

Ward 6 Staff



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Ward 6 - Newsletter

TUCSON FIRST

January 28, 2013

New Legislation from Phoenix

At about this time for the past three years, I've begun to report on some bills that are being dropped up in Phoenix / not yet signed into law, but some that bear watching. I'm very much looking forward to seeing the Film Incentive Bill come forward, but this week it was four others that caught my eye.

You'll recall that the January 8th gun buy-back that I organized was the voluntary surrender of a firearm over to TPD – they ran identification checks on the serial numbers, and for those that were not lost or stolen, they destroyed the guns / at the request of the owners who brought them forward with that in mind.

In direct response to that event, **HB2455** has been proposed by Representatives Barton, Kwasman, Livingston, Montenegro, Smith, Stevens, Thorpe, Allen, Borrelli, Fann, Gowan, Lesko, Mitchell, Olson, and Shope, and by Senators McGuire, Murphy.

The purpose of the bill is to prohibit people from conducting gun buy-backs and allowing TPD or any other law enforcement agency from disposing of the guns. Here's how they achieve it:

This is language from the proposed bill:

3. Found property"means recovered, lost, surrendered or abandoned property that is turned over to a public agency where the owner may or may not be known and that is not classified as evidence.

Then, if the property isn't returned to its original owner after thirty days, this language kicks in:

if the property is a firearm, the agency shall sell the firearm to any business that is authorized to receive and dispose of the firearm under federal and state law and that shall sell the firearm to the public according to federal and state law,

If it's signed into law, the January 8th gun buy-back will be the last one in which guns can be taken out of circulation in that manner. If you don't agree, write to the sponsors of the bill.

The other bill that was dropped last week is HB2291. The sponsors are Representa-



Important Phone Numbers

Tucson Police
Department
911 or 791-4444
nonemergency
Mayor & Council
Comment Line
791-4700
Neighborhood
Resources
791-4605
Park Wise
791-5071
Water Issues
791-3242
Pima County Animal
Control
243-5900
Street Maintenance
791-3154
Planning and
Development
Services 791-5550
Southwest Gas
889-1888
Gas Emergency/
Gas Leaks
889-1888
West Nile Virus
Hotline
243-7999
Environment
Service
791-3171
Graffiti Removal
792-2489
AZ Game & Fish
628-5376

Continued: A Message From Steve

tives Smith, Kwasman, Seel, Stevens, and Thorpe. In a nutshell it says that the State isn't going to allow Federal gun laws from being enforced in Arizona. State law is felt to trump Federal law (sounds a bit inconsistent when compared to the Home Rule Memorial we sent to them asking for local control to be given back to us here in Tucson.)

Under that bill, any public employee, or any federally licensed dealer is prohibited from enforcing, or attempting to enforce any "act, law, statute, rule or regulation of the United States government relating to a personal firearm, a firearm accessory or ammunition that is owned or manufactured commercially or privately in this State..." Conviction can be a Class 6 felony. It applies to "any officer or employee of this State or any political subdivision of this State, including legislators and judges, and any person who participates, as juror, witness, advisor, consultant or otherwise in performing a government function." On February 5th, I still intend to ask Mayor and Council to adopt the requirement that private gun sales occurring on City property have background checks prior to the sale.

While the State legislators tell us that we cannot take a firearm out of circulation, even in cases of private citizen's asking for that to occur with their own private property (what ever happened to civil liberties?) and the State also saying that in Arizona, we don't recognize Federal gun laws, with the Mayor and Council's agreement we'll be telling the State that we are going to require background checks when private sales occur on our property.

Stay tuned. This legislative session is just beginning.

...a few stats that validate the background checks:

Findings from a Pew Center survey:

- 85% of respondents support background checks for private and gun show sales
- 40% of all gun sales take place either at gun shows or via the internet and are currently exempt from background check requirements
- 58% support a ban on semi-automatic weapons
- 54% support bans on high-capacity ammunition clips
- 53% support a ban on on-line sales of ammunition

Back in 2011, fifteen days after the Giffords shooting here in Tucson, private investigators entered a Phoenix gun show and made a series of person to person purchases without background checks. In at least two of those buys, the agent told the seller that he would probably not pass a background check if one were conducted.

Our Legislature evidently thinks that's just swell.

And this quote from the January 25th NRA newsletter: NRA does NOT support universal background checks.

