

## Ward 6 Staff



Steve Kozachik



Ann Charles



Diana Amado



Molly Thrasher



Amy Stabler



Evelyn Romero



# Ward 6 Newsletter

TUCSON FIRST

August 11, 2014

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### Sun Tran Strike

The Sun Tran negotiations were settled. Thanks are in order to both the PTM management team and to the Teamsters Local 104 for hanging in there and working out a deal. Their work avoided a huge disruption to the loyal riders who rely on the system for getting around town.

If you rely on transit, there are options in the local area that you can also take advantage of if the bus isn't available or doesn't go to your destination. Here are a few for you to consider if you get into a pinch:

- Sun Shuttle -792-9222
- Sun Rideshare -884-7433
- Mike's Helping Hand -207-3917 or 241-6169
- Taxi cab companies listed in yellow pages
- VIP Taxi (operated by American Pony Express) -300-3000 \$2.50 per drop; \$1.75 per mile



### Important Phone Numbers

**Tucson Police  
Department**  
911 or nonemergency  
791-4444

**Water Issues**  
791-4133  
Emergency: 791-4133

**Street Maintenance**  
791-3154

**Graffiti Removal**  
792-2489

**Abandoned  
Shopping Carts**  
791-3171

**Neighborhood  
Resources**  
837-5013

**SunTran/SunLink**  
792-9222

**Environmental  
Services**  
791-3171

**Park Wise**  
791-5071

**Planning and  
Development  
Services** 791-5550

**Pima County Animal  
Control**  
243-5900

**Pima County Vector  
Control**  
Cockroach: 443-6501  
Mosquito: 740-2760

## Continued: A Message From Steve

### Airport Services

- American Pony Express -887-9000 Tucson Airport
- Arizona Stagecoach -889-1000

### Seniors

- Arizona Senior Transport -573-6221
- Interfaith Community Services -297-6049 (must be a registered ICS recipient to request services)
- Limoport Transportation -529-7400
- Lioque Senior Center -879-5530 (for elders of Pascua Yaqui tribe to the senior center for support services and meals)
- Old Fort Lowell Live-at-Home program -275-6757 (Old Fort Lowell neighborhood residents)
- Neighbors Care Alliance -790-0504
- PCOA & COT Parks and Recreation -791-4070 (Armory Park) or 624-5313 (El Rio)

### Disabled

- American Pony Express -887-9000, ext 20
- Disabled American Veterans Transportation -792-1450, ext 1-6405 (Provides transportation for DAV to medical appointments at the VA Hospital)
- DVA Transport Network for Veterans -792-1450, ext 1-6565 (Transportation for veterans who have no means of transportation to scheduled appointments; minimum 3 days advance notice required)
- Safe Ride 1-800-797-7433 (Members of certain health plans only; 24 hours advance notice required)
- Wheeler's Inc. 1-866-859-8880 (Wheelchair accessible van rentals)
- Sun Van -798-1000 (ADA eligible riders must be pre-qualified through COT Special Services)

...and of course the Streetcar is still an easy option for getting from the UA to downtown.



As a part of its tri-annual license renewal process, Tucson Greyhound Park has its books audited. The Arizona Department of Racing – a sympathetic agency to TGP since the track along with other racing operations pays ADOR's bills – selected Veriti to perform the review. They issued a 15 page document that shows what one might assume to be the case by

looking at the empty bleachers every racing night; that is, they're losing a ton of cash.

The net loss in '13 was \$544K. In fact, in the past 5 years the track has not produced a profit. The industry in general isn't in the best of shape, but the report notes that TGP is in a worse risk position than the overall racing/gambling industry.

Let me take a moment here to make you feel a little better about this bad financial news

for the track. You're subsidizing it with your tax dollars. The State is still giving TGP a "hardship tax credit" from the State General Fund. That's money that could be going to education, roads or public safety. Instead it's propping up the owners of the track who live in a Florida mansion.

The audit says that the park doesn't have sufficient assets to meet current liabilities. Here's a quote: *TGP's below average liquidity, higher risk, and lower profitability indicate that without external financial support from its owners, TGP's operations cannot sustain future viability. The owner's financial backing is a necessary component of TGP's future viability, and should they cease to fund operations, TGP will likely go bankrupt.* They pointed to poor internal cash controls in the accounting department. Nice to know that taxpayer money is going into an operation like that.

In a prior newsletter I included photos of the owners' home. They have the financial wherewithal to fund their own park. As long as the State props them up though, they have no incentive to do so. The Veriti audit recommends renewal of the TGP racing license "as long as the owners do in fact commit to continue funding operations."

