

## Ward 6 Staff



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# Ward 6 Newsletter

## Tucson First

November 2, 2015

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### Domestic Abuse

The past month has been domestic abuse awareness month, and I've been pleased to share educational updates provided



### You can save lives by learning to:

1. **RECOGNIZE** signs of abuse,
2. **RESPOND** in a supportive way, and
3. **REFER** to Emerge!

by Emerge! Center for Domestic Abuse with you. Emerge! is our local service provider for victims of domestic violence. As a final mention for the month-long series, I'm going to fill in some of the blanks that come from the "1-2-3" challenge shown above.

Recognition is key. Things to look for include controlling behaviors of all sorts. That can be telling a partner how to dress, financial leverage, physical threats, or anger issues. Other red flags include cruelty to kids, isolation of a partner, extreme jealousy, or Jekyll/Hyde personality swings. If you see any of these in a relationship, or things such as blaming others for problems and holding a double standard for behaviors, you might be seeing the potential for an abusive relationship developing.



### Important Phone Numbers

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

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

**Street Maintenance**  
791-3154

**Graffiti Removal**  
792-2489

**Abandoned  
Shopping Carts**  
791-3171

**Neighborhood  
Resources**  
837-5013

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

**Environmental  
Services**  
791-3171

**Park Wise**  
791-5071

**Planning and  
Development  
Services** 791-5550

**Pima Animal Care  
Center**  
724-5900

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

## Continued: A Message From Steve

How to respond? If you're the victim, call Emerge! Ask for help. The 24 hour emergency hotline (795.4266) is a resource you should take advantage of. If you're observing such a relationship, Emerge! will tell you that it's important for you to verbalize your concern for the person's well-being. And if a victim comes to you, don't discredit their feelings. Be supportive, and connect them with Emerge! Don't confront the abuser. That's not your role.

The final step in the process is referral. It's simple:

### REFER to Emerge! Services

**Call the Emerge! 24-hour Bilingual Hotline - 520.795.4266**

By learning about the resources available to someone who has experienced domestic abuse, you can be ready when someone needs help.

#### Police Chief Citizen Committee

Also related to the public's safety, I want to thank the fifteen community members who took their time to interview candidates and make a recommendation relative to our new police chief. I attended their wrap-up session, during which each member had an opportunity to share his or her thoughts on the three finalists whom they had interviewed that morning. I listened to their comments, did some of my own homework and will share these few thoughts.

First, the group voted 13 to 2 to move ahead and offer the job to the current City of Richmond, California chief, Chris Magnus. He has held that position since 2006. Unless some new and disqualifying information comes out, I am going to support their recommendation. Here's why.

Chief Magnus has worked hard to bridge a tough racial divide that exists in the Richmond area (near Oakland). He has participated in community forums and has met the people in the street during rallies. There's been some concern over his having held a "Black Lives Matter" sign at one of the rallies. The simple fact is that 'black lives matter' is a true statement, and one that he deserves credit for embracing. He obviously wasn't embracing the anti-police agenda that has been associated with the slogan. He has also marched in support of gay rights. Chief Magnus is openly gay – and if anybody has an issue with that, that person shouldn't be in public service. We're beyond that bigotry.

Magnus supports data-driven alternatives to incarceration. He supports taking commissioned officers from behind desks who are doing work that doesn't require a law enforcement commission, placing them back out on the street and filling those jobs with civilians. We want to more fully implement a Community Policing model. To do so requires an increase in staffing. Taking commissioned officers from desk work out into the community makes sense. Magnus is willing to at least have that conversation.



### Important Phone Numbers

Senator John  
McCain (R)  
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff  
Flake (R)  
520-575-8633

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

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

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

Mayor Jonathan  
Rothschild  
520-791-4201

A couple of people on the committee suggested starting the process all over and including local candidates. I won't be supporting that approach. If we did that, all of the current candidates would jump ship and we'd be left with only our local candidates. In addition, any future hiring process we engaged in would be tainted by that decision. Nobody would trust that we had a serious intent to throw a wide net if we eliminated three qualified candidates to start all over. Getting a wide pool was the very reason we told former interim City Manager Durkin that anyone taking that position was precluded from applying for the permanent position. Further, the short list the citizen panel saw was the result of a significant vetting process that included our outside consultant, city prosecutors, region-wide legal people, and others. New ideas, new perspectives, and new blood aren't bad things, and wanting some of that is not a knock on the internal candidates who applied. As professionals, I'm confident that they'll embrace whoever ends up being hired.

