

Ward 6 Staff



Steve Kozachik
Council Member



Ann Charles



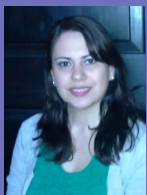
Donovan Durband



Teresa Smith



Bonnie Medler



Diana Amado



Ward 6 – Newsletter

NOVEMBER 29, 2011

A Message from Steve

Residential Paving

Several areas around the Ward and around the City have seen TDOT workers in the neighborhoods doing chip seal maintenance on the roads. For the work to have a long term positive impact, the weather conditions have to be warm and dry. The recent shift in our weather has forced the City to issue the following letter that explains the need to put the work on hold, pending things warming up a bit:

CITY OF TUCSON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TEMPORARILY SUSPENDS RESIDENTIAL STREET PAVING PROGRAM

Due to changing weather conditions, the City of Tucson Department of Transportation will temporarily suspend its in-house chip and fog sealing programs. The residential street paving program began in early October 2011 and consisted of crack sealing, pothole filling, chip sealing and fog sealing five different neighborhoods.

Chip sealing is greatly affected by the weather and can only be performed during certain temperatures. Chip sealing should be applied when the pavement temperature is at least 70 degrees and the air temperature is 50 degrees and rising. Transportation Director Jim Glock stated that the residential street paving program will commence next spring when weather conditions are optimal.

My thanks go out to Jim Glock and his crews for their work in our neighborhoods. I have argued consistently for us to reallocate dollars to this task, and the City has responded. Now we need to do it right, not quickly if conditions dictate that.

Arizona Baseball

The Mayor and Council approved the terms of a use agreement for the UA baseball team to play home games at Hi Corbett beginning this season. The agreement is good for the City and will be good for the Arizona baseball program. Coach Andy Lopez is already feeling the impact of being able to recruit student-athletes to a facility in which major league teams have trained and competed. It's good that the roadblocks are finally out of the way and both the City and the UA can plan for the move.

As a part of that, Arizona Athletics is going to host the first annual "Select-A-Seat" event on Saturday, January 7th out at the field. Premium seat selection for season ticket holders and wildcat club members (diamond, platinum, and gold) is from 9:00 – 10:30am. General public selection is from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm.



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

It'll be your chance to see the facility and be involved with the 'Cats' inaugural (modern day) season out at Hi Corbett. I hope to see you out there.

Arizona Science Tech Festival

Full disclosure - my dad was a doctor, my mom was a nurse and before getting into the film industry, my brother taught science. When I met my wife, she was headed to nursing school. I've got two half-sisters in medicine and three nieces, one of whom is a science teacher at a high-achieving school. Another works in an emergency room and a third is finishing up her degree in physiology.

And I took philosophy to satisfy my science requirement during college.

My growing interest in science began after college when I started to run long distance races and became intrigued by exercise physiology. Now I'm playing a little catch up with the rest of my family in promoting the Arizona Science Tech Festival to you.

The Festival will launch in February 2012. It is a six-week event that will include stakeholders from academia, business, and the K-12 system who will work to collaboratively highlight how science, technology and educational advances are key to Arizona's expanding workforce and economic future.

Here is a link to the various events that will take place in association with the Festival:

http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/11-29_tucson_events.pdf

Tape it to your refrigerator door as a reminder.

This is truly a large scale, signature event that our community will present. The Arizona Science Center is working in concert with ASU (31-27, but who's keeping score), the Technology Council Foundation and over 250 public and private organizations from industry, business, education, arts and culture, philanthropy and the community to highlight the scientific and technological innovations occurring throughout Arizona.

We have seen over the last two fiscal years the Legislature impose financial cuts to the state-wide education system budgets. This is an opportunity to re-build excitement among students for STEM opportunities, despite those fiscal challenges. It will also send a message to industry in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math fields that Arizona residents and our tri-State University system is joining together to produce a workforce that merits their considering relocation and expansion opportunities in Arizona.

Nothing like this happens without significant volunteer support. If you would like to get involved, please either contact us at the Ward 6 office at 791.4601, or get a hold of Dr. Jeremy Babendure at jbabendure@aztechcouncil.org.