To that I'd only add, "and as long as the Legislature takes back the nearly 1/2 million dollars that we're not putting into classrooms but are pouring into that track." Stay tuned on this. The ADOR can't ignore the findings of an audit that it commissioned.

### Medical Marijuana

Last week we moved ahead in the process of updating our medical marijuana zoning conditions. When we first adopted what's now on the books, there was a lot of uncertainty on how things would develop in this new industry. What we've seen is that a lot of the early concern over proliferation, crime and just fears of the unknown proved to have been unfounded. It's time that we consider some changes.

By way of brief history, in November, 2010 the voters approved Prop 203 which was the State wide legalization of medical pot. Shortly thereafter is when we adopted our regulations that govern where dispensaries can be located, their size, what they can be near to (set backs,) and the same for cultivation sites. Other jurisdictions around the State adopted their own rules – and the regulations that have been enacted are all over the map.

In April of this year we initiated the amendment process to the regs that we have on the books. We forwarded onto the Planning Commission a few areas we wanted them to look at and respond to. During the two P.C. public hearings that followed, they came up with some additional proposed changes. Here's what is now coming to us in the way of possible revisions to our current Code.

- a) Remove cultivation location size limit for I-1 and I-2 zones only (the Feds have signaled that they're going to give closer scrutiny to very large grow sites. To avoid that, we might want to look at setting some square/foot limits such as nothing larger than 10,000 sq/ft.)
- b) Allow infusion kitchens within dispensaries and off-site cultivation locations. Infusion kitchens are simply facilities where you can prepare pot-laced food (brownies, cookies, etc.)
- c) Include a 4 year sunset date. Staff had proposed a 2 year sunset date. Because there's a huge capital investment – largely out-of-pocket since banks aren't lending for marijuana facilities – we might want to look at extending the sunset date of these new rules. The primary reason we're even considering sun-setting them is to protect ourselves from



### Important Phone Numbers

Senator John McCain (R)  
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff Flake (R)  
520-575-8633

Congressman Ron Barber (D)  
(2<sup>nd</sup> District)  
520-881-3588

Congressman Raul Grijalva (D)  
(3<sup>rd</sup> District)  
520-622-6788

Governor Janice Brewer (R)  
602-542-4331  
Tucson office:  
628-6580

Mayor Jonathan Rothschild  
791-4201

ZoomTucson Map  
<http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomTucson/>

Prop 207 lawsuits. That is, if the Feds come at us and we have to pull back on some of these changes, we will have done so under the legitimate cover of not having changed permanent zoning conditions. Everybody who takes advantage of any of our changes does so with the clear understanding that the product they're dealing with is illegal at the Federal level and so we could at some point be forced to redraw all of this if they intervened. Prop 207 says that we can't rezone in a way that diminishes the value of a property. The sunset protects us in case we're forced to.

- d) Lift separation requirements for six sensitive uses for off-site cultivation locations in I-1 and I-2 zones – retain the 500' separations for schools. Right now we require a setback from parks, churches, libraries, day care centers and a couple more of those types of facilities. The proposal is to limit the setback requirement to only what the State mandates; schools. The reality is that cultivation operators generally grow in remodeled warehouses. They're virtually hidden from view, no exterior markings, signage or anything that will attract attention. This change is much more benign than it might seem at first thought.
- e) Expand dispensary hours of operation to 7am until midnight. The Planning Commission looked at 9pm, 10pm and midnight for closing times. Regular pharmacies shut down much earlier than midnight. I suspect this proposal will get a hard look when it comes to us.
- f) Allow delivery to qualifying patients. Right now dispensaries are prohibited from delivering the product to customers. This proposal started at the Planning Commission with it only including delivery to patients who were at health care facilities. It evolved into one that more focused on the medicinal aspect of what's being delivered and asked why we would limit patients' ability to be treated in an equal manner, regardless of where they were residing. If you've got a medical marijuana card, this proposal allows the dispensary to deliver to your door. The State mandates significant security measures and video taping of the sale, so this won't be like seeing a Domino's Pizza car driving up to somebody's house and some kid running up to the door with a baggie of dope. There's much more involved in it than that.

We will also be looking at parking requirements that exist around cultivation sites, and how many dispensaries we'll allow within the City. The parking came up because we're right now requiring far more parking in front of these warehouses than will ever be needed. They're "grow" sites, not retail outlets. And as for limiting the quantity, this would be intended to prevent us from seeing locally what is happening up in Colorado and other areas where they're pushing the legalization envelope. They're seeing entire city blocks that are made up of virtually nothing but pot dispensaries. If we set a cap – and legally, we can – that won't be allowed here.

