

## Ward 6 Staff



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Council Member



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# Ward 6 - Newsletter

## Tucson First

June 20, 2012

### Father's Day

For all of you dad's, I hope you had fun with your kids on Sunday. I got a little extra "card" through a blog site my little girl runs. (Do you "run" a blog site? – some things we did were a mystery to our parents – some will always be to us, too.) Anyway, here's the link:

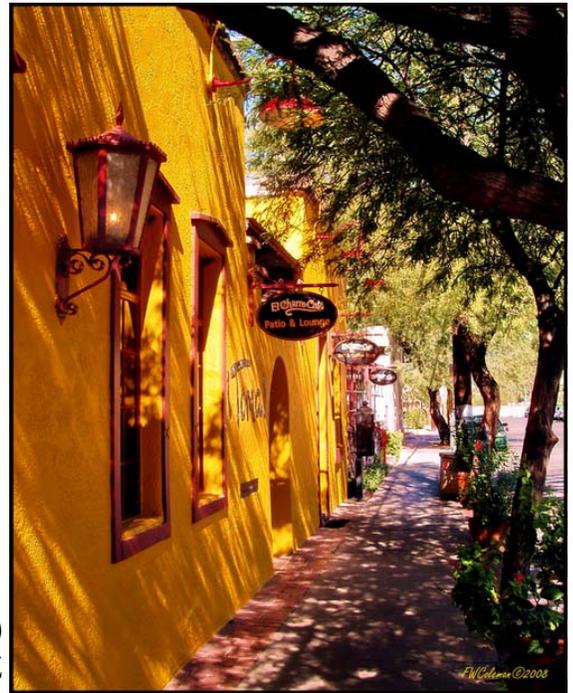
<http://thesavvycopywriter.com/lessons-learned-what-my-dad-taught-me-about-business-and-life/> and I know that she's not so "little" but she's a girl, so the label will always stick.

And there was a day when she'd have sat in "time out" for about a week and a half, having her meals slid under the door for calling me a "hard ass." Now, I'll just get even...

### El Charro

NBC Latino has awarded this year's "Top 10 Summer Destinations" and one of our own is included. It's a list of their most fascinating Hispanic cultural destinations nationwide. It included places such as El Morro National Monument in New Mexico that has over 2,000 petroglyphs in sandstone and Pueblo ruins, El Museo Latino in Omaha which is the first Latino Art and History Museum and Cultural Center in the Midwest, and this:

*Outside of El Charro Café in Arizona.  
(Photo/Flickr/FCTravelPix)  
El Charro Café, Tucson, AZ*



Opened in 1922, El Charro Café is the oldest-running Mexican restaurant in the United States. Operated by the same, original family, El Charro Café features Sonoran style and Tucson style Mexican food. With five locations, El Charro Café is chalk-full of history dating back to the 1860s.



### 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

(I think they mean “chuck-full”)

Congratulations to the Flores family for yet another national mention. It’s well deserved for the value they bring to the community.

### More Latino – THCC Conference

Last Thursday, Bonnie and I attended a conference presented by the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the focus of which was on the growing importance of the Latino vote in Arizona politics. The presentation came from the CEO of Univision and focused on how to use the media effectively to reach out to the non-English speaking audience that is well represented in the immediate area.

Setting aside the political orientation of the presentation, what is of greater importance is doing what is necessary to ensure an informed public. That includes the large Hispanic community living in and around Tucson.

As usual, Lea deserves high marks for putting the show together. I came away with ideas as to how to communicate important City issues to the Spanish speaking residents of the area. Diana is bi-lingual. She and I will be working on some new ideas coming out of the office in the near future. My staff and I will also be talking about what sources to tap into to make sure important items are reaching as broadly into the community as possible. We’d like to hear your ideas if you have some to share.