We all say we want to create an employment base that will help keep our kids here after they graduate. This is an opportunity to do just that.

...and speaking of education



Important Phone Numbers

The Rodel Foundation of Arizona began an Exemplary Teacher award back in 2003. The award is given to teachers who are shown to inspire students to maximize their achievement, primarily targeted to our neediest schools. While the award winners will receive a cash prize, perhaps the greater part of the award is being given the responsibility and honor of having a student teacher paired with them and for the Rodel teachers to serve as their mentors.

Since the program began over 100 Exemplary Teachers have been named across the State, and those teachers have mentored more than 500 student teachers. The lives of needy students that have been changed are countless.

This year's local finalists come from TUSD, Amphi, Sunnyside and the Flowing Wells school districts. They are Dora Saldamando (TUSD), Betty Kaye Atwell, Kris Holt and Donna McEnery (Amphi), Lindsay Dauenhauer (Flowing Wells) and Nancy Chavez (Sunnyside.)

We place an increasingly burdensome responsibility on teachers. It is appropriate that we honor them for the part they play in the lives of our children.

And my recently married daughter already had her Christmas decorations up before Thanksgiving. I have no idea where I went wrong, but I can't blame it on public education.

Occupy Tucson

Several of us on the Council have tried to find a mutually agreeable solution to the OT desire to use public property for getting out their message in a way that protects the interests of the wider community, treats the other civic events on an equal footing, and honors principles of speech and assembly that are some of the cornerstones of our system of government.

Untangling those competing interests isn't such a clear path. This is a chart of how other cities have been dealing with the issue:

http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/11-29_ot_responses.pdf

The information in the chart is a couple of weeks old, so things may have changed in some of the responses as the situations on the ground in those locales have evolved.

Here in Tucson, the Police are now reserving the right to ticket anybody who is in the park after hours, irrespective of whether or not they step outside of the park boundaries until police leave as was happening during the early part of the "occupation." City Court has ruled that it will not enjoin TPD from arresting and detaining individuals who amass more than three citations related to the OT event. To date, over 600 citations have been issued to approximately 100 people associated with OT.

Most recently, OT members have begun to refuse to sign citations. That leaves the Police with no option but to arrest the individuals involved. That level of escalation fundamentally changes any opportunity to try to mediate this on an informal and out of court basis.

There are good and well intentioned people in the core of the group who are making an important statement. As I've stated before, I disagree with the method, but most of us can relate to some portion of the message. The trouble arises when by the groups own structure, it loses control of who is participating, and it opens up the potential for things to spin out of control and for the messaging to become confused. That isn't true of just OT, but of any loosely coupled grouping that does not have formal structure or leadership.

It's not simply a matter of agreeing to let this group stay at Veinte de Agosto Park all night,

Senator John
McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jon Kyl (R)
520-575-8633

Congresswoman
Gabrielle Giffords
(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 Bob Walkup
791-4201

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

for as long as they want to stay. I've been public about my concerns over creating a separate set of rules for this group, no public liability insurance to protect the taxpayers in case of injury, the impact on the facility, the impact on surrounding businesses, and the appearance at one of our gateways into the downtown area.

Without any formal leadership hierarchy, and no way to control who is involved with the group, OT is likely to be its own worst enemy in the days ahead. I continue to support our Police and City Management, and retain a glimmer of hope that we can bridge some of the divide that exists between us and the group. But for that to occur, OT will need to respect the rule of law and work with us to find an appropriate means by which to spread their appeal.

Streetcar Construction

The construction bids for the Streetcar are going to be awarded around the holidays, and work is scheduled to begin in early 2012. TDOT and MainStreet have been working with stakeholders along the corridor for over a year, gathering concerns and beginning the process of preparing the businesses along the route for the inevitable disruption while the streets in their storefronts are torn up. I've hosted and/or attended no fewer than four such meetings and I know that many more have taken place that I did not attend.

For the most part, the business owners see this as a transformative project that will have longer term benefits, and so while they are not particularly looking forward to the line segments being laid in front of their stores, they understand the 'no pain/no gain' part of the equation. There are still some who disagree with some of the design elements and want to continue to engage in redesign, but at this point, unless the bids come in higher than can be supported by the project funding, the design decisions have been made and the project will move forward.

