

Ward 6 Staff



Steve Kozachik



Ann Charles



Diana Amado



Molly Thrasher



Amy Stabler



Evelyn Romero



Ward 6 - Newsletter

Tucson First

April 28, 2014

Yom HaShoah (יום השואה)

Everything else that follows in the newsletter is important. None of it is more important than the Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day commemoration that Richard Fimbres and I participated in on Sunday.

Since 1953 Israel has honored the survivors and supporters of the Nazi atrocities on the 27th day of Nisan (April/May.) On Sunday there were 6 survivors recognized as well as the work of the Mexican Consulate who assisted Jews' efforts to flee the persecution. The ceremony also included a reflection on unknown victims.

The gentleman I escorted, Severin Szperling, spent over 2 years as a child living underground while his parents were taken away and murdered. Living underground is not a euphemism. As was true in many cases, Jews were forced to hide in cellars, attics, or in this case in hollowed out earthen hideaways. The bravery of their protectors is not lost on any of the survivors who still recall those days during ceremonies such as the one held on Sunday.

Today the Red Cross has a program through which you can search for Holocaust and war victims. It's a free and confidential process that helps with primary source documentation, translation of documents and emotional support services. If you'd like to initiate a search you can contact the Southern Arizona Chapter of the Red Cross at 318.6861.

Thanks to Temple Emanu-El and Rabbi Cohon, as well as all of the volunteers who put this event together. It should put the rest of what we do into a better perspective.

Speaking of perspective - ...moving on as adults



There's some juvenile, petulant and inaccurate facebooking going on over some of my budget positions. I've laid out the basis for what I've proposed, corrected some inaccuracies others were posting, and now it's time to move on. Policy differences are just that, and should be nothing more.

Sometimes we had to just let our daughter cry herself to sleep and ignore the noise. That's where I am now with the chatter. It's a hand full of people who has chosen to personalize the discussion and refuse to grow up.



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

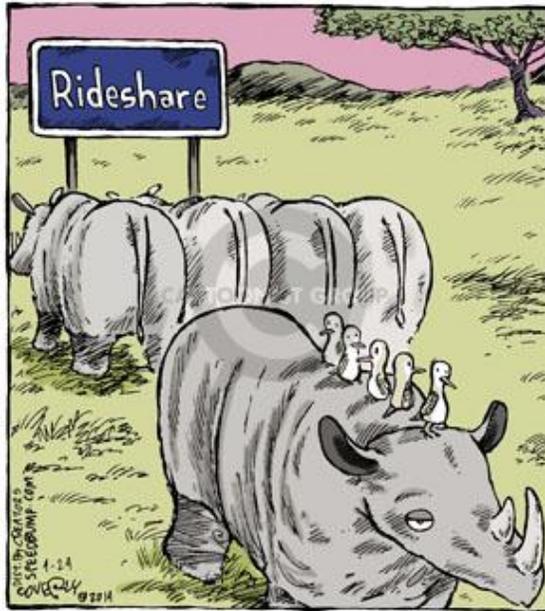


A big thanks to Station 5 for showing up last weekend at the Catalina Vista Neighborhood annual block party. They connected well with both the adults and of course the kids who loved climbing on the rig. Great PR and relationships is a function of good leadership in the organization. Thumbs up to TFD.

Transportation

Bikes, parking, the streetcar, Roads, Trains and the Legislature

Last week the Legislature passed, and the Governor vetoed HB2262, a bill that would have opened up a new form of ride-share/semi-sort-of taxi service. They were calling it new transportation networks – in the media you saw it as Uber.



