



# City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

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Dear Friends:

Every year, the Thanksgiving holiday is one of the busiest travel times. Millions of Americans hit the roads to spend time with family and friends. Unfortunately, more vehicles on the road means the roads are more dangerous, and it's as important as ever that everyone is buckled up. Tucson Police will be joining other state and local law enforcement agencies to participate in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's high-visibility seat belt enforcement campaign Click It or Ticket. The no-excuses, zero-tolerance crackdown combines powerful messages about seat belt safety, with increased patrols day and night, targeting all unbuckled motorists—those who still aren't getting the point.

More than half of the passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes are not wearing their seat belts. And during this busy time on our highways, we see too many preventable fatalities in crashes. During the 2012 Thanksgiving holiday period (6 p.m. on Wednesday, November 21, to 5:59 a.m. on Monday, November 26), there were 301 passenger vehicle occupants were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes nationwide. Sixty-percent of those killed were NOT wearing seat belts.

These tragic crashes could have turned out differently. NHTSA research indicates that proper seat belt use reduces the risk of fatal injury to front seat passengers by 45 percent, and the risk of moderate to serious injury by 50 percent. In 2012, seat belts saved the lives of 12,174 passenger vehicle occupants. If seat belt use had been at 100 percent, an addition 3,031 people would still be alive this Thanksgiving.

Nationwide, the seat belt use rate is at an all-time high of 87 percent, but the Click It or Ticket campaign aims to reach that remaining 14 percent. The ones who think they are above the law, 'good enough' drivers, or invincible in a crash. In 2012, for example, there were 10,335 unbuckled occupants killed in crashes—52 percent of all passenger vehicle occupants killed that year. At night, the numbers are even more disturbing. During the Thanksgiving holiday weekend in 2012, law enforcement noted that 69 percent of the passenger vehicle occupants killed at night were unrestrained, as compared to 46 percent during the day.

Remember: Click It or Ticket. You have a lot to lose otherwise.

Peace,

Richard Fimbres

## Ward 5 News

### Bond Proposal Projects Located in Ward 5 Advance

The Pima County Bond Advisory Committee gave approval to three bond proposals, to three projects located within Ward 5, at their committee meeting held Friday, November 21. The three projects approved at the meeting were the Willie Blake Park project proposal, the Silverlake Park project and the Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Project.

I want to thank the committee for their vote to move them forward for final consideration. Willie Blake Park and Silverlake Park are used and enjoyed by residents of Ward 5, Tucson and Pima County. These proposals improve the amenities offered currently as these locations and thanks to the community support, these projects will get final consideration by the Board of Supervisors.

I want to thank Jon Covington and Floyd Gray with the Buffalo Soldier Memorial Project Committee for their work and testimony before the Bond Advisory Committee. I also want to thank the City Bond Advisory Committee, as well the County Administrator, Chuck Huckleberry, for their review and support of the Buffalo Soldiers Project.



At the October 5 County Bond Advisory Committee meeting, the Committee voted for the Quincie Douglas Center Project, which is a proposed, 3,500 square foot community building for the center.

### Ban the Box

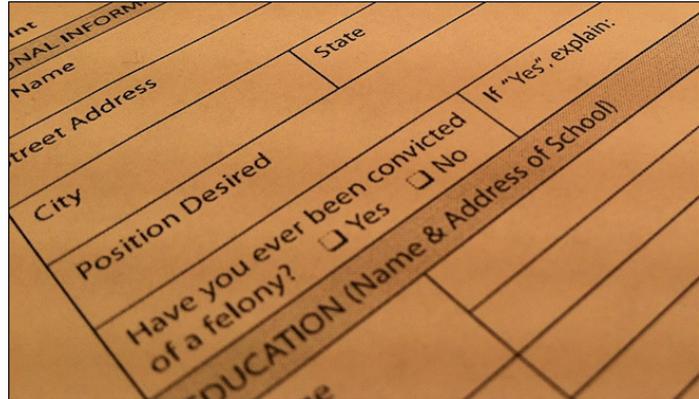
I want to thank Debbi Embry of the Tucson Urban League for her work on this issue and working with the Ward 5 Council Office to bring this forward for which the Mayor and Council voted unanimously in support of. What follows is here op-ed which ran in the local daily newspaper:

The Tucson Mayor and Council took important steps to ensure that every person in our community has the ability to live a life free of prejudice and persecution. Their decision to “Ban the Box” (limit criminal history as a hiring consideration) on employment applications removed an insurmountable barrier for thousands in our community. This action sends a clear message to all that it is time to give people a second chance and begin reintegrating everyone into the fabric of our society. This act is good for individuals, families, our community and our economy.



