I encourage you to please let a Veteran know that you appreciate the sacrifices they have made for us so we can enjoy freedom.

Congratulations and Thank You!

Ward 5 Community Forum

I want to thank everyone who came out for the Ward 5 Community Forum, Thursday, April 30, held at the El Pueblo Senior Center. Ward 5 constituents received updates from Tucson Police, Tucson Fire, Parks and Recreation, Transportation Department, a presentation on proposed water rate changes by Tucson Water and updates from Pima Animal Control and the Pima County Health Department.

Protecting Our Pooches

A big thank you to my fellow dog owners, who on Saturday, May 2, came out with three hundred dogs and took part in the first, free rabies, parvo and distemper shot clinic at the Ward 5 Council offices. Veterinarians, vet techs, students from Pima Medical Institute and staff and volunteers from Pima Animal Care Center, as well as the Ward 5 staff worked to make this event a success.

I also want to want to specific thank the staff and students from Pima Medical Institute, veterinarians

Congratulations and Thank You!

and volunteers who took part, who were: Paula Zaleski, Joanne Carrillo, Alma Hernandez, Tammie Barrick, The Hubert Family, Hubert Leung, Ingrid Leung, Alanna Leung, Christian Leung, Charles Dunn, Clara Lee Arnold, Santa Cruz Veterinary Clinic, Karter Neal, DVM Guadalupe Veterinary Clinic, Dr. M.R. Whitlock, Sunrise Veterinary Clinic, Sally Rademaker DVM, Jennifer Serling CVT, Katie Foust CVT, Staci Sanders, Amanda Twiddy, Sami Guzman, Amber Sharon, Shelly Bock, Yasi Rael, Pat Hubbard (Animal Welfare Alliance of Southern Arizona), Karen Hollish (Pima Animal Control) and Nancy Young Wright (Humane Society of the United States).



25th Annual Crystal Apple Awards

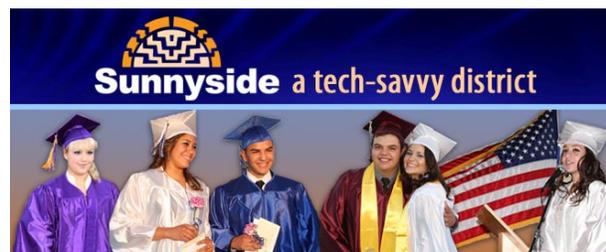
Congratulations to the Metropolitan Education Commission who celebrated their 25th Annual Crystal Apple Awards on May 8. The 2015 Crystal Apple Honorees included: Sam Polito (Lifetime Achievement Award), George Favela (Special Lifetime Achievement Award), Former Tucson Mayor Bob Walkup (Education Advocate Award), Pima County Supervisor Richard Elias (Education Advocate Award), Kevin Kehl, Andrada Polytechnic High School, Vail Unified School District (Teacher Award), Eve Rifkin, City High School (Counselor Award), League of United Latin American Citizens (Corporate Award), Onelio Madrid Calderon, Pueblo High School, Tucson Unified School District (Youth Award). Funds raised from the awards ceremony benefit the Metropolitan Education Commission's Regional College Access Center. Congratulations to all those who were honored!

Sunnyside All American Awards

Forty five students were honored for the scholastic achievements at the 2015 Sunnyside All American Awards ceremony, held May 8 at the Pima Air and Space Museum. Congratulations to the students for their hard work and effort and the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association for holding this annual event!

Over \$8.6 Million in Scholarships Received by Sunnyside District Seniors

This year's graduating class received over \$8.6 Million in scholarships as they make plans to attend colleges and universities of their choice. Of these recipients, 47 graduating seniors from Desert View, STAR and Sunnyside also received Dollars for Scholars scholarships. Thanks to a very active district alumni association and school counselors who promote scholarship applications throughout the four year high school experience, many students at Sunnyside and Desert View were recipients of scholarships. These scholarships will help them further their education and make a difference in the future of our community and the world. Congratulations to the Class of 2015!



Congratulations Rodel Aspiring Principals

The Rodel Foundation of Arizona is pleased to announce that Michele Gottleber and Stephanie Ponce

Congratulations and Thank You!

have been selected to participate in the Rodel Exemplary Principal Initiative as a Rodel Aspiring Principal. To receive this recognition, they have clearly demonstrated their commitment to effective leadership in high-need schools. Additionally, they have received outstanding recommendations from supervisors and colleagues in education. Congratulations Michelle and Stephanie!

Desert View iSTEM Academy NIMS Certifications Awarded

60 students in the Desert View iSTEM Academy were recognized on May 13 for their outstanding work of achieving a high-level nationally recognized professional certification in Solidworks and National Institute for Metalworking Skills (known as NIMS in the machining industry). These certifications have prepared them for their future in today's manufacturing world and to obtain opportunities to grow and advance in a highly-skilled industry. They are an inspiration to your peers and your teachers at Desert View.

Arizona Food Handler Certifications at DVHS

33 advanced Desert View High School students earned industry certifications, Arizona Food Handler Certification, as part of their course completion in the DVHS Culinary Arts program. This is an approved, ANSI accredited online Food Handlers training and certification for Arizona. AZ Food Handler Certification is a State-of-the-Art training and testing tool.

Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association

On Friday May 15th, the Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association held a fiesta and concert at Mariposa Park, their neighborhood park to reestablish the neighborhood association. A good crowd was in attendance, which had wonderful music performances from the students at Van Buskirk Elementary School. I want to thank Rudy Garcia, Bill Kenworthy, Eddie Sotomayor for their leadership of the neighborhood association and the students of Van Buskirk School for their wonderful performance!



Congratulations Job Path and Western Institutes for Leadership Development

I want to congratulate the 2015 graduating classes for the Job Path Program and the Western Institutes for Leadership Development. I want to thank them both for inviting me to participate in their graduation ceremonies because education is the key to success!



Kino from Broadway to 22nd Street adopted by college students.

I want to thank the members of the Gamma-Rho Chapter of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity who adopted Kino Parkway from Broadway Blvd. to 22nd St. in October 2012. Their 656 volunteers have logged 2,155 volunteer hours since Oct 2012. That is a cost savings to the City of Tucson of around \$48,530. Ward 5 and the City of Tucson is thankful for their commitment to keeping this roadway clean. I also want to thank Jean Hickman of Tucson Clean and Beautiful, for her work and commitment to helping to clean up Tucson's roads.

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

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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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