

**THURS FEB 2**  
**UHCA MEETING**  
**ALICE BIRNEY ELEMENTARY**  
**AUDITORIUM / 4345 CAMPUS**

6:45 Crime Watch Meeting 7:00 Regular Meeting  
 Valentines Treats, UHCA Merchandise & Raffle



University Heights Community Association February 2017



# news

I N S I D E

Lights in the Heights	3
Pizza in the Hood	4
Stonewall Citizens Patrol	5
In Case You Missed It	6
The Ostrich Story of UH	9
Pet of the Month	10

**NEXT MEETING**  
**FEB 2**  
**2017**

## Street Seen LOTS OF HEART

We recently spied a unique item among the hearts of gold at **CECILIA'S FINE JEWELRY**, Park Blvd. near Adams. It's a Deco gem of a sterling silver Georg Jensen brooch, ready to pin on your dearly beloved this month. Cecilia also can find the February birthstone, a red violet amethyst, among her trays of jewels.



**FLORABELLA**, the easy to miss flower shop on Madison off Park, has heartfelt bouquets that might express your undying love. This month Sarah and Jen have filled their cold room with anemones flaunting black

pincushion centers, tulips and ranunculus in many hues, and big blowsy peonies. These would be my choice before the ubiquitous red rose, which they also can provide.

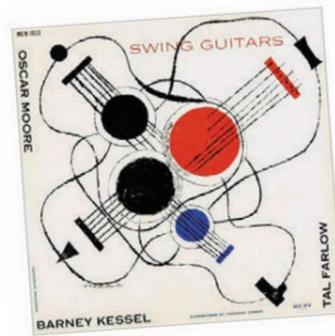
Amble on down Park to Meade and **POP PIES** where you'll find, not the Queen of Hearts, but the Kings of Pies, owners Steve Torres and Chef Gan.



This month they are rolling out a heart-shaped strawberry and cream cheese hand pie plus a velvety strawberry milkshake pie.

Steve Schwob, owner of Trust restaurant at Park and Robinson, tells me he has taken over the defunct S & M on Park. After a total remodel, **HUNDRED PROOF**, a bar concept with food service by the Trust team, is set for a spring opening.

Across the street, **BFD** still serves up sweets like bread pudding as well as incredibly original sandwiches. Owner Sheep Riley is close to opening his second location in the new Lloyd Russell building in Bankers Hill.



Have you discovered that the secret passion of owner Mike Almos at **CIRCA** restaurant, across from Trolley Barn Park, is his vintage turntable and great selection of jazz LPs? On any given evening you can dine to the likes of the late Barney Kessel's swinging guitar, groove to Stan Getz on sax or Art Tatum on piano. Speaking of jazz, the **HANDLERY HOTEL** in Mission Valley has great players every Friday night. Happy Hour at 5:30, no cover, free parking.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## FEBRUARY PROGRAM

University Heights lit up for the holidays, making this year's *Lights in the Heights* one of the best ever. This year we selected one winner from each of the six zones in the Heights, as well as the *Best Business*, *Best Block*, and *Best Decorated House with all White Lights*. Award certificates honoring this year's winners will be presented at the February meeting.



**O**ur program will also feature Branden G. Butler, senior attorney for the Fair Housing Center of the Legal Aid Society of San Diego. Branden will speak on current housing 'hot' topics, including that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s guidance that refusing to rent to persons with a criminal record is discriminatory and illegal. He will discuss potential changes to current state and local policies and regulations that are intended to increase housing availability, including the relaxed restrictions for infill development such as granny flats and other additions to property. **We hope to see you.**



## BIG CHANGES AT VENERABLE UH BUILDINGS MUELLER, SWEDENBORG TO CHANGE HANDS

The New Year has brought important news about two venerable University Heights (UH) buildings, the more than 100-year-old Swedenborgian Church on Campus Ave. and the Mueller Center building on Park Blvd. If all goes according to plan, in a couple of weeks, the Swedenborgian Church will have a new owner, the Dharma Bums Buddhist Temple. Jeff Zlotnick,

Dharma Bums' co-founder and executive director, says the temple expects to close escrow on February 14 on its \$1.4 million purchase of the building. Built in 1927, the building is the work of San Diego architect Louis Gill (1885-1969), nephew of Irving Gill (1870-1936). "We are currently in escrow and expect to close February 14th, and that very evening hold a 'Loving and

Kindness Meditation' to celebrate that will be open to the community," says Zlotnick. According to Zlotnick, by the middle of January, as UHCA News was going to press, the temple had raised \$326,000 in 74 days from 935 individuals. For religious properties, Zlotnick explains, banks require a 35 percent down payment before issuing a mortgage. Hence, the temple

continues its fundraising efforts require a 35 percent down payment before issuing a mortgage. Hence, the temple continues its fundraising efforts completely or gutting its interior for conversion. The Swedenborgian congregation, however, wanted the building to remain for spiritual and religious use and agreed to sell to the temple for the same price. *(Continued on page 8)*

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER BY CAROL NEIDENBERG

Every New Year begins with resolutions that I can easily break. This year, I vow not to delude myself with unrealistic expectations. Certainly I won't be able to immediately declutter my house, have a healthier lifestyle, and be a better friend. What I can do however is promise to become more active, read better books, get more organized, and do less Game of Thrones or Homeland binge watching

(perhaps not!). I will spend more time with people who matter – who are confident, giving, and loving.

What I ask of you, dear reader, is to **volunteer** your time and energy in giving back to your community and thereby helping others. Volunteering is a wonderful opportunity to meet new people and learn new skills. Before you dismiss volunteering because "it takes

too much time," consider how many minutes you waste every day.

UHCA would love to have you help us encourage neighbors to walk and bike more. Have block parties. Use public transportation. Visit a shut-in neighbor. Form a block walking group. Participate in clean-up activities. Be a block walker. Other UH projects can be completed on your own schedule – such as helping us

with social media – and whenever you have the opportunity. If not with UHCA, consider volunteering with the many non-profit organizations in San Diego that would love to have your talented self.

The Greek philosopher Aristotle stated that the essence of life is "To serve others and do good." A perfect way to begin 2017 is to get involved with your community. Make a difference. It's that easy.

## UHCA NEWS

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Published 10 times per year by the University Heights Community Association. We welcome articles, letters, and announcements about issues and events relating to University Heights. The deadline for submission is the 8th of the month. Email submissions to [uhcanews@yahoo.com](mailto:uhcanews@yahoo.com). We retain the right to edit submissions for style and content.