HB2293 – ok, so background checks are bad when it comes to firearms. But this bill, sponsored by those same Kwasman, Seel, Smith and Thorpe, will require hospitals to ask



Important Phone Numbers

Senator John
McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jon Kyl (R)
520-575-8633

Congressman
Ron Barber (D)
(8th District)
520-881-3588

Congressman
Raul Grijalva (D)
(7th District)
520-622-6788

Governor Janice
Brewer (R)
Governor of Arizona
602-542-4331

Toll free:
1-800-253-0883

State Legislators

Toll Free
Telephone:
1-800-352-8404
Internet:
www.azleg.gov

Mayor Jonathan
Rothschild
791-4201

City Infoguide
[http://
cms3.tucsonaz.gov/
infoguide](http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/infoguide)

status questions of all patients coming into emergency rooms for care. Here's the language:
36-415. Hospitals; patients; verification and reporting requirements; immunity

A. If a person who seeks or is receiving emergency or nonemergency medical care at a hospital cannot provide valid health insurance information, the hospital admissions officer or representative must reasonably confirm during the course of the person's admission or treatment that the person is a citizen of the United States, a legal resident of the United States or lawfully present in the United States.

B. If the admissions officer or representative after making a reasonable attempt cannot verify the patient's citizenship, legal status or lawful presence as required pursuant to subsection a of this section, the admissions officer or representative, or a person not directly involved in administering the patient's actual medical care, must immediately contact the local federal immigration office or a local law enforcement agency to report the incident.

I understand that hospitals need to be cost conscious. But admissions personnel aren't ICE agents. The role of hospitals is to provide patient care. Similarly last term, the Legislature wanted school officials to be making status checks and turning information over to ICE.

I heard Smith being interviewed and saying that this is only a data collection bill. Evidently he hasn't read Section B of the bill he's sponsoring.

Birding / Raptor Protection Program



TEP is hosting a community presentation about a Raptor Protection Program that's being presented by researchers from the UA. Generically, these are birds of prey, including vultures, owls, hawks, and falcons, among others.

The program will take place at the Sabbar Shrine Temple out at 450 S. Tucson Blvd on Thursday, February 7th from 6pm until 7:30pm.

Bill Mannan, a UA Phd in Wildlife and Fisheries Science is going to share data that has been collected for over a decade. The data demonstrates that properly installed bird guards on equipment in the vicinity of active raptor nest sites can reduce electric hazards to the birds. Thus, the TEP tie-into the program.

They'll have at least one live Harris hawk and a live great horned owl at the presentation (brought in from the Desert Museum,) and they'll also teach about the hunting and nesting habits of birds of prey.

The reason for this presentation being co-sponsored by the UA and TEP is simply that raptors commonly use utility poles for perching and hunting. That exposes them to risks of electrocution. I see these birds all around while out running or riding. They're quite striking, and TEP deserves kudos for bringing this research to the public's attention.

The seminar is free and open to the public. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Business Development Workshop

Next Wednesday, February 6th, we're joining the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Bill Roach in presenting a business development workshop at the Ward 6 office. The program will begin at 4pm and should last about 2 hours.

The workshop will walk prospective (or current) small business operators through the various considerations that need to be thought out and planned when opening a business. They'll focus on considering supply chains to drive down costs, talk about pricing strategies, customer identification and marketing strategies, financing, generating revenue streams, plus a whole lot more.

This program has been offered at a few other Tucson locations and each time it has been well received. There are plenty of traditional models that people can follow for opening their own business (or expanding an existing one) but this is a bit outside of the intuitive box and may be of value to those of you who are thinking through expansion, or starting up a business. Come on by and get acquainted with what the THCC and Bill are offering. It might be of value to you in some current or future decision making.

For more information please contact: Bill Roach 520-878-6372

Bill@TucsonHispanicChamber.org

UA Baseball

The start of the 2013 Arizona baseball season is less than a month away. Individual game tickets will go on sale for all Arizona home games beginning Feb. 1.



I suspect I don't have to remind anybody, but the 2012 Arizona baseball team won the national championship in their inaugural season out at Hi Corbett. (Photos by Patrick McArdle/UANews)

The defending national champion 'Cats will open their home season on Feb. 15 against Coppin State. Season tickets in reserved areas are already sold out (renewals,) but seats are available in the general admission seating areas, which include the grandstands behind the first base (Wildcats) and third base (visitors) dugouts. There are a variety of ticket purchase options, so call the UA ticket office on or after the 1st @ 621.CATS and they can walk you through what's available.