### Public Safety

As a council member I get regular updates on the activities of both TFD and TPD. You’ll see some of those activities mentioned in the local media, that which they have room to print, but much of it is sort of inside baseball and nothing you’d see. I thought I’d take some space to share with you examples of the sorts of updates we see, just to give you a sense of the regular work our police and fire employees are involved with that too often goes under the radar screen.

This is an example of a report we saw on a fire related call:

[http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/6-20-12w6-building\\_fire.pdf](http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/6-20-12w6-building_fire.pdf)

As you read it, I think it puts things into perspective to think of the people reacting to the fire as being in harm’s way, and all of it in the normal course of a days’ work for them. They have families and loved ones who they’re supporting through the work they do for us.

Here’s another TFD memo I received – keep it in mind as we approach the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and back yard grilling is a part of your plans:

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/6-20-12w6propanegrillfire.pdf>

This is a link from Chief Villasenor talking about some Police impersonators – this one did make the Arizona Daily Star last week:

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/6-20-12lawenforcementimpersonation.pdf>



**Important  
Phone Numbers**

Senator John  
McCain (R)  
520-670-6334

Senator Jon Kyl (R)  
520-575-8633

Congresswoman  
Gabrielle Giffords  
(D)  
(8<sup>th</sup> District)  
520-881-3588

Congressman  
Raul Grijalva (D)  
(7<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.azleg.gov)

Mayor Jonathan  
Rothschild  
791-4201

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

And here is a letter he sent related to preparations TPD and the City Manager's office are making in advance of the Supreme Court decision related to SB1070:

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/6-20-12sb1070preparation.pdf>

I appreciate the fact that they're thinking ahead to the various possible reactions to the decision – whichever way it goes. Even with our reduced staffing, these guys are planning deployments and policies based on unknown scenarios.

So, just sharing. They do dangerous work and they make the most of the limited resources we've given them through our budgeting issues.

**Road Bonds**

On Tuesday we heard from many of you regarding whether or not to place a bond package on the November ballot. The purpose of the bonds would be to repair our roads. We voted unanimously to have the City Attorney draft some language for next week that we'd put on the ballot a \$100M measure that would be invested in the infrastructure at \$20M annual increments.

The bonds would be allocated at \$18M annually for major streets and \$2M annually for residential streets. That will take care of 280 centerline miles per year. The impact to the property tax of a homeowner living in a \$100K home will be in the neighborhood of \$18 per year, that will be +/- depending on assessed valuations and the rates at which the bonds are ultimately sold. But that's the general target.

Here's a look at our streets' condition, and projected condition if we put in place the pavement management program associated with the bonds:

	Current Condition	Post 5-Year Condition	Post 10-Year Condition
Major Streets			
Good or Excellent	48%	67%	85%
Fair, Poor, Failed	52%	33%	15%
Residential Streets			
Good or Excellent	14%	25%	36%
Fair, Poor, Failed	86%	75%	64%

And here's a map that shows where the roads are that are in most urgent need of treatment

[http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/06-20-12\\_map.pdf](http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/sites/default/files/ward6/06-20-12_map.pdf)

Here's a little more data. For the \$100M package, 46% surveyed said they'd definitely vote in favor, 33% said they would "possibly" vote in favor, and the remaining 21% weren't so sure about supporting the package. What I found interesting were the reasons people listed for not supporting the idea.

Taxes are too high already	23%
City mismanages money/too wasteful	20%
No trust/money won't be used for purpose	19%
Never see any results	10%
Have money already/plan budget better	9%
Money is better spent elsewhere	5%
Property values too low to justify tax	5%
No reason given	10%

Depending on how you read the numbers, that's between 40% and 50% of the people who will not support the bonds at any level who don't trust us to manage your money. That's a serious message that every one of us at the council needs to hear loudly. It stems in large part from the Rio Nuevo mess. It will not be resolved in many peoples' minds until there's a bow tied around that issue once and for all.