Some of the merchants on 4th Avenue, and some members of the bicycle community are concerned about the location of 'stops', and the type of rail that is being laid. Those are legitimate concerns, and they have been weighed during the design development phase of the project. With respect to the location of the 'stops', there is a good resource that validates the center-stop design planned for 4th Avenue. Quoting from the Alta Planning and Design Group (a study done in conjunction with the Portland project)

"For two-way streets with one lane in each direction, there is no flexibility in track placement, but the platforms should be placed in the center. Center-running platforms eliminate the danger to cyclists that happens when the curb extension platform forces them to cross streetcar tracks at a very shallow angle."

So, the work is about to start, and thanks are in order for the TDOT and MainStreet staff for their work over the past year in communicating with the stakeholders along the route and helping them to prepare, as best as that can be accomplished.

Open Elections Forum

During the run-up to the recent primary elections I made statements in support of the City ensuring Independent's were being given accurate information with respect to what they needed to do in order to receive a mail-in ballot. My comments got under the skin of the Chair of the Pima County Democratic Party.

Following the recent City Council elections I was asked by Rhonda Bodfield from the Arizona Daily Star for my reaction to the results. My comment that it was my opinion that the candidates the Republican Party put up were too far to the political Right for the Tucson electorate got under the skin of the Chair of the Pima County Republican Party.

Jeff/Bruce - apologies, but while my comments may have rubbed you wrong, they were factually correct. The language on the City web site, and the data from the election bears that out.

I believe the community is best served by a governing body that is able to work together across party lines and present policies for the public that are the result of cross-pollinating ideas and perspectives. Each party has a hierarchy whose job it is to get their candidates elected. And yet, maybe there's a different way of conducting our elections that should be considered to break some of the logjams we see at all levels of government.

To that end, I'm planning on attending on December 1 at the Tucson Country Club from 4pm until 6pm a forum on Open Elections. This is presented by a group who has begun work on a Proposition for the 2012 ballot that would call for open primaries, with the two top vote getters advancing to the general election, regardless of party affiliation. There are details I want to learn: Is it a non-partisan election? Are the elections at-large, or ward only? If a candidate receives over 50% of the vote in the primary, is that candidate elected and skips the general election? But I'm interested in the discussion and share this with you in case you are interested and would care to attend.

I'm not going to the forum with a notion that I either support or oppose what they're proposing. I'm going to listen and to learn what it is that is being proposed. I believe there's room for change in our election process. This Proposition may or may not be it, but I'm willing to hear them out.

Sex Trafficking

Last week I introduced this topic and shared about a meeting we had hosted at the Ward office with several social service agencies, TPD and City Court representatives and representatives of the Tucson Women's Commission to discuss how we might better address this serious issue in our community. In that update I noted that I am in the process of reaching out to representatives of the State Legislature to try to make this an inter-governmental endeavor.

By way of expanding the discussion, and sharing why a State Legislative contact is so important to this discussion, I'll share with you some suggestions relative to this issue that came out of a report entitled "Report Card on State Action to Combat International Trafficking" that was issued by the Center for Women Policy Studies. It speaks to the need for some of the initiatives to come from the State level. The report listed the following as possible State driven policies:

- a. Formation of a Statewide interagency task force, by statute, with the mandate to ascertain the nature and extent of trafficking into the State, and to look further into the adequacy of services available to address the needs of the victims (that's a cross-over piece to the local level work I see us participating in).
- b. Regulation of International Marriage Brokers who operate in Arizona, including mandating that these brokers share the criminal and marital history of the American "clients" they're connecting with the "foreign recruits."
- c. Regulation of travel services that facilitate "sex tourism." With the advent of technology, the opportunities for exploitation are expanding past statutory controls.

- d. Strengthen the language in the 2005 sex trafficking statute adopted by the State to include a definition of "forced sexual exploitation" that criminalizes forms of sex trafficking beyond just prostitution. It should also include offenses such as kidnapping, sexual assault, and serious bodily injury. The study reports at length other statutory changes proposed by the Center.
- e. Adoption of victim protection assistance - another tie-in to some of the work already being done by local service providers.