## Ward 5 News

Make no mistake, having a criminal record is a barrier to employment, and this barrier disproportionately affects people of color. Nearly 60 percent of the people served by the Tucson Urban League's Employment and Training Programs have criminal records. We cannot build a sustainable economy or community when we exclude thousands of applicants from highlighting their skills and value.



Denying employment opportunities to anyone affects everyone. A recent National Institute of Justice report stated that when re-entry fails, the societal and economic costs are high. A high rate of recidivism increases the rate of poverty, increases crime, and puts more pressure on federal, state and municipal budgets.

We commend the Tucson City Council and the leadership of Councilman Richard Fimbres for “banning the box.” Now the city of Tucson will have the best candidates to draw from and that is a win-win for everyone.

Tucson is joining nine states and more than 50 local governments who have already “banned the box” in a variety of ways. Newark, for example, has prohibited all employers and all housing providers from inquiring about an applicant’s conviction record until that candidate has been found otherwise qualified for the job or housing.

The Tucson City Council’s action will follow the Equal Employment Opportunity Council’s recommendations, including:

- Removing any question regarding conviction history from the job application, unless a background check is required by statute.
- Limit background checks to positions requiring unsupervised contact with finances or vulnerable people (youth, elderly, disabled).
- Postpone any background check until a finalist candidate has been selected.
- If a background check is required for the position by statute, supply the job candidate with a copy of the background report. Allow that person to correct any inaccuracies.
- Consider only convictions directly related to the responsibilities of the position, as required by federal and state law. Do an individualized assessment of whether or not circumstances connected to a prior conviction may be repeated.
- Allow the finalist to explain the circumstances of the conviction, and to offer evidence of his or her rehabilitation.

These simple acts will increase opportunities for thousands within our community. It is the fair, safe and right thing to do. The time has come to ban the box.

## Ward 5 News

Our past should not define us. We need to provide people with the opportunity to become contributing members of our society. We must provide fathers and mothers the opportunity to live up to the dreams of their children.

We must remember that although a person may have made a mistake, that does not make them a bad person. We are a nation built on laws. We are also a nation that must believe in forgiveness and second chances.

## City News

### Charter Review

Tucson's Charter Review Committee is asking for public comments as it reviews and make recommendations regarding possible amendments to sections of the Tucson City Charter. Comments will be accepted through 2015, and potential amendments to the City Charter may be on the Nov. 3, 2015 City ballot. All comments should be made via email to the City Clerk's Office, [cityclerk@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:cityclerk@tucsonaz.gov).

#### Public meetings:

Monday Dec. 15, 2014, 4 p.m. - City Hall, 255 W. Alameda, 1st Floor  
 Thursday Jan 8., 2015, 4 p.m. - City Hall, 255 W. Alameda, 1st Floor  
 Tuesday Jan. 20, 2015, 4 p.m. - City Hall, 255 W. Alameda, 1st Floor  
 Monday Feb. 9, 2015, 4 p.m. - City Hall, 255 W. Alameda, 1st Floor  
 Thursday Feb. 19, 2015, 4 p.m. - City Hall, 255 W. Alameda, 1st Floor



### Streetcar Ridership Exceeding Projections

After a little more than three months in operation, the Sun Link Tucson Streetcar is carrying more passengers than predicted. Average daily ridership has been increasing steadily since the streetcar's debut July 25. As of this month, the average has been about 4,200 passengers. Projections before launch had been about 3,600. So far, Sun Link has generated \$900 million in investments along the route and revitalized Downtown Tucson. Since 2008, 194 new businesses have opened downtown and 158 of those businesses remain open, according to reports from the Downtown Tucson Partnership. Sun Link travels a 3.9-mile route between the University of Arizona, Fourth Avenue, Downtown Tucson, and the Mercado District.



Sun Link Tucson Streetcar: <http://bit.ly/1mebZ7k>

### Visit Tucson Opens Trade Office in Mexico

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, Visit Tucson opened its new Vamos a Tucson office in Hermosillo, Sonora. The office - in conjunction with the City of Tucson and Pima County - is intended to boost Mexican tourism to Pima County. It also will serve as an information hub for Mexican corporations and entrepreneurs seeking information about conducting business in Tucson and Pima County.

