

## Ward 6 Staff



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# Ward 6 Newsletter

## TUCSON FIRST

October 19, 2015

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### A Dose of Reality

I'm going to start off with a couple of pieces to help ground the rest of what follows in some reality. People lately have been getting twisted into knots over some pretty petty things. Others have been tossing personal attacks in the midst of our council campaigns. Let's all take a deep breath and bring all of this back to earth.



**Albert Elias, Sr.**  
(Photo Credit: PCDP)



### Important Phone Numbers

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

**Water Issues**  
791-3242/800-598-9449  
Emergency: 791-4133

**Street Maintenance**  
791-3154

**Graffiti Removal**  
792-2489

**Abandoned  
Shopping Carts**  
791-3171

**Neighborhood  
Resources**  
837-5013

**SunTran/SunLink**  
792-9222  
TDD: 628-1565

**Environmental  
Services**  
791-3171

**Park Wise**  
791-5071

**Planning and  
Development  
Services** 791-5550

**Pima Animal Care  
Center**  
724-5900

**Pima County Vector  
Control**  
Cockroach: 443-6501  
Mosquito: 243-7999

## Continued: A Message From Steve

Last week, we lost a true community icon. Albert Elias, Sr. passed away at the age of 86. He was always a champion of the underserved. He walked the talk, and remains an inspiration to us all.

You'll see one of his sons seated up front at each of our council meetings – Albert, Jr. He's one of our Assistant City Managers. He spent several years touching the needs in the community through his work in our Housing and Community Development Office.

You'll also see one of his sons seated up front at each Board of Supervisors meetings. Richard continues the legacy of Sr. through his work on behalf of those most in need in the region.

Albert, Sr. will be missed. And yet, what he modeled is still front and center in the public governance forums each time the city and county leadership meets.

### Francine Christophe

Watch this short video. It should leave you pretty much quiet and reflective when it ends. I won't try to add anything to it here.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXGfngjmwLA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXGfngjmwLA)

I've got a great staff. We don't do drama. Each of them attends multiple community meetings all week long. When I can, I accompany them. That's Planning Commission, Zoning Examiner, neighborhood association, historic commission, CCRC, MCRC, Broadway and Grant Road projects, as many of our Boards, Committees, Commissions as we can squeeze in, and plenty others. I can't make nearly all of them, but we believe it's important that we participate in the run-up to policy discussions by hearing the play-by-play that leads to decisions. These council jobs are very full time, if they're done correctly. I appreciate the commitment with which my co-workers at the ward office approach their jobs. And when I can, I'm proud to ride along and join them out in public and doing what we're elected to do – listen to the serious concerns of the community and try to blend them into good public policy.

Election time can get us off center. I hope this opening gives us each a moment to pause and find true north again, understanding that most of us are working towards the same goal; a better city that reflects the diverse set of voices we're comprised of.

### Health Screenings @ Ward 6

In the context of healthy bodies/healthy minds, we're going to join with the UA College of Pharmacy and Albertson's/Safeway and bring you a health fair on November 7<sup>th</sup>. From 1pm until 4pm, come to the Ward 6 office and we'll have people on-site to take you through a series of screenings and assessments. It's all free of charge.

The stations will include Blood Pressure/Hypertension, osteoporosis risk assessment, diabetes, asthma screenings, and information on prescription drug misuse/abuse.

The Pharmacy College is also going to be giving free flu shots. We're working with several groups to offer these to the un/underinsured in the area. We've met with people who do

monthly feedings for the needy, people who work with refugees in the area, and other similarly connected groups. The Albertson's/Safeway group wants to make the flu shots first available to those who may not otherwise have the means to get the vaccine.

Please join us on the 7<sup>th</sup> and take part in whichever of these health assessment areas most directly touches a need in your life. We're grateful to our partners at the UA, and at Albertson's/Safeway for helping to make this event possible.

### Safe Seniors Reminder

And similarly, the following week on 11/14, from 10am until 2pm is the Safe Senior's event that's being coordinated through TPD over at the La Quinta, two blocks north of Broadway on Alvernon.