## UHCA OFFICERS

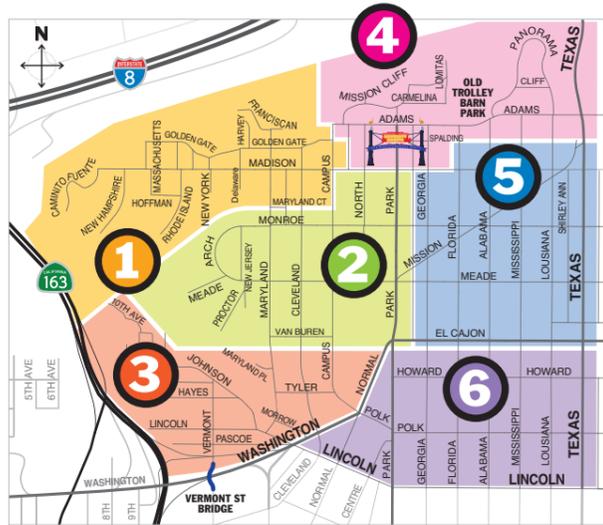
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 UHCA Website: [www.uhsd.org](http://www.uhsd.org)

[f /universityheightscommunityassociation](https://www.facebook.com/universityheightscommunityassociation)

*Opinions expressed in articles of the UHCA News are those of their authors and do not reflect those of the newspaper or the University Heights Community Association (UHCA).*

## UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BOUNDARIES AND ZONE WATCH

Zone Watch Coordinators manage an email list of participants wishing to receive crime watch information. For questions or for more info, contact either your zone's coordinator or Nan McGraw.



- 1** Nan McGraw  
[nmcsan@aol.com](mailto:nmcsan@aol.com)
- 2** Pam Isaacs  
[pamisaacs1@gmail.com](mailto:pamisaacs1@gmail.com)
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### LOVE UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS? BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

Your donation and membership goes toward:  
 Activities / Neighborhood clean-ups / Newspapers  
 Website / Community areas / Beautify UH / And more



Now pay your dues or donate online at [www.uhsd.org](http://www.uhsd.org).



## NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

**GOLDEN OSTRICH:**  
 Albert & Sharon Cutri, Brooks Bedwell & Jason Brodersen, Thomas Mullaney, Shanan Spearing

**BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP:**  
 Red House Pizza, Roxanne Govari Real Estate

**HOUSEHOLD:**  
 Don Ashley & Steven Nugent, Hans & Heidi Baumgartner, Andy & Paula Cameron, Adam Graham & Monica Lanctot, Linda Hotchkiss & Bridget MacConnel, John Kelleher & Mary Barger, Mark Koopman & Randi Vita, Mary & Andy Lange, Margie Ohl & Kathleen Maloney, Gale Osborn, Kestler & Toni Randall, Cathy Rothwell & Debra Broadbent, Paula Sevier, Breanna & Melissa Strand, Cindy Thorsen, Mariana Venegas & Robert Della Valle, Dan & Michelle Weiss, Mandy Williams, Caryn Sumek, Ryan Kelley, James Gerber, Bernard & Dawn Sassi-Damborn, Charles & Nancy Girvin, Patrick Tresse, John & Kristin Chandler, Phyllis Charlton & Randi Dropkin, Susan & David Holts, Ron Oliver & Brent Orlesky, Jess & Beth Humphrey, Angel Chelik & Joe Nafziger, John & Kathi Kennedy, Alex Sachs, Nancy Nakawaki

**DONATIONS: Thank you for your generous contributions**  
 Andrew Guzzon & Cathy Strittmatter, Jessica Colosimo & Case Iest

CLIP & RETURN TO: UHCA P.O. BOX 33032, SAN DIEGO, CA 92163

**Join today and be part of the team! The success of the UHCA is largely dependent upon the volunteer efforts of area residents.**

### Yearly Membership

- \$25 Household
- \$45 Non-UH Resident & mailed UHCA News
- \$75 Business Membership
- \$100 Golden Ostrich

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Referred by \_\_\_\_\_

- NEW  RENEWAL

University Heights Community Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization. A portion of your membership is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

### Donor

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation for Keeping up the Good Work (Donate as a member or non-member)

### Volunteer Your Time on a UHCA Committee!

- Beautification & Planning** · Keep UH beautiful.
- Blockwalker** · Help deliver newsletters to UH residences and businesses.
- Marketing & Merchandising** · Promote UHCA via marketing/advertising, visual arts, photography, and product merchandising.
- Membership** · Help exceed goals for 2017 membership and meeting attendance.
- Neighborhood/Zone Watch** · Join your neighbors to keep UH safe.
- UHCA News** · Write articles, take photos, or sell ads; these are just a few of the many ways to contribute your talent, creativity, and energy to our paper.
- Program & Events**  
Plan and oversee various events and general meetings.



University Heights Community Association

# Street Seen

## LOTS OF HEART

(Continued from page 1)

The nifty **NICHE** gift shop, 3700 block of Adams just beyond University Heights, has magically transformed into **KIKO & SVEN**.

After scratching my head over the name, new owner Christy Jaynes explained that she admires both Japanese and Swedish design and feels they marry well in her shop. She loves greeting cards and has added 48 feet of them including Valentines, to the potpourri of plants, baby gifts, books, tableware, and fashion. Coming soon, Christy's own private label designs in table linens and bath products.



Over in Hillcrest off University, **PENZEYS SPICES** packages Kind Heart gift boxes (salt free seasonings), Love People dishtowels, and other Heart-y gifts. Culinary lavender is on hand if you're baking.



Cooking up an all red menu has been my favorite Valentine challenge. Suggestions include beets, strawberries, pomegranate seeds and juice, red raspberries, tomatoes, red peppers, sweet and hot, and radicchio and red cabbage in their most magenta forms. No red food coloring allowed.

— *Unknown Shopper*

"Street Seen" is a new and occasional column of news, in and out of the 'hood, by the Unknown Shopper.

We all love recycling, so how about this hot-off-the-street-poles idea. UHCA has introduced very artful vinyl tote bags made from "upcycled" or repurposed UH banners that would otherwise wind up in a landfill. Available at UHCA meetings, the UH Library and Twiggs.



