

Ward 6 Staff



Steve Kozachik
Council Member



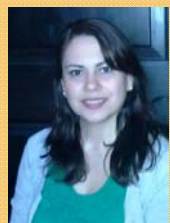
Ann Charles



Teresa Smith



Bonnie Medler



Diana Amado



Molly Thrasher



Ward 6 - Newsletter

Tucson First

October 17, 2012

WELCOME!
OPEN FOR BUSINESS

One of my main reasons for running for this office was out of frustration seeing Rio Nuevo and the millions of dollars being spent on project plans, with little to show for the effort and cost. I was involved with building the Richard Jefferson Gym, an extension onto McKale, a new aquatics center and the City and Rio were in the papers on a regular basis with charges of poor fiscal management. Playing a role in changing that was one of my goals.

Since having been elected in 2009, I suppose it would be difficult to describe me as having been a wallflower –



You won't find me in that image – perhaps a more apt description would be a smoke alarm - working with the rest of the council and staff to turn around the image of the city and get some capital investment moving, but ensuring it was done in a way that held the taxpayers harmless on the downside of risk.



We took nearly the first year after the election to kill a foolishly conceived hotel project.

The next year and a half we tried and tried to convince the then Rio Nuevo Board to put money into the TCC, and to use bond proceeds in the ways allowed by the bond package. Under pressure from some factions in the State Legislature, they let the bonds lapse, and now we're left to pick up those pieces. According to public comments coming from the current Rio Board members, bond counsel has told them that we can still use some of those dollars for the intended purposes, but we have to move quickly. M&C are committed to that.

I believe we have turned a significant corner in both our relationship with Rio, and with respect to attracting investment. This M&C have put into place a formal application process by which potential developers now have direct access to the City Manager's economic development staff. The process leads to M&C approving a third party financial analysis of each proposal – and last week we gave approval for work to begin negotiating deal points on one project, and a third party analysis on another. Combined, those project are valued at over \$50M.

We have a new mayor – a new city manager – a new CEO of the Downtown Tucson Partnership – a new CEO at the Metro Chamber – a new CEO at the Tucson Hispanic Chamber – a new CEO of Visit Tucson - new members on the Rio Nuevo



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

Board, and if all goes well, we'll see some fundamental changes in the make-up of the legislature in about a month that will ease some of the bullying tactics that have made kicking the City to the curb a game for some.

In short – we have process, we have the players in place, and we have demonstrated that projects will be coming on line in the very near term.

I don't take credit for those changes, but I am proud of having worked with this governing body for pressing for the procedural changes we've made, for working together against attempts from Phoenix to do away with the financing associated with Rio Nuevo, and for getting the two recent projects into the pipeline as important steps in letting the development community know that we are in fact "Open for Business." I'll still drive some people nuts with things like reading footnotes on proposals and fleshing out details, but we are light years beyond where we were three short years ago, and my colleagues, including elected, staff and from the other agencies I noted, all have reason to do a little flag waving.

As noted in the Sunday Star – I'm looking forward to the return of the most recent financial analysis on a hotel, and other retail components.

In addition, with some of the money we're saving by not paying TREO the \$400K p/yr they were getting, the City Manager will be hiring some staff to directly coordinate and nurture relationships with trading partners in Mexico. That is huge, and is a step I fully endorse.

Land Use / Infill

And to the point of development, this input was received from stake holders who were involved in a study of the issues we need to consider when planning infill:

1. The **integrity of existing neighborhood patterns** of development should be promoted and maintained in order to preserve the quality of life in our community.
2. All neighborhoods contain a mixture of rental housing and owner-occupied residences; for neighborhoods to be successful, all **properties ought to be well-maintained**.
3. The presence of the University of Arizona generates a demand for **student rental housing, which has serious impacts on the surrounding neighborhoods**, including the construction of private mini-dorms, inappropriate student behavior, and parking congestion.
4. **Open space is critical to maintain the quality of life** in neighborhoods by preserving natural vegetation, facilitating ground water recharge, and minimizing heat-island effects.
5. **Adequate off-street parking** that is appropriate to the patterns of individual neighborhoods is essential.
6. Existing **Neighborhood Plans should be strengthened and new plans written** for those neighborhoods that have none, and the plans should be utilized during all development processes. These plans can provide neighbors, developers, and City staff with an appropriate tool to guide infill development, serving as a blueprint for future development



**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)

7. **Commercial and mixed-use development should be respectful of adjoining/ abutting residential neighborhoods** as the problem of sprawl is addressed with increased intensity of development.
8. The **Land Use Code** should respond to the long-term needs of the community.
9. **Implementation and interpretation of the Land Use Code needs to be consistent** to promote the protection of established neighborhoods.
10. The City should consider a revision to the Land Use Code that **distinguishes between infill development and development in new areas.**
11. **Consistent enforcement of the codes** and compliance with state statutes is essential. The City needs to stop granting retro-variances and non-legal variances and work to eliminate illegal rentals.
12. **Review and revision of Tucson’s development procedures**, in concert with a greater level of cooperation and communication among the various City departments, is essential.
13. **Open, respectful, and honest communication** among developers, neighbors, and City staff is crucial.
14. Additional opportunities for **citizens to gain knowledge** about the development process need to be provided.

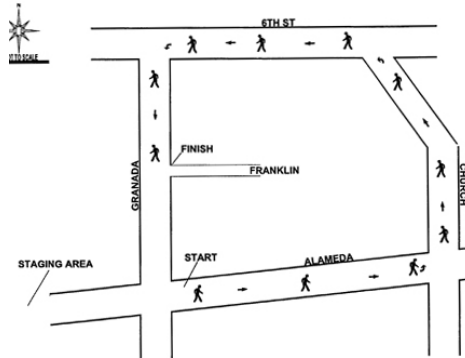
The study was conducted in 2005.

On Monday night, the mayor came to my Town Hall and took questions from residents on the topic of infill. (For those who were in attendance, I apologize for not engaging as I normally do – I had a very bad headache and wasn’t on my game at all.) I don’t think I’d be too far off base to say that we’re still talking about these very same issues seven years after the Drachman Institute issued that report. That highlights at least two things:

- a. The issues are tough – no easy answers
- b. The community is still engaged – no quitters.

Veterans

We’re coming up on Veteran’s Day, November 11th. The organizers can use your help in terms of both volunteers and also (importantly) funding. The parade will travel east on Alameda Street to Church Avenue, north on Church Avenue to 6th Street, west on 6th Street to Granada Avenue and south on Granada Avenue to Franklin Street. See route map below.



<http://www.downtowntucson.org/2011/11/veteran%E2%80%99s-day-parade-street-closures/>

The event will begin at 10am. If you can help out in any way, please contact the event organizer Morgan McDermott at Post 7 - 404-9211 or post7@morganmcdermottpost7.com

We cannot express our thanks enough to those who have given so much for us. Please consider how you might be able to help.



Travis Edmonson (1932 – 2009)



One more human interest story – this one a local legend.

On Sunday, I was honored to be asked to share in Travis Edmonson's induction into the Arizona Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame. He joins such stars as Waylon Jennings, Steven Spielberg, Stevie Nicks, Jessi Coulter and the Kingston Trio. It was the Trio on whom he had a profound influence.

It's funny how things eventually tie themselves together. I remember watching *The Little Rascals* ("Our Gang") back when I was a little kid growing up in Michigan. Travis, at the age of 5 was on the tube playing the role of Curley.

His singing career began at the age of seven in the St. Andrews Episcopal Church choir here in Tucson.



At that same age, I was attending St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan – and tried the choir, but was convinced to keep my day job.