Thanks again to TPD's midtown division for pulling this together. Seniors will hear about scams that are going on in the area, plus will have a chance to touch base with the Pima Council on Aging, Southern Arizona Legal Aid, the Community Food Bank and several more agencies who have programs geared towards our older residents. There will also be a prescription drug drop-off station at this event – open to you regardless of age.

Aside from our TPD and Sheriff sub-stations, Tucson doesn't have a regularly operating prescription drug disposal station. Last week I reached out to some health care providers to ask if we can work together to get them approved by the DEA. I'm still waiting to hear back. Until we get someone to step up and assist, here are the resources you have available for drug disposal:

### Disposal Events and Locations

#### Permanent Locations

- **Tucson Police Department Substations**  
Open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday
- **Southside Santa Cruz Substation** - 4410 South Park Avenue
- **Westside Police Service Center** - 1310 West Miracle Mile
- **Midtown Substation** - 1100 South Alvernon Way
- **Downtown Main Station** - 270 South Stone Avenue
- **Eastside Rincon Substation** - 9670 E Golflinks
- **Pima County Sheriff's Department Green Valley** - 601 N La Canada Dr
- **South Tucson Police Department** - 1601 S 6th Ave
- **Pima County Sheriff's Department Rincon District** - 8999 E. Tanque Verde Rd.

These are both very positive events we're proud to be helping to promote. It's this sort of thing, making us a stronger and more united community that we as council members should be giving our focus to.

### Blood Drive @ Ward 6

Later in the month, on November 20<sup>th</sup>, we'll be hosting an American Red Cross blood drive at the Ward office. The folks at ARC would prefer you pre-book so they have an idea of how many staffers and equipment to bring along. You can do that by going to their website



### Important Phone Numbers

Senator John McCain (R)  
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff Flake (R)  
520-575-8633

Congresswoman Martha McSally (R)  
(2<sup>nd</sup> District)  
(202) 225-2542  
Tucson Office: 520-881-3588

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

Governor Doug Ducey (R)  
602-542-4331  
Tucson office:  
520-628-6580

Mayor Jonathan Rothschild  
520-791-4201

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

at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). When you get there, click on 'Find a Blood Drive.' Type in ward6 (no space) and you'll see Ward 6 Council Office. That's where you click to make your appointment.

The drive will run from 11am until about 3pm. If you have any problems getting pre-booked, you can call Caroline at our office at 791.4601. As I mentioned at the Palo Verde neighborhood association annual meeting last week, we did the dogs, now we're working for healthy people.

### **Emerge! Center for Domestic Abuse**

Let's do another item on things that really matter, and how we address them. This week's update on the October focus on eliminating domestic abuse speaks to how we define 'safety.' You don't need to rush to a dictionary. The folks at Emerge! have this working definition from which they operate: "a life free from abuse." That includes emotional, physical, financial – any condition that puts a person in the place of feeling unsafe and therefore suffering from uncertainty and anxiety. Their call for community involvement is captured in this graphic:



Emerge! points out that their work in helping people who have been affected by providing access to services is only a part of the solution. The rest involves others within the community becoming educated about just how prevalent the various forms of abuse are, and being willing to be a public voice in support of victims.

It's estimated that one in four women will suffer from domestic abuse in their lifetimes. Both the victims and the abusers are all around us in the workplace, among our friends, and in some cases in our own families. Intervention is key. And intervening doesn't require a higher education degree in some form of therapy. Take a

moment and check out the Emerge! website to learn what your role can be. You can best intervene by:

1. Learning how to [identify the signs](#) of abuse
2. Knowing the available [community resources](#)
3. [Offering help](#) to someone suffering from domestic abuse

You can also help create a safe community that does not tolerate abuse in the following ways:

1. **Speak up** by clearly and frequently verbalizing our intolerance for abusive and coercive behaviors
2. **Set an example** by role-modeling [healthy and respectful relationships](#) and gender roles for men and women
3. Helping those who use abusive behavior to **get the support they need to become safe and healthy partners**

And this Friday, 10/23, from 7am until 5pm, you'll have the opportunity to donate goods in support of DV victims. The former Walgreen's, next to the Bookman's at Campbell and Grant will be the donation site. Again, another chance for you to touch lives – and in the heart of Ward 6. Call Emerge! at 795.8001 and they can give you a full rundown on the sorts of items they're most in need of.