I'm sure there'll be much more reported on this topic, and as warranted, I'll chime in, too. But I wanted to open this newsletter by thanking the citizen committee for its work and voicing my support for the candidate that it overwhelmingly selected.

### **On Broadway...**

I'm going to link three Broadway-related items together this week. First, an update on the Broadway alignment process, then two development rezonings that will soon result in retail opportunities along the Broadway corridor.

### **RTA Broadway Project**

The Broadway realignment project engineering team is currently working towards 30% construction drawings. Those are expected to be finished in April of next year. Ahead of that, meetings with affected stakeholders will continue, and the results will inform the final alignment we'll see next spring.

As the design plans are being produced, the project team is also drafting a Design Concept Report (DCR). That will be a rather lengthy document that shows the planning work that has taken place to get us to where we are now and lists the design criteria that will guide the rest of the process. As the team finishes chapters, they'll be posted online for anyone to see. The new project website can be found at [www.broadwayboulevard.info](http://www.broadwayboulevard.info). They expect to be done with the DCR by early December.

Also in December, the Citizen Task Force will reconvene. Its members will get an update on design progress, and will have a chance to comment on the DCR. No date has been set yet, but I'll share it with you when it has been. Those meetings are open to the public, and they include a Call to the Audience where you have an opportunity to share your thoughts.

The project team is developing the roadway design with recommendations from the CTF in mind. Those were broken down into primary and secondary parameters. The primary recommendations included:

- *The least impact to adjacent properties*
- *Maintain buildings and viable parcels wherever possible*
- *Use 6' sidewalks consistent with ADA standards*
- *Use 6' bike lanes*

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

And for parameters of secondary importance, the CTF stated they were intended for when the design is near final refinement and the team is adding back elements omitted during initial design. Those include, in order of priority:

- *7' elevated bike lanes/cycle track and up to 8' sidewalks*
- *Landscaped buffers to enhance the pedestrian environment, improve visual quality, and achieve the City's Green Streets policy*
- *Bus pullouts*
- *Bicycle bypasses*
- *Green Streets and water harvesting*

The technical design parameters passed by M&C are also being considered as the 30% design evolves. You can view them here: [https://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/projects/2015\\_06-09\\_BwayReso22410PartA.pdf](https://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/projects/2015_06-09_BwayReso22410PartA.pdf). They incorporate many of the CTF recommendations, touch on parking and access, and also put the cost of construction and property acquisition front and center.

That's a lot for the project team to juggle, all while keeping our budgetary constraints prominently in mind. Our Real Estate people are preparing to begin meetings with property owners to discuss relocation options. We also have direct points of contact for individual meetings so property owners can get some counseling on their options. The business contact person is James MacAdam, at 837.4068. Members of the community at large can meet with Rebecca Ruopp to talk about how the process is moving along and to express ideas and priorities. Her number is 837.6973.

Also this month, the City will host "Acquisition 101," an information session for property owners and tenants along Broadway who might be facing acquisition. It will summarize the property acquisition process, the rights of property owners, and the options available for those who would like to stay in their current locations.

This has been a frustratingly long process, but with real estate conversations beginning and the design finally evolving, we're getting closer to the point at which all property owners along the corridor will understand what's coming with respect to how the new roadway will impact their ability to remain in place. We'll also have a study session agenda item in December for an open and very public update.

It's tough to balance so many competing interests. I hear committed voices coming from all angles. At the end of this, I'm still hopeful the project will reflect the citizen input we've heard, the budget we have to work with, and a corridor design that reflects the needs of the travelling community – all modes.

### **Broadway Village**

The rezoning process for Broadway Village has also been a long and protracted one. It has included multiple public meetings, neighborhood association gatherings, meetings at the Ward 6 Office, in front of the Zoning Examiner, and finally the public hearing that will come to us on Wednesday. After all of the lead-up, the deal boils down to three points:



1. The designation of Historic Landmark status for the Joestler buildings at Broadway Village
2. An agreement by the Broadway Village owners to contribute up to \$10K to the neighborhood as they pursue historic status
3. Removing two buildings from a Planned Area Development

