

Ward 6 Staff



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Ward 6 Newsletter

TUCSON FIRST

November 10, 2014

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City Regulations on Ball Chairs



This is from a directive sent out late last week to City workers. I'm guessing the picture shown above (which was also included) was not intended to be a parody – but I haven't heard back for sure yet from staff.

If your employees are using exercise balls in lieu of chairs with your permission, please ensure that the employee provides the appropriate stand and the OSHA recommended components have been considered. Additionally, please be aware that any injury sustained as a result of use, may have an impact on your self-insurance rates.

I don't want to come across as being anti-science,



Important Phone Numbers

Tucson Police Department
911 or nonemergency
791-4444

Water Issues
791-4133
Emergency: 791-4133

Street Maintenance
791-3154

Graffiti Removal
792-2489

Abandoned Shopping Carts
791-3171

Neighborhood Resources
837-5013

SunTran/SunLink
792-9222

Environmental Services
791-3171

Park Wise
791-5071

Planning and Development Services
791-5550

Pima County Animal Control
243-5900

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

Continued: A Message From Steve



and I know people can fall off from the big balls that are often used as “seating devices” (technically not a “chair” as formally issued by the City, and as recognized by OSHA), but when we got the advisory last week that gave us instructions on the key constituent elements of an authorized City chair, I was a little surprised that the issue had become a problem in need of a solution. The image shown on the first page is the compromise solution offered by our risk management folks. You’ll note that it has all of the conveniences of your standard issue “chair;” arm rests, a back, wheels. Very safe. And this high-tech contraption incorporates the ball component, the culprit that gave rise to this new directive. Very ingenious.

A couple of the Ward 6 ladies occasionally use the old style ball chair – just a big ball they sit on. They have no arms and no back (the chairs that is, not the ladies). I worry for their wellbeing.

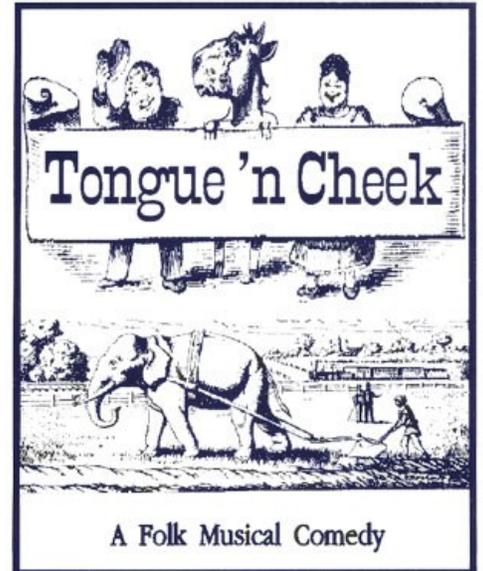
We’re very grateful to our risk management team for stepping in and offering this new and improved model as an option. I’ll rest easier knowing the Ward 6 team is under their watchful eye. And I understand that if you remove the ball, you can use the remaining portion as a wok. We’ll be stir-frying veggies and bounding around the office on our ball chairs from now on. Very good feng shui.

Don’t Lie for the Other Guy



The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives offers an online training course in how to spot what’s called a “straw purchase.” It’s when a person buys a gun for somebody else, and the other person would not have been eligible to make the purchase. To the chagrin of many of the gun lobby guys, there are legitimate reasons a person becomes a prohibited possessor. The straw purchase by-passes the law.

The City of Tucson purchases guns for use by our public safety officers. We have two



weapons contracts in place, spread between 3 different vendors. The buys are made on an as needed basis. In the past 2 years we've bought about 20 12 gauge shotguns, just under 60 Glock .40 caliber pistols and 20 semi-automatic rifles.

The BATF has partnered with the National Shooting Sports Foundation (a Trade association for the firearms industry) in putting together the Don't Lie For The Other Guy program. The intent is to educate retailers in how to detect "straw purchases". The value of the program is validated by the Department of Justice's "Project Safe Neighborhoods" having provided funding to raise public awareness of the criminality involved with the purchase of a gun for a prohibited person. Buying a gun for somebody who is otherwise prohibited is a Federal crime punishable by up to 10 years in prison, and a fine of up to \$250,000. It's serious stuff.