The idea was that you'd connect with a part-time driver through your smart phone, they'd deliver you to your destination and some small fee would be involved. There were concerns by taxi companies over "picking winners and losers" in the market place, issues of gaps in liability insurance, part-time drivers and therefore the safety of the public, a pre-emption of local decision making written into the bill (typical of this Legislature) and generally lots of unresolved questions. Here's a little of how the Network was going to be overseen:

HB2262

C. A TRANSPORTATION NETWORK OPERATOR SHALL:

- 3 1. ACCEPT ONLY RIDES REQUESTED THROUGH A TRANSPORTATION NETWORK'S
- 4 DIGITAL PLATFORM AND MAY NOT SOLICIT OR ACCEPT STREET HAILS.
- 5 2. POSSESS A VALID DRIVER LICENSE ISSUED BY THIS STATE, PROOF OF
- 6 CURRENT VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND PROOF THAT THE VEHICLE IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH
- 7 THE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 28-4009.
- 8 3. BE AT LEAST TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE.
- 9 4. OPERATE A TRANSPORTATION NETWORK VEHICLE.
- 10 5. NOTIFY THE OPERATOR'S PERSONAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE
- 11 COMPANY THAT THE OPERATOR INTENDS TO OFFER TRANSPORTATION NETWORK TRIPS ON A
- 12 PART-TIME BASIS.

Quite different from the level of regulation taxi drivers have to work under. I suspect something like this will be back next term, but not as a last minute afterthought like this one was.

Also vetoed was a bill that would have allowed the operation of a rolling bar along the streetcar route.



The Trolley Pub idea is one in which multiple “drivers” pedal the “trolley” like a bicycle while being legally served beers. So many issues...and travelling in the tight quarters of the streetcar was a series of accidents and other sorts of conflicts waiting to happen.



And this photo is one of several sent into a data base now being compiled by the Living Streets Alliance folks to document bicycle accidents occurring in some manner in conjunction with the streetcar tracks. The purpose of the data base is not to bash the streetcar. The LSA folks support multi-modal transportation. As do I. The purpose is to be proactive in addressing what I've described as pinch points and other route conditions that exist – and to do so before the streetcars begin rolling for revenue this summer. So far there have been 86 accidents self-reported to the LSA site.



If you've got an incident you'd like them to include in the growing list, go to livingstreetsalliance.org and you'll see the link on the home page. The types of information they're gathering is date, location, description of the accident, injuries, and likely cause of the crash (car pulling in front of the rider, angle of crossing the track, pinch point, etc.)

Stressing once again – the purpose is not to drive a wedge between those who support the streetcar and those who ride on two wheels. In most cases, there is a significant philosophical overlap among those two groups of people. The purpose is to get some safety changes implemented. Here are a few easy ones that I've already shared with our TDOT people:

- a) There's a parking spot right outside of Wilko on University Blvd. It's too small for a car, too tight for the streetcar to make a safe turn and needs to be turned into a bike corral.
- b) There's signage needed on Broadway where Rialto tour busses park – on-the-sidewalk bike riding is permitted in that location
- c) Behind the Playground downtown there's the need for a red curb to be painted to prevent on-street parking that will force bikes out into traffic
- d) Behind Centro Garage, on the Jim Glock By-Pass there's a dumpster that needs to be moved so bikes can avoid that disaster of an intersection at 4th/Toole/ Congress and multiple modes of travel rolling through the area



Important Phone Numbers

Senator John McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff Flake (R)
520-575-8633

Congressman Ron Barber (D)
(2nd District)
520-881-3588

Congressman Raul Grijalva (D)
(3th 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>

- e) And add to the TDOT mantra of “education and enforcement” “paint and planters” along the route to help alleviate some illegal and/or impertinent parking (think Epic Cafe.)

TDOT has told me that they’re making an inventory of all sorts of parking, to include bike, car, loading zones and garages all along the streetcar route. I appreciate them ‘working towards a comprehensive approach’ to bike related issues, but when there are immediate examples of low hanging fruit, pick it before it falls to the ground and gets bruised. Bike riders already are. I’ve asked our TDOT Director to turn our City Bike/Ped Administrator, Ann Chanecka loose with a can of red paint, some bike parking rings and a few signs so we can get the areas listed above addressed so the LSA data base has that many fewer spots as potential self-report accident sites.