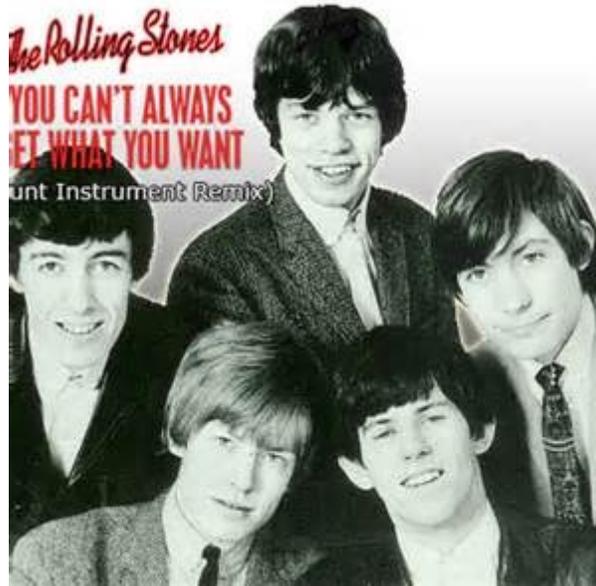
Sounds easy, but getting to this week's vote has had its heated moments.

Removal of the two buildings wasn't controversial. The agreement was a sign of good faith by the owners, showing that if they acquired additional parking in the rezoning process, they wouldn't render it moot by adding more occupancy to the Broadway Village shopping center.

The donation of the \$10K is also a sign of good faith by the owners, demonstrating their willingness to help the Broadmoor-Broadway Neighborhood start the long and expensive process of becoming recognized by the State as a historic neighborhood. We held an educational forum at our office recently during which our historic preservation folks explained the tax benefits that come with the designation.

The touchier piece of this has been related to which buildings will be given the Historic Landmark (HL) status. The owners have identified the Joestler buildings at Broadway Village. Several of the neighbors and others in the preservation community would like to see what's known as the Table Talk building included. So would I, but that decision is 100% up to the owners, and they've elected to keep the HL designation to only the brick Joestler buildings. In the immortal words of the Rolling Stones, 'you can't always get what you want, but if you try sometimes you just might find you get what you need.' (Do you remember when that hair length was scandalous?) Having Historic Landmark status for the Joestler buildings is what's needed to preserve them for the long haul.

We'll vote on this after the Wednesday public hearing. Neither side wins everything it's after – each side gets a portion of what it wants.



**A Side Note on Historic Landmarks**

Last week we received a letter from our Zoning Examiner stating he's resigning due to 'political interference.' Here's the full text of the letter:



**CITY OF  
TUCSON**  
ZONING  
EXAMINER'S  
OFFICE

October 26, 2015

Michael Ortega, City Manager  
City of Tucson  
City Hall, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
255 West Alameda  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Manager Ortega,

I regretfully offer my resignation from the position of Zoning Examiner effective January 9, 2016. I am proud to have served in this capacity after my predecessor retired in 2011 and I am proud to have served prior to that as a land use attorney for the city.

I have provided fair zoning hearings to the citizens of Tucson and independent and impartial zoning recommendations to the city council. I am grateful to the city attorney and the dedicated professionals of the Planning and Development Services Department for the fair administration of our land use code. I have been impressed by the vision of the development community to enhance and enrich our built environment and to work with their neighbors and city staff. I have also been encouraged by the energy of civic engagement in land use issues. Finally, I have appreciated the role of those council members who work hard to represent their constituents and openly seek solutions within the Zoning Examiner's public hearing context.

However, political interference with the Zoning Examiner's process undermines the integrity of land use decisions. I hope that city management will continue to oppose efforts that undermine the transparency and fairness of land use processes that involve public input.

The employees of the City of Tucson are some of the hardest-working, dedicated, and public-spirited people I have ever known. It has been an honor to serve this community. I look forward to continued public service should I be called upon to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linus Kafka".

Linus Kafka

When we were considering Historic Landmark status for the Valley of the Moon, I sat in the Zoning Examiner hearing and saw a pretty ugly series of exchanges. The same was true when we held the recent hearing on Broadway Village's HL designation. The upcoming Broadway widening project will include similar issues of zoning and historic assets. I have

no way of knowing whether or not these were some sort of tipping point, but I can say that if any attempts to leverage his decision were going on *behind the scenes*, it was wrong, and it has now cost us a top drawer public official. The Zoning Examiner needs to be allowed to conduct his work without any political pressure outside of the normal public hearings he conducts. He makes a recommendation. Then it's up to M&C to decide whether or not to accept it. We may not always agree with his determinations, but we can't preempt his independence. We need to adhere to that standard when we fill Linus' shoes. Otherwise, that very important position will simply become a revolving door. We cannot afford that.