## Ward 5 News

Vamos a Tucson: <http://bit.ly/1fc4xpa>

Visit Tucson: <http://bit.ly/1ANWHNI>

### Tucson Exploring Bike Share Program

The City of Tucson is exploring the feasibility of implementing a bike share system and is seeking input from the public. The City has launched an online survey and WikiMap (link below) to solicit comments. The survey allows the public to weigh in on the proposed program, while the WikiMap helps identify specific locations for stations. Bike share is a public transportation system where subscribers have access to a network of bicycles through automated self-service kiosks located throughout the community. More than 30 cities in the United States have existing bike share systems.

Bike Share program details, map, and survey: <http://1.usa.gov/1uc5liH>

Tucson Bicycle & Pedestrian Program: <http://1.usa.gov/1remRER>

### Abandoned Shopping Cart Program

It has been a little more than a year since the City of Tucson's Environmental Services department began collecting abandoned shopping carts reported via phone and the "My Waste" smartphone app (link below). When the Mayor and Tucson City Council approved the program in October 2013, City staff estimated it would cost \$40,000 for the first year, but that amount turned out to be less than \$5,500 paid to the contractor. In the past year, 1,222 carts have been collected, mostly from Walmart, Fry's, Walgreens and Albertsons. If you see an abandoned shopping cart, please call 791-3171 or use the app to report it.



Download the 'My-Waste'™ app: <http://1.usa.gov/1cOaDIO>

Watch a PSA about how the program works: <http://bit.ly/1ftOmlN>

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## Announcements

### Home Heating Safety tips

In Tucson, we generally have Summer, Winter, and very little in between. We can be challenged by going from near 90 degree high temperatures one week and lows in the 30's just days later. As the need for warming the house increases, so can the dangers associated with fireplaces, furnaces, and space heaters. Below are a few reminders as you heat up while the temperatures drop.



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### Fireplace Safety:

- Have the chimney flue cleaned annually by a professional.
- Remember to open the damper on the fireplace before starting the fire
- Keep combustible objects a minimum of three feet away from any fireplace.
- Equip the fireplace with a metal screen to catch burning embers or shifting logs.

### Furnace Safety:

- Change your furnace filter regularly, usually at least 3-4 times a year
- Keep the area around your furnace clean and unobstructed
- Regularly vacuum the furnace and the area surrounding the furnace. This prevents lint build-up, which creates a fire hazard.

### Space Heater Safety:

- Never leave a space heater on when you go to sleep or leave the area
- When selecting a space heater, look for one that has been tested and certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory
- Heaters must be kept at least 3 feet (36 inches) from all combustible materials
- Plug heater directly into a wall receptacle. Never plug it into an extension cord.

### Carbon Monoxide Detector:

- Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. All homes should be equipped with a CO detector to provide a warning if levels are too high.

### Nextdoor.com

The Tucson Police Department (TPD) is partnering with Nextdoor.com, a private social network for neighborhoods to build stronger, safer communities. TPD's integration with Nextdoor will allow police to get messages to individual neighborhoods, which could be helpful in cases where a suspicious person may be targeting a particular neighborhood. TPD says it feels confident this additional form of communication can increase neighborhood safety. More than 114 Tucson neighborhoods already have started a Nextdoor site, representing 50 percent of Tucson's neighborhoods. Police say Nextdoor will not replace neighborhood meetings.



Nextdoor: <http://bit.ly/1rnmOZb>

### Parks and Recreation Spring Program Guide Now Available

Tucson Parks and Recreation's Spring 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog has arrived and copies are available for pick up at all Parks and Recreation Department facilities, including district offices, centers and pools. Copies will also be available at the Family Festival in the Park event on Saturday, November 15, at Reid Park or can be viewed on-line at: [parks.tucsonaz.gov](http://parks.tucsonaz.gov).