Another set of examples of things that really matter, and that we as members of the council should be giving focus to.

### **Education**

We have several members of the State Legislature, as well as other leaders from a variety of spheres throughout the region sharing their thoughts on the importance of a fully funded education system. On Wednesday, 10/21 at Catalina Magnet School (in the heart of Ward 6, Palo Verde neighborhood) from 7pm until 8:30pm you can hear and participate in a panel discussion related to the future of K-12 education in Arizona. You'll hear how cuts to the education budget have affected real families in our school system – locally. And you'll hear some action points – how you can help turn around the evident misplaced priorities coming from the State legislature.

If you go, you'll be hearing from people you've elected to the legislature to carry this message forward. Those will include:

#### Legislators

Senator Steve Farley  
 Senator Katie Hobbs  
 Senator David Bradley  
 Senator Andrea Dalessandro  
 Representative Eric Meyer  
 Representative Friese,  
 Representative Gabaldon  
 Representative Saldade  
 Representative Otondo  
 Representative Fernandez  
 Representative Gonzales  
 Representative Mach

And you'll hear from a diverse set of other community leaders, including:

Dick Foreman- ABEC (tentative)  
 Steve Zylstra - AZ Technology Council  
 Mike Varney - Metro Tucson Chamber  
 Nicole Brule-Fisher - Tucson Association of Realtors  
 TBD - AZ Charter Schools Association  
 Alex Jacome - Pima County JTED Board  
 Jason Freed - Tucson Education Association  
 HT Sanchez - TUSD and Pima County Superintendent's Collaborative  
 A parent - Chosen by PCIC, single mom of four kids, attends Pima Community College

I've stated before that when we're putting more money into the budget for prisons, and reducing allocations for various levels of education, it's an example of misplaced priorities.

The people I've listed above are giving focus to things that are important. We have too much going on that matters to allow ourselves to get twisted up during election seasons by the things that too often cloud the discussions we should be having.

### **Prisons / Truth in Sentencing**

Last week, Alison and I met at the Ward office with a group composed of people representing the State legislature, academia, non-profit service providers, the business community and advocates for reforming sentencing laws in Arizona. I suspect most people are like me: not totally up to speed on the statutory requirements imposed on judges. In Arizona, people convicted of criminal offenses must serve 85% of their sentence. The result is that we have the 6<sup>th</sup> highest incarceration rate in the U.S. and the highest of any western state. The cost of our Department of Corrections is over \$1B annually. When I said up above that we're misplacing our fiscal priorities, this is an example. And it's another example of issues we should be focused on, not the trivia that have people in a mental lock-down during the campaigns.

Here's a brief list of people who have spoken out in favor of changing our sentencing approach so that it includes options for diversion, home arrest, or other strategies that allow non-violent offenders to keep their lives together, while reducing our prison costs: Governor Jan Brewer, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, no-tax advocate Grover Norquist, Texas Governor Rick Perry and after last week's meeting, we now have the ear of people who even serve in the Arizona legislature. Note that that list isn't what you'd call a group of far-left '*bleeding hearts*' but in fact reflect a pretty conservative end of the political spectrum. We over towards the left of these people are already on board supporting sentencing reform.

Our current laws have resulted in the State 'needing' to fund more prison beds. That benefits the private prison industry with a perverse incentive to incarcerate more people in order to fund their contracts. Under Arizona laws, people who are convicted of non-violent offenses make up over one half of all State prisoners. The picture I'm painting this week is of the need for us to focus on the important issues we can and need to make changes in. Earlier I said my staff isn't into drama. I'll add that we're committed to taking on these important topics. That takes up plenty of our time.

If you'd like to hear more about how to engage the whole private prison discussion, there'll be a presentation offered on Saturday, 10/24 from 6pm until 8pm at the Armory Park Senior Center. You'll hear how you may be supporting that industry through your investments and mutual funds. The general theme of the evening will be how individuals can engage in economic activism. Also on display at the event will be a unique collection of historic posters depicting a variety of boycott campaigns. They'll include the United Farm Workers grape and lettuce boycotts, disinvestment related to apartheid-era South Africa, the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and others. The Senior Center is located at 220 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It's an opportunity for you to hear some easy ways that you can make a difference.