Now that he has laid the charge, the best thing for him to do would be to make clear what he has in mind and eliminate all the speculation.

...back to Broadway.

### **Broadway/Rosemont**

On Wednesday, we'll also be voting on the rezoning of a parcel located at the southwest corner of Broadway and Rosemont. Right now, it's a small strip mall and a vacant lot that hosts a pumpkin and Christmas tree sales operation. This is another development opportunity that has gone through a significant public process.

The proposed development will be a grocery store, plus several smaller retailers around the perimeter of the site. The process has been so thorough that there are 49 conditions tied to the rezoning. That implies the owners have been listening and responding to the concerns of the surrounding residents.

We live on sales tax revenue. There will be two new tenants in the Broadway Village – a grocer and a restaurant. The Broadway/Rosemont development will also bring in several new retail tenants. In each case, the owners and developers have worked with neighbors to their sites and have tried to accommodate their concerns and requests in the design of the projects. Our Zoning Examiner has captured those dynamics in his recommendations to us. We'll see on Wednesday if any new issues emerge. Failing that, we should be on our way to some new building along Broadway that preserve important historic landmarks and provide the City with needed tax revenues.

### **Planning and Development Services**

A part of getting these projects moving is having them go through our Planning and Development Services Department (PDSD). That's where you get construction documents approved, permits issued, and the okay to start construction. I think our PSDS staff does a pretty fair job; there's always room for improvement in any operation.

Council Member Romero has asked for us to take a look at the PSDS operations. We'll be talking about that on Wednesday, too. I think it's a valid study session request, and she deserves credit for bringing it forward at this time. In anticipation of the discussion, I've asked staff to include in our material the plan review policies now in use by the County. I've heard good things about their procedures, so we might as well look at what they do well rather than trying to reinvent the wheel.

I work in this stuff at the University, so I can relate to some of the frustrations I hear from developers from time to time. Here are some of County's standards that we might do well to consider emulating:

Attempt to approve applications on the first or second submittal.

Attempt to assign the same reviewer to a project throughout, and if that's not possible, whenever a subsequent review takes place by a different reviewer, the findings from the first time through the process are honored (absent health and safety issues that were missed initially).

Provide clearly articulated comments that include the specific action required by the applicant – not leaving anything to assumption so the resubmittal has a better chance to go smoothly.

Timely contact – time is money to developers.

Applicants must submit high-quality, complete, and technically accurate plans and documents. There's an obligation on both sides of the fence to make the process run smoothly. Builders and architects have their role, too.

We're seeing significant development in the downtown core. The Broadway Village and Broadway/Rosemont projects – if the rezonings are approved – will end up on PDSO desks soon. There's a hotel coming right off campus and housing on Stone. With all of this work coming (and that's just a sample from Ward 6 – there's more elsewhere in the City), it's a very good time to retool our planning process. The study session item comes at a very good moment.

#### **More Changes in City Processes – Code Enforcement**

As many of you know, our Code Enforcement process is complaint driven. As is true in the rest of PDSO, our Code Enforcement division is short on staff. The result has been a tough time responding to and doing follow-up on code violations as they're reported. Many times a property owner just needs a nudge and a whole case doesn't need to be opened. To that end, next week we'll be implementing a new procedure.



#### **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION**

### **COURTESY NOTICE**

We have received reports of violations at this address.

- **Accumulation of weeds and/or grass over 6"**
- **Obstructing and overgrown vegetation**
- **Accumulation of refuse and/or debris**
- **Inoperable vehicles in front or side yards**

The Tucson City Code, Chapter 16, requires that properties be maintained free of weeds or grass exceeding 6" in height, dead vegetation, obstructing vegetation, refuse and debris. This duty includes abutting utility easements, right-of-ways, and alleys.

Vegetation, such as cactus or tree branches, cannot obstruct public sidewalks, streets, or alley areas. Refuse includes, but is not limited to, trash, garbage, auto parts/tires, appliances, furniture, building materials, plant trimmings, animal waste, and other discarded items.

Inoperable vehicles include those that cannot be driven due to missing engine, drivetrain or flat tires, or vehicles missing parts, or partially or fully disassembled, or wrecked.