At our next council meeting we'll hold a public hearing so you can weigh in on these items. It'll be in the evening session, so if you'd like to comment, please plan accordingly.

### More Plant News



Kudos to the Feldman's neighborhood folks for teaming up with Trees for Tucson and getting ready for a tree planting project. Their goal is to plant 50 trees, largely along the stretch of 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue that runs through the neighborhood.

Trees for Tucson (TFT) has done this sort of project in other areas of town. We've worked with them in Garden District on a similar sort

of tree planting effort. The Feldman's project is scheduled to take place early this fall.

Generally the way it works is that you're group meets with TFT, picks a corridor and buys deeply discounted trees – all native and low water use – from them. The planting is where the neighborhood involvement comes in, of course under some guidance from the TFT folks, and after having blue staked the areas in which you'll be digging.

If you're a part of a group or neighborhood association who'd like to do something similar, give us a call @ 791.4601 and we'll be happy to help to expedite your meeting with the right City departments.



### **Rattlesnake Safety**

When we first moved to Tucson from Michigan some guy did his best to make it sound like every rock in town had a scorpion under it, so I'd better wear gloves and not touch anything that was laying on the ground. We know it's not quite like that, but we should also be aware that this time of year is when we might bump into baby rattlers while out

hiking, or even in urban gardens. They're born in July and August, and even though the babies don't have a rattle yet, they have enough venom to be dangerous.

Another of the many valuable services the UA offers to the community is their College of Pharmacy. That college is where the Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center is based. It serves the entire State, with the exception of Maricopa County. So far this year, the Poison Center has had 74 rattlesnake bites reported to it. Here are a few useful tips that the Center offers:

1. Baby rattlesnakes range in length from 6 to 12 inches and are easily camouflaged by brush and grass.
2. Baby rattlesnakes are rattleless until they first shed their skins, so there will be no infamous "chica-chica" sound before they strike.
3. Despite their impish size, baby snakes have enough venom to be very dangerous if they bite a human (and I'd add the same is true for your pets.)
4. Even adult rattlesnakes do not always rattle an audible warning before or while they are biting.
5. It's a good idea to call the poison center if you notice an unidentified small cut or wound, even if you feel no pain. With the lack of telltale rattle warning, people can be bitten without knowing what has happened until they notice their symptoms and attribute them to a snakebite.

You can call the Center anytime/any day @ 800.222.1222. They'll get some information from you about your symptoms to help identify the likelihood / or not / that you were bitten by a rattler. Their general rule of thumb is that the sooner the medical treatment begins, the better the outcome will be. And keep this in mind for your pets, too.

The venom can also ruin their day.



**More UA**



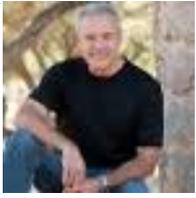
It's a step by step process getting the arena ready for the start of play this fall. The new seating is going in well, and now we've begun repainting the game lines and logos on the floor. You'll see a few changes in the layout, but nothing drastic. The borders are a little thinner, a couple fewer logos and the center "A" is a bit larger – but unless you're out there with a tape measure, you'll probably think it's all the same.

The UA paint shop takes to the floor on a Monday, lays out the main court first and then everything else that's painted flows from that as a benchmark. Start to finish, they take a full week to do the layout and all of the painting. In order to allow the paint to cure out, we let it sit for about 36 hours. We follow that with another few coats of finish and sealer and try to give that as much as 10 days before starting to run on it – and a month before laying tape down for volleyball matches. It's all hands on deck to get the arena ready for fans this September for the start of the Spikecat season. We'll get there.

...and don't forget that there's more going on in the SE quadrant of campus than just the renovation project. Football begins in a few weeks, but this Friday you'll have the chance to see this year's team "up close and personal" during the Meet the Team celebration. This is an annual event that the kids always enjoy. Here's the promotional flyer that has all the information you'll need for the evening.

**City Manager Citizen Panel**

Last week I listed the general process we'll use to select our next City Manager. A part of it will be that each council office names two people from the community to serve on a citizen panel. That panel will conduct interviews of the final 3 candidates and make recommendations to us. I've chosen my two representatives. Here's a short bio on each of them.