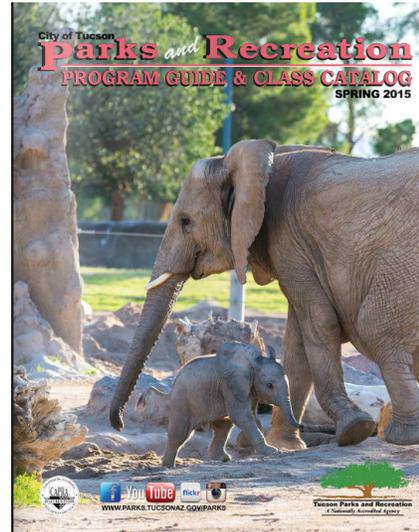
The Program Guide contains complete information on leisure classes, KIDCO after-school, aquatics,

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sports programs, registration and the Discount Program. In addition, the 64-page booklet contains valuable information on other programs and services, including the Department's recreation, senior, and fitness centers, Reid Park Zoo, Tucson City Golf courses and swimming pool locations. Also, find a complete listing of lifeguard training certification courses.

Registration opened on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> for City residents and Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup> for non-City residents.

All leisure class listings are available for registration by using EZEEreg on-line at: [www.ezeereg.com](http://www.ezeereg.com). Please see the program guide for registration information and deadlines. For questions or more information on registration or programs, contact Registration Services at 791-4877.



## New Website Connects Businesses in Arizona, Mexico, Canada

ConnectBIEN.com is a website that uses an extensive database to link businesses in Arizona, Mexico, and Canada. The website was launched this month by the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) and its partners, including the City of Tucson. When a business provides a profile about its products and services, other businesses can see what is offered and email the business a connection request. Users can search for a like business by distance, industry type, or name. The goal is for businesses to find ways to collaborate, such as supplying products and services, assisting in cross-border promotion, or sharing ideas and best practices. "This database is the first of its kind in Arizona and will be a key tool in connecting Tucson businesses with supply chain opportunities in Mexico, Canada, and throughout the United States," said Juan Francisco Padrés, Tucson's economic development specialist for international trade.



ConnectBIEN.com: <http://connectbien.com/>

City of Tucson Office of Economic Initiatives: <http://1.usa.gov/lwdjSAk>

## January 8<sup>th</sup> Memorial Exhibit Opens

A new exhibit commemorating the Jan. 8, 2011 shootings has opened at The Arizona History Museum (949 E. 2nd St.) and runs through Jan. 9, 2015. "Dia De Los Muertos: Remembering January 8th" is presented by the museum and the January 8th Memorial Foundation, which lent artifacts to the exhibit from the memorials created in the wake of the shootings. One room of the exhibit focuses on the six people who were killed. Another section of the



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exhibit displays all the flowers, photos, candles and other items that were left the days and weeks after the shooting. The January 8th Memorial Foundation is working on establishing a permanent memorial in Downtown Tucson. Sixty design firms and artists have submitted applications to design the memorial.

Arizona Historical Society/Arizona History Museum: <http://bit.ly/1sFISvg>

January 8th Memorial Foundation: <http://bit.ly/1uDUHff>

### **City Wins National Budget Award**

The City of Tucson has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for the 30th year in a row.

The award reflects a commitment to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. The City of Tucson's Office of Budget and Internal Audit met nationally-recognized guidelines designed to assess how well a budget serves as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and communications device. As a long-time award recipient, the City's Budget staff has pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and serves as an example of excellence to other governments throughout North America.

The GFOA is a professional association that provides support services to more than 18,000 financial practitioners from the public sector. The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting.

### **Santa to Call Tucson Children Early Next Month**

Santa and his elves would like to add some sparkle to a child's holiday season through the "Santa's Calling" program, courtesy of Tucson Parks and Recreation. The special child(ren) in your life, between ages of 3 and 8, will have an opportunity to speak with Santa and listen to his elves hard at work. Santa will make the calls from 5-8 p.m. on Dec. 2, 3, 4 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday). In order to receive a call, you'll need to fill out a form (link below) and mail the request by Friday, Nov. 28.

Santa's Calling request form (in English and Spanish): <http://1.usa.gov/1xPHkUR>



## Congratulations and Thank You!

### Tucson Rodeo Parade Kick Off

I want thank the Tucson Rodeo Parade Committee for their wonderful kick off dinner for the 90<sup>th</sup> Rodeo Parade to take place in February, 2015. I had the privilege of honoring Bob and Linda Stewart for their long time work on the rodeo parade committee and commitment to the largest, non-mechanized parade in the United States.