It is my belief that our roads are in such a state of disarray that a bond package is the right way to go. I'm a homeowner and will not be exempt from the increase in taxes. I also own a personal vehicle and so the impact on that is an issue, as it is for each of you.

The bond package will create jobs in the form of the workers doing the repair work, as well as material and equipment suppliers who will support the repair work.

We'll each be making our own decisions regarding the bond item. If the bond language is precise and clear that we're putting every penny into the roads, I'll be voting in support of it. Because of the issue of public trust, I also want to see us form a public/private oversight committee that will work with TDOT to ensure the money is spent properly. Our roads are too important of a community infrastructure asset to continue to allow to deteriorate.

While the bond money and pavement management program is rolled out – assuming passage of the bonds – we will continue to point out to the State Legislature that they need to fully fund the cities and counties with the HURF money due to us. We will be able to make a more significant dent in the repair and maintenance work as soon as the State coughs up the dough they've been sweeping. We'll also have money for other important street maintenance items such as medians, sidewalks, lighting and more.

#### **RTA/Broadway and more**

I reported to you last week that the Citizen's Accountability for Regional Transit committee had extended an invitation to share with them about the Broadway Coalition citizen group and our desire to avoid the destruction of multiple homes and businesses in the Broadway widening project. The RTA didn't want the presentation made and changed the agenda item to simply a review of their previously expressed opinion about how RTA money can and cannot be moved around. With that, I'm not wasting my time going to the CART committee meeting on Thursday.

Remember in the Road Bond item where a high percentage of people noted their distrust of how things get done in this region/city? This is an example of why that's true. The voice of the people will be heard during other forums and the RTA will be made to listen, regardless of whether or not they chose to accommodate me speaking to the "accountability" committee.

On Tuesday I led a discussion of the scope of input that TDOT will engage from the Broadway Citizen's Task Force. Their first meeting is Wednesday at 5:30 over at the Copper Room, Randolph Park. The nature of our conversation at the study session was fundamentally different than the attitude displayed by the RTA. The CTF meeting will be led by a facilitator and the agenda will be opened up sufficiently to allow for all sorts of input as to design criteria. As many of you know, I work in project design and management. I'm looking forward to hearing the creative design input that will be offered with respect to Broadway.

Here are a few quick facts as refreshers:

- The City is "Lead Agency" on the project
- That means the City (you) is responsible for all costs above the RTA budgeted amount.
- The project is underfunded by over \$25M
- The City has a TDOT ordinance in place that advocates for both citizen involvement in design, and for priorities given to intersection improvements ahead of widening.
- The budget has over \$43M included for simple property acquisition and demolition.
- We can do better.

As lead agency for the project, TDOT has the authority to open the dialogue. On Tuesday there was a stated commitment to do just that with the CTF. There was also a commitment to no longer require CTF members sign a Charter that binds them to only design criteria reflecting the 150' wide, eight lane configuration.

The RTA needs to understand the level of concern their actions are engendering around the city, and from what I'm hearing, around the region in general. People recognize when their money is being hog-tied by a bureaucracy and their voice is not involved in the discussion as to how it is being spent. I've already noted my support for the City road bond proposal. I know many of the PAG/RTA committee members read this newsletter. It would be my suggestion that they consider carefully how distant from the voice of the people they allow themselves to slip. Their own bond packages are coming, and design discussions on multiple other road projects are also in the balance. People care about being shut out of the process.

### **Parkwise**

Final road related item, Parkwise.

On Tuesday we had an update on the Parkwise program. There were three main aspects to the presentation.

First, how do we address parking “violations” when they occur on easements and rights of way in areas where the streets are narrow and there are no paved sidewalks. In those areas, forcing street parking poses issues for emergency vehicles, and forces pedestrians out into the middle of the road where the ROW is not suitable for foot traffic. We approved a suspension of citations while PW works out a solution – which will probably end up being area-specific, based on the local conditions.