I have submitted to the City Clerk an agenda request for January 6th to allow the Mayor and Council to consider making it a requirement of our purchasing agreements that any weapons vendor under contract with the City put their employees through the BATF Don't Lie For The Other Guy training. If we're buying guns from them, others are, too. I believe there's a value in people who are in the business of selling weapons to have seen the BATF training. If that means we keep a gun out of the hands of a prohibited possessor, and potentially save carnage, then it's worth the likely push back the proposal will receive from the usual suspects.

The NSSF has distributed the Don't Lie program to over 34,000 retailers, gun show promoters and pawn shops. The BATF has conducted more than 60 firearms retailer educational seminars so Federal firearms licensees are better trained in detecting illegal straw purchases. My hope is that the M&C will make taking such training a condition of bidding on being our gun vendors.

I'll be writing more about this between now and the study session. Because of the State pre-emption of local decision making on gun related issues, our hands are tied to some degree on safety measures we can adopt here. But this is a move we can take without running up against that pre-emption. I think it's worth pushing for. And thousands of firearms dealers already agree. I suspect it won't take long to see how the idea is received out here in the wild, Wild West.

If you'd like more information on the BATF programs, you can visit their web site at:

www.atf.gov

Grant Road RTA Project

I'm glad the risk management staff who is promoting the ball chairs don't drive down Grant road. If they did, I'm sure they'd either shut it down, or require extra safety gear be installed on peoples' car seats to help deflect the jolts from potholes. It's in bad shape.

Just as is true with the ball chairs, help is on the way.

On Wednesday, November 19th at 5:30, TDOT staff will present an update on the RTA widening project, as well as giving some information on repairs that'll be made to the roadway ahead of that work. The meeting will be held at the Tucson Association of Realtors office located at 2445 N. Tucson Blvd – one block north of Grant.



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)
(3rd District)
520-622-6788

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

Mayor Jonathan
Rothschild
791-4201

ZoomTucson Map
[http://
maps.tucsonaz.gov
/zoomTucson/](http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomTucson/)

The next part of the road that'll get some TLC is the Stone to Park segment. During the meeting on the 19th the project team will give a thorough description of the changes you'll see, and the timing for the work. But they'll also be ready to give updates on what to expect with the rest of the project.

Segments 3 and 4 run from Palo Verde out to nearly Swan. Design on those segments will begin soon, and will take from 18-24 months to complete. The final segment will go into design near the end of that 24 month Segments 3/4 design phase. The final segment is the stretch of road that runs from about Park to Palo Verde.

At around the first of the year, the Grant Road Citizen's Advisory Committee will resume their meetings. The purpose will be to discuss design that'll occur within the Segments 3/4 area. In addition at around that same time the project team will resume the public conversation about overlays for the entire Grant project corridor. Overlays are optional zoning conditions. Those conditions are what'll be negotiated with the various stake holders along Grant. Necessarily incorporated in those discussions will be issues of density, scale, buffers, traffic flow and land uses. If you live near to Grant you really should let your voice be heard as these overlay discussions take place. I'll be sure to include in future newsletters the dates/times for those meetings.

As I've already noted, Grant Road is in poor condition today. We can't wait for years to allow the design process to move forward before actual road repair construction begins. With that in mind, in November of next year TDOT will begin fixing the condition of the street from Park over to Columbus. And dove-tailing with that work will be a flood district project, the goal of which is to take hundreds of residents and businesses out of the flood plain. The "Columbus Wash Improvements" project will cover the area between Pima and Blacklidge, and from Belvedere to about Walnut. The hope is to get it done before the final RTA segment begins.

The flood plain project is pretty focused in the Garden District. But the impact will be felt in multiple areas. As soon as public meetings start on that, I'll be sure to alert you. We're talking some major waterways during the monsoon. It's great to know that TDOT is going to begin the needed repairs well ahead of the finish date for the Grant widening.