Parking meters are on order and will soon be installed in various locations along the route. That’ll help merchants out from the standpoint of turn-over in parking in front of their stores. There’s already some new signage in place that ‘educates’ drivers as to rules of parking (within the parking box) along the route. And there are merchants along the route who have requested losing a space on the street in favor of multiple bike rings to increase the quantity of customers who may park in front of their stores. I’d like to start checking boxes and seeing some progress. More to come on this.

Road Repair

It’s common that we get asked which streets are going to be repaired with the Prop 409 Bond money. The Citizen Task Force has worked with City staff and identified numerous residential areas that will receive some level of treatment this, and next fiscal years. There’s a map on the TDOT website that will show you what’s in the queue.

As for the arterials, those were identified in the Bond package we all voted on. They were split out by the year in which it was anticipated we’d get to them. TDOT has been efficient in their work and so many of those slated for FY’15 have been moved up to this year. Much of the work you see going on now reflects that acceleration in schedule.

For FY’15 we have these major roadways teed up and ready to be repaired:

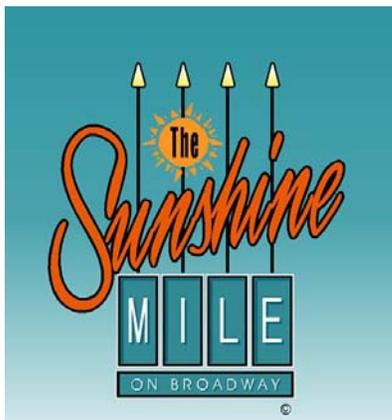
- Broadway – Pantano to Camino Seco
- Pantano Road – Broadway to Speedway
- Golf Links/Kolb Intersection
- Tanque Verde Road – Catalina Highway to Houghton
- Wilmot Road – Stella to Escalante
- Country Club Road – Aviation Parkway to Speedway
- Benson Highway – Tucson Blvd to I-10
- Nogales Highway – Valencia to Drexel
- Irvington Road – Park to 6th Ave
- Euclid – Broadway to Speedway
- Speedway – Campbell to 2nd Avenue
- Stone – Grant to Fort Lowell
- Toole Avenue – 6th Avenue to Stone
- Congress – I-10 to Mission Road
- Starr Pass Blvd/Mission Road Intersection
- Greasewood Road – Speedway to Grant

- Anklam Road – Silverbell to Greasewood
- Fort Lowell Road – Oracle to Country Club
- Kino Parkway – Valencia to Benson Highway
- 22nd Street – Alvernon to Swan
- Wilmot Road/Golf Links Intersection

That's a lot of road repair that you'll be seeing on many of our major streets. Still at issue is how we as a jurisdiction, region and State come up with a long term dedicated funding source so this work continues beyond the end of the Prop 409 funding. There are several ideas floating around – I'd like to see a revisit to the one I proposed two years ago related to asking the voters if they'd agree to repurpose to road repair some % of the RTA tax dollars we're already paying. None of the individual jurisdictions can decide that independently. The voters would have to agree. To get the question on the ballot will take action by the Board of Supervisors since it's a region-wide issue.

Broadway Project

On Wednesday of this week the public will again have a chance to participate in the work of the Broadway Citizen's Task Force. City staff and the consultant team will present what is intended to be a first try at setting the alignment of Broadway, from Euclid to Country Club. I've been a thorn in Jenn Burdick's side (Project Mgr) in terms of getting staff to set the alignment. They've now got a map showing some initial thoughts. The Citizen's Task Force will have a chance to weigh in, and there are calls to the audience at each of the meetings so anyone in attendance will also be able to share their thoughts.



The CTF has been meeting for over a year. You've read about this project multiple times in this newsletter. The basic truth is that until an alignment is established, none of the businesses along the corridor have any incentive to invest. What will be unveiled on Wednesday will show how individual businesses will be impacted. It's not the intent of staff to offer this as a final solution, but represents a big step towards advancing the discussion towards that end.