Mark Homan: Mark has taught at Pima, NAU, and (sadly) ASU from where he graduated with his MSW. He has written two textbooks that relate to public policy and community development: Promoting Community Change: Making it Happen in the Real World, 6th ed., and Rules of the Game: Lessons from the Field of Community Change. Mark is active in the Rincon Heights neighborhood association, interacts with the Campus Community Relations Committee on UA issues, has been an advocate on the Broadway Coalition, and has been involved with a wide variety of community issues including foster care, adoption, political campaigning, and working with special needs children. His familiarity with consensus building and involvement with the Center for Community Dialogue position him to be an important piece of the panel that's being formed.



Keri Silvyn: Keri works as an attorney (nearly as bad as being an ASU grad) in the area of zoning and land use planning. We see her often representing private developers as well as some local governments. She's familiar with environmental regulations, and maybe most importantly the processes we follow with respect to administrative hearings, neighborhood engagement and working with appropriate agencies throughout the planning and development process. She was instrumental in the early formation of Imagine Greater Tucson, and is a member of the Urban Land Institute, among many other civic organizations. That involvement won her acclaim by the Arizona Center for Civic Leadership and the Flinn-Brown Civic Leadership Academy.

I'll be looking forward to hearing the input from both Mark and Keri as the selection process unfolds. They know how we operate, and how some ways we operate could be improved.

### Road Repair

Speaking of improvement – we're making progress on our road repair, but we've got a long way to go. A part of getting there will be identifying long term funding sources.

Last week Jonathan suggested rolling over the current Prop 409 tax increase once the current funds run out. That's worth considering. It's built into our tax base now and so when we get to that point it wouldn't constitute an increase. That'd be a continuation of the \$20M annually and unlike Certificates of Participation would require voter approval once again. As I say, it's worth being a part of the conversation.

Across the Presidio in the County building, Administrator Huckelberry has suggested that the only options he sees are a ½ cent County sales tax or a State level 10 cent increase in the gas tax. To that I'd simply say:

Au 'contraire



It has now been 2 ½ years since I suggested letting the voters reconsider the RTA sales tax and divert some of it to road repair. Right now all it can be used for is expanding road capacity. Here's a quote from my 3/20/12 newsletter that at the time caused quite a stir:

*I'd like to see the RTA and County Board of Supervisors ask the voters if they would approve the PAG jurisdictions' ability to set aside 15% - 20% of their RTA tax dollars and ear-*

*mark it for road repair. None would be obligated, but each would have the option. Those that exercised that option would identify from within their respective jurisdictions the road projects they'd put on hold until some date certain in the future while the road repair work is completed. Put that on the ballot and let the voters decide.*

We're already paying the RTA ½ cent sales tax. There's talk of going back to the voters and asking for an extension of the RTA. It strikes me that adding a consideration of road repair to that ballot question, however it ends up being worded is something we should be talking about. The easy proposal is to add a new tax. How the reformation of the RTA funding stream worked might take more work to balance between the various PAG jurisdictions, but there's more money involved than the Prop 409 tax, and it's something we're already paying every time we shop.

Sometimes ideas need to percolate.



This one might be ready for consumption.

### **Parking Rates**

Last week we gave approval to Parkwise to move ahead with some changes in parking rates. We actually gave similar direction a long time ago, but due to the delays in getting the new parking meters through the procurement process purchased and installed, we're still sorting out the new rate structure. Questions have been asked about how what we're considering compares to other jurisdictions. The answer is that they compare very favorably.

Even as currently being proposed, Tucson's rates for garage and permit parking are either the lowest or are at least among the lowest in the State and region. We're considering a \$1 p/hr charge at the new meters. Based on a May, 2013 survey of Parking Meter Rates, Phoenix and Tempe are both charging \$1.50 per hour. This summer the Phoenix City Council adopted what's known as a demand based rate structure. That means the rates would fluctuate depending on the time of day. During low demand periods the rate might be as low as .50 per hour. During their high demand periods, or during sporting events in areas near to the stadiums it could jump to \$4 hourly. A demand based structure is something the software our new meters will contain will allow us to do.

There's more to the change than just a money grab. Of course cost recovery is a part of the thinking, but we're also trying to address demand management. Right now, with a .50 per hour rate, an employee who works for a downtown business can park in front of their employer for \$4 for an entire 8 hour work shift. That eliminates that on-street parking opportunity for customers. The .50 we're charging is lower than any of the other 18 western cities that were surveyed. On street parking on the UA campus is \$1.65 per hour. Clearly, the proposed \$1 isn't out of whack.