Neighborhood Roll-Offs

Quick update on another neighborhood related item. Previously there was a limit of 8 free annual roll-offs that a neighborhood could have delivered for cleaning days. Due to the overwhelming popularity of the program, Environmental Services (ES) has lifted the ceiling. Doing this is a way to encourage neighborhood associations to take even more of an initiative in cleaning debris from the areas around their homes. It's a benefit to the homeowners, and also saves labor and material for ES.

Another change being adopted by ES is the way clean-ups can be initiated. Now, any group of 10 ES residential customers will be able to request a roll-off for a clean-up event. And ES will loan out tools such as shovels and rakes, as well as trash bags and gloves to assist in the clean-up. It's actually Tucson Clean and Beautiful who's doing the tool loan. The applications can be completed on line. If you have questions about any of these opportunities, you can either call us at the Ward 6 office (791.4601) or call E.S. di-

rectly at 791.3175.

Rainwater Harvesting and Curb Cuts

And while I'm on the topic of City services, last week we directed staff to meet with the Citizens Water Advisory Committee (CWAC) and make changes to our rain water harvesting incentive program. Here's what they'll be considering.

Since we began offering the current levels of incentives in June of '13, several hundred residential units have qualified for rebates through Tucson Water. Here's how those break down by Ward:

Ward 1 - 49
 Ward 2 - 81
 Ward 3 - 65
 Ward 4 - 30
 Ward 5 - 28
 Ward 6 - 137

There are two levels of incentive that we offer. One, for simple passive systems is for up to \$500, and the other, for the more complex active systems is for up to \$2,000. The current program is scheduled to be reviewed for its effectiveness next year. We voted unanimously to have CWAC and TW explore expanding the incentive package ahead of that review to include both non-residential applications and curb cuts. We also shared some thoughts on the evaluation criteria we believe should be a part of the review.

Speaking only for myself, it's my belief that if we were to offer the simple/passive level of incentives to help pay for curb cuts – irrigating shade trees, and other vegetation on the

sides of our roadways – we'd get lots of neighborhoods wanting to participate. Ward 6 is already a leader in being involved with the cisterns. I'm certain many of you would be knocking on the door asking for some help with the curb cuts.



Photo by Brad Lancaster

The issue we faced last week was that one of the selection criteria being used by staff is a demonstrable reduction in water use at the

meter. Installing curb cuts will reduce flooding, will enhance the walkability of our neighborhoods, will upgrade the aesthetic of our neighborhoods, will reduce the impact of water on our roadways, and will not show up at the meter. I suggested that both intuition and observation should be included in the evaluation criteria we use.

The other two criteria being used are cost/benefit analysis and participation. If we add curb cuts, the participation will increase. For cost/benefit, I've just cited several benefits that will easily demonstrate their value over the costs. Getting those criteria into the discussion will help to offset the focus on meter readings.

Success is measured in many ways. Last week we were pretty clear with staff that we need

to break the mold and apply some creativity in how we look at these incentives. I know each of us is looking forward to the report back from Tucson Water and the CWAC on this item.

AC Marriott Tucson

We finally got in front of us a development agreement that makes sense for the proposed AC Marriott Tucson hotel. Back before I was first elected in 2009, the City was looking at hotel proposals, none of which made fiscal sense. Now we have one that incorporates significant private sector investment, has passed a third party economic analysis, and will begin to go vertical early next year. It will have been worth the wait – and worth fighting for a project that benefits the taxpayers without putting our General Fund at risk.

The project will be a new 8 story building that'll include a few floors for parking, some retail, restaurants and of course the hotel rooms. It will be located immediately south of the Playground, adjacent to The Rialto Block. We'll see just under \$41M in direct construction jobs, and once it's completed the project could generate an annual economic impact to the area of nearly \$22M. That's in terms of jobs created, spending at the site, and the indirect impact of the employees' income being filtered out into the local economy.