He attended Tucson High, and the UA. I attended Catalina High, and the UA. Parallel paths. And now, his influence on early folk music on both sides of the border has finally been recognized as worthy of the induction he received on Sunday.

Right now the Hall is a website. It deserves bricks and mortar, and to that end I'm committed to working with some of the local Board to see how Southern Arizona and Tucson in particular might one day be the home of the site. We have several arts and entertainment venues around the downtown area, and working towards perhaps a shared space is something worth engaging.

In the meantime, it was special to be able to take part in the evening ceremony out at ASDB's Berger Performing Arts Center. The Edmonson family should be proud of Travis' accomplishments – and the community should also be proud to finally see one of our own receive this well-deserved honor.

Tucson to Phoenix Rail Corridor

There is growing interest in some quarters for building a rail system that would connect Tucson to Phoenix. ADOT's Office of Public Information has sent a news release out to Maricopa, Pinal and Pima Counties that announced the kick-off of the 2nd phase of public outreach for their study of the idea. Included are six potential rail alternatives and one express bus alternative that would link the two cities. The assumption is growing travel demands being placed on I-10.

Beginning Oct. 6, ADOT will conduct a series of community events in the three counties to reach out to community members and get ideas and opinions on the seven options currently under evaluation. In advance of that, you can also participate through an online survey. The survey and the complete list of outreach events can be found at:

www.azdot.gov/passengerrail

The public comment period runs through December 15th. I've taken the survey. It takes minutes – I'd encourage you to check out the site and share your own opinions on the options.

Film Incentive Bill

After a recent neighborhood association meeting at which I spoke, a guy handed me an article related to film industry incentives that have ended up losing money for the States that offered them. I had tried to explain that this isn't a tax incentive to attract films, but is a rebate, with a cap, that is given only after the production has spent a quarter of a million dollars in the local economy. Here are some salient bullet points on what is being proposed:

- a 20% rebate on qualified AZ expenditures to qualified feature film and TV production companies who spend \$250K or more
- an additional 5% rebate on wages paid to AZ residents (to encourage local hires)
- a grandfather clause for returning TV series because of their 6 – 9 month production schedule that translates to more jobs and local spending (one 12 episode series equals roughly \$26 million in local expenditures)
- a \$70 million annual cap on the rebates -- which translates to \$300 million in qualified AZ expenditures

Illinois offers a 30% tax credit to filmmakers on money that productions spend on goods and services in their State. They are reporting that their credit has helped to generate over \$970M and more than 10,000 jobs since it began in 2004. In the last year, they have gained more than \$90M from four television drama series' – and more than 1,200 jobs.

As I've noted before, this is a State wide effort with rallies being held in Prescott, Flagstaff, and Phoenix. We have already held one large forum locally, along with a press conference that the mayor, CEO of MTCVB, CEO of the Metro Chamber, and head of Old Tucson Studios all joined in. It's important that we explain how this incentive works – and what it is not – so both taxpayers and legislators understand that there isn't the downside that other areas have suffered by implementing different types of plans.

Following the exchange I had at the neighborhood meeting last week, I felt it was important to continue to offer clarity.

Nogales Port of Entry

The Nogales Port of Entry is one of the fastest growing ports in the nation. Our lobbyists have told me that nearly 80% of commercial traffic coming into Arizona from Mexico comes



through that POE. On Tuesday, I asked for an update on efforts to fully staff this facility.

When you go to the grocery store, if there are 15 check-out lanes, but only 3 people working the registers, the other 12 lanes don't help you get through the lines. That's essentially what we're facing in Nogales – and with Texas as a major competitor for commerce, we need to address both the infrastructure and the staffing. This is not an observation unique to me.

Both the Mayor and Council members Fimbres are members of the U.S.- Mexico Border Mayors Association / a group that is heavily focused on this issue. Council member Romero has also been heavily involved in this issue.