It can't be offered as a "solution" or we'll continue down the path of delivering a message of distrust to the public. Something along the lines of "come join our task force and we'll

do this to you and your input after your having served for a year..."

<http://www.tucsonaz.gov/ward6/thanks-task-force>



Yes, the Penguins are back for an encore performance, but same message as last week; don't trust City government. We have a chance to change that on Wednesday by presenting the map as a first try at setting an alignment – for which I'm grateful – and then letting the task force massage the proposal.

The meeting will start at 5:30 over at Our Family Services, 2800 E. Broadway. There are few in the community who are not affected by this decision, but mostly the business owners along that stretch of roadway

and the residents who live in the surrounding neighborhoods are. The meeting is free and of course open to any who choose to share their voice in the process.

National Train Day

Continuing this transportation heavy newsletter, Saturday, May 10th is National Train Day. From 10am until 4pm down at the Historic Amtrak Depot, the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum will host a day-long family friendly educational and historical presentation on how our community grew around train travel. Tucson's still on the Amtrak line. In fact last year over 31M passengers road Amtrak. That included over 300 daily trains connecting 555 communities, one of which is Tucson.

When we moved to Tucson in 1968 we boarded the Sunset Limited in Ann Arbor, Michigan on Halloween night and arrived in Tucson a few days later. Families are still using the train as a way to see the country. In fact Amtrak ridership has grown over 55% since '97. That's the fastest growth of any major travel mode.

Come on out on the 10th. The kids can climb all over the historic engines – there's a gift store and there will be various presentations throughout the day. The Depot is located at 414 N. Toole.

...final Transportation add - Request for Proposals – Ronstadt Transit Center



Last fall we directed staff to prepare an RFP for development of the Ronstadt Transit Center. Paul and I voted against delaying the issuance of that Request. Paul was concerned that we would end up adding so many extra qualifiers onto the RFP that nobody would propose on it. I was concerned that delaying would send the wrong message to prospects and few if any would propose.

On Friday staff extended the time for responding. As I understand it they had received word that a single team was ready to submit by the deadline and felt that by allowing more time we might end up with a broader list of prospects. The new deadline is Thursday, August 28th. Our Procurement Department has issued the extension in the form of an addendum to the original RFP. Here's a link to that addendum:

http://tucsonprocurement.com/ContractImages/SolicitationAmendmentImg_140983_140983_2.pdf

I'm still very much of the belief that the development of this site can be a winner for everybody who's a stake holder in the process. It's location in the heart of downtown, adjacent to the streetcar line, around the corner from the train depot and FTA policy will drive all proposals to maintain some level of transit function. Fears that we're going to remove that from the design are unfounded.

But the location is also right in the heart of where our downtown revitalization is occurring. That means amenities such as some enclosed waiting areas, cleaner and lit restrooms, landscape, retail and other possible uses should be expected to be a part of whatever design we end up seeing proposed. The fact that we've now got the results of our Comprehensive Operational Analysis on the bus system, we've announced a new grocery store going in a

couple of blocks away, the streetcar operation planned for late July and our having greater detail related to site conditions available should all serve to enhance the proposals we'll eventually see. I'm disappointed in the added delay, but I'm also confident that the result will be a better set of prospects to consider, and in the long run a better end product for the community.

Check out the Procurement website if you've got interest in being a part of this exciting downtown redevelopment opportunity.

SB1282 – Greyhounds



The Legislature adopted a Greyhound related Bill that has a couple of important positive changes. Getting the Tucson Greyhound Park to recognize their obligations is proving to be a bit of a chore, though.