**This is a courtesy notice asking you review this property and to abate any of the violations listed above within 10 days.**

If none of these violations exist, the City of Tucson and your neighbors thank you for maintaining your property.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call:

**(520) 791-5843**

Website: <http://pdsd.tucsonaz.gov/pdsd/code-enforcement>

This is the text of a postcard that will soon be sent out for certain types of code violations. Those include calls about vegetation or refuse blocking a right-of-way, weeds or grass becoming overgrown, or junked motor vehicles in yards. Instead of sending out a code inspector right away, the postcard will provide notice of the potential violation to the property owner. An inspector will then schedule a follow-up to inspect the property two weeks after the card has been mailed. Our hope and expectation is that property owners will get the message and abate the violation on their own. That saves them the trouble of having a Notice of Violation filed, and it saves the City the time and personnel necessary to take that first look. The goal is efficiency.

We'll be tracking how the abatements go. Assuming that the postcards serve their anticipated purpose, we'll be in a better position to manage the more troublesome code violations that can get lost in the mix of those relatively simple issues listed on the card. Thanks to Michael Wyneken and to Don Ijams for their hard work on putting this program into effect.

### **Coyote Policy**

Last week, I shared what became the beginning of an exchange with Game and Fish (G&F) about urban wildlife. We've had a chance to connect since then, and they've provided some good clarifying information.

To refresh you, I was concerned with comments made by a G&F official that left residents with the understanding that they should carry weapons and not let their kids play outdoors if they knew coyotes were in the neighborhood. While there's a nugget of truth in that, the real message was far more nuanced. Here's the full text of a statement I received from our local G&F officials:

*As you already know, our Living With Wildlife webpage is a great resource and provides a lot of information on various types of wildlife people may have conflicts with. When a resi-*

dent is having issues with coyotes around their home, the first step is to evaluate their property for potential attractants. Food resources come in many forms for coyotes, and common food items in urban areas are pet food, small domestic animals, gardens and fruiting trees, garbage, and small mammals consuming bird seed and ornamental landscaping. Access to these resources should be eliminated or minimized. For example, small pets should not be left unattended in backyards unless they are in a completely enclosed pet run. Other attractants are water and shelter sites. Urban areas provide abundant resources for coyotes, which is why they have lived in Tucson for decades.

In addition to removing attractants, when a resident is uncomfortable with coyotes around their home, they should consistently scare them off. Urban wildlife typically do not avoid humans to the extent that their rural counterparts do because they are accustomed to being around people with no negative consequences. However, coyotes are intelligent, and with negative reinforcement, can learn to avoid people. The Department does not recommend using unlawful methods or devices, including BB guns, to haze wildlife. (my emphasis) A garden hose or nearby sticks/gravel should convince a coyote to back off or leave the area.

Residents always have the option of hiring a wildlife control business to remove coyotes from their property. However, if all other conditions remain the same, the area will eventually become home to other individuals. Historically, it was common practice in our Department to remove coyotes from neighborhoods, but these efforts were found to provide only temporary reprieve. Wildlife will be present wherever there are resources available.

Our Department provides a great deal of education to residents regarding ways to minimize conflicts with unwanted wildlife in and around their homes. The Department does not advocate using a firearm to resolve conflicts with wildlife in an urban setting. In fact, an individual who, with criminal negligence, discharges a firearm within any municipality could be found guilty of a class 6 felony. (again, my emphasis.) However, a person may lawfully discharge a firearm to protect themselves or their property from an attacking coyote. In the event someone discharged a firearm within the City of Tucson, an investigation would ensue, and the law enforcement officer and/or a judge would take all of the circumstances into consideration to determine whether or not the individual was using reasonable measures in that situation. The individual discharging a firearm could further be held liable for damages or injuries in a civil case.

Thanks to Locana DeSouza from G&F for those comments, and many thanks to Mark Hart from the local office for his call to talk through the concerns.

In the aftermath of the initial incident, some have talked about carrying a BB gun or a pellet gun around to shoot at coyotes. All residents should be aware that that's illegal under Tucson Code Chapter 11. Here's the text:

*Sec. 11-1. Air guns , slings, bean shooters, etc.*

*It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or discharge any bullet, stone, shot or other missile with or from an air gun , or with or from a sling or an elastic spring or bean shooter or any other like appliance within the city.*

*Sec. 11-55. Definition of firearm and air gun; possession of firearms and air guns by minors; forfeiture of weapon, penalties.*

(a) *Definitions:*

(2) *Air gun means any loaded or unloaded handgun, pistol, revolver, rifle, BB gun or pellet gun which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of compressed air or other gasses, except that it does not include an air gun in permanently inoperable condition.*

In addition to that, if you shoot, miss, and end up taking out your neighbor's front window – or hit your neighbor – you may be cited for criminal damage or criminal endangerment.

