

# Welcome to the Dec. 9 issue of "Under the Dome" - a twice-monthly newsletter from Pima County Administrator Jan Lesher

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## **UNDER THE DOME** The Pima County Administrator's Newsletter

*From the Desk of Jan Lesher, Pima County Administrator*

*Vol. 1, No. 8 - Dec. 9, 2022*

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My Under the Dome Newsletter arrives in your inbox twice a month. If you know of other people who might want to get this semi-monthly update from me, have them [CLICK HERE](#), add their email, and select "County Administrator Newsletter - Jan Lesher's Updates" from the list of subscriber topics.

If you have questions, concerns, or good news of your own to share, you can reach me at [jan.lesher@pima.gov](mailto:jan.lesher@pima.gov). If you've seen enough, you can click the unsubscribe link at the bottom of the page.

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### **Supervisors power up the Aerospace Research Campus with battery manufacturer**

The Pima County Board of Supervisors Dec. 6 unanimously approved a lease-purchase agreement with American Battery Factory to build a \$1 billion battery manufacturing facility

south of Raytheon in the County's Aerospace Research Campus. The company expects to employ more than 1,000 people once the facility is fully constructed and operating.

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## **The Canadians are coming! The Canadians are coming!**

Canadian discount airline Flair announced late last month it is starting nonstop service from several Canadian cities to Tucson. Several Canadian firms have facilities in Tucson, including TEP owner Fortis, and aircraft manufacturer Bombardier. Plus, lots of Canadians like to come to Tucson during the winter, for obvious reasons.

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## **Red Alert – respiratory viruses making many ill in the County**

Health Director Dr. Theresa Cullen recently alerted the community via the local media of what she's calling a "triple-demic" – increasing infection rates of COVID-19, influenza, and pediatric RSV. The CDC is upped its Community Level for COVID to Red, or High. It had been Green, or Low, for months and hasn't been High since last February. Please take precautions this holiday season and help prevent the spread of this respiratory illnesses this winter.

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## **New building for the Medical Examiner to be ready in 2024**

County officials and partners broke ground Dec. 8 on the new home for the Office of the Medical Examiner, a \$45 million facility that will serve Pima, Cochise, Graham, LaPaz and Santa Cruz counties. The Medical Examiner's current facility is about 15,000 square feet and must use outside refrigerated space to house the deceased.

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## Be sure to visit downtown this holiday season

It's always a good time to visit downtown Tucson, if for no other reason than the food. But the holiday season is my favorite time downtown. Downtown Tucson Partnership has decorated downtown streets and parks and all trees are adorned with festive lights. There are numerous holiday events all month and you can do some last-minute shopping at the [Southern Arizona Heritage and Visitors Center](#) in the County's Historic Courthouse.

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