# 2016 LIGHTS IN THE HEIGHTS WINNERS

As the new chair of the UHCA Beautification Committee, it was my pleasure to participate in this year's Lights in the Heights judging. Once again University Heights was awash with lights and decorations celebrating the holiday season. During the evening of December 19, the Lights in the Heights Committee toured the neighborhood to vote on the best lights for 2016. This year the best houses in each of the six zones of University Heights were chosen for recognition, in addition to the best business, best all white lights, and best block. As always, it was very difficult to choose the winners, and our thanks and recognition go out to everyone who lit up our neighborhood. Our winners this year are:

### Winners By Zone

- 1 818 Madison Avenue
- 2 4350 Proctor Place
- 3 1211 Maryland Place
- 4 4716 Panorama Drive
- 5 1917 Madison Avenue
- 6 1729 Lincoln Avenue

### \* Best Block

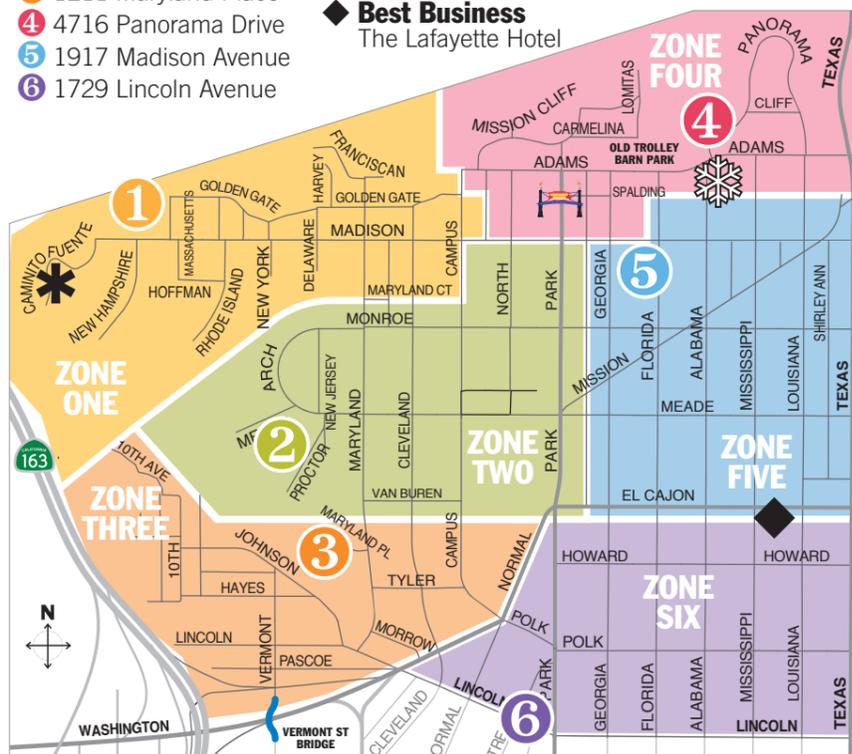
Caminito Fuente / Madison Avenue Villas

### ❄️ Best White Lights

4663 Alabama Avenue

### ◆ Best Business

The Lafayette Hotel



All winners will receive a certificate recognizing their achievement. Again, on behalf of our entire community, thank you to everyone who said Happy Holidays through your participation in Lights in the Heights. —*Rod Girvin, Beautification Committee Chair*



Cal Trans begins to address this troubled area. Let's keep up the pressure to get the job done. Join UHCA and support our efforts to clean up this canyon.

# EATING OUT IN UH

<b>Bahia Mexican &amp; Seafood</b>	1985 El Cajon Blvd.	542-0540
<b>Bahn Thai</b>	4646 Park Blvd.	299-6363
<b>bfd (big front door)</b>	4135 Park Blvd.	255-4100
<b>Circa Restaurant</b>	2121 Adams Ave.	296-9152
<b>Cueva Bar</b>	2123 Adams Ave.	269-6612
<b>El Zarape</b>	4642 Park Blvd.	692-1652
<b>Flavors of East Africa</b>	2322 El Cajon Blvd.	955-8778
<b>Great Maple</b>	1451 Washington St.	296-8268
<b>Hope at Lafayette</b>	2223 El Cajon Blvd.	780-0358
<b>Lestat's on Park</b>	4496 Park Blvd.	501-6638
<b>Loving Hut</b>	1905 El Cajon Blvd.	683-9490
<b>Madison</b>	4622 Park Blvd.	296-6566
<b>Mama's Bakery &amp; Lebanese Deli</b>	4237 Alabama St.	688-0717
<b>Meraki Café</b>	1735 Adams Ave.	269-9618
<b>Muzita Abyssinian Bistro</b>	4651 Park Blvd.	546-7900
<b>Mystic Mocha</b>	2105 Mission Ave.	688-0858
<b>Park Boulevard Deli</b>	4504 Park Blvd.	295-1362
<b>Park House Eatery</b>	4574 Park Blvd.	295-7275
<b>Pizzeria Bruno Napoletano</b>	4207 Park Blvd.	260-1311
<b>Pizzeria Luigi</b>	2121 El Cajon Blvd.	294-9417
<b>Plumeria Vegetarian Cuisine</b>	4661 Park Blvd.	269-9989
<b>Pomegranate Restaurant</b>	2312 El Cajon Blvd.	297-4007
<b>Pop Pie Co.</b>	4404 Park Blvd.	501-4440
<b>Red Fox Steak House</b>	2223 El Cajon Blvd.	297-1313
<b>Red House Pizza</b>	4615 Park Blvd.	546-7430
<b>Small Bar</b>	4628 Park Blvd.	795-7998
<b>Soltan Banoo</b>	4645 Park Blvd.	298-2801
<b>Sprouts Market &amp; Deli</b>	4175 Park Blvd.	291-8287
<b>Twiggs</b>	4590 Park Blvd.	296-0616
<b>Twisted Taps (brews &amp; chews)</b>	2302 El Cajon Blvd.	542-9927
<b>Wing Stop</b>	1901 El Cajon Blvd.	297-9464

# PIZZA IN THE HOOD

## Restaurant Review



Many years ago my husband and I tried the pizza at Pizzeria Luigi in South Park. It was a nice neighborhood pizza place. Recently we thought we would try the El Cajon Blvd. location, since it's more convenient for us. The pizza was very good. And I have to say, the whole time we were there, people were lined up to the door to order and take the pizza home to eat. But not many stayed to eat there, and it was no surprise to us. The place has the feel of being thrown together quickly. There is a room with several game tables (Foosball, pinball, shuffleboard, and more), and another cavernous room with tables for eating in. Although the walls were covered in a creative mix of scrap wood strips, there was not much else going for it. The chairs were OK, the tables had not been wiped down in a while, and there was little warmth or charm to speak of.

If you try their pizza, do include the Crime Scene (meatball, ricotta and sauce). It was very tasty – the best of the bunch. We had

4 slices, each a different type. The crust was thin and chewy – burned to the right degree, but my guess is that the slices had lost something by sitting in the case too long. There is a nice selection of craft beers on tap, and they have every flavor of bubbly Pellegrino sodas.