This is clearly not a problem that we can solve from the City level. I'm looking forward to continuing the dialogue with the agencies who have already met, and to bring into that conversation some State level electeds to broaden the scope of what we can do.

Pima County Bond Initiative

In each of the last two newsletters I have made the point that whenever the taxpayers are being asked to dip into their wallets and take on more debt, there needs to be a high level of truth in advertising in advance of the Bond election so people know what they're going to receive for the dollars they're being asked to invest.

A few weeks ago we were briefed at the Council table on a proposed Bond package that would be directed towards building various forms of infrastructure and roads in the region surrounding Raytheon. The intent of the spending would be to enhance the viability of Raytheon as one of the major contributors to our local economy, and in so doing catalyze the creation of spin-off employment in companies that would emerge and serve some of the needs that form relative to Raytheon on a horizontally integrated basis. These could be manufacturing, supply, distribution – many possibilities, but to the extent the site does not enjoy a built-out infrastructure, there is a built-in limitation. Over the weekend, the chair of the Bond Advisory Committee penned an op-ed in the Arizona Daily Star that addressed this issue. Larry Hecker correctly identified Raytheon, the UA Tech Park, the Bio-Science/Medical Complex at the UA medical campus south, Tucson International Airport and others who already stand as some of our most valuable business assets, and who would see the benefits from an investment in the infrastructure that would improve connectivity among the players.

If sold to the taxpayers right, this could be a wonderful opportunity to create both short and long term jobs that would impact a variety of sectors of our business community.

Regions invest in their own success. They also suffer from a history of either failing to do that, or from a history of going to the well once too often and losing the confidence of the taxpayers – the little boy cried wolf once too often. I'm grateful that Larry has opened this conversation community wide. In his piece he was clear to state that the BAC is still studying the pros/cons and trades-off that this Bond package might entail. More to come.

We've got to play it straight with the taxpayers. It's your money. Today, based on what I know of the proposed package, it sounds like a positive investment in our community. And yet, I've written about other Bond items that cause me concern over how dollars were promised and spent. To some extent, those are mutually exclusive items but to the extent that you will be asked to continue paying debt service, they're tied together.

The marketing begins now - as I've said before, truth in advertising.

Rio Nuevo

Also in the Sunday Star, David Fitzsimmons had an editorial cartoon that spoke volumes of the Rio Nuevo history. Here's his editorial:

http://azstarnet.com/news/opinion/fitz/dailyfitzcartooncomingsoontodowntown/image_44d34e32-1529-11e1-8eb9-001cc4c03286.html

In the preceding section I spoke of truth in advertising. Rio Nuevo has been the poster child for taxpayers developing an allergic reaction to the government coming and asking for more money. The first decade of Rio's existence was correctly described by a 2010 Auditor General report as "gross financial mismanagement." There are still two forensic audits and an FBI investigation going on that will reveal the depth and breadth of that.

And yet, for the past two years we have had a newly reconstituted Rio Board that was supposed to come into town and kick-start redevelopment. Its purpose was to refocus the tax dollars being received and to properly focus previously approved Bond package money to income-producing work in the downtown area so the financial capacity of Rio would grow. Since its inception, this new Board has claimed it did not know how much money it really had control over. I, along with the rest of the Council and City Management and Financial staff, have been very vocal in contending that that is a ruse. I'm not sure what this cover is intended to accomplish, but to state that for two years this new Board has not been able to balance it's checkbook, is fake.

Finally, the media is also getting on board. The last two editions of Inside Tucson Business have run pieces on this phenomenon. I was quoted in the first article as having said that if somebody was working in the private sector, and two years after having been hired to run the place told his/her boss that he didn't know the financial status of the company he was in charge of, he'd be fired. This Rio Board is still singing that hymn – a dirge over the potential for economic progress downtown.

But they have had money to pay attorneys to threaten and/or sue The Rialto, The Fox, The City of Tucson Taxpayers, they're in potential litigation with the former Downtown Hotel Developers Garfield Traub, and now they have mentioned the possibility of drawing the County into a suit if the City and County agree to allow the Friends of Tucson Birthplace to operate the Mission Gardens with money they have raised on their own, from the private sector. One can only hope that they'd not also draw FOTB into litigation. Fighting with this State appointed Board is hardly the reason private individuals have given money to the group.