People will make their own decisions on how to treat urban wildlife. I'm just offering this by way of information so when you make that decision for yourself, you're armed with the input from the experts at G&F and you know the provisions of City Code.

### **Gun Safety – Arizona Daily Wildcat**

In response to the frequent news of mass shootings and the fact that recently they've occurred on college campuses, the *Wildcat* ran a full section on reactions and people's suggestions on how to avoid reoccurrences last week. President Hart, the UAPD Chief, one of the Regents, some student leaders, and I were asked to provide 150-word statements for it. I'll share mine here:

*The issue of gun violence has reached a saturation point. We are no longer surprised to see reports of mass shootings on a college campus, in a movie theater, an execution style shooting of law enforcement officers, or the murder of 20 children in an elementary school. Making any progress in taking back the moral ethic of our country must include expansion of services for those suffering mental illness. Ignoring that component of the issue is a fundamental mistake. It is equally mistaken to ignore the need for legislation addressing the ease with which people obtain weapons. It is legal to sell a gun to a stranger on a street corner, cash and carry, no questions asked. As long as we continue to elect politicians who are cravenly beholden to the NRA, we should expect nothing to change. A part of the solution must begin at the ballot box.*

We aren't going to eliminate all gun-related injuries. I'd like to think we're finally getting to the point at which State and Federal officials will be looking at legislative and educational steps we can take to address access to mental health services and access to weapons. Good work by the *Wildcat* in keeping this issue current.

Over the weekend, another senseless shooting occurred in Colorado Springs. This time three people were killed, and the shooter was shot dead by police in the ensuing manhunt. As I said in the *Wildcat* comment – saturation.

### **Neighborhood Event sans Weapons**

On Sunday, I was happy to join dozens of residents from Palo Verde neighborhood in celebrating the one year anniversary of a pocket park they created. This is an example of how neighbors working in concert with the City and local nonprofits can – and do – make this a

better place to live.

The park is located at 3330 E. Fairmount. It was the result of a Conserve2Enhance (C2E) grant and the sweat equity of Palo Verde neighbors, representatives from Watershed Management Group, and assistance from Tucson Clean and Beautiful. We've seen other successful C2E projects around Ward 6. It's always worth taking a moment in these newsletters to acknowledge the way we work together to everyone's benefit.

Thanks are due to neighborhood president Ronni Kotwica, Joan Lionetti from TC&B, Catlow Shipek (see "40 under 40," below) from WMG, and Kendall Kroesen who was wearing two hats – Tucson Audubon Society and the PVNA C2E committee. Good work by all, and a very successful outcome.

While the park is a great amenity to the neighborhood, it has an additional very meaningful component.

Last year, neighborhood president Ronni Kotwica and her husband Roland lost their son. I cannot imagine. The Palo Verde neighbors have rallied to install a bench with this memorial plaque in the new park. Neighbors coming alongside neighbors – it's what makes us who we are.



### *Two Wider Community Events*

#### **MPA Common Ground Awards**

Last Friday evening, my bride and I joined several hundred others from around the region to celebrate significant projects that demonstrate the ability to work across jurisdictional lines and across the public and private sectors. The Metropolitan Pima Alliance (MPA) has sponsored this event for 11 years. It continues to grow, both in terms of numbers and in terms of importance to the region.

This year, the MPA selection committee chose 11 projects to receive the Common Ground Awards. Here they are with very brief comments, and notes on those I am most familiar with after having participated in them at some level:

AC Marriott Hotel – They've broken ground on this downtown hotel. I'm in pretty regular contact with the principals from the team to offer assistance as the work progresses. Good choice by MPA – important project for downtown.

City Food Scraps Collection & Composting Program – The Ward 6 office is very supportive of the work done by the UA CompostCats, and we're grateful to Andy Quigley and his staff for being willing to test new ideas such as this.

Home Goods Distribution Center – Congratulations to Councilmember Fimbres on this one. He worked hard to get this out of the ground.

Houghton Road Corridor – Congratulations to both Council Members Cunningham and Scott for this award. This is a very important transportation project that they've labored over for quite a while.

Marana Center – Retail outlet up north of us / think Christmas Shopping – tax revenues to the region.