### **Education**

So what are we doing at the City level to counter the State cuts to the education system? One example is an agreement we've struck with Pima College to help fund a readiness program focused on adult education.

It's called the Bridge to Career and College Program. The goal is to serve 120 students at

three different adult learning centers throughout the city. The program consists of teaching soft skills such as computer literacy, study skills, and career exploration. Also included is bringing the students up to speed on content-based subject matter so they can pass a high school equivalency exam. Students in the program come in testing at or below 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

We talk about preparing a trained workforce for prospective employers. The City doesn't run the school system, but we are directly engaged in supporting efforts like this to assist when we're able to. The BCC Program anticipates 60% of their students will improve their grade standing by 2.4 grade levels by the time they exit the program. They also expect 30% to complete a PCC placement test, and 100% will show an increase in college readiness through pre/post testing.

Workers in Arizona who have a Bachelor's degree earn on average \$20K more than somebody who hasn't completed high school. We've put into place incentives to attract high wage employers. With programs such as BCC, we're also working on the pipeline, to do what isn't already being done in some measure to funding reductions from the State. We see the costs of those policy decisions in other social programs. Note this graph, provided by the Fair Share Education Fund. It shows Tucson with over 40% of our students eligible for reduced-price lunches. That's a function of income.

**Table 6. Smallest Increases in Total Eligibility for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch by State (among top 100 CBSAs for total public school enrollment 2012-13)\***

CBSA	Percentage of all enrolled students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, 2006-07	Percentage of all enrolled students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, 2012-13	Eligibility change (percentage points)
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana CA	56%	56%	0
New York-Newark-Edison NY-NJ-PA	42%	44%	2
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara CA	34%	37%	3
Visalia-Porterville CA	70%	73%	3
Tucson AZ	37%	42%	5
Corpus Christi TX	57%	63%	5
Louisville KY-IN	47%	53%	6
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor OH	29%	35%	6
Buffalo-Cheektowaga-Tonawanda NY	36%	42%	6
Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers AR-MO	48%	54%	6

If you'd like to sign on with Fair Share and send the message to the State that they need to reprioritize what's being funded, go to [fairshareonline.org](http://fairshareonline.org) and you can check out their work. This is an issue that cuts across the geography of the city. You have kids in your neighborhood who likely qualify for lunch assistance. That means the whole community has a vested interest in promoting workforce training, and educational attainment. We at the Ward 6 office are doing what we can to help get the word out about these sorts of issues. They matter.

### Our Water Future

Here's a forum that I won't be able to make, but someone from my staff will be participating. As I say, I can't make them all, but our office gets around to take part in the important issues we face as a community.

On Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, The Central Arizona Project, along with the Water Resources Research Center and the UA College of Agriculture and Life Sciences will present a forum called "Sustainable Water for Southern Arizona: Current Conditions and Future Prospects." The meeting will take place downtown in Ward 6 at the Leo Rich Theater.

This free regional discussion will include presentations from representatives of the CAP and the ADWR. Then a panel discussion will follow. That part will be moderated by Sharon Megdal, Director of the Water Resource Center. I say this often: we have two main issues for which we're responsible from a stewardship standpoint. One is the budget, and the other is our water future. Amy from my office participates in regular meetings with our Citizen Water Advisory Committee, our Landscape Advisory Committee, the Climate

Change Committee, and we're together in frequent contact with our Tucson Water staff to talk about issues ranging from their own budget to things such as our rebate and conservation programs. Most of those advisory committee meetings aren't held at times I can attend, but we've got a very good system at Ward 6 where whichever staff person attends shares with the rest of us the high points of each meeting. I still believe it's important for me to go along with her (and the others) to as many as I can, but they're going with or without me, and in so doing we stay connected with these key issues.

I'll include the flyer related to the Leo Rich presentation. Hearing from and interacting with the experts on this topic has great value both from an educational standpoint and as a way to share your own perspectives. Policy makers need to hear from the public.

*Please Join Us For*

## Sustainable Water for Southern Arizona: Current Conditions and Future Prospects

An important regional discussion about our most critical natural resource and its impact on our economy, environment, and way of life.