Trade between the U.S. and Mexico is estimated to amount to nearly \$1B daily. That's a billion dollars of trade going both ways every day. Delays can have a significant impact on the flow of goods, and thus the economy of both countries. Nogales' POE is at the epicenter of that trade for Arizona.

Representative Grijalva has successfully sought funding for increased capacity – construction that is scheduled to be completed by 2014. However, increases in officers to staff the newly built facility is still a challenge. To that end, Mr. Grijalva has offered HR3049 – the Border Infrastructure and Jobs Act of 2011. The intent is to strengthen cross-border trade, modernize and expand border infrastructure, and importantly, to increase staffing. There are also provisions that will work to stabilize small businesses along the border. Sadly, the bill is still working its way through the legislative process, and with the lame duck legislature will probably have to await next January for momentum.

In the meantime, the Government Accountability Office is studying the wait times at the POE. Those data will be released soon and will serve as good material with which to engage in advocacy for staffing. The M&C, led by both Jonathan and Richard are on top of this important issue and will be taking a very active role in encouraging our legislative delegation to get the Grijalva bill through as soon as possible.

This is jobs, commerce, small business, the local economy, international relations and border security – all wrapped into one piece of legislation.

Home Remodeling Made Easier

Before Tuesday, if you were going to do some home remodeling, you'd hire your architect/engineer (A/E), go through the design process and then submit plans for review by the City Planning Department. The upside to that was to ensure that all of the A/E code requirements were met. The downside was time for the homeowner, A/E and City staff. On Tuesday, we adopted a change to that process whereby a registered A/E can self-certify that his/her construction docs meet our building codes.

Not all tenant improvement projects are eligible. Those held out of this change include anything over a single story, anything that involves lateral structural changes, electrical upgrades that exceed 400 amps, hazardous designated structures, and commercial work. But for the garden variety TI's of residential homes, the A/E can create the construction docs for the interior work and stamp the drawings, taking on the risk of having to make changes at his own expense if inspections uncover missed code compliance. Issues related to exterior work, parking, floodplain ordinances and those sorts of things will still require the more complete City plan review process.

I supported this change for a few reasons. First, I know how short on staff we are now in the Planning Department. These small, straight forward TI's take staff time that could be better spent on more intensive construction project reviews. Also, the time delays caused impact the ability of A/E's to get projects under construction. If it works as we expect it to, this change will eliminate much of the frustrating and time consuming process that now accompanies residential home work.

Being able to walk plans through for fire, zoning and structural will ease the time burden that currently exists on both sides of the counter. We'll keep an eye on how this is working, and reserve the right to bring it back for tweaks. But for now, I'm interested in seeing the level of positive impact this will have on run-of-the-mill home remodels. If it works as planned, it'll be a winner for everybody involved in the process.

Public Information

...and another gained efficiency from our Tuesday meeting, access to public information will soon be much more easily achieved, and the data sets included will also increase. Currently our City Attorney has a full time staff member assigned to working through public records requests. The City gets dozens of them with the result being a ton of staff time taken to compile information, much of which may soon be available on line. In addition, the plan is to expand the list of data sets that the public will be able to access. While this may sound wonkish and arcane, before tuning out, look at what we'll be adding:

- Sun Tran Transit Data
- Crime Data (hopefully eventually to include the ability to track graffiti and Red Tag cases through the legal process)
- Current employee rosters, including names, salaries, job titles, etc.
- Job postings
- Traffic incidents
- Business license

And the list will grow.

Similar to the staffing issues I noted in the self-certification item above, the I.T. staff and City Attorney staff already have their hands full with regular day to day work. Adding the burden of establishing this new data set portal, and maintaining it would be something they're not presently equipped to do, without letting other work obligations suffer. And yet, making documents and information more broadly accessible to the public is both the obligation of a public jurisdiction, and something to which you have a right to expect. And it shouldn't take excessive amounts of time to get you the information

With the adoption of this new on-line information system we agreed to contract out the job of presenting and maintaining the site. This may cost in the range of \$4K monthly, but it is my expectation that those dollars will easily be saved when compared to the amount of staff time we'll save by farming out the work. And, you'll have quicker access to much of what you're now at the mercy of the City to provide. Self-help / Self certify – Tuesday was a step forward in both areas.