With a neighborhood filled with fabulous pizzas (Café Calabria in North Park being the best, then Bronx in Hillcrest and Lefty's in Mission Hills), Luigi's has some tough competition. But we will give it another try and next time order a whole pie to take home and eat in our warm, charming living room.

Pizzeria Luigi  
2121 El Cajon Blvd.  
San Diego, CA  
(619) 294-9417

—Andrea Bacal



# FEB 2017



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	30	31	<b>1</b> UHCDC Meeting	<b>2</b> UH Rec Council Meeting UHCA MEETING Birney School Auditorium 6:45 pm Curbside Recycling & Yard Waste Collection	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> The Point Cleanup 1:30 – 3:30 pm (Golden Gate between Rhode Island & Delaware Sts.)
<b>5</b> Hillcrest Farmers Market Lincoln & Cleveland 9 am–2 pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Uptown Planners Mtg Joyce Beers Uptown Center 6 pm	<b>8</b> uhca news March Deadline	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Hillcrest Farmers Market Lincoln & Cleveland 9 am–2 pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Happy Valentine's Day!	<b>15</b> Library Task Force UH Lib. 6:30-7:30 pm	<b>16</b> Curbside Recycling & Yard Waste Collection	<b>17</b> KNOWLEDGE, IMAGINATION, INSPIRATION, EXPERIENCE, LEARNING PREVIEW BOOK SALE (Members Only) Friends of the Library UH Library 3–6 pm	<b>18</b> Friends of the Library <b>BOOK SALE</b> 8 am - 3 pm, UH Library
<b>19</b> Friends of the Library <b>BOOK SALE</b> Noon - 4 pm, UH Library Hillcrest Farmers Market Lincoln & Cleveland 9 am–2 pm	<b>20</b> PRESIDENT'S DAY!	<b>21</b> uhca news Comes out North Park Planning Committee North Park Christian Fellowship 2901 North Park Way 6:30 pm Friends of UH Library Meeting 6:30 pm	<b>22</b> UH Book Club & Salon 6:30 pm UH Library	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Hillcrest Farmers Market Lincoln & Cleveland 9 am–2 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>THANK YOU</b> A huge thank you to all the University Heights Residents and Businesses who generously contributed to the following: Lions Club Flag Program on Park Boulevard Birney Giving Tree Socks for Vets 	

# STONEWALL CITIZENS PATROL MARKS 10 YEARS WITH NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Stonewall Citizens' Patrol, San Diego's LGBT and inclusive citizens safety organization, recently celebrated its 10th anniversary with the appointment of Sean Redmond as its new executive director.

In 2006, a group of concerned citizens, responding to assaults on several gay men outside the Pride Festival, formed the Stonewall Citizens' Patrol, a volunteer neighborhood watch group, to operate in the highly diverse University Heights, Hillcrest, and North Park neighborhoods of San Diego. For the last decade, volunteers, who receive training from the San Diego Police Department, have taken turns patrolling the streets and helping to keep our neighborhoods safe.

The Patrol was named "Stonewall" in honor of those who stood up and said, "We've had enough. It's time to take a stand against the violence against LGBT people in our community."

The organization focuses on crime awareness, crime prevention, and community safety. Volunteers take a "hands-off" approach and do not carry weapons. They are merely additional eyes and ears for the San Diego Police Department.

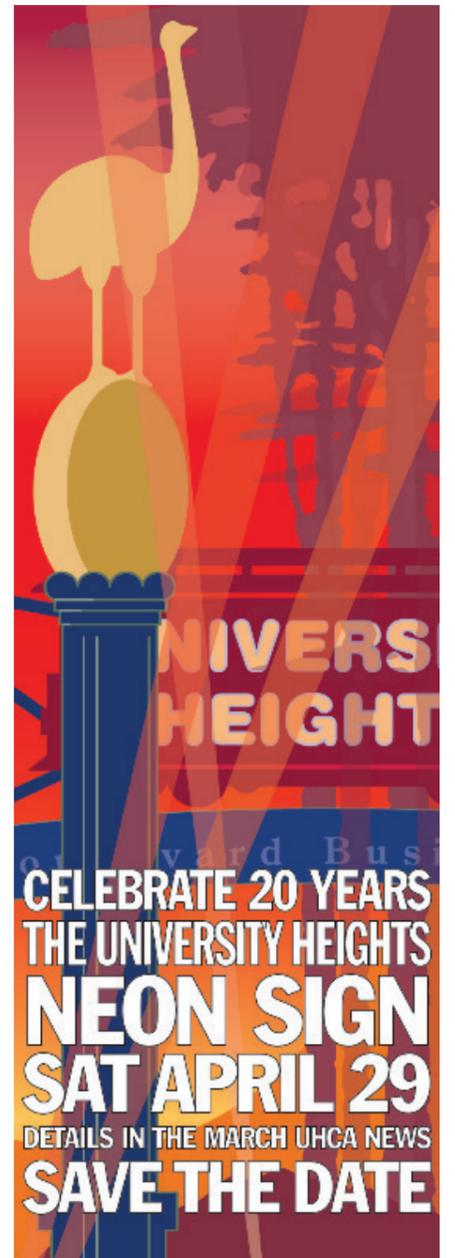
**When not out on patrol, volunteers also provide a safe environment for a number of community events.**

Major annual events include assisting with Festival Safety for Pride; providing a visible presence at events such as Nightmare on Normal Street and the GLSEN annual event; volunteering with the US Police and Fire Championships; and providing a presence at the Transgender Day of Remembrance event and the annual San Diego Remembers Matthew Shepard event. The organization continues to grow,

with greater attendance at community town hall meetings and neighborhood events.

As a non-profit organization, Stonewall Citizens' Patrol understands the need for community involvement. Working with other organizations not only allows the Patrol to serve the community, but also provides the opportunity to realize the missions of the several organizations. Stonewall Citizens' Patrol is proud to have served in helping to keep our community safe since 2006!