At our end, we're putting up some tax incentives that are allowable under the constraints of the State Constitutional Gift Clause. That simply means the benefits that go back to the taxpayer must exceed the value of the incentive to the developer. The third party analysis affirmed that what we're putting on the table meets that threshold.

This is Transit Oriented Development in its purest form. The streetcar tracks turn a corner that is at the immediate southeast edge of the hotel footprint. In fact, the nearness of the tracks makes the actual construction a challenge. I'm in touch with the architects and design team to see how we can shoehorn the construction equipment into the tight space that's created by the electrical lines that run the streetcar. It'll work – and it'll be worth the effort.

We have more work to do on an associated agreement related to the space above the Depot Plaza Garage. It was my belief that splitting the two deals up and moving ahead with the one that makes immediate sense was the best course. More to come on the Depot Plaza, but the hotel's a 'go.'

Puppy Mill Update



With the successful adoption of Prop 415 (Pima Animal Care Center), I thought it'd be a good time to remind you what's holding up our moving forward with a local puppy mill ordinance. But first, thanks to all of you who worked so very hard in getting Prop 415 passed. The regional benefits will be tangible, and humane.

There's a pending lawsuit up in Phoenix, filed against that City by the owners of a pet store. The pet store filed the lawsuit right after Phoe-

nix passed their puppy mill ordinance. Ours was similar, and so when we voted to move ours forward, a part of the motion I made was to delay implementation until we saw the outcome of the Phoenix litigation. We hope to see that by around the end of the year.

The litigation's unnecessary because the sale of puppies and kittens in pet stores is, too. We have overstuffed shelters (witness the need for Prop 415) as well as rescue agencies who are begging for adoptable homes for their critters. Stores are making changes in their business models to be a part of the solution. For example, in Plano, Texas, Petland will be changing their model to offering boarding and daycare, as well as selling pet supplies – not the dogs and cats themselves. That's the outcome proponents of the Puppy Mill Ordinances are advocating. Stop selling the puppy mill offspring, and stay open by selling supplies, or offering other services such as is being done in Plano.

The owner of that store (Lisa Abair) is looking for help in connecting with shelters and rescues to offer adoptions at her store. If you'd like to reach her (and thank her) her number is 214.808.7965. Many of us are hopeful that Tucson based pet stores will soon follow Lisa's lead and we can get this issue out of the court system.

Project Mariposa

While updates are on my mind, here's one that also includes some good news. Last Friday, we hosted a "thank you" gathering for the many volunteers who have worked to keep Project Mariposa going – both when the numbers of migrant women/kids were high, and now that they're dwindling off a bit. We were pleased to have about 75 people jam into our common room, eat some food and share their stories about the families they've encountered.

Since moving the intake center out of the Greyhound bus depot, Catholic Community Services has hosted intake at one of their locations. Soon they'll need to transition that site into other community uses and so we have been working on yet another move for the program. This time it won't be quite as daunting as the first move was because the quantity of people we're seeing is less than before. And we also have more partners involved who'll help take up the slack in the event an overflow situation arises.

The move will be to a residential facility that has been a CCS shelter for women and children for several years. Due to zoning restrictions, if the number of overnighters exceeds 10, we'll shift those extras either to homes of volunteers, or to one of the original Casa Mariposa facilities. Over the Christmas holiday, Temple Emanuel will be once again lending a hand. As I said – we have partners.

The donations from the community continue to be amazing. In fact, some of what has been received has gone to aiding migrant families who are being dropped by ICE in Phoenix and in Yuma. Same dynamics, different locations. Tucsonans are stepping up to help, regardless of where the need exists.

Some of the challenges continue to be transporting the women/kids from the shelter over to Greyhound, and now a new one has emerged; the departure time for some of the busses is after midnight. True to form, there are volunteers who are making those trips, even at that late hour, in support of the Project.

Friday was a nice chance to say “thanks” to the people who are doing the work that nobody else in the community sees. They do it for the internal sense of goodness it brings. We at the Ward 6 office join Catholic Community Services, Temple Emanuel and indeed the management of the Greyhound bus depot in thanking this group of good Samaritans for their commitment to the needy we continue to see as they pass through onto their next stop.