### Lorraine Lee Community Service Award

I had the privilege of honoring students and teachers for their community service, during the Lorraine Lee Community Service Award ceremony at Pueblo High School. The students honored logged more than 4,000 hours total in making the community a better place. I want thank Augustine Romero, the Principal of Pueblo, Saul Ostroff and the staff of Pueblo for letting me take part in this

### Veterans Visit

On Friday, November 7, Councilmember Shirley Scott and I went to the VA Hospital in Ward 5 to hand out thank you cards to veterans hospitalized at the facility. More than a half dozen schools from TUSD and Sunnyside Schools took part in making the cards for our veterans. Matt Kopec, an aide from the Ward 3 Council office was present as well to hand out cards. More than 1,100 cards were created by these school children.

### Veterans Recognition Dinner

On November 15, 2014 the Knights of Columbus, Council 1200, and LULAC Council 1057, sponsored a Veterans Recognition Dinner to honor those who have served in our Armed Forces. This was an opportunity to thank those who have put on the uniform to serve in the military. More than 100 Veterans were honored by the service. Ward 4 Councilmember Shirley Scott, former Surgeon General Dr. Richard Carmona and retired County Supervisor Dan Eckstrom were on hand for the event and helped to honor those who serve and had served their country. I also want to thank Tucson Troop Support for their efforts and for getting the Color Guard for the event. We must never forget the sacrifices and efforts our veterans have made and we can't forget that freedom comes with a price.

**1<sup>st</sup> Annual Grace Temple Health & Wellness Fair**  
Congratulations to Pastor Grady Scott and Maiola Cole-



## Congratulations and Thank You!

man, for their first annual Grace Temple Missionary Baptist Church Health Fair, held at the church, 1020 East 31st Street in Ward 5. I want to thank TPD and TFD, as well as Parks and Recreation for their help to make this event a success.

### Dedication Ceremony for Cmd. Sgt. Major Martin "Gunny" Barreras Park

Also on Monday, November 10, was the dedication of the Command Sergeant Martin "Gunny" Barreras Park, located in Ward 5. County Supervisor Ramon Valadez, Lt. General Robert Johnston, USMC (Ret.), and 22 members from the 2nd Infantry Battalion, Bobcats, members of Patriot Guard Riders, Representatives of the City of Tucson Veteran's Affairs, Pima Community College Veteran's Affairs, Gold Star Wives of America, Army National Guard, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and The American Legion were also in attendance. I want to congratulate Sgt. Marcos Moreno for his work in getting this tribute to a great man, who made the ultimate sacrifice for this country, honored. Also, my appreciation to the Sunnyside School District and our Parks and Recreation Department for their work on this.

### Veterans Day Parade

I want to congratulate American Legion Post 7, as well as the other Posts, Veteran's groups and organizations, as well as our Armed Services who took part in the 2014 Tucson Veterans Parade on November 11. As a retired U.S. Army Veteran, I appreciated the invitation to participate again in the parade.

### Thanksgiving Food Boxes

Thanks to all those who made and delivered more than 550 food boxes to families for Thanksgiving this morning! This is a great service for the community and I appreciate everyone who dedicated their time and resources to make sure it was a successful event!



## Congratulations and Thank You!

want to express my thanks to our President, Barack Obama for his executive order addressing this nation's immigration policy.

Every President since Dwight D. Eisenhower, Democratic and Republican, have used the Executive Order on the subject of the nation's immigration policy. For the record, Obama has issued only 193 executive orders. George W. Bush had issued 291 during his presidency and Bill Clinton issued 364.

President Obama's action brings those out from the shadows, strengthens families and keeps them together and will help to grow our economy. It is not a substitute for comprehensive immigration reform, but until Congress acts, it is an important step forward.

Tucson was the first city to file a legal challenge to SB 1070, just after signed into law, and taking it all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. Tucson's Mayor and Council passed a resolution stating that our City is an Immigrant Welcoming City. Our Mayor at the time, Bob Walkup went to Hermosillo and other cities in Mexico to tell everyone that Tucson Welcomes You.

The City of Tucson formed the Tucson Mexico Trade Coalition. Tucson has now formed the Global Economic Development District. The Vamos a Tucson Baseball Fiesta was launched as well to cheering crowds from both sides of the border. The Governor's of Sonora and Sinaloa made trips to Tucson to discuss trade and relations.

The City of Tucson welcomes and supports our brothers and sisters 64 miles away across the border and the announcement on November 24, by the Mexican Consulate of their effort to help those out, is another step in this process.

### Immigration Policy



## 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

### **Code Enforcement & 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

### **ParkWise**

791-5071

### **Pima Animal Care**

243-5900



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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