More information about Stonewall Citizens' Patrol can be found at [www.stonewallcitizens.org](http://www.stonewallcitizens.org). Citizens can request a ride-a-long patrol, apply to be a volunteer, or make a donation to help keep the wheels turning. Feel free to give a shout out or even wave down our volunteers when you see them out on patrol. —Sean R. Redmond



## UH Phone Book

- Emergency** (Police, Fire, Medical) ..... 911
- Non-Emergency** (Report suspicious activity/HOT-Homeless Outreach Team/etc.) . . 619-531-2000
- New app for non-emergency problems** ..... [www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done](http://www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done)
- S.D. City Services non-emergency**  
(Street lights, pot holes, etc.): ..... 619-527-7500 or [www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments](http://www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments)
- Alert San Diego** (reverse 911 notification of emergencies requiring evacuations)  
for cell phones ..... [www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego](http://www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego)
- 2-1-1** (free community resources: Cal Fresh, Medi-Care, Covered California, etc.) ..... 211
- Abandoned Vehicles ..... 858-495-7856
- Alice Birney School Office ..... 619-497-3500
- Animals (Non-emergency) ..... 619-767-2675
- Brush and Weed Abatement ..... 619-533-4444
- Code Violations ..... 619-236-5500
- Crime Stoppers Tip Line ..... 888-580-TIPS (8477)
- Department of Environmental Health (public health/rats/rodents) ..... 858-694-2888
- Downed Power Lines (SDG&E) ..... 800-411-7343
- Emergency Water/Sewer Repair/Sink Holes ..... 619-515-3525
- Narcotics (suspicious drug house/anonymous) ..... 619-531-2468
- Retired Senior Volunteer (RSVP) ..... 619-692-4945
- SDPD Community Relations Officers: David Surwilo ([dsurwilo@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:dsurwilo@pd.sandiego.gov))  
& Ricardo Pinon ([rpinon@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:rpinon@pd.sandiego.gov)) ..... 619-692-4858/692-4821
- SDPD Western Division-5215 Gaines Street ..... 619-692-4800
- Shopping Cart Pick-Up Service ..... 800-252-4613
- University Heights Public Library-4193 Park Boulevard ..... 619-692-4912
- Zone/Neighborhood Watch-Nan McGraw ..... 619-260-0668
- Graffiti: in progress 911; report to Graffiti Control ..... [apps.sandiego.gov/streetdiv](http://apps.sandiego.gov/streetdiv)  
Email photos: [Cericson@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:Cericson@pd.sandiego.gov) ..... 619-257-7500
- If all else fails contact Brittany at Councilmember Chris Ward's  
([BNBailey@sandiego.gov](mailto:BNBailey@sandiego.gov)) ..... 619-236-6633

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# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

At our December 1, 2016, meeting, UHCA President **Carol Neidenberg** welcomed everyone to the holiday get together and meeting. We enjoyed delicious desserts before, during, and after our action-packed meeting.

Our San Diego Police Department community relations officers provided a crime-prevention tip. Because packages have been stolen from doorsteps, please try to have packages delivered to work rather than your home if you're not home during the day. Because of the prevalence of thefts from vehicles, please don't leave anything visible in your car.

## THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENTS WERE MADE AT THE MEETING:

- **Nan McGraw:** Caroling in the Heights on December 11.
- **Jill Briggs:** More than 300 residents responded to the Friends of Trolley Barn Park community survey. Responses included several proposals to address the primary concern of vagrancy and homelessness in the park: post a curfew, improve the lighting, and reconfigure the back of the park.
- **Michelle Fenwick** (at fenwicmk@miamioh.edu): The Street Tree Mapping Project will create a map identifying areas where UH needs trees. Please contact Michelle (at fenwicmk@miamioh.edu) if you're interested in helping out. Two flowering, drought tolerant, city-approved street trees are the crape myrtle, which is approved for use under power lines, and the native western redbud.
- **Paul Farris:** The Socks for Vets drive. In this, our third year collecting and donating new socks to veterans, we collected more socks than any other area—thanks in part to the great graphics.
- **Marcia Sorini:** UHCA's Giving Tree collected \$1000 in gift cards for Birney Elementary School students.
- **Adriana Martinez:** Todd Gloria will approve partial funding from the CPPS for new neighborhood watch signs.
- **MaryBeth Chruden:** The Beautification Committee will judge the Lights in the Heights on December 19.
- **Pam Isaacs:** She is zone two neighborhood watch coordinator.
- **Bill Ellig** (from Uptown Planners): The City ignored 6 years of community work and input on the land use master plan for the Uptown and North Park community planning districts. They retreated to the 1988 Plan, but without the protections of the 1988 Plan.
- **Britney Bailey:** She will be **Chris Ward's** representative to University Heights.
- **Amanda Hammond-Williams:** As principal of Birney Elementary School, she accepted a UHCA donation of \$1,000 to help Birney remain an International Baccalaureate (IB) school.
- There will be no meeting in January. Our next meeting is Thursday, February 2, 2017.

## RECOGNITIONS AND THANKS WENT TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS:

- **Chris Ward, Ernie Bonn, and Beth Jaworski** for their many years of service on Uptown Planners.
- **Amy Waterman, Jeff Harding, Joselle Spinoza, Sol Schumer, Andy Lange, and Barb Noyer** for their beautification and clean-up efforts above and beyond the call of duty.
- **Susan Holts** for creating the lovely gift baskets for the raffle recipients. The prizes included: a wellness gift basket worth \$75; a basket with a Great Maple gift certificate for \$50; and a Friends of the Library (FOL) tote bag, books, and an FOL membership worth \$75.
- **MaryBeth Chruden** for greeting attendees at the meetings and for promoting UHCA.
- **Paul Farris** for beautiful graphics for the newspaper, the banners, our flyers, and everywhere else we needed artwork.
- **Marcia Sorini** for promoting the Birney Giving Tree.
- **Philip J. Gill** for serving as President of the UH Library Friends and co-editing the UHCA newspaper.
- **The blockwalkers and zone watchers** for their invaluable help throughout the year.
- **Sal Usman** for meeting all our printing needs.
- **Bernie Horan, Mary Anne Stevens, and Monica Lanctot** as outgoing officers of UHCA.
- **Pets of the Months and Pet of the Year and their owners.** Pictures of the cats and dogs were on display. A Certificate was presented to **Dexter**, the Pet of the Year, owned by **Ernie Arellano**.
- **Ostrich Plume recipients** for 2016 for outstanding service to the community.
- **Kristie Edgmond** who received the Plume of the Year Award for "volunteering for everything."



This is Marcia Sorini with Birney Principal, Amanda Hammond-Williams. Amanda receiving gifts for Birney students from University Heights Community Association members.

—Kurt Hermansen, Secretary

# Birney Buzz



Birney's students came back from break with an emphasis on kindness and gratitude. We would like to offer two huge thank yous to the UH community. First of all, our December Big Give raised more than \$16,227 from 175 donors! A group of anonymous matching families donated an additional \$4,100, to make the single day grand total \$20,327! We are also grateful for the more than \$1000 in gift cards for Birney families in need, who were supremely grateful for the opportunity to buy both food and toys for their loved ones this holiday season. We are humbled by the continued depth and generosity of support for our school.