There'll be the anticipated claims that we're running customers out of the only area of the

City in which we're seeing significant economic development. In fact, addressing this issue is a service to customers who don't want to come downtown and circle around hunting for an open space. Employee parking in the garages or on surface parking lots leaves on-street slots available. It makes sense.

What doesn't make sense is why it is taking so long to get this done. We're close. Hopefully the implementation is something we'll be able to give thanks for over Turkey Day dinner. That's the promise we've been given.

#### **Drachman Institute Housing/Transit Forum**

On the subject of roads and parking is a forum coming on Friday of this week. It's sponsored by the Drachman Institute and will include presentations on the nexus between housing needs and transit oriented development. We now have the streetcar up and running. Building appropriate density into the corridor is now a front-and-center topic for discussion.

Drachman conducted a community survey in which they asked about housing needs in relation to proximity to transit modalities. They were trying to establish who'll be looking for transit oriented housing, what sorts of housing will be in demand, and the reaction from employers who operate businesses along our streetcar corridor. On Friday they'll review some of those results. They'll also talk about building in capacity for long term addition of high speed transit. That exact topic came up last Thursday at the Broadway CTF meeting.

Drachman is located at 44 N. Stone, in the heart of downtown. The forum will run from 10:30am until noon, it's open to the public, and is free. This is an important topic now that we've got the streetcar running, and the Broadway corridor decisions are near to being proposed. Come and take part in the conversation on Friday. If you're involved at any level in some of the projects we're doing, then you'll benefit from at least hearing the conversation. It should be an interesting presentation. It certainly will be timely.

#### **Mariposa Project Update**

While the local media has moved onto other issues, the daily arrival of migrant families has not stopped. Last Friday night, Evelyn from our office delivered home cooked meals to 4 families who were overnighting at the CCS facility. The work continues.

The Feds have changed how they're operating. They've got a detention center in Artesia, New Mexico and have just opened one in Karnes City, Texas as well as one way up in Pennsylvania. Reports are that they're housing about 600 women and children in Artesia and just over 500 in Karnes. The Pennsylvania facility only has capacity for about a hundred.

In each case the plan is to hold them for no more than 10 days before sending them back to their countries of origin.

But the administration's plan to quickly deport them has been complicated by the assertions of many migrants who say they are frightened of being sent back into deadly gang violence. We continue to hear that from the families who are being dropped off at the new intake center. Those assertions are supposed to set off reviews intended to determine whether or not asylum claims need to be pursued. This is still an active issue with many moving parts.

Last week we hosted a steering committee meeting at the Ward 6 office, the purpose of which was to take a look at where we need to better organize the community response. The partners continue to grow in number. In addition to the flagship Catholic Community Ser-

vices, we had representatives from St. Francis United Methodist Church, the Salvation Army, the Jewish Federation, Humane Borders, Grace St. Paul Episcopal Church, Hope of Glory Ministries, the YWCA, Refugee Focus, and of course several of the Casa Mariposa volunteers. We're also coordinating with some health care professionals who are affiliated with the UA. The group is committed to serving the needs of the women/kids who are being dropped in Tucson by ICE.

Here are some of the on-going supply needs: shoelaces (ICE takes them at the detention centers and doesn't return them,) travel sized women's deodorant, juices/Gatorade, snuglies and children's backpacks, small packs of crayons and coloring books, plastic eating utensils, non-perishable foods and small stuffed animals. Ward 6 is still the mid-town drop off site.

The intent of our partnering is to hand off small chunks of the work, avoid burn-out from any one group, and to continue the community engagement in the project. What we're sensitive to is the difficulty the young mom's we're seeing have that's captured in this quote I ran across in a recently published article:

*"It's rough having your 11-year-old daughter present when you are explaining that she is the one who could be raped and killed if you were sent back,"* That mom is fighting deportation. We see plenty just like her.



The stories we hear from the migrant women about domestic violence are also themes that we deal with domestically. The Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence is hard at work addressing the needs of our own residents. I've hosted DV forums at the Ward 6 office – and we touch this topic during Project RAISE work, so I want to use this space to keep it alive as an issue. Compassion for the migrants doesn't mean we lose sight of what's going on here, too.

The ACESDV filed a report recently that touched on DV in Arizona. In 2013 there were 125 people killed in this State in deaths related to DV. Suicides made up 18% of those deaths (the perpetrator kills himself after killing his victim.) Guns were involved in over 60% of the deaths.

I'll take this moment to remind you of the push back I received when I suggested to local gun shops that they simply post a suicide prevention hotline and recommend that customers who displayed warning signs of being threats to self/others call before purchasing a weapon. The data demonstrate that calls like that might save a life.