Sponsored by  
CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT and the  
WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER  
University of Arizona College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

*In partnership with Southern Arizona Leadership Council,  
Southern Arizona Water Users Association, and KXCI Radio*

**Friday, November 6, 2015**  
**7:30 am – 11:00 am**

**Free & Open to the Public**  
Leo Rich Theater at the Tucson Convention Center  
*Free parking at the Tucson Convention Center*

**RSVP to [wrrc@email.arizona.edu](mailto:wrrc@email.arizona.edu)**  
**Or call (520) 621-4311**

**AGENDA**

**7:30 am - Registration and Continental Breakfast**  
*(Courtesy of SALC and SAWUA)*

**8:00-8:10 am - Welcome:** Lisa A. Atkins,  
*President, Central Arizona Project Board of Directors*

**8:10-8:30 am - Keynote Speaker:** Tom Buschatzke,  
*Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources*

**8:30-10:00 am - Panel and Discussion**  
Moderator: Sharon Megdal, *Director, Water Resources Research Center,  
University of Arizona, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences*

Featuring perspectives from  
Arizona Department of Water Resources  
•  
BKW Farms  
•  
Central Arizona Project  
•  
Community Water Coalition  
•  
Pima County  
•  
Southern Arizona Water Users Association  
•  
Tucson Regional Water Coalition  
•  
Tucson Water  
•  
Water Resources Research Center

## Guns and Roads

Two issues in which I get directly involved as often as I can are gun safety and the condition of our roads. First, guns.

Last week I shared some bi-partisan legislation that is being suggested at the Federal level. It's not perfect, but it would provide increased opportunities for people suffering from mental illness to receive treatment, and it'd allow law enforcement better access to information related to a person's mental health background so they'd know whether or not a person they encounter is, or is not a prohibited possessor of weapons. What the bill does not do is expand background checks, nor does it address the issue of straw gun purchases (buying a gun for somebody else when you know they're legally prohibited to own one). I've advocated, and the M&C have followed my lead on both of those issues.

Last month we adopted a memorial in support of the Brady Code of Conduct. Embedded in that code are provisions that deal with the expanded background check issue. We saw with the recent South Carolina shootings at the AME church just how important background checks are. Also included in the memorial was a call on the Federal Attorney General to crack down on straw purchases. Last week we saw just how important the straw purchase piece is.



(Photograph: Keith Srakocic/AP)

A Wisconsin jury awarded two police officers nearly \$6M in damages in a ruling that said gun store employees were negligent in not stopping a straw purchase. This is the first such award, and should serve as a wake-up call to the local gun dealers who took on an attitude last year when I tried to get them to voluntarily offer to their workers the BATF-sponsored (free) training on how to spot a straw purchase. We've got to find these seemingly easy areas in which to work together on this hard topic.

The Wisconsin case involved Badger Gun Store. Authorities said that more than 500 firearms they had recovered from crime scenes had been traced back to Badger. In fact, the statement was that the store had "failed miserably" to protect the public when it sold a gun to a guy who was clearly buying it for somebody else. That "somebody else" ended up shooting two police officers in the face not long after the sale. I might add that Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker had signed into state law two bills that make access to firearms easier. One eliminated a 48 hour waiting period (aren't we asking women to sit through a waiting period before they get an abortion?) and the other allowed retired cops to carry guns into schools.

I believe Walker was wrong in both cases. And for our local gun dealers to push back from free training that teaches how to avoid a Wisconsin-like straw purchase that ends up nearly murdering two cops only serves to demonstrate how divisive this issue really is. You'll con-

tinue to see me and my staff at meetings in support of responsible gun safety laws.

And one more note. The local gun stores also refused when I suggested posting in their stores a crisis hotline phone number so they could redirect customers to seek help when it was clear they posed a threat to themselves. I'll just share this video and let it speak to the issue itself: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lgD9AlxZxNE>.

**Road Repair**

For 6 years you've heard me speak in favor of new funding sources for road repair. The one I continue to propose is an increase in our RTA sales tax, earmarked to fixing our decaying road system. It has only been recently that others seem to be joining in suggesting allowing the voters a chance to vote on that question.