International Association of Astronomical Artists

A Celebration of the International Year of Light
presented by
International Association of Astronomical Artists

SPACE AND LIGHT

Please Join Us For
Gala Opening | Meet the Artists
November 14, 2014 from 7pm to 10pm

www.spaceandlightart.com

The Art of Space and Light is a celebration of the International Year of Light, an observance by the United Nations to aim awareness of the achievements of light science and its applications, and its importance to humankind. This exposition features the works of members of the International Association of Astronomical Art (IAAA).

November 14 thru December 31, 2014

Hosted by Tucson City Council Member, Steve Kozachik
City Council Ward 6 | 3202 E. First Street Tucson, AZ

I don't want this to get lost in the events section of the newsletter – this Friday, from 6pm until 10pm, we're pleased to invite the IAAA to use our common meeting room area to kick off their celebration of “The Art of Space and Light”. This event is tied into the United Nations' 2015 International Year of Light. Many of the artists who'll be displaying their work will be on site Friday for the kick off. If we can pull it off as planned, you may see some special lighting effects in one of our back room areas, some pretty amazing chalk art out front, and other surprises. We hope you're able to make some part of the night.

The art will continue on display at Ward 6 through the end of the year. You can call us (791.4601) if you'd like more information, or Michelle Rouch – the primary organizer of

the event – is available at mrouch@gainbroadband.com.

Pima County/Tucson Women's Commission Study

I'm going to end with this, not because it's the least important part of this newsletter, but because I'm still processing what to do with the report. The Southwest Institute for Research on Women, in cooperation with the UA College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Women's Commission just issued a report on how women manage in these difficult economic times. They wanted to see how the dynamics of their circumstances and coping strategies differ from those of in-tact families, and of men. There were some interesting results.

One of the striking data included in the study was the prevalence and impact of early pregnancy. There are stark differences in the %'s based on ethnic breakdown. Regardless of ethnicity though, teen mothers are much more likely to suffer academically, and as a result they have lower rates of high school completion. The study validated that 'has serious implications for Southern Arizona's economic future.' Dropouts cost over \$7B annually in

this State, and being in that position makes it extremely hard to climb out of poverty. As the cost of childcare rises, it makes work a less viable option and places the young girl on a treadmill of needing social service assistance.

This was a 30 page report so I'm not going to lay it all out here, but will share some of the author's recommendations:

- Increase the minimum wage
- Comprehensive sexual health education in public schools
- Affordable child care options
- Improve public transportation (the women in the study felt unsafe on our busses)
- Vacate certain prior convictions (I addressed this a couple of weeks ago in sharing the Bill we hope to get introduced into the Arizona Legislature this term that'll vacate trafficking charges – criminalizing the victim)
- Address food insecurity through Federal and local resources (thanks to the Community Food Bank, St. Vincent DePaul's, and other local agencies who are stepping up and helping)
- Housing – the largest single expense for the women in the study

I found this insight interesting – one that I hadn't thought of. If a woman is homeless, CPS can put her kids into protective custody. When that happens, her access to certain benefits ends. In order to get the kids back, she has to be able to show she has a place for them to live. But paradoxically, without the kids in her custody, she's not eligible for some of the financial assistance that may be needed to establish a home and safe environment for the children — a very circular situation.

I'm grateful to Alison Hughes, Joyceen Boyle and Rosi Andrade for the work they invested in preparing the report. It's fundamentally important material, and as I noted above, I'm still thinking about how to engage it beyond simply this mention. Let me know if you've got some ideas.

Sincerely,



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

Events and Entertainment

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

Tucson Veterans Day Parade 2014

Tuesday, November 11th — 11:00AM Click here for parade route:

<http://www.tucsonveteransdayparade.org/parade-route.html>



"The Arab-Israeli Cookbook" A play by Robin Soans, 2001 W. Starr Pass Blvd.