I shared a couple of weeks ago that in Arizona you're a "prohibited possessor" if convicted of Domestic Violence. Oddly, DV is not a crime in and of itself. Rather, it's a tag that's added to a crime if the crime involved a relation that falls under the DV definition. For example, an assault on a stranger will be charged as assault. But if there's a relationship with the victim that falls under the definition, they'd call it assault per domestic violence. There are nuances, but generally there are 30 crimes that can be tagged as DV. Here's how the relationships that qualify are defined under Arizona State Statute (13-3601.)

- *The relationship between the victim and the defendant is one of marriage or former marriage or of persons residing or having resided in the same household.*
- *The victim and the defendant have a child in common.*

- The victim or the defendant is pregnant by the other party.*
- The victim is related to the defendant or the defendant's spouse by blood or court order as a parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, brother or sister or by marriage as a parent-in-law, grandparent-in-law, stepchild, step-grandchild, brother-in-law or sister-in-law.*
- The victim is a child who resides or has resided in the same household as the defendant and is related by blood to a former spouse of the defendant or to a person who resides or has resided in the same household as the defendant.*
- The relationship between the victim and the defendant is currently or was previously a romantic or sexual relationship. The following factors may be considered in determining whether the relationship between the victim and the defendant is currently or was previously a romantic or sexual relationship:*

- (a) The type of relationship.*
- (b) The length of the relationship.*
- (c) The frequency of the interaction between the victim and the defendant.*
- (d) If the relationship has terminated, the length of time since the termination.*

For whatever reasons, between 2001 and 2011 Arizona was ranked among the top ten Nationwide 7 times in homicide rates of women murdered by men. In 2011, we ranked 5<sup>th</sup> nationally. (Violence Policy Institute, 2013).

Removal of firearms continues to be an ongoing systemic problem in DV cases. I raised this a few weeks ago in hopes of being able to craft local Ordinances to assist TPD in saving some lives. It's a State level matter though so until I can achieve a work-around with our City Attorney, we'll have to rely on the State to address it.

On Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> I'll be addressing the Coalition of Arizonans for Gun Safety over at the Martha Cooper Library (1377 N. Catalina Ave.) The purpose of the meeting is to talk about the upcoming election and how this issue might be something you'd want to use as a barometer in judging candidates. The meeting will begin at 6:30pm. It's free and open to the public. Come on over and participate in the conversation.

We at the Ward 6 office are deeply committed to touching the lives of victims we're seeing – regardless of their country of origin. We welcome your involvement, too.

#### **Alvernon/Grant Initiative**

And on that theme, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, the AGI group continues to meet. That's the coalition made up of the neighborhoods surrounding the Alvernon/Grant intersection. They've been extremely successful in getting their arms around crime of all sorts that occurred in that area of town. TPD and local businesses take part each time they meet. If you live in that general area, drop by and listen in. If you don't live in that area, I believe you'd really benefit by going and seeing how they've organized the community effort. I know TPD would be very willing to conduct similar forums in other areas of town.

The meetings are held at EMERGE, 2425 N. Haskell (west of the Walgreen's that's located at Grant and Alvernon.) They run from 6:30 until 7:30 in the evening, and they'll make room for you if you'd like to check them out.

## Revitalization/Reuse



One of the more expensive, and yet most important facets of the renovations and new construction I'm involved with in the Athletics Department is

structural capacity. Very simply put, if you build something that later collapses, it can cost lives.

I raise this issue here because we're seeing lots of reuse/renovation of existing

buildings, largely in the name of historic preservation, and largely in Ward 6 and downtown. I hear criticism from preservation proponents all the time about how we should lighten up and give a pass to structures that have historic significance. I heard it when we required sprinklers at the old Steinfeld's building, when we were considering the renovation of the Marist College, the Motor Lodge over on Stone Ave., and anticipate hearing it as we continue to move ahead with preservation of other older buildings.

The City has to take structural stability seriously. If we allow the reuse of an old building that's supported by rotted, or fire damaged wooden roof beams, and it comes down, we're a part of the cause. We are currently watching the renovation of Wig-o-Rama and the adjacent Grill building. I've asked the City to ensure we're taking the structural stability of both buildings into account – perhaps requiring steel beam support if we can't adequately analyze the existing wooden ones – as the buildings are renovated and repurposed. Here's a short video from Detroit that shows what can happen during a fire when the roof beams burn through – the collapse occurs at about 10 minutes into the You-Tube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZR2b55iguM>

On September 9<sup>th</sup> we'll be looking at the new Safe Harbor Ordinance that a large group of us have been working on for going on 2 years. The goal is to keep buildings up and operating before and during construction. Life/Safety is one of the factors that limited some of what we were able to consider. In a similar manner we're getting to the point in the Broadway design where we'll have to face design and structural considerations for some of the older buildings, and do a cost analysis of what it'll take to make them safe vs. looking at other options, including demolition. It'll be a tough conversation, but one we will have to take head-on when the time comes.

