



PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

October 13, 2017

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PAUL'S NOTE

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I had a meeting with Frank Velásquez Jr., the new executive director of JobPath. You may not have heard of JobPath, but they do some great work in our community.

JobPath offers training to young adults who have a high school diploma or GED in a number of high demand fields, including construction technology, aviation technology, nursing and engineering. This is done through partnerships with Pima Community College as well as local employers.

The impact of JobPath has been remarkable. 90% of all JobPath enrollees graduate. Estimates by consulting firm Applied Economics say that the total income of graduates in the last eleven years is \$419.4 million. Graduates earn an average of \$22.19 per hour after completing the program.

This is all done with a budget that last year

amounted to \$950,000, \$183,000 of which came from the City. Unfortunately, just like everything else the city spends money on, that amount will be going down next year.

I understand how important that investment in JobPath is. Our office has been working with the program to connect them with local corporations to fill that gap in government financing. We helped broker a partnership between them and Tucson Medical Center and we have a few more employers we have been talking to about supporting JobPath's work.

Frank comes into this role after years of the program being run by Hermi Cubillos, who had to step down due to health reasons. Hermi left some big shoes to fill, but I was impressed by Frank (who has a resume that includes work for Disney). I know he'll

do a great job for this wonderful community asset.

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Those of you that use our neighborhood recycling center, located in the Ward 2 parking lot may have noticed that it has moved.

It didn't move far though: just to the other side of the parking lot.

Over the summer, I mentioned that many of our recycling centers had to be moved. They were often ending up with more non-recyclables than recyclables. Some of this was just people making mistakes, but much of it was because the recycling centers were in isolated, hard to see places and folks that wanted to dump saw them as some place where they would get trash hauled away for free.

This meant our recycla-

PAUL'S NOTE, CONTINUED

bles were mixed in with everything from mattresses to yard waste to dirty diapers to dead animals. Keep in mind: the things that get thrown into the bins get sorted by hand.

Non-recyclables mixed in with the recyclables is called contamination, and it's more than an inconvenience for the people that do the sorting, it can be a hazardous. Because of that, the company that we are contracted with, ReCommunity, charges us if we have more than 18% contamination. Last month, we paid \$9,000 for contamination from all our recycling centers.

We had a contamination problem at the recycling center at Udall Park. We moved that center to the Ward 2 parking lot to give it a bit more visibility in the hopes that it would cut down on it.

To a big extent, it worked. They have not had time to do a full audit, but the people I've talked to at Environmental Services tell me that they estimate a drop in contamination from 35% to 20%. They have also not seen the sort of dumping outside of the bins that used to happen at Udall. It tells me that a lot of the contamination that occurred was not the result of mistakes, but of folks thinking of our recycling center as a free place to dump trash.

Which brings us to the unanticipated and disappointing reason why we had to move the recycling center to the other side of our parking lot.

We've seen unscrupulous landscapers and contractors pull into the lot to dump and pull out when they realized they'd been seen. Some had decided to be more clever. They knew they weren't supposed to use the recycling center, so they would come up a road just east of our office and they could unload without being seen.

That road is the exit for the fire station. It's the one the fire fighters use when they respond to a call. That's right: we had people using that road and possibly blocking fire vehicles responding to an emergency just so they could dump their waste without having to pay a tipping fee.

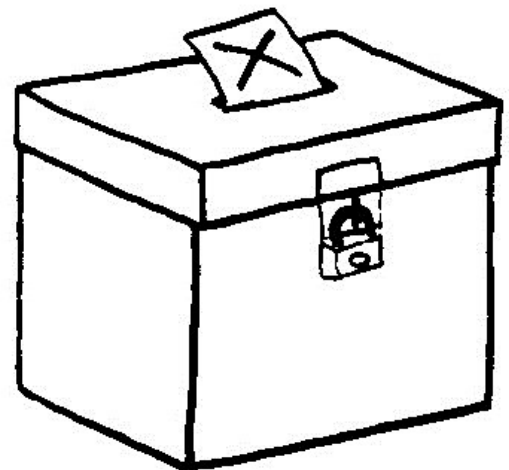
We didn't spot them, but the fire fighters did. We were contacted by one of the station commanders and that's when we decided the best solution was to move the recycling bins to the other side of the lot. It was not a big deal to move them, but it's really too bad why we had to do it.

ELECTION INFORMATION

Ballots were mailed this week. Eastsiders can vote in person at the Pima County Recorder's Office, 6920 E Broadway, Suite D from now through November 7.

Those of you mailing your ballot should do so by Wednesday, November 1 to ensure that it gets processed.

For more information, call the City Clerk at 791-4213.



CASE GARDEN FRIENDS

Case Garden Friends, who help maintain the garden at Case Natural Resource Park near Broadway and Houghton, will be holding a clean up on October 28. They are looking for help with basic maintenance and they also do special projects, arts and crafts. You can adopt out areas of the garden for a season. They welcome scout groups, churches and other organizations to volunteer for projects.

To find out more, you can look up Case Garden Friends on Facebook or email casegardenfriends@gmail.com

PAINT PIMA PURPLE

October will mark the 30th Domestic Violence Awareness Month, so once again, Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse is asking...

Will you help us Paint Pima Purple?

On October 19, put on your favorite purple outfit, take a pic & send it to communications@emergecenter.org or upload it to social media and tag us, #DVAM2017, #PaintPimaPurple, #EndDVTogether.

You can also book an appointment to get a purple hair extension for \$10 at Salon Nouveau (323-0770) and all proceeds will come to Emerge!

There will also be two opportunities to "Stuff the Truck." With help from Two Men and a Truck, supplies will be collected for domestic abuse survivors. On October 17, you can bring supplies such as gift cards, new bath and hygiene items and undergarments to Rincon Congregational UCC, 122 N Craycroft

The Ward 2 office will also be collecting supplies on Oct. 27.

CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

Oktoberfest: Join us for brats, sauerkraut, drinks, desserts and live entertainment Thursday, October 19. The cost is \$7 per person, cash only.

Movie Day: Gifted, rated PG-13. Frank, a single man raising his child prodigy niece Mary, is drawn into a custody battle with his mother. \$1, refreshments served.

The Carol West Senior Addition at Udall features multipurpose rooms, lounge area with TV, computer adult learning center and pool tables. It is open 6 am—8 pm Monday thru Friday and Saturday 8 am—4 pm. For more information, call 791—4121

PARKS PROGRAMS

Holiday Arts & Craft Fair Registration: Vendor registration is open for the Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair in Reid Park. The fair is scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend- Saturday and Sunday, November 25-26, 2017 from 9 am to 4 pm. For more information, visit tucsonaz.gov/parks or contact Susan Orrico, Event Coordinator, 791-4877. Attached is an event flier.

Swim Fall Schedule: The swim fall schedule began on August 3rd. For additional information: <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/parks/pools-and-splash-pads>

Fall Leisure Classes: Session two of classes will run October 29 through December 16. Visit EZEereg.com for details.

Call 791-4877 for more information or questions.

**PAUL CUNNINGHAM,
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Remember to like
Paul on Facebook!

Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office
for the following charities:

**THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable
Items**

**DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA—
Infant/Child/Adult Diapers**

**TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals
and Families in Need**

LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses

**DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/
Dance Equipment**

CASA MARIA—Plastic bags

**SR. JOSE WOMEN'S SHELTER—Summer items
and clothing, athletic shoes, back packs, tote**

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 24**. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session.

There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs>