Pima County Animal Care Center / Prop 415 – They just unveiled the conceptual design documents last week. Another very important project for the region, and many of us are grateful for the broad based community support the Prop got at the polls last year.

Sahuarita WINS – Key community-building collaboration that impacts both the Sahuarita school system and, by extension, the private sector employers in the area who rely on a skilled workforce.

Southern Arizona Construction Career Days – We will continue to need the skilled technicians that this program recruits. There are about 40 different collaborators in this, including the construction trades, JTED, and the regional school system.

Tucson Conquistadors PGA Tour – A very important tourism component for the region. I'd love to see it back at Randolph, but Omni's a good 2<sup>nd</sup> option. They do a great job out there hosting this event.

UA Old Main Renovation – The heart of the UA campus and now the home of the UA President. The work done respected the historic exterior and gave the interior a much-needed facelift.

**Tucson Convention Center Renovation** – I was proud to join representatives from Concord Construction, Swaim and Associates Architecture, and project manager Elaine Weaver on stage to receive this award. The Rio Nuevo representatives who also partnered in this project weren't able to attend (one out of town – one ill on the night of the event) but they certainly got a mention during my comments. We had to make this a successful project or it's likely that the Legislature would have ended Rio and the region would have lost millions of tax dollars over time. The team pulled it off – kudos to everyone who had a hand in it, including the men and women who turned the screws and wielded the paint brushes daily throughout the construction process.

It's common to hear people sitting on the sidelines taking shots at those of us who are investing our time and effort making this a better place to live, work, and play. The MPA's Common Ground event is an important testimony to the fact that we continue to make good progress regionally, despite the noise from the nay-sayers. Congratulations to all of this year's winners.

And a special note – the Award of Distinction was given to DMAFB, and to the Aeospace Parkway. Those are key drivers of our local and regional economy. The MPA Board chose well in giving this dual award.

### **Hispanic Chamber/Arizona Daily Star 40 under 40 Awards**

We often talk about keeping our young talent here. The recent 10West event highlighted the many opportunities we have to do just that. Based on the success of that week long series of forums and presentations, there are a lot of positive ways we're retaining young talent and assisting them in growing their dreams.

An award ceremony recognizing 40 special young people in the community is coming on

A tiger  
doesn't  
lose sleep  
over the  
opinion of  
sheep.

December 4<sup>th</sup>. That's when the Hispanic Chamber and the Star will present this year's "40 under 40" awards. This group is very worthy of the recognition, especially on the heels of the MPA Common Grounds item. They provide the 'bench' for continuing the regional progress we're making, both in terms of their professional and their charitable work. Here are this year's winners, along with their affiliations:

Isaac Abbs, Pima College  
Mike Anglin, Line & Space LLC  
Michelle Anthony, Catalina Investments  
Stephanie Bowers, TMC  
Toby Bourguet, Tucson Turf  
Teresa Bravo, Pima County  
Sam Burns, Agape Hospice  
Nolan Cabrera, UA College of Education  
Jody Corrales, Deconcini, McDonald, Yetwin & Lacy PC  
Melissa Curran, UA  
Missy Eddy, TCI Wealth Advisors  
Robin Elaiho, IBM  
Evan Feldhausen, Beach Fleischman  
Michael Gadarian, JCC  
Daniel Hernandez, Sunnyside School District  
Jeff Hunt, Cypress Civil Development  
Jason Jacobs, City of Tucson  
Jestin Johnson, City of Bisbee  
Dr. Aimee Kaemph, Banner Medical Center  
Dr. Paul Kartchner, Agave Surgical Associates  
Brenda Lyons, Rural Metro Fire Dept.  
Michael Mallozzi, Borderlands Brewing  
Ken Morris, Merrill Lynch  
Sam Nagy, CPSA  
Elizabeth Rollings, Fleming & Curtis  
Laura Paredes Oldaker, By Your Side Senior Care  
Luis Pedroza, City of Douglas  
Michael Peel, Pima College  
Derrick Polder, Summit Funding  
Kimberly Romo, TMC  
Aaron Rottenstein, UBS Financial  
Amy Salgado, Carondelet  
Brooke Sanders-Silverman, Habitat for Humanity  
Erin Schmidt, EdLeader21  
Leah Shea, Carondelet  
Catlow Shipek, Watershed Management Group  
Luis Soto, Vantage West Credit Union  
Michael Tulino, Pima College  
Autumn Van Der Berg, Cox  
Patricia Waterkotte, Rusing, Lopez, Lizardi

As you can see, we've got a great group of young, upcoming stars in a wide range of

fields across the region. Reference back to the nay-sayer graphic – these aren't 'sheep.'