This month though, the PAG/RTA went ahead and included some encouraging steps forward related to fixing the roads. It seems we've finally come to consensus that we cannot ignore pavement preservation any longer.

PAG puts together a long range regional transportation plan. It's required by the Feds because we take some money from Washington and they mandate seeing how it's going to be spent. We're required to update that plan every 4 years. The report contains a list of the projects proposed for funding. Here's one that was hidden deep in the list:

232.08	Pavement Preservation and Reconstruction	Regionwide	Maintain and Repair Roadway Pavement	Regional	\$ 3,180,000
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That's \$3.1B being recommended for regional road repair. That shouldn't be hidden in a report. It should be a front-page, above the fold headline for you to see.

Something else you should be made aware of is that our gas tax projections are headed back in the right direction: up. Here's a table that appeared in the 120 page report issued last week by PAG/RTA:

**HURF Distributions in the PAG Region: July -August**

Funds	Actual FY 2016	Estimated FY 2016	% of Estimate	Compared to FY 2015	Compared to 5 year Average
Marana	\$403,887	\$377,604	+7.0%	+2.9%	+19.3%
Oro Valley	\$473,661	\$444,863	+6.5%	+2.9%	+14.2%
Sahuarita	\$291,860	\$271,123	+7.7%	+2.9%	+25.2%
South Tucson	\$65,135	\$61,464	+6.0%	+2.9%	+13.1%
Tucson	\$7,302,512	\$6,879,049	+6.2%	+3.0%	+13.2%
Pima County (HURF)	\$6,622,579	\$6,223,636	+6.4%	+2.9%	+13.4%
Pima County (VLT)*	\$2,222,587	\$2,104,572	+5.6%	+5.0%	+10.3%
HURF 12.6%*	N/A	\$3,445,290	N/A	N/A	N/A
HURF 2.6%*	N/A	\$731,675	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regional Total*	\$21,559,186	\$20,539,276	+5.0%	+3.4%	+13.9%

That's not going to cure our potholes, but its good news that I feel you should know about. But, in order to be able to share it, one has to invest the time reading the report. I did, so I'm happy to share with you the data.

I'm going to keep returning to the subtext of this newsletter that we have critically important issues on which we should be focused, even during an election season. Ignorant and offensive robo calls, and people worried about how my staff pays for their gas really haven't even got a place in the back seat of what we should be working on – together – to improve our City. We'll keep doing the stuff at our office, though. If others want to get absorbed in that other stuff, we hope they have fun with it. Our phone lines are always open if people would like to work in a collaborative spirit on these issues.

### **Vamos a Tucson Mexican Baseball Fiesta**

Here's an event we did have fun with, and that we're proud of hosting in Ward 6. And both Paul and Richard should be proud of having supported it, too.

About a month ago, Alison took part in the kick-off for the Fiesta. Hi Corbett Field is located adjacent to one of her neighborhoods (Colonia Solana) so it was important for her to hear the details of the event. This is one at which I was able to join with her. In fact, Paul, Richard and I each took time at the mic inviting the event to Tucson, and speaking to the importance of it to the local economy.

The economic impact was validated last week when the Visit Tucson folks shared with me this year's attendance reports. I had requested them as a follow up to the event, wanting to see how the move from Kino to Hi Corbett went.

The October 3<sup>rd</sup> crowd was the largest single-day attendance we've seen in the five years the event has been staged. Over the four days of the event, well over 12,000 fans attended. That means hotel room nights, outings to local restaurants, car rentals in some cases, and a general boost to our very important tourism economy.

Many thanks to Brent DeRaad and Felipe Garcia from Visit Tucson for their hard work in pulling this event together. Also, Mike Feder and Angel Natal were keys to both the initial idea of the event, and to bringing it to midtown.

City Council jobs should be about making this a better place to live. A part of that is working to improve our cross-border relations, and improve our local economy. The baseball fiesta was both of those. And as for the move to Hi Corbett, and the possibility of doing it again at that site, all I have to say is "*let's play two.*"

### **The November Election**

There is one election-related item that's important to clarify. Last weekend I received my City voter information booklet in the mail. I had already voted several days earlier. In addition, a constituent had asked me if anything explaining the Charter Changes and other City ballot measures would be coming. It seemed odd that we'd get ballots before the pamphlets explaining the items on which we were voting.