The Arizona Department of Racing last year declared their supremacy in all things regulatory when it comes to greyhounds. They cowed the South Tucson governing body into submission with the result that they at the time decided to stop enforcing the voter approved ban on injection of steroids into racing greyhounds. That's the ADOR asserting authority over the expressed will of the people. The Legislature amazingly eliminated any reference to pre-emption of local laws from the Bill.

Not only does that open up the ability of we at the local level to continue to enforce our steroid bans, but another part of the Bill addresses making injury reports public. As you may recall, I've multiple times requested from the ADOR those reports. Their answer has been that they don't have them. That may be true – because they haven't requested them, because when they do get them, they become public record and available for public scrutiny. At the local level I've been going through a similar fire drill with the Pima Animal Care Center; that is, my requesting the Disposition Reports and Injury Records from the track through them as the local agency responsible for animal welfare at the track. In a recent exchange they first said their own director was on vacation and we had to wait for him to return, then it was the only person at the track who had the records was gone, then that they'd personally go out to the track to get them...and so the dodge continues.

The new Bill includes these requirements related to Injury Reports and Records:

- Requires the Department to make available to the public a list of all racing-related injuries and deaths to the animals reported to the track veterinarian.*
- Requires the Department to obtain and maintain records regarding the injuries incurred by dogs that were used for racing.*
- Stipulates that injury forms for dogs must be completed and signed by the track veterinarian and the signature must be witnessed by a Department representative.*
- Requires the injury forms to specify the following:*
 - The dog's name;*
 - The left and right ear tattoo number of the dog;*
 - The number and manufacturer of the microchip, if any, that is implanted in the dog;*
 - The name of the owner and trainer and the of the dog, and the dog's kennel operator;*
 - The color, weight and gender of the dog;*

- A description of where the injury occurred and, if the injury occurred while the dog was racing, the following information must be included:
 - i. The racetrack where the injury occurred;
 - ii. The distance, grade, race and post position when the injury occurred; and
 - iii. The weather conditions, time, temperature and track conditions when the injury occurred.
- The specific type of injury;
- The cause of the injury;
- The location of the injury on the dog; and
- The estimated recovery time for the injury.

The stonewalling by PACC, the track and the ADOR will become illegal, per State law, once the Governor signs this Bill. It's on her desk right now. If you'd like to encourage that she do so, you can by either calling locally (520) 628-6580 or by going on line to Arizona Office of the Governor and letting them know that way.

HB2454 – Sex Trafficking

A Bill that she did sign into law is one that those of us working on Project RAISE (prostitution diversion) have been promoting for well over a year. It finally became law after further advocacy by the Governor's Task Force on Human Trafficking.

What it fixes is an age related failure to protect children from trafficking. Formerly the penalties for trafficking/prostitution didn't recognize certain age differences. Now, if you traffic a kid, you're held to these standards of sentencing:

**G. IF THE MINOR IS FIFTEEN, SIXTEEN OR SEVENTEEN YEARS OF AGE, CHILD
27 PROSTITUTION PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION IS A CLASS 2
28 FELONY,**

**28 THE PERSON CONVICTED SHALL BE SENTENCED PURSUANT TO THIS SEC-
29 TION AND THE**

**29 PERSON IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE, PROBATION,
30 PARDON OR**

**30 RELEASE FROM CONFINEMENT ON ANY BASIS EXCEPT AS SPECIFICALLY
31 AUTHORIZED BY**

**31 SECTION 31-233, SUBSECTION A OR B UNTIL THE SENTENCE IMPOSED BY
32 THE COURT HAS**

**32 BEEN SERVED OR COMMUTED. THE PRESUMPTIVE TERM MAY BE AGGRA-
33 VATED OR MITIGATED**

**33 WITHIN THE RANGE UNDER THIS SECTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-701,
34 SUBSECTIONS**

34 C, D AND E. THE TERMS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

35 1. THE TERM FOR A FIRST OFFENSE IS AS FOLLOWS:

36 MINIMUM PRESUMPTIVE MAXIMUM

37 10 YEARS 13.5 YEARS 24 YEARS

**38 2. THE TERM FOR A DEFENDANT WHO HAS ONE HISTORICAL PRIOR FELONY
39 CONVICTION IS AS FOLLOWS:**

40 MINIMUM PRESUMPTIVE MAXIMUM

41 17 YEARS 24 YEARS 31 YEARS

**42 3. THE TERM FOR A DEFENDANT WHO HAS TWO OR MORE HISTORICAL PRI-
43 OR**

43 FELONY CONVICTIONS IS AS FOLLOWS:

44 MINIMUM PRESUMPTIVE MAXIMUM

45 24 YEARS**31 YEARS****38 YEARS**

This is modern day slavery and it's about time the State took action to increase the potential penalties for those who would take a 15 year old kid and deliver her into that activity. It includes both the traffickers and the 'johns' (the guys who buy the sex.)

It adds child prostitution, sex trafficking and labor trafficking to the list of acts that constitute racketeering and requires that licensed escort and massage therapy businesses include their license number in any advertisement for services, and to keep on file proof of the age of anyone depicted in an advertisement. It also establishes that advertising a minor for prostitution, when a visual depiction of the minor is included in the advertisement, is a class 2 felony.

When they get one right, you've got to give them credit. In this case Farnsworth, Coleman and Driggs worked to make this happen. .

American Friends Service Committee



On a related note, after you're done with the Train Museum on Saturday, you can hold over and hit the Rialto for the 8th Annual AFSC benefit concert. This year it's billed as "Justice on Tap". There will be several local bands playing throughout the night.

Friends is an international non-profit that is active in this State working to reduce prison populations. We're working towards that same goal with our Project RAISE efforts. A while back I was a part of a forum they hosted on the topic of "for-profit prisons". AFSC is generally a social justice organization that's grounded in the Quaker values of non-violence. In addition to advocacy against privatizing our prisons, they work to improve the conditions for those who are already incarcerated. Significantly, last year they were instrumental in getting more funding for our Mental Health Court system – a system that diverts people into treatment and away from simply being tossed in jail and not having their real needs addressed.

This is the first time they've done the event at the Rialto. Doors are at 6:30 pm and the music starts at about 7:30. The bands will include Cyril Barrett, a local who has worked in support of No More Deaths, Carlos Arzate & the Kind Souls, and Chicha Dust. The bands are well worth the \$10 ticket price, but the real purpose of the evening is to support Caroline Isaacs and Friends.

Arizona has contracts with Corrections Corporation of America that places us in the position of having a financial incentive to put people in jail. Friends' work has questioned the safety, cost savings and ethical implications of such an arrangement. You can check them out at AFSC.org. I hope you can join us and support their work.

WHO: The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Arizona Program

WHAT: Justice on Tap local music benefit concert

WHEN: Saturday, May 10th

WHERE: Rialto Theatre, 318 E Congress St, Tucson, AZ 85701. <http://www.rialtotheatre.com/>

HOW MUCH: \$10 at the door.

UA Student Safety

Another event coming this week that's safety related is the UA Student Safety Task Force forum on student safety and wellbeing. It's not just for students, so if you've got a kid going to the UA, one that is thinking of it, or if you just want to hear the results and discussion surrounding the issue of campus safety, come on to the event.

The Task Force is looking for input from the community. They were formed because the Board of Regents has said promoting safety of students both on and off campus is one of their primary concerns. President Hart has also noted that as one of her big initiatives. I hear from residents who live around campus about behaviors and activities that may well fit into this discussion.

Parking will be available in the Highland Avenue Parking Garage, 1405 E. Helen. They'll validate your parking fee if you mention the "President's Student Safety Task Force Public Meeting" as you leave. And if you can't attend in person, you can watch it on line at <https://ondemand.azpm.org/live/>

They'll also be taking questions/comments both before and during the meeting. You can email those into UASafetyTaskForce@email.arizona.edu. The meeting will be held in Gallagher Theater, located in the Student Union, on the mall – Wednesday, April 30th from 4pm until 6pm.