Since a week of kindness isn't a challenge for our students and staff, we've expanded this year's Great Kindness Challenge to two full months of kindness. Our students will also participate in PTA-sponsored educational assemblies to show students how to disarm mean or bullying behavior.

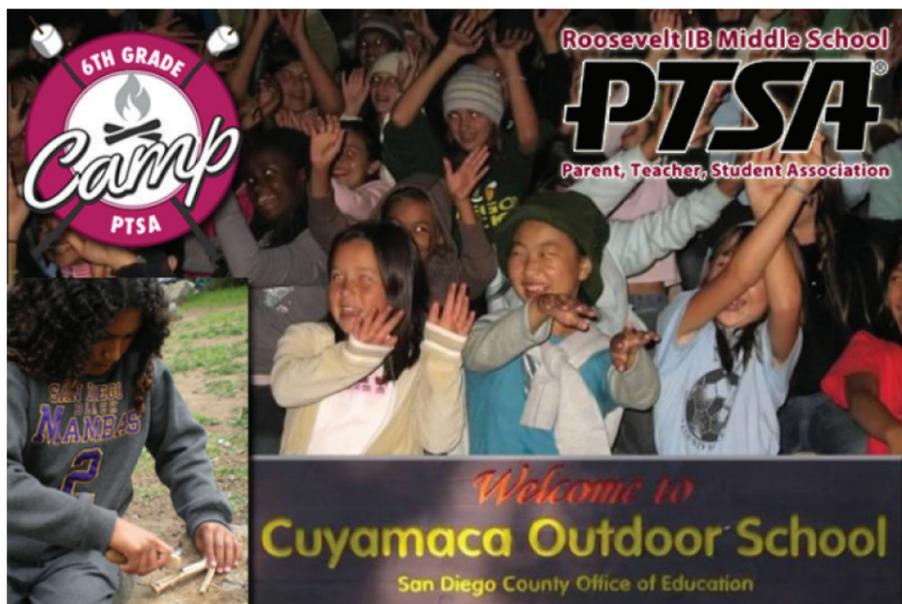
Birney's Run for the Green on March 17th will celebrate 10 years of funding

our world-class International Baccalaureate (IB) program. This celebration of health and wellness allows our students to garner sponsorship for the laps they run on the day of the event. Birney's International Baccalaureate program provides our students with an award-winning, one-of-a-kind garden program. Like our sister schools McKinley and Jefferson, the IB curriculum also offers students art and foreign language classes. Birney continues to provide opportunities and experiences that allow all of our nearly 600 students to reach their fullest potential. We value the support of each person who makes this program possible. Whether it is through volunteering efforts or through monetary donation, every effort takes us to our goal. To make your donation to help keep this world-class program in University Heights, go to [FriendsofAliceBirney.org](http://FriendsofAliceBirney.org).  
—Kim Schultz



# ROONNEWS

from Roosevelt Middle School



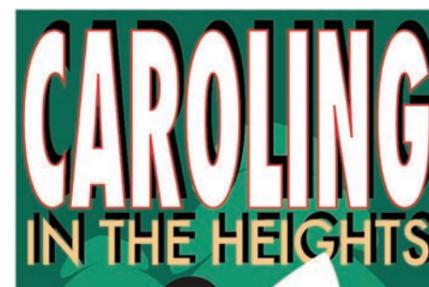
## Not too late to support 6th Grade Camp!

For years almost every 6th grade student in San Diego Unified attended 6th Grade Camp, but a few years ago this wonderful program fell victim to district budget cuts. For Roosevelt students, the Roosevelt PTSA now sponsors the trip over Spring Break, and parents need to foot the bill. For 70 years, the Cuyamaca Outdoor School has been offering kids hands-on, curriculum-based lessons in an overnight camp setting aimed at nourishing an appreciation of nature, creating a deeper understanding of science concepts, and providing an opportunity for students to explore their independence in a safe, educational, and fun environment. The cost for this once-in-a-lifetime experience is \$350 per student, so only about 20 percent of Roosevelt's 6th graders will be able to make the PTSA-sponsored trip. If you would like to help make this camp experience a reality for students in financial need, please go to <https://www.gofundme.com/RooseveltPTSA6thGradeCamp2017>. Your tax-deductible donation to the Roosevelt PTSA will help provide scholarships to students who might not otherwise have the opportunity. Contact [6thGradeCamp@rooseveltps.org](mailto:6thGradeCamp@rooseveltps.org) for more information.  
—Laura Dadmun

# Plume

## University Heights Community Association Cast and Crew of Caroling in the Heights

The University Heights Community Association's annual *Caroling in the Heights* event took place on one of those beautiful San Diego December evenings. The sky was clear, the lights were bright, the faces joyous, and the kids delightful. As usual, The Full Measure Carolers entertained us. The traditional Victorian costumes are now a thing of the past. This time they changed it up a bit and became the Rockin' Cranberries with new, fun costumes. And, rock they did. Skyler (who loves UH and is with us each year), Molly, Laura, and Ben entertained at four locations in UH: The Vermont Street Bridge, the wall at Sprouts, Mystic Mocha, and The Point. As we drove from one location to the next, the three carolers who had never been in University Heights (Molly, Laura, and Ben) remarked about how much fun it was to entertain such appreciative neighbors in this "cool community." Skyler already knows we're cool. He requests us and we request him each year. The singers loved the animated and awed kids, the adult audience, and the lighted surroundings at each stop. It will be hard to beat the 350 attendees we attracted this time, but our intention is to make *Caroling in the Heights* bigger and better next December. So stay tuned. Thank you to **Twiggs** for providing yummy hot chocolate to warm us at the Vermont Street Bridge, Sprouts Wall, and The Point. **Natalie** and **Frances** were busy bustling about serving their fresh-baked, delicious cookies at their cozy café, **Mystic Mocha**. Thank you for hosting again. Oh, what a magical night! Thank you for attending, helping, and sponsoring this wonderful event. Your membership to UHCA makes events such as *Caroling in the Heights* possible.





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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
REMEMBERS

*Lucy Killea*

*She was a great friend to University Heights  
while serving as a San Diego City Councilmember  
and in both the California Assembly and Senate.*

**MUELLER CENTER AND SWEDENBORGIAN CHURCH**  
*(Continued from page 1)*

The Dharma Bums Temple, which currently occupies a rented facility downtown on 2nd Street, was founded in 2006. It is named for Beat Generation novelist and poet Jack Kerouac and his famous eponymous novel. "While we don't endorse many aspects of Jack Kerouac's life, we do identify with the need to teach people and to help people who feel lost to find themselves," says Zlotnick.