Tucson is always getting the “not business friendly” rap. I'll be the first to admit that sometimes we earn the label. What I'm pointing out here is that at other times the regulations we're enforcing are legitimate and are aimed at saving peoples' lives. It's a part of the balance we wrestle with so often in our revitalization/adaptive reuse/preservation conversations – often uniquely Ward 6 issues. The video needs to be kept in mind when we're working with both developers and preservation advocates, who by the way aren't always mutually exclusive groups of people...

Here's an event that we don't get a bad rap for hosting. It's one of our most heavily supported local, community based events and it's coming again in November. Cyclovia is a unique event that happens twice per year, and it takes place in different parts of town. It's a non-race, community based biking

Cyclovia  
TUCSON

event that will take place on “car-free” streets. The event is about social interaction in a non-competitive outdoor activity. And it is absolutely intended to give people from all over town the chance to explore parts of the City that they don’t usually get to. Here’s the route map for the fall event:



The route starts at Keeling school (Ward 3) and runs south onto 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Ward 6.) It’ll end in the Warehouse Arts District. The whole length is only 2.6 miles, so this is truly a chance for you to dust off your wheels and not think you need to go into any serious training regime in order to participate. The date is Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the event runs all day from 10am until 3pm.

You can bike, walk, run, skateboard...you just can’t drive. You can get more information by going to the Living Streets Alliance web site. Right now the push is to get volunteers and sponsors. For information on either of those, email to [gary@livingstreetsalliance.org](mailto:gary@livingstreetsalliance.org), or [kylie@livingstreetsalliance.org](mailto:kylie@livingstreetsalliance.org). Either of them can walk you through the process of getting involved at whatever level you’d like. It’s a block party that covers multiple blocks.

### TUSD Board Candidate Forum

In the midst of all the November election coverage is an election you might not have front and center, but is one that’s very important for the community. That’s the selection of two Board members to serve on the TUSD Governing Board for the next 4 years. There are 9 candidates competing for those two slots, so it’s worth your while to become familiar with them so your vote is informed.

Here are the nine who are running this time around:

- Adelita Grijalva - currently on the Board and has served since 2004. Has two kids in TUSD.
- Michael Hicks – also a current board member, has served since 2010. He has two kids in TUSD.
- Betts Putnam-Hidalgo – teaches part time, is active in the community and has a son in TUSD. She ran in ’12.
- Debe Campos-Fleener – owns a financial investment agency. She ran in ’12.
- Don Cotton – he’s self-employed and also ran in ’12. He has two kids in TUSD.
- Francis Saitta – an adjunct teacher @ PCC. An unsuccessful candidate in ’12 for the PCC Governing Board.
- Jenifer Darland – active in the community and has two kids in TUSD. This is her first political campaign.
- Miguel Cuevas - a former TUSD board member who served from ’08 until losing in the ’12 race. He works for AFNI.
- Rene Bernal - an applied software engineer at Honeywell. Also getting involved in a politi-

cal campaign for the first time.

On Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, St Mark's Presbyterian Church is hosting a candidate forum. It's scheduled to run from 6:30 until 8:30pm. Even if you don't have kids in TUSD, what the Governing Board does impacts the City and therefore impacts you and your quality of life. There's talk of shutting down more schools, and there are still several vacant ones waiting for some resolution. Both of those issues directly impact neighborhoods. The issues surrounding the desegregation ruling and how that's being addressed has financial implications for the District. These aren't unimportant positions that we'll be voting to fill. I hope you can find the time to attend, or in any event to do your homework on the candidates.

I haven't seen a format for the forum, but the one's I've attended in the past have opening statements followed by audience Q&A, and then closing statements. I suspect it'll be something like that.

St. Mark's is located at 3809 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. It'd be nice to see overflow parking.

Sincerely,



Steve Kozachik  
Council Member, Ward 6  
ward6@tucsonaz.gov

## Events Calendar

What's happening this week in the Downtown, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and Main Gate areas . . .