 The image shows the letters "ATF" in a large, serif font, which is the logo for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

...short for Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. On the safety theme, they were noted in a report issued last week on gun sales and inspections of gun dealers.

Last year the gun industry saw gun manufacturing, sales and importing come in at a 27 year high, according to a BATF study. That agency is responsible for inspecting gun dealers. Their own self-report showed that in that same time frame they inspected under 8% of the roughly 140,000 Federal Firearms Licensees – a seven year low. In 2012 there were 8.6M guns manufactured. That represented a 31% increase over 2011. Most of the increase was for pistols and revolvers. As of last month there were 3.7M weapons registered under the National Firearms Act in the U.S. All sorts of weapons are included in the list of registrants; machine guns, silencers, sawed-off shotguns and others. Not all guns are registered, however, so the 3.7M is undercounting the total number of guns that are out in circulation.

The Arizona State Legislature would like to allow guns in public buildings, parks, events, schools – as you can see from the data, there will be no lack of supply if they ever get some of those bills passed the Governor.

Guns of a different sort



If you follow this newsletter you're familiar with my having written in support of the DMAFB A-10 mission. I have also joined the DOD in questioning the placement of the F-35 at the mid-town base. You'll also recall that the A-10 is being targeted for elimination because Congress has backed itself into the foolish corner of budgeting not based on priorities, but on a self-imposed spending cut mandate called sequestration. The Air Force has said that it'll save just under \$4B by eliminating the A-10 fleet.

Last week a report was released that shows how the military is planning on maintaining the viability of some of the A-10 bases around the country. Here's some text from that report:

- *Beginning in 2015, the A-10 unit at Gowen Field Air National Guard Base near Boise, Idaho, would transfer to a classic association with F-15E units at nearby Mountain Home Air Force Base.*
- *In 2017, the Guard A-10 unit at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., would receive eight KC-135s.*
- *In 2018, the Guard A-10 unit at Martin State Air National Guard Base, Md., would receive eight C-130Js, while the Reserve unit at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., would receive 18 F-16s.*
- *In 2019, a Reserve unit at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., and a Guard unit at Fort Wayne, Ind., would both receive 18 F-16s.*

None of that is etched in stone yet, and there will continue to be efforts at the Federal Congressional level to preserve the A-10's. I'll continue to suggest a solution would be found if they rescinded the sequestration mandate and made budget decisions based on need, not an arbitrary line they've drawn in the sand related to spending reduction levels. It's easier if you don't have to think about prioritizing the areas you're eliminating or reducing, though.

I'm sure there'll be more on this to come. The Environmental Impact Statement related to Operation Snowbird (our mission geared to allowing visiting pilots to train in our airspace during what would be winter weather in their home countries) is due later this year, and defense issues are always included in Congressional campaigns.

McKale Remodel



Last football season you saw the final product related to the north end zone construction. As you can see in the photo above, we've begun a full scale remodel of McKale, in large measure taking over some of the released space from having football move out of the building last year.

What you see here is the beginning of a new arena floor, and all new

seating (you can see the bleachers have been removed and many of the middle concourse seats have already been taken out.) The new scoreboard is covered so the dust from the floor work won't affect the electronics. The wood you see bundled has just arrived and we're allowing it to acclimatize to the conditions of the arena. The moisture content of the wood is a big deal. If we lay it when it's too wet, as the air dries out it'll shrink and gaps will appear in the floor. If we lay it when it's too dry, as it becomes more humid during the monsoons the wood will expand and crack. We take moisture readings before laying it – shooting for around 8% moisture content.

The goal is to finish the work you see, plus multiple new locker rooms, equipment rooms, concessions, restrooms and lounge space before November. It's an all-out sprint. We've got a good team of architects (BWS is our local representative) and contractors (Mortenson – same as with the north end zone) so we're confident that we'll squeeze the work into the time we've got.