There will be a Meet the Team Day on Feb. 2nd at Hi Corbett Field. The gates will open at 10 a.m. for batting practice, followed by an intra-squad scrimmage at noon and a post-game autograph session with head coach **Andy Lopez** and the 2013 Arizona baseball

team. This is a free event – all general admission seating. They'll be giving out schedule cards, posters and will have the ticket office people there to take ticket orders.

On opening day (Feb. 15) there will be a promotion with a special National Championship recognition night. The first 3,000 fans in attendance will receive a commemorative 2012 national championship rally towel, and there will be a postgame fireworks show.

We've got a 38 game home schedule this year. You can see it by going to www.arizonawildcats.com.

Greyhound Racing

This is the text of a bill that has been dropped in the State House – HB2329:

I. Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, any dog racing permittee that has offered live dog racing in eight out of ten calendar years from 1980 to 1990 in counties that have a population of less than one million five hundred thousand persons according to the most recent United States decennial census shall be considered as operating a racetrack enclosure for all purposes under this article and shall not be required to conduct live racing as a condition of that permittee's racing permit. Any permittee qualified under this subsection may conduct wagering on telecasts of races conducted at racetrack enclosures within this state or at racetrack enclosures outside this state without offering live racing at that permittee's racetrack enclosure. END STATUTE



The change is that the ability to stop live greyhound racing presently only applies to counties that have a population of under 500,000. The change would bring Tucson Greyhound Park under the umbrella, and give them the ability to stop live racing and turn their facility into an Off-Track-Betting operation only.

I have reached out to the CEO of TGP and offered to co-author with him a letter of support for this bill. I'm not so naïve as to think that the bill will come as news to him, but in the interest of working together towards a common goal, I thought I'd extend the offer.

Live racing loses money. OTB does not. Under current law, they're required to continue live racing for at least 100 days per year. Under the proposed changes in the bill I've cited above, it would appear that they can stop the live part of the operation. If so, and if Mr. Taylor would like to join forces in support of the bill, aiming at stopping their live racing, it could be a good conclusion to an issue that was quite divisive last year.

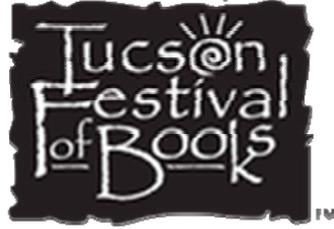
The Arizona Department of Racing hasn't got the resources to do adequate monitoring of the track conditions. The State is currently giving the track a "hardship tax credit" that could go to other more important causes (such as education or health care, just for example.) And

Mr. Taylor has stated that without the ability to inject the females with steroids, they're limited in the number of race-ready animals they have at a given time anyway.

The language was buried at the end of the bill. It was put there with some intent. Given that there's only one live racing facility in the State, and that it's in Pima County, I can think of no other motive than to give TGP the ability to walk away from their live racing obligation. I'll let you know if Mr. Taylor takes me up on my offer.

Tucson Festival of Books

Arizona Daily Star



with the University of Arizona

Presented by



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
MEDICAL CENTER

March 9th and 10th, on the Mall at the UofA, this year's Tucson Festival of Books will once again take place. In the past, over 100,000 people have attended. This year should be no different.

Each year there are author presentations and signings,

children and family events, and of course book sales of all sorts of literature genre. They're also looking for volunteers to help out with the event. Please consider offering some of your time to this community asset. To get in touch with the folks who are making the plans, go to tucsonfestivalofbooks.org. That web site has all of the information you'll need in order to plan a part of your weekend on the Mall.

Finally, we've got work to do - together, as a community this year. I thought I'd add this pep talk to get us started on the right foot...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=l-gQLqv9f4o

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Kozachik". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Steve Kozachik
Council Member, Ward 6
Ward6@tucsonaz.gov

Arts and Entertainment Events Calendar

This week and next week at the arts and entertainment venues in the Downtown, 4th Avenue, and Main Gate areas . . .

Rialto Theatre, 318 E. Congress St.

Wednesday, January 30, 8:00pm. “An Acoustic Evening with Matisyahu” all ages.

www.RialtoTheatre.com

Fox Theatre, 17 W. Congress St.

Friday, February 1, 7:30pm. “Blues and Soul Explosion!”