I looked up the State laws regarding sending voting materials. It's under Chapter 19 of the ARS. Here's a quote of what I found:

*B. Distribution of pamphlets shall be made to every household containing a registered voter in the city or county, so far as possible, by the city or town clerk or by the county officer in charge of elections by mail before the earliest date for receipt by registered voters of any requested early ballot for the election at which the measures are to be voted on. If the pamphlet is not mailed before the earliest date for receipt of a requested early ballot, the officer*

*in charge of elections shall provide a notice with the early ballots stating when the pamphlets will be mailed and where and when the pamphlets may be accessed or viewed. Pamphlets shall not be mailed or carried less than ten days before the election at which the measures are to be voted upon.*

Well, we didn't do any of that. My concern was that the election could be subject to challenge. Checking with our City Attorney's office, I learned that it in fact can be challenged, but that would have to occur prior to the election, not after. And the only parts of the ballot that can be challenged are the Charter Changes, our pay increases and the Red Light Camera proposition. I further learned that a pre-emptive challenge to any of those based on our educational pamphlet having gone out a few days after the ballots would be a pretty heavy lift for anyone to prevail in. And why would they bother before knowing whether or not their position had won or lost at the ballot box?

As far as I know, the only local media who picked this up was the online Tucson Sentinel.

The City's vendor botched this. We had all of the information to them in a timely manner. If anybody has a notion to file a challenge, they'd pretty much look foolish, would waste taxpayer money, and would probably lose.

Why am I sharing this then? Because it's yet another example of how I and my staff are digging into issues on your behalf, looking for answers, and sharing the fruit of that work with you in an open and timely manner. That's why you hired us.

#### **Closing with some fun stuff**

Last Friday evening, my bride and I went to the wet and still very well attended Zoocson out at Reid Park Zoo. Each time I go to one of their events I'm reminded of the hard work done in support of that regional asset by the docents, volunteers, Zoological Society members, and of course our City staff. If you missed Zoocson, there's another chance for you to visit the zoo at another family friendly event.



This Friday, 10/23, and through the weekend, the zoo will host a safe trick-or-treating event called Howl-o-Ween. Our new Ward 6 partner Banner Diamond Children Center is the presenting sponsor. There'll be costumed characters, lots of decorations, and a variety of activities for the kids.

The event begins at 6pm each of the three nights. If you're a Zoo member, you can get a 30-minute jump on the crowd, though. Tickets will be sold at the gate, or you can pick them up ahead of time by going to this zoo link: <http://bit.ly/1MoTvvz>. There are events out at the Reid Park Zoo on a regular basis. Google Reid Park Zoo and you'll easily find what's going on out there.

### **Hermitage Cat Shelter**

Another Ward 6 partner is hosting their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a gala out at the Westin La Paloma on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. The event will run from 5pm until 8pm.

The Hermitage is in the middle of a capital campaign. The purpose of it is to fund some much needed renovations. Right now, they're stuffed to the gills with kittens and cats. The renovations won't expand the footprint of the building, but it'll remodel the interior so they can increase capacity.

In case you're unfamiliar with their work, the Hermitage was the first no-kill, cage free shelter in the State of Arizona. They house approximately 170 cats, most of which are rescued from the euthanasia list at Pima Animal Care Center, the Pinal County Animal Care & Control Center, and even from way up in Maricopa County. Their adoption rate is 75%, and Hermitage is one of only about 20 shelters in the nation that rescues and re-homes "special needs" kittens and cats.

KGUN9 morning anchor Liz Kotalik will be moderating the gala. It's of course something you're invited to. I'll be joined by the Mayor in sharing a few words. The most important speaker though will be Shane Burgess, VP of Veterinary Sciences and Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the UA (also Ward 6).

To get more information on the gala, check out this link: [www.hermitagecatshelter.org](http://www.hermitagecatshelter.org). It'd be fun to see you out there.