You can get tickets for football or basketball by calling 621.CATS.

Water Education Presentation



We can all find ways to waste water in and around our homes. On Wednesday @ 6pm, Tucson Water staff will be at the Ward 6 office to present a Water Education program geared to residential as well as commercial users. Saving money while also saving this precious resource is a win/win for individuals and the wider community. It's a 90 minute presentation that will give you some very practical take-away information. We hope somebody from your household can find the time to attend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Kozachik".

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

Events Calendar

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

Ward 6 Water Education Night (and Tree Distribution!)

Join Tucson Water at the Ward 6 Office on April 30th from 6 to 7:30pm to celebrate Water Awareness Month and learn about water in our community. Do we have enough water for the future? How is Tucson Water keeping water safe and secure? Why do water rates go up? What does it cost to deliver water to your tap? Is Tucson Water investing in improvements and technology? Learn the answers to these questions and come with your own!

Does your home need some low water shade trees? Bring your TEP account number to our Water Education Night and leave with drought-resistant plants from Trees for Tucson for only \$5 each!

UA Student Safety Task Force Public Meeting

April 30th, 4-6pm Gallagher Theater –Student Union, 1303 E. University Blvd.

The University of Arizona Student Safety Task Force is seeking feedback from the Tucson and UA communities around student safety and wellbeing. All are welcome to attend and share their thoughts.

Ongoing

Jazz at Main Gate

Presented by Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance at Main Gate Square, the free performances alternate Fridays at 7 p.m. Coupled with delicious food from nearby local restaurants, the evenings provide a great way to begin the weekend.

Friday, May 2nd Sylvan Street, jazz

(Main Gate Square, between Park and Euclid Avenues on University Boulevard)

The Rogue Theatre at The Historic Y 300 East University Blvd

Dante's Purgatorio by Patrick Baliani

April 24–May 11, 2014

Thursday–Saturday 7:30 P.M., Sunday 2:00 P.M. plus a Saturday 2:00 P.M. Matinee May 10

<http://www.therogue theatre.org/main.htm>

Fox Theatre, 17 W. Congress St.

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Rialto Theatre, 318 E. Congress St.

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

Hotel Congress 311 E. Congress St.

<http://hotelcongress.com/>

Loft Cinema 3233 E. Speedway

www.loftcinema.com/

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main Ave.

www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org

Jewish History Museum, 564 S. Stone Ave.

The Jewish History Museum presents "Cowboys, Merchants, Miners, & Booze," an exhibit that celebrates the lives of Tucson's Jewish pioneers.

www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

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

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

www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

Arizona State Museum 1013 E. University Blvd

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

www.statemuseum.arizona.edu

UA Mineral Museum 1601 E University Blvd

Ongoing "100 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 train 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

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

Butterfly Magic at the Gardens

2150 N. Alvernon Way, Tucson, AZ 85712

February 10, 2014 - April 30, 2014

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

National Mayors Challenge for Water Conservation

My Water Pledge

Pledge for Tucson at mywaterpledge.com using e-mail or Facebook.

The Challenge takes place April 1 through April 30.

Tucson residents pledge by completing a brief online survey on the ways they can or do save water and energy.

The Challenge is sponsored by the Wyland Foundation, Toyota, and other partners and takes place in cities across the United States.

The Challenge is a city-friendly competition started by mayors in Florida and southern California. It became a national event in 2012.

Tucson was #1 in its population category in 2013. A Tucson resident won the national grand prize - a Toyota Prius.

Tucson Waters web page at tucsonaz.gov/water/challenge has background information, videos, and a recap of 2013.

The Wyland Foundation has added a classroom edition of My Water Pledge at mywaterpledge.com/campaign/kids-campaign-2014 encourage parents to take their pledge with their kids to help inter-active classroom on wheels - has visited a Tucson school two years in a row.