We also talked about the residential parking permit program and how it is doing relative to being financially self-sufficient. The short answer is that out of the 14 neighborhoods currently participating in the program; only five of them are generating positive cash flow vs. the cost of administering the program. That will eventually mean that neighborhoods that continually fail to cover the costs of enforcement based on the revenue generated through permits may be dropped from the program. Enforcement costs vary by neighborhood, depending on the level of coverage the residents have requested.

The reason for the idea of the permit program paying for enforcement is that the original basis on which the City “sold” the permit rate increases to neighborhoods was that positive cash flow from the permits would be re-invested into neighborhood infrastructure (paved sidewalks, curb repairs, etc.). With such a low percentage of the neighborhoods yielding positive cash flow from the permits, money isn’t going back in for the work promised. Change is coming – PW will study the item and report back to us.

The final PW issue we talked about may seem inconsequential, but of the three, I believe it is the most important of all. That is, which City department does PW belong to.

Currently, PW reports through the General Services Department. That’s a hold-over arrangement from when the former City Manager was trying to get some management controls back into place following last year’s PW financial issues. That has effectively been done and the majority of us felt it was time to find a permanent home for the department where the work is more properly aligned. That department is TDOT.

We have the streetcar coming. When that’s up and running it will be critical to coordinate streetcar riding with park-and-ride locations, parking fee structures that encourage ridership, pricing strategies between on-street and garage parking, and overall marketing strategies geared to as large a percentage of discretionary riders on the streetcar as we can.

In addition, there has to be close coordination between the TDOT streets division and PW for items such as signage, curb painting and therefore allocating curb parking in a way that reflects highest and best use of the space. That’s important to businesses in the surrounding areas. We have got to get PW agents into the mindset that they’re partners with the nearby community, not simply out writing tickets and driving away business. Things are hard enough for the merchants during the construction. We don’t need to make things worse.

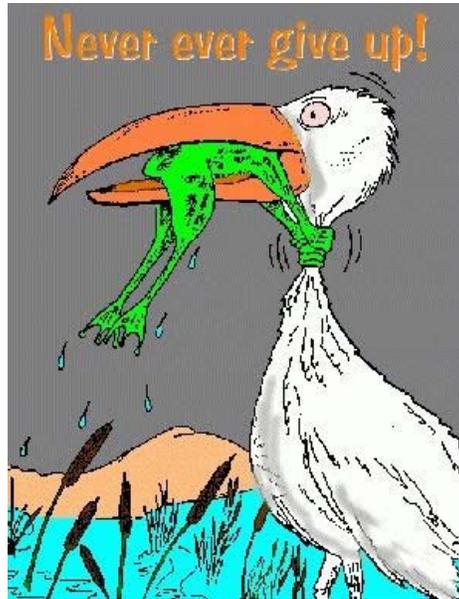
With those points in mind, we voted to send PW over to TDOT and relieve the GSD area of that responsibility. While under his responsibility, Ron Lewis and his staff have done a very good job of righting the PW ship. Time to let it sail over to TDOT as we turn the page and recognize our needs for the management of the function are changing.

### Rio again

It appears there are some holdouts on the Rio bandwagon that seems to not be able to understand that while everybody wants and deserves the Attorney General's investigation report, we should still be advancing the relationship forward. That's what the taxpayers deserve.

Regardless of that reality, a nearly 20 page diatribe, reports of legislators "going off" on local media, and the release by the auditing firm commissioned by the Rio legal team (the one that's suing you) of the second audit appear to be a last gasp effort to gain public support of a tired refrain before more changes come on the Board.

Here's what comes to mind:



Or, because this seems to have morphed into nothing but a purely partisan issue, maybe this is more appropriate:



How about we give a rest to the politics and focus on the greater good of the community.

The audit commissioned by the Rio legal team seems to confirm what we knew in 2010. There was what the Auditor General called “gross financial mismanagement” on the part of both the City and the then Rio Board. The City used it as an arm of the city bureaucracy – inappropriately. We know that. We knew that in 2010.