That's a lot of your money funding vacations for a lot of Rio attorneys

In the most recent edition of Inside Tucson Business they penned an editorial that clearly demonstrates that Rio's claims that everybody is lined up in some grand conspiracy designed to keep them ignorant of their financial status has lost credibility, to the extent that it ever had any. Here's the editorial:

http://www.insidetucsonbusiness.com/opinion/editorials/new-board-is-trying-to-bury-rio-nuevo/article_1ed6d15c-1602-11e1-8200-001cc4c03286.html

Let me be very clear - there are, and have always been, certain members of this new Board who accepted their appointments with a serious and honest desire to move things ahead and leave to the legal process the wrong doings of the past (think Mexican food, for example). But those voices are in the minority. I'm glad to see both the Star and ITB now sharing in the Council's frustration at what is a quite apparent refusal on the part of the new Board's majority to advance the relationship, not only with the City Council, but more importantly, on behalf of the taxpayers

who are funding their legal bills.

We're starting mediation. Let's hope the pivot in the media results in a similar change in the willingness of this Board to find productive (TCC) ways to invest your money.

Sincerely,

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

Grant Road Corridor Meeting

Please join the Ward 6 Council office in a community conversation with stakeholders in the Grant corridor to discuss the land use plan for Grant Road. There will be an informational presentation and time for questions and answers.

Date: Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Ward 6 City Council Office, 3202 East 1st Street

Tucson Food Truck Roundup

Monday, December 5th. 5-9pm

Dinnerware Artspace, 119 E. Toole

For more information, please contact David Aguirre @ 520-869-3166 (voice mail or text)

Arts and Entertainment Events Calendar

Free Festivals and Events in the Downtown/4th Avenue/Main Gate Area . . .

Santa Sightings at Main Gate Square

Friday, December 2, 6:00pm.

www.MainGateSquare.com

This week at the arts and entertainment venues in Downtown Tucson and Main Gate . . .

Centennial Hall

Friday, December 2, 8:00pm. UAPresents presents **Marvin Hamlisch and J. Mark McVey**

Sunday, December 4, 4:00pm and 7:30pm. UAPresents presents **Mannheim Steamroller**

Fox Theatre, 17 W. Congress St.

Friday, December 2, 7:00pm. **11th Annual Fiesta Feliz Navidena.**

Saturday, December 3, 8:00pm. Warren Miller's "Like There's No Tomorrow" (winter sports film)

Sunday, December 4, 4:00pm. **A Christmas Carol, with a Tucson Twist.** Benefiting the Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona.

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Rialto Theatre, 318 E. Congress St.

Thursday, December 1, 8:00pm. **John Waters Christmas Show** (talks with a cult film director).

All ages. Event supports the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation.

Friday, December 2, 8:00pm. **Supersuckers** (rock), with Three Bad Jacks. All ages.

Saturday, December 3, 9:00pm. Powhaus presents **Prophecy** (dance), with Mr. Free & The Satellite Freakout.

www.RialtoTheatre.com

Beowulf Alley Theatre, 11 S. 6th Ave.

Tuesday, December 6, 7:00pm. **Old Time Radio Theatre**

www.BeowulfAlley.org

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

Arizona Theatre Company presents **Daddy Long Legs**

Through December 17.

www.arizonatheatre.org

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

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

www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), 265 S. Church Ave.
Friday, December 2, 12:00pm. **Curator's Tour** of current exhibitions.

Tucson Convention Center Events

Tucson Arena:

Thursday, December 1, 7:30pm. University of Arizona Wildcats Hockey vs. Ohio University

Music Hall:

Friday, December 2, 8:00pm, and Sunday, December 4, 2:00pm. **Tucson Symphony Orchestra**

Classic Series: Mozart and Prokofiev

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/tcc/eventcalendar>

Ongoing

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

Thursday through Monday, 9:00am to 5:00pm (until 6:00pm on Fridays and Saturdays, and until 9:00pm on 2nd Saturdays)

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.com

www.FourthAvenue.org

www.DowntownTucson.com