Meanwhile, the Mueller Center at 4607 Park at Madison in the 'village' business district of UH has apparently closed. In last June's UHCA News, we reported that the Mueller College of Holistic Studies, which started at the UH site but later moved to Mission Valley, had closed its doors, but that the Mueller Center on Park remained open for massages, yoga classes, and other services. The two institutions shared a common history and name, but operated as different businesses, explained Dr. Jeff Welsh at the time. As we were going to press, an email addressed to Welsh, who ran both operations, was not returned. —Philip J. Gill

**TIME TO RENEW** And Get Involved In  
**Friends of the UH Library**

As we start the New Year, I have two simple requests. First, I want to ask you to join or if you are already a member to renew your membership in the Friends of the University Heights Library (FoUHL). Second, I want to ask you to get involved, help collect and sort books, show up at meetings, and even become a member of a FoUHL committee or board.

For current members, I thank you for your past support. As your local chapter of the Friends of the San Diego Public Library (FSDPL), we are dedicated to supporting and improving services at the University Heights branch library, the oldest in the San Diego public library system.

Thanks to you and your support, we were able to accomplish the following during 2016:

- Increase income from our annual August book sale
- Reestablish online sales for additional revenue
- Make a \$2000 donation to the San Diego Public Library Foundation that was doubled by matching funds and used to buy new books and equipment for our branch
- Purchase new security gates
- Make landscape improvements with drought-tolerant plants
- Replace on a regular basis the outside banner signs on the Park Blvd. side of the building
- Work with city and library officials to have the building exterior repainted—for the first time in more than 15 years—in a color palette that is historically appropriate to the building
- Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the library building as an outstanding example of Mid-Century Modern architecture in San Diego with a party, guest lecturers, and a special architecture and design book sale

These accomplishments rely on your support. To continue our efforts to restore and improve the library, please join up or renew for only \$10—or \$5 if you're a senior! If you haven't already received an email, you should be getting a letter in the mail soon. Please help us to make the UH library the best branch library in San Diego in the best neighborhood in San Diego.

If you can, consider upgrading your support. Lifetime Memberships are available for only \$250. For as long as supplies last, every new Lifetime Member will receive a special commemorative heavyweight tote bag made especially for the 50th anniversary event. The totes are 100 percent recycled cotton and feature an artistic rendering of the UH library building.

My second request is that you consider getting involved by volunteering or even joining the FoUHL executive committee! FoUHL meets the second Tuesday of every month, holidays excepted, in the children's section of the UH library at 6:30 pm. We are currently looking for a new treasurer, and we will be holding elections for other officers later this year.

At the January meeting, I appointed member Isabel Schecter to replace Maureen Markey as organization secretary. I thank Maureen for her service the last two-and-a-half years as she steps down to pursue other community interests, and I welcome Isabel to the team. She is a tireless volunteer for the UH library and we all wish her the best!

And all the best to you too in 2017!

—Philip J Gill, President of Friends of the University Heights Library. He can be reached by email at [uhfriendsofthelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:uhfriendsofthelibrary@gmail.com).

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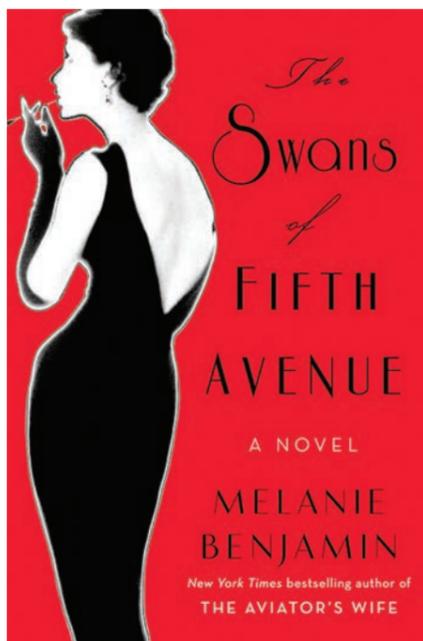
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## The February Book Club & Salon:



### The Swans of Fifth Avenue By Melanie Benjamin

In 1975, a clique of Manhattan socialites discover that literary lion Truman Capote had revealed their private confidences to the world in a story published in *Esquire* magazine, a true event that inspired this novel. Barbara “Babe” Paley was the ultimate member of Manhattan society—stunning, chic, aloof—and the wife of William S. Paley, the founder and CEO of CBS, a notorious playboy who showed little interest in her life. Paley felt the most betrayed since she and Capote shared a close bond of loneliness and insecurity going back to 1955 when they first became confidantes. Capote used his early literary successes to enjoy the company of his “swans,” a circle of wealthy married women

who were attracted to his boyish charm and his love of good gossip and scandal.

The author learned a great deal about the posh, sophisticated world of post-World War II New York. Readers will enjoy the author’s fact-based narrative that captures the golden years of Manhattan’s café society, its juiciest scandals, and its lavish lifestyles. This was an era when its privileged and pampered partied at swanky night clubs, shopped at Bergdorf Goodman and Saks Fifth Avenue, and dined at 21, Le Pavillon, and La Côte Basque.

Join the Book Club & Salon discussion on Wednesday, February 22, 2017, at 6:30 pm. The book will be available at the UH Library’s front desk during January/February. New members are always welcome!

#### UH Book Club & Salon

WEDNESDAY, February 22, 2017 at 6:30 pm  
UH Branch Library  
4193 Park Boulevard (at Howard Avenue)  
619-692-4912

## THE OSTRICH STORY OF UH



Told for 125 years, this tale never grows old. University Heights is one of San Diego’s oldest communities – one with a colorful and exciting history. Our story began in 1888 when the College Hill Land Association subdivided the land that bordered the City Park for the purpose of developing the University of Southern California College of Fine Arts. The lots were sold at “reasonable prices” with part of the cost to go into a college building fund. However, a national recession stopped the construction. In 1898, the land was donated to build a Normal School, a teacher training college.

At the end of North and Adams, the San Diego Cable Railway Company developed The Bluffs, a park that eventually was purchased by John Spreckels just before the turn of the 20th century. This 20-acre botanical garden, Mission Cliff Gardens, was the end of the line for the Spreckels’ owned streetcars and was considered the city’s premier public park. In 1904, the Harvey Bentley Ostrich Farm moved to UH and enjoyed great success because of the popularity of ostrich feathers in women’s fashions. The farm also was open to the public and visitors could ride the birds for a fee. In 1913, a trolley car

barn was built next to the farm. It was used for repairs and down time storage until the 1940s, when buses replaced the street cars. From 1949 until 1986, the property was the San Diego Paper Box Company. In 1979, the building was sold and demolished.