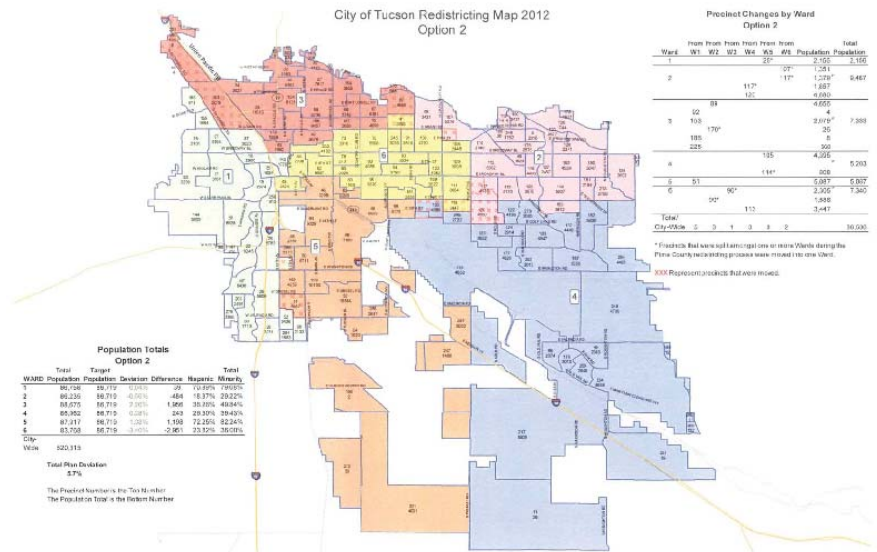
We're putting out bids for the service and as things develop I'll make sure you're aware of how to access the site as it grows.

Redistricting

A while back I provided three maps that described the existing ward layouts, and two op-

tions we were to consider for changes made necessary after the decennial census. On Tuesday, we voted to adopt the new lines contained in what was called “Option 2.” Here’s the new map:

The yellow area is Ward 6. This addition to Ward 6 does not give the ward the opportunity to grow in the future when/if annexation occurs to the north. Currently, every other ward had the chance to grow outward, but W6 is landlocked. I had preferred to adopt the option that would have allowed future growth to the north, but M&C chose this option.



We’ll pick up some constituents in the Grant/Alvernon/Swan – and in the 22nd St./Wilmot/Craycroft area. We at the Ward 6 office are eager to get to know these folks and to dig into the issues we’ll soon learn about.

The new Districts will be effective when we formally adopt the change – probably in about 30 days. We’ll be making an effort to connect with the new neighborhoods and businesses in the expanded perimeter of W6 in the coming days and weeks.

So my honest and straightforward take on the choice is that it was decided on political grounds; i.e. it preserves a Ward that has a high Democratic registration advantage. The foothills are more Republican leaning, and had “Option 1” been chosen the possibility of diluting the party affiliation advantage would have existed when annexation took place in the future. But here’s the deal – I’ve worked hard to represent everybody, and have not hesitated from calling out the Republican Party when I felt it was wrong. I’ll continue to call ‘em as I see ‘em, and I believe having done that in a very public way has earned both me and my staff the respect of constituents across party lines. Nothing will change.

That’s how politics works – and I’m committed to simply rising above it and serving as I have in the past 2+ years.

"And for the record, the local Republican Party took zero active role in any of the redistricting effort. Given that, the outcome should come as no surprise."

Stuff the Bus

On Friday, Emerge will co-sponsor another “Stuff the Bus” event at the Sam Levitz furniture store. The address is 100 N. Pantano. The event will run from 6am until 6pm. Throughout the course of the day, the Arizona Lottery has committed to matching any

monetary donation (up to \$10K), effectively doubling every dollar given.