### TUCSON BIRTHDAY AT MISSION GARDENS

August 24, 2014 7:00AM-10:00AM

Mercado San Agustín 100 S. Avenida Del Convento

Friends of Tucson's Birthplace-Mission Garden is pleased to announce its annual fundraising breakfast to celebrate Tucson's 239th birthday, at Mercado San Agustin courtyard. Enjoy torta de huevo, chilaquiles, beans, pico de gallo fruit cup, flour and corn tortillas, mesquite muffins, coffee, tea, lemonade and horchata. After breakfast an antique bus will shuttle guests to Mission Garden for guided tours.

<http://www.tucsonsbirthplace.org/>

# HOCOFEST



Hotel Congress hosts HOCO Fest this Labor Day Weekend (August 29- August 31)! With HOCO Fest being the 10 Year Anniversary it's we are excited for 4 days of magical music ranging from Indie Rock-Latin-Hip Hop-Country Swing- Bluegrass... something for everyone!

<http://hotelcongress.com/events/august/>

## Ongoing . . . .

**Molly Sweeney** 5317 E Speedway Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85712  
July 24th - August 30<sup>th</sup> Every Sunday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Live Theater Workshop

Box office opens 6:30 PM; Curtain is 7:30 PM:

Sun, Box office opens 2:15 PM; Curtain is 3:00 PM

Molly Sweeney, blind since infancy is given a chance to see. This poetic play explores Molly's fantasies and expectations of how everything will change. This is a play about the limits of the human senses, at Live Theater Workshop.

<http://www.livetheatreworkshop.org/shows/main-now.html>

**Loft Cinema** 3233 E. Speedway

<http://www.loftcinema.com/>

**Arizona Theater Company** 330 S. Scott Avenue

Season begins September 13<sup>th</sup>

<http://www.arizonatheatre.org/>

**Rialto Theatre**, 318 E. Congress St.

<http://www.rialtotheatre.com/>

**The Rogue Theatre** at The Historic Y 300 East University Blvd

<http://www.therougetheatre.org/main.htm>

**Fox Theatre**, 17 W. Congress St.

<http://foxtucsontheatre.org/>

**Hotel Congress** 311 E. Congress St.

<http://hotelcongress.com/>

**Tucson Museum of Art**, 140 N. Main Ave.

[www.tucsonmuseumofart.org](http://www.tucsonmuseumofart.org)

**Jewish History Museum.** 564 S. Stone Ave.

The Jewish History Museum presents “Skullcaps and Schul Hats, focusing on two family collections of 1940’s head coverings. The museum urges you to visit and learn about the fading tradition of Schul Hats and and the enduring tradition of “Keeping the Kippot”, as well as Tucson Jewish history.

<http://www.jewishhistorymuseum.org/>

**Children's Museum Tucson,** 200 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturdays & Sundays: 10:00am - 5:00pm

<http://www.childrensmuseumtucson.org/>

**Arizona State Museum** 1013 E. University Blvd

November 9, 2013, through July 2015 Curtis Reframed: The Arizona Portfolios

<http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/>

**UA Mineral Museum** 1601 E University Blvd

Ongoing “ Years of Arizona’s Best: The Minerals that Made the State”

**Southern Arizona Transportation Museum** 414 N Toole Ave.

Explore regional transportation history, and see a freight trains passing by, or ring the locomotive bell at the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum every Saturday, year round.

Tuesday – Thursday, Sunday: 1100am - 3:00pm; Friday & Saturdays: 10:00am - 4:00pm

<http://www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org/>

**Sacred Machine Museum & Curiosity Shop** 245 E Congress St

<http://sacredmachine.com/>

**Meet Me at Maynards 311 E.** Congress (north entrance on Toole)

A social walk/run through the Downtown area

Every Monday, rain or shine, holidays too!

Hotel Congress Check-in begins at 5:15pm.

<http://www.meetmeatmaynards.com/>

**Tucson Botanical Gardens** 2150 N. Alvernon Way, Tucson, AZ 85712

<http://www.tucsonbotanical.org/>

**Cinema La Placita** 110 S. Church Avenue

Every Thursday evening at 7:30, May through August, hundreds of Tucsonans enjoy the cool summer evenings and a pleasant summertime event. \$3 per person includes pop-corn.

AUGUST 14<sup>th</sup> SILVER STREAK (1976) PG

Starring Gene Wilder, Richard Pryor, Jill Clayburgh, Ned Beatty and Patrick McGoohan.

On a long-distance train trip, a man finds romance but also finds himself in danger of being killed, or at least pushed off the train.