November 13th, 14th, & 15th Cholla High Magnet School Little Theatre

"A verbatim play constructed from Arab and Israeli voices coming together to bring insight and understanding to the melting pot of Middle Eastern affairs."

Tickets \$10.00 general admission, \$7.00 with student ID. Group rate available.

To contact the theater for reservations and/or information about the show, please email julian.martinez2@tusd1.org

Remembering January 8th At the Arizona History Museum: 949 E. 2nd St.

Currently on exhibit:



In conjunction with the January 8th Memorial Foundation, the Arizona History Museum will be hosting an exhibition celebrating the lives of those who died while participating in the democratic process "Congress on Your Corner" with former US Representative Gabrielle Giffords, who was injured at the event. The January 8th Memorial Foundation has loaned artifacts from the many memorials around Tucson which honored those who died or were injured. These artifacts will be displayed at the Arizona History Museum beginning October 29th. For more info: www.tucsonsmemorial.org or Phone: 520-628-5774. Free parking one block west of the museum in the Arizona Historical Society garage (northeast corner of E. 2nd St. and N. Euclid).

Family Festival in the Park Reid

Park, 22nd Street and Country Club
Saturday, November 15th 10:00AM
– 2:00PM

Cost: FREE, but please bring a non-perishable food donation to support the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona.

For more information, contact Sierra Davenport, Community Promotions and Marketing Manager Sierra.Davenport@tucsonaz.gov or 837-8032 for more information.

Family Festival in the Park!
Saturday, Nov. 15
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Reid Park
22nd and Country Club

FREE

- Admission to the Reid Park Zoo and rides on the Zoo Express train
- Bring your swim suit and enjoy free swimming at the Edith Ball Adaptive Recreation Center - Noon-4 p.m.
- Games, inflatables, arts and crafts, disc golf, tennis
- Tucson City will be offering 10-minute golf instructions at Randolph Golf Course Driving Range.
- Entertainment, fitness walk, demonstrations and vendors

SUPPORT THE LIONS CLUB EYEGLASS RECYCLING PROGRAM! Please bring used eyeglasses to donate to the TUCSON BREAKFAST LIONS CLUB

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FOOD BANK! Please bring a can of food for the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona

Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona

Logos: Tucson Parks and Recreation, Tucson City, Tucson Playful City, Pyramid Federal Credit Union, Health Choice, Northwest Medical Center, CareMore, Tucson Water, Wendy's, Macaroni Kid, Arizona Families.

For more information call 791-4873.

Ongoing

Tucson Symphony Orchestra 260 S. Church Ave

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

Arizona Theater Company, 330 S Scott Ave

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

Fox Theatre, 17 W Congress St

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Rialto Theatre, 318 E Congress St

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

The Rogue Theatre at The Historic Y, 300 E University Blvd

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

Hotel Congress, 311 E Congress St

<http://hotelcongress.com>

Loft Cinema, 3233 E Speedway Blvd

www.loftcinema.com

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N Main Ave

www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org

Jewish History Museum, 564 S Stone Ave

Temple of Shadows. August 21st to November 1st.

Jewish History Museum invites the public to view 15 prints showing the Museum before its renovation in black and white and afterwards infused with color.

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

Opening October 18, 2014

Regarding Curtis: Contemporary Indian Artists Respond to the Imagery of Edward S. Curtis Whether romanticized or contested, the enduring power of the imagery of Edward S.

Curtis has informed contemporary notions of Native American identity and perception. By inviting contemporary Indian artists to respond to these issues of identity and perception, we carry this dialogue into the present day, both visually and intellectually.

www.statemuseum.arizona.edu

UA Mineral Museum, 1601 E University Blvd

Now through December 2014, "The Best of the Best: Prize Minerals from the Vaults of Arizona's Collectors."

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

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, 414 N Toole Ave.

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

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

<http://www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org>

Sacred Machine Museum & Curiosity Shop, 245 E Congress St

<http://sacredmachine.com>

Meet Me at Maynards, 311 E Congress 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

Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N Alvernon Way

<http://www.tucsonbotanical.org>