While they cannot accept used clothes, towels or bedding, they are happy to fill the bus with these sorts of items:

Diapers ▫ Baby Wipes ▫ Used Cellphones ▫ Grocery Store Gift Cards ▫ New Towels



In addition to Emerge, this event is sponsored by the Arizona Lottery, Pima County Attorney's Office, Sun Tran, Sam Levitz, KGUN, KWBA and MIIX-FM.

Sincerely,

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

2012 TUCSON FIREFIGHTERS CHILI COOK-OFF

October 26, 2012

10:00 AM to 10:00 PM

El Presidio Plaza Park

160 W. Alameda



Come out, bring your appetite and your camera. The Tucson Firefighters Chili Cook-Off promises to be a great event for a great cause. More than 1000 gallons of chili will be cooked for this event. There are 30 booths in friendly competition each bringing at least 30 gallons of chili to the event. There will be a wide variety of chili from spicy hot to veggie. The chili is \$1.00 a cup and all proceeds will benefit the Tucson Firefighters Adopt-A-Family Program, which assists needy families and children with clothing, food, basic necessities and toys throughout the holiday season.

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.

Thursday, October 18, 8:00pm. “**Toadies & Helmet**” all ages

Friday, October 19, 8:00pm. “**Sleigh Bells & Araabmuzik**” all ages

Saturday, October 20, 9:00pm. “**MeowMeow Productions presents Bloodbath!**”

www.RialtoTheatre.com

Fox Theatre, 17 W. Congress St.

Friday, October 19, 7:30pm. “**John Mayall**”

Saturday, October 20, 7:30pm. “**Mystic India**”

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

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

Arizona Theatre Company presents “**Lombardi**” by Eric Simonson

Saturday, October 20 – November 10, 2012.

www.arizonatheatre.org

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

Exhibit Hall

Friday thru Sunday, October 19-21, “**Timeless Ink Tour.**”

Ongoing

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main Ave.

Ongoing exhibition, Opening Saturday, October 6 and ending January 20:

“**Barbara Rogers: The Imperative of Beauty, A Fifty-Year Retrospective**”

www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org

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

Current exhibition: **The AIR Show & Vinjon Global Corp: Quietly Taking Over the World**

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 October 6 and runs November 3

“**Sanctuary: Recent Work by TDS Faculty**” & “**Flight: Midcentury Masters Interpret the Escape for Survival**”

<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

Thursdays, 4:00 – 7:00pm.

Mercado San Agustin, 100 S. Avenida del Convento

Science Downtown: Mars + Beyond

Open by appointment only

2nd Saturday of each month, extended hours to 5:00pm – 9:00pm

300 E. Congress St.

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

Wednesday, October 17. 7:30pm. “Beauty is Embarrassing.”

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 Southwest 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.**Sam Hughes Neighborhood Association Garden Tour on Sunday, October 21, 12:00 to 5:00**

The self-guided tour features eight private residences and two public properties. Solar Solution AZ, LLC, 520 -216-7198, will be available at the garden tour to answer any solar energy questions. Tickets are \$10 per adult. Children are free when accompanied by a paying adult. Sam Hughes Neighborhood Association Members tickets are FREE! (Bring your Certificate of Membership.) Get tickets the day of the tour from noon to 3:00 PM at Sam Hughes School, 700 N Wilson Ave.

Cinema La Placita Outdoor Film Seriespresents “Desperately Seeking Susan”
on Thursday, October 18 at 7:30 p.m.

To view full schedule visit:

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

Rosanna Arquette Aidan Quinn and Madonna as Susan

**DESPERATELY
SEEKING SUSAN**

© MGM/UA



It's that time again! Please drop off the following items at our Ward 6 Office:



Please click on this link for more information: <http://knowwheretothrow.com/>