Saturday, January 26, 7:30pm. “An Acoustic Evening with Desert Rose Band”

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Temple of Music and Art, 330 S. Scott Ave.

Arizona Theatre Company presents “Freud’s Last Session” by Mark St. Germain

Saturday, January 19 – February 9, 2013.

www.arizonatheatre.org

Tucson Convention Center <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/tcc/eventcalendar>

Music Hall

Saturday, February 2 and Sunday, February 3. AZ Opera Company presents “Tosca”

Ongoing

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main Ave.

Ongoing exhibition, Opening Saturday, January 26 and ending June 16:

“Desert Grasslands,” “Feminina: Images of the Feminine from Latin America,” and “Elements in Western Art: Water, Fire, Air, and Earth”

www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org

Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), 265 S. Church Ave.

Current exhibition: “Peter Young: Capitalist Masterpieces”

Hours: Wednesday to Sunday, 12:00 to 5:00pm.

www.Moca-Tucson.org

Children's Museum Tucson, 200 S. 6th Ave.

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

www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

The Drawing Studio, 33 S. 6th Ave.

Ongoing Exhibit, Opens February 2 and runs February 24

“The Way of the Brush – Brush Spirit: Yoshi Nakano”

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

Jewish History Museum, 564 S. Stone Ave.

Open Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday, 1:00-5:00 and Friday, Noon to 3:00pm

Special hours for school and group tours, for more information call 670-9073

www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

Meet Me at Maynards

A social walk/run through the Downtown area

Every Monday, rain or shine, holidays too!

Maynards Market and Kitchen, 400 N. Toole Avenue, the historic train depot

Check-in begins at 5:15pm.

www.MeetMeatMaynards.com

Tucson Farmers' Market at Maynards

Saturdays 9:00am – 1:00pm

On the plaza at Maynards Market & Kitchen. 400 N Toole in the Historic Train Depot

Santa Cruz Farmers' Market Mercado San Agustin, 100 S. Avenida del Convento

Thursdays, 4:00 – 7:00pm.

For other events in the Downtown/4th Avenue/Main Gate area, visit these sites:www.MainGateSquare.comwww.FourthAvenue.orgwww.DowntownTucson.org**Other Community Events****Loft Cinema** www.loftcinema.com/

Tuesday, January 29, 7:00pm. "Tokyo Story"

Thursday, January 31, 7:00pm. "Sundance Film Festival USA: The Spectacular Now"

Thursday, January 31, 10:00pm. "Sound City"

Saturday, February 2, 12:00pm. "A Fistful of Spaghetti: Sergio Leone's *Man with No Name*"**Arizona State Museum – Woven Wonders (beginning April 28)**The Arizona State Museum is debuting a sample of 500 pieces from the world's largest collection of South-west American Indian basketry (over 25,000 pieces). Visit www.statemuseum.arizona.edu for more information.**UA Mineral Museum – Ongoing**

"100 Years of Arizona's Best: The Minerals that Made the State"

Flandrau Science CenterJoin the Flandrau Planetarium on the University of Arizona Campus for their weekly Planetarium and Laser Show. Call (520) 621-4516 or visit www.flandrau.org/ for events and information.**Draft Plan Tucson Open Houses**

The City of Tucson Housing and Community Department will be hosting five public open houses to review the draft Plan Tucson document. Come to any of these open houses to learn more about the plan and share your thoughts.

- Thursday, January 31, 2013, 7:00-8:30pm. Ward 2 Council Office. 7575 E. Speedway Blvd, Conference Room.

Visit www.tucsonaz.gov/plantucson for more information and comment cards.**Community Food Bank Citrus Gleaning for 2013**The Community Food Bank is offering to pick surplus citrus from homes and businesses in some areas of town. They term this service "Gleaning" or harvesting food that would otherwise go unused. They are currently accepting and picking up already picked fruit now, but will begin the actual gleaning program on January 22 and end on April 30. For more information on how to turn your excess fruit into food for those who need it, contact Lou Medran at 449-8340 or lmedran@communityfoodbank.org**Business Development and Growth Modeling – February 6**The Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Ward 6 Council Office will be hosting a Business Development and Growth Modeling course during the spring. The initial class will be on Wednesday, February 6 at 4:00pm at the Ward 6 Council Office, 3202 E. 1st Street. The class will help you assess your business, define priorities, resolve issues, and much more. For more information on these classes, please contact Bill Roach Bill@tucsonhispanicchamber.org or the Ward 6 Office.