And since then, the new Board did nothing productive. So a pox on both of the houses. Let’s see what the Attorney General’s FBI investigation brings out, and in the meantime sit down together and find common ground.

On Tuesday before our M&C meeting I met with State Senator Steve Pierce. I made it clear to him that until the Legislature cleans up the mess it made with respect to the intent of the use of TIF money, both the City and Rio’s hands are tied in terms of how the money is spent. All that is now allowed is the convention center hotel that we’re not doing, and the TCC. The previous Rio Board allowed bond money earmarked to the TCC to lapse last November while the M&C were calling on its use for TCC upgrades. I asked Senator Pierce to do what he can to work with the Legislature to do its part in clarifying statutory language so we can advance the ball down the field.

I also reiterated for the umpteenth time that we at the M&C table want to see the A.G. investigation. As President of the Senate, even he can’t compel that it be released, but I’m hopeful that adding his significant voice will help.

Neither audit released by the Rio team was vetted by City staff. For those who think that’s not important, consider how neutral you would consider a report issued relative to your actions if it was paid for by the same group who was suing you. The City finance people will review the findings and then a proper response will be issued. We’re all tired of the gamesmanship being played with your tax money by some small minority on the Rio Board and some small people in the Legislature. We’re also looking forward to the neutral, A.G. report.

### **Cherrybell Postal Station**

Finally, there seems to be a growing resignation that the decision to close the Tucson Mail Processing station is a done deal. That’s not true. There is still legislation being considered that could save the jobs and save the operation.

Of historical note, the Tucson Processing and Distribution Center is named after Morris K. Udall. There is a group locally who is in contact with the Udall family in an effort to get their support in preserving the operation named after Mo.

Recall the reasons that saving the station is a big deal, not only to Tucson workers, but to Southern Arizona more generally. Cherrybell serves not only Tucson but Southern Arizona and is responsible for a population of close to 1.5 million people. It is the 15th largest processing center in the U.S. Postal Service system. The Cherrybell station directly impacts the University of Arizona, Pima Community College, Davis-Monthan Airbase, Ft. Huachuca, Southern Arizona Veterans Administration, Raytheon and more. It is also the station of choice for multiple rural areas that are scattered around Southern Arizona. If

it was to close, it would impact over 3.2 million pieces of daily mail, would add a 2-3 day delay for Tucson mail delivery and up to 3-5 days for some rural areas.

The Phoenix station is significantly larger than the Tucson operation. And yet to suggest that the State of Arizona have one processing station that is responsible for mail delivery to areas as far reaching as from Flagstaff to Nogales is not prudent. But that's what is contemplated by the USPS.

So, do your own homework on the issue and let our Federal delegation know your thoughts as quickly as you are comfortable. Educate yourself and weigh in. I mentioned that the decision was still in play, but the truth is that the meter is running on a final decision so it is important for you to share your input as soon as you're able.

Sincerely,



Steve Kozachik, Ward 6 Council Member

Cinema La Placita Outdoor Film Series  
presents "Swiss Family Robinson"  
on Thursday, June 21 at 7:30 p.m.  
To view full schedule visit:  
<http://www.cinematoplacita.com/>



## Tucson Botanical Gardens

**Twilight Third Thursdays – June 21, 5:00pm-8:00pm**

Join the Tucson Botanical Gardens for Twilight Third Thursdays. This monthly summer event consists of music by Ryan Green and Paul Jenkins, art by Susannah Castro, and other family-friendly activities. Refreshments will be available for purchase and admission is \$9 for adults and \$4 for children. Visit

<http://www.tucsonbotanical.org/> for more information.

## Arts and Entertainment Events Calendar

This week and next week at the arts and entertainment venues in the Downtown, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and Main Gate areas . . .