Sincerely,



Steve Kozachik,  
Council Member, Ward 6  
[ward@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:ward@tucsonaz.gov)

## Events and Entertainment

### **Fall Open Studio Tour Season**

**Art Trails | October 24 – 25, 2015 | [ArtTrails.org](http://ArtTrails.org)**

**Heart of Tucson Arts | October 31 – November 1, 2015 | [HeartofTucsonArt.info](http://HeartofTucsonArt.info)**

**TPAC Open Studio Tour | November 14 – 15, 2015 | [TPACOST.org](http://TPACOST.org)**

A collaboration between Tucson Pima Arts Council and two new artist-led tours has initiated the inaugural Fall Open Studio Tour Season. Art Trails, Heart of Tucson Art (HOTA), and TPAC's Open Studio Tour are three unique individual events that invite the public to tour the studios of artists from all over Pima County. Each event spans a different weekend, allowing the public more opportunities to participate this Fall. HOTA will focus on highlighting artists located in midtown Tucson, while Art Trails is a tour for studios in West and Northwest Tucson. TPAC's Open Studio Tour will feature artists studios from all over Tucson and Pima County.

### **Immortality: Downtown Lecture Series**

**Wednesdays, October 14 – November 11, 2015, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm**

**Fox Tucson Theater, 17 W Congress**

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences is pleased to present this year's Downtown Lecture Series on "Immortality" at the historic Fox Tucson Theatre. In the series, five faculty explore how our beliefs in life beyond death shape our human experience. For more information on how to get tickets or where to park, please visit [downtownlectures.arizona.edu](http://downtownlectures.arizona.edu).

### **The Loft Film Fest 2015**

**Wednesday, October 21 – Sunday, October 25, 2015**

**The Loft Cinema, 3233 E Speedway Blvd**

Celebrating its sixth year in 2015, The Loft Film Fest is dedicated to showcasing the best independent, foreign and classic films, as well as celebrating the work of established and emerging directors, writers, producers and actors. Tickets and more information at: [loftcinema.com/event/loft-film-fest2015/](http://loftcinema.com/event/loft-film-fest2015/).



# 10WEST ART WALK

Meet Artists, Innovators,  
Residents, Urbanites,  
Fashionistas, Brewers,  
Skaters, & Historians.

The 10West Art Walk will  
provide you with an epic  
experience to learn about  
Tucson's growing creative  
community.

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY:**

- RetroGrade
- Xpanded Universe
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- Borderlands
- William Olguin (Pursue Studio)
- Galactic Center
- Solar Culture
- Ed Flores Photography
- Franklin Lot
- Steinfeld
- Conrad Wilde Gallery
- #WhyILoveWhereILive
- KXCI
- Startup Tucson
- WAMO
- RepTuc
- Tanline Print Shop

**OCT 24TH**  
**5PM - MIDNIGHT**

**WWW.10WEST.CO/ART**

## Ongoing . . . .

**The Rogue Theatre** at The Historic Y, 300 E University Blvd  
Presenting "Hamlet" and "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead" by Tom Stoppard in rotating repertory from October 15 through November 22.

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

**Mission Garden**, 929 W Mission Ln  
Saturdays 8 am – 12 pm, April to November; 12 pm – 4 pm, December to March  
A re-creation of the Spanish Colonial walled garden that was part of Tucson's historic San Agustin Mission. *For guided tours call 520-777-9270 and leave message.*

**Children's Museum Tucson**, 200 S 6<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturday & Sunday: 10:00am - 5:00pm

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

**Tucson Botanical Gardens**, 2150 N Alvernon Way  
September 11, 2015 – January 3, 2016: "Nature Connects, Art with LEGO Bricks"

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

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

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

**Fox Theatre**, 17 W Congress St

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

**Hotel Congress**, 311 E Congress St

[hotelcongress.com](http://hotelcongress.com)

**Rialto Theatre**, 318 E Congress St

[www.rialtotheatre.com/](http://www.rialtotheatre.com/)

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

[www.statemuseum.arizona.edu](http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu)

**Arizona Theater Company**, 330 S Scott Ave

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

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

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

**Meet Me at Maynards**, 311 E Congress St (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.

[www.MeetMeatMaynards.com](http://www.MeetMeatMaynards.com)