### **Streetcar Schedule**

A quick note on something that you should keep in mind. This coming Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, this year's All Souls Procession will take place downtown. They stage at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street at 6pm. That shouldn't be hard to remember if you're participating.

Because the event ends over at the west side terminus of the streetcar, we're going to extend the streetcar hours of operation on that night from the usual Sunday closing time to 11pm. That'll give an added three hours of operation, and will allow the All Souls participants a way to grab a ride back to midtown. The finale is scheduled to take place at the Mercado at around 8:30pm.

Based on last year's experience with this event, you should anticipate large crowds and potentially long lines at the streetcar ticket vending machines. The Sun Link people are encouraging you to pre-purchase your fare or buy it by using the GO Tucson Mobile Payment App on your smart phone. Last year we saw a tripling of the normal Sunday fares during this event, so it's well worth planning ahead.

Sincerely,



Steve Kozachik  
Council Member, Ward 6  
[Ward6@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:Ward6@tucsonaz.gov)

## **Events and Entertainment**

### **Safe Seniors Event**

**Saturday, November 14, 2015 | 10 am – 2 pm**

**La Quinta Inn Ballroom, 102 N Alvernon Way**

Join the Tucson Police Department Operations Midtown Division for an event that will provide our senior community with access to information and resources for keeping their Golden Years safe and healthy. A wide variety of community organizations will be on hand, including the Arizona Attorney General's officer, the Association for Resources and Choices "Elder Shelter", the US Postal Inspector, Pima County Council on Aging, Southern Arizona Legal Aid, Community Food Bank, and Pima County Health Department. There will also be a prescription drug disposal station.

### **Ward 6 Red Cross Blood Drive**

**Friday, November 20, 2015 | 11 am – 3pm**

**Ward 6 Office, 3202 E 1<sup>st</sup> St**

Participants are strongly encouraged to pre-register. Go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org), enter "ward6" in the "Find a Blood Drive" box, and then click on the "Ward 6 Council Office" event to choose your appointment time. Or, register by calling Caroline Lee at the Ward 6 office at (520) 791-4601.



## Health Care Clinic at Ward 6 Council Office

No Insurance? No Problem!

### Free Flu Shot Clinic

- Provided for residents with little or no health insurance.
- Must be 18 years old or have parent/guardian in attendance.

Date: Saturday, November 7, 2015  
Time: 1pm - 4pm  
Location: 3202 E. 1st St.  
Phone: (520) 791-4601

*\*First Come, First Served.  
No Appointment Necessary\**



### Health Screenings Offered

FREE OF CHARGE

- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Breathing Assessment
- Medication Review
- Health and Wellness Information

### Armory Park Historic District Tour

Saturday, November 14, 2015 | 12 pm – 5 pm

Start at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 545 S 5<sup>th</sup> Ave

Journey through Tucson's architectural evolution next Saturday as downtown denizens open their doors for the Armory Park Historic District Tour. This self-guided stroll offers a glimpse at styles ranging from California bungalow and dainty Victorian to clever, contemporary, adaptations of vintage commercial buildings. [www.armoryparktucson.org](http://www.armoryparktucson.org)

**Sustainable Water for Southern Arizona: Current Conditions and Future Prospects****Friday, November 6, 2015 | 7:30 am – 11 am****Leo Rich Theater at TCC, 260 S Church Ave**

The Central Arizona Project and the University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) invite you to this important regional discussion about our most critical natural resource and its impact on our economy, environment, and way of life. Please RSVP at [wrrc@email.arizona.edu](mailto:wrrc@email.arizona.edu) or call (520) 621-4311. View the flyer with agenda at: [uaat-work.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/cap-wrrc\\_nov.6\\_water-forum\\_agenda.pdf](http://uaat-work.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/cap-wrrc_nov.6_water-forum_agenda.pdf).

**3rd Public Forum for Presidio Park Master Plan & January 8th Memorial****Saturday, November 7, 2015 | 10 am – 12 pm****Tucson Fire Department, 300 S Fire Central Pl (Cushing St & Granada Ave)**

Join the discussion about the Master Plan concept for Tucson's El Presidio Park + January 8th memorial at this final public forum.