**Fox Theatre**, 17 W. Congress St.

Saturday, June 23, 7:30pm. “**Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid**”

Sunday, June 24, 2:00pm. “**Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid**”.

[www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org](http://www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org)

### Tucson Convention Center

**Tucson Arena**

Thursday, June 21 through Sunday, June 24. “**Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey DRAGONS**”

Visit <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/tcc/eventcalendar> for more information and times.

### Ongoing . . . .

**Tucson Museum of Art**, 140 N. Main Ave.

Ongoing exhibition, Opening Saturday, June 16 and ending September 23:

“**100 Years 100 Ranchers: Spirit of the West**”

[www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org](http://www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org)

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

Current exhibition: **The AIR Show**

Hours: Wednesday to Sunday, 12:00 to 5:00pm.

[www.Moca-Tucson.org](http://www.Moca-Tucson.org)

**Children's Museum Tucson**, 200 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.

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

[www.childrensmuseumtucson.org](http://www.childrensmuseumtucson.org)

**The Drawing Studio**, 33 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Ongoing Exhibit, Opens Saturday June 2 and runs until July 29

“**Fundamental Skills**”

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

### Meet Me at Maynards

A social walk/run through the Downtown area

Every Monday, rain or shine, holidays too!

Maynards Market and Kitchen, 400 N. Toole Avenue, the historic train depot

Check-in begins at 5:15pm.

[www.MeetMeatMaynards.com](http://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).

300 E. Congress St.

<http://www.sciencedowntown.org/index.html>

**For other events in the Downtown/4<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Main Gate area, visit these sites:**

[www.MainGateSquare.com](http://www.MainGateSquare.com)

[www.FourthAvenue.org](http://www.FourthAvenue.org)

[www.DowntownTucson.com](http://www.DowntownTucson.com)

**Other Community Events**

**Loft Cinema** [www.loftcinema.com/](http://www.loftcinema.com/)

Wednesday, June 20, 7:30pm. **“Goodbye First Love”**

Sunday, June 24, 12:00pm. **“Frankenstein”**

**Arizona State Museum – Woven Wonders (beginning April 28)**

The Arizona State Museum is debuting a sample of 500 pieces from the world's largest collection of Southwest American Indian basketry (over 25,000 pieces). Visit

[www.statemuseum.arizona.edu](http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu) for more information.

**UA Mineral Museum – Ongoing**

“100 Years of Arizona's Best: The Minerals that Made the State”

**Flandrau Science Center**

Join the Flandrau Planetarium on the University of Arizona Campus for their weekly Planetarium and Laser Show. Call (520) 621-4516 or visit [www.flandrau.org/](http://www.flandrau.org/) for events and information.

**Main Gate Square Friday Night Live – Jazz Summer Concert Series**

On select Friday's this summer, discover (or rediscover) Main Gate Square through the Jazz Summer Concert Series. Concerts begin at 7:00 in the Geronimo Plaza Courtyard and admission is free. Please visit [http://saaca.org/Main\\_Gate\\_Square.html](http://saaca.org/Main_Gate_Square.html) for more information and listing of bands and restaurants.

**Old Town Artisans – June 21, 6:00pm-8:00pm**

Celebrate the Summer Solstice at Patchouli Blue Boutique. Meet your favorite artist in this casual atmosphere. The free event is at 186 N. Meyer Ave.

# 49th Annual 4th of July Parade & Pancake Breakfast

Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

Pancake Breakfast 7:00-8:00AM

3412 E Fairmount (on the parade route)

\$3.00-Pancakes/Bacon/Juice

PARADE Registration: 8:30AM

PARADE begins: 9:00AM



Parade Route: Camden & Palo Verde, East on Camden to Richey, South to Fairmount, West to Jones, and return to staging area.



**Volunteers & Donations Needed!**

**Please Call Sally 741-0849**

More Info

[Paloverdena.org](http://Paloverdena.org)