Today this historical site is the Trolley Barn Park, a crowning achievement of UHCA. Inspired by the original Mission Cliff Gardens, the park won the prestigious AIA Orchid Award in 1992. One hundred and twenty five years later, UH remains a vibrant neighborhood and the ostrich graces our pages as a reminder of our community’s proud heritage.



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**from your councilmember**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS!**

**Greetings From Your New City Councilmember, Chris Ward**

I've hit the ground running after being sworn in on December 12th. Core issues like protecting public safety, addressing homelessness, supporting our neighborhood businesses, and accelerating the repair of community infrastructure are my biggest priorities for making City Hall work better for us. But there's more I have my eyes on to make University Heights an even better neighborhood than we know it today.

As a homeowner myself here in University Heights and a proud, decade-long member of our strong community association, I'm personally invested in making our community safe, clean, livable, and affordable. This needs to be a complete community where young people can thrive long-term, raise families, create and support businesses, and retire securely.

My top priority is a major push to improve our city's response to homelessness. The conditions on the ground have declined in recent years, affecting all the

communities in our district, and more has to be done. I have been nominated to the Regional Continuum of Care Council, which is responsible for distributing all federal funding for homelessness, and I am developing a work plan to help get more individuals off our streets and into housing. It is a moral imperative and policy failure for those who are unsheltered, and it's not something that the rest of the community should have to deal with every day either.

We continue to face a statewide housing crunch that's hit renters and interested homeowners hard. So I'll be working hard for strong job opportunities that help San Diegans afford to stay here for the long haul.

I love our neighborhood and I walk our streets with my daughter and my terrier, so I know it's important that our future growth doesn't get ahead of the infrastructure to support it. And as our City Council deliberates each year on the priorities in which to invest, know that I have a keen understanding of the long overdue improvements needed in University Heights.

I'm excited to begin putting all of this into action, and I hope you'll be in touch with my office to help achieve the results we all want for University Heights. If you need any assistance with city services or have ideas you'd like to share, please contact my liaison to the community, Brittany Bailey, at (619) 236-6633 or [bnbailey@sandiego.gov](mailto:bnbailey@sandiego.gov).

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you at City Hall.

—3rd District City Councilmember Chris Ward.



**from your supervisor**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS!**

**Together, We Can Look Forward To An Even Better 2017**

We have all just completed a busy and interesting 2016, but it is time to look forward.

Housing will be one of the key issues for me in 2017. Starter homes for young families, senior housing for a fast growing population, and affordable units for those struggling with homelessness have one thing in common: A lack of available housing. Our region is incredibly short of housing for both owners and renters.

Cutting red tape and lowering barriers to new development make it easier for those who live here and want to stay (and their children and grandchildren) to find housing that meets their needs.

Mobility goes beyond shorter routes to the grocery store, a local park, or a house of worship. Because most San Diegans commute to work, we need to be more creative in improving transportation

options and reducing greenhouse gas emissions to improve both our environment and quality of life.

This is my second year as chairman of the San Diego Association of Governments, which is responsible for regional transportation. Because I also serve as vice chairman of the Metropolitan Transit System and as a member of the California Air Resources Board, I am blessed with access to the technical insight and creativity needed to address the mobility issue in a comprehensive way.

Stay tuned for good news in late February or March on our efforts to provide 24/7 services to severely mentally ill homeless men and women. I also look forward to sharing some significant progress on our 10 plus years of work to address childhood obesity.

University Heights and greater San Diego remain wonderful places to work, raise our families, interact with friends, and enjoy a good quality of life. Improvements can always be made, so let's all resolve to work together and make them happen in 2017.

—Supervisor Ron Roberts

County Supervisor Ron Roberts represents University Heights as part of his Fourth Supervisorial District. You can follow him on Facebook at Supervisor Ron Roberts, on Twitter at @RonRobertsSD, and at [www.RonRoberts.com](http://www.RonRoberts.com).

**Our Representatives**

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San Diego, CA 92101  
619-236-6633 / 619-595-1481 fax  
[bnbailey@sandiego.gov](mailto:bnbailey@sandiego.gov)

**PETS OF THE MONTH**  
Fuji and Indie



Hi Everyone! My name is Fuji and my little sister is Indie. We live with our parents here in the 'hood and really enjoy the life. Our favorite activities are Big Dog Fetch (our Moms say "Puppy Play Dates," but that is so passe) with Zany, Sammy, Darwin, and Parker. I always get the ball, except when Zany touches it first. I find that so unsanitary. Sammy is very handsome, but he is a real ball hog. If he could fit four balls in his mouth at once he would. Darwin is quite the handsome devil, but he only has eyes for Indie. Darwin and Parker are shy and

since I am top dog, I generally ignore them. In the mornings we like to walk to Twiggs and get our morning biscotti and hang with the Twiggs coffee group. Uncle Wally always has treats for us, except when he doesn't. Indie and I are members of Neighborhood Squirrel Watch and ensure that everyone knows when there is a squirrel up in a tree, on a wire, or just generally trespassing. Haven't you noticed their numbers declining? Life is pretty good in the 'hood. We hope to see you on our walks.



from your senator

STATE SENATOR TONI ATKINS' GOALS FOR 2017

As I begin my new role in the California Senate, I am honored and pleased to continue to represent the residents of University Heights in Sacramento.

Together we achieved a number of great things for San Diego and California during my six years in the Assembly, including balanced and on-time budgets, a crucial water bond, the state's first earned-income tax credit, reinvestment in public schools and higher education, expanded access to both healthcare and childcare. I am optimistic that we'll continue making meaningful progress during the next four years here in California.

This session, my priorities include helping solve the state's housing crisis and reducing homelessness, expanding access to affordable higher education for California students, fighting human trafficking, maintaining our focus on climate change and sea-level rise, ensuring Californians' access to quality healthcare, and protecting civil rights, particularly for our LGBT and immigrant communities.

We have a serious housing-affordability crisis in San Diego and elsewhere in

California, and all ideas for solving it will be on the table. The day I was sworn in to the Senate, I introduced SB 2, to create a permanent source of funding for affordable housing, through a small recording fee for certain real-estate documents, excluding property sales. We will always need affordable housing for our lowest-income earners, and SB 2 will go a long way toward funding that need.

I have been appointed to the Rules, Transportation & Housing, Health, Natural Resources & Water and Labor & Industrial Relations committees, which will put me in a great position to tackle several of my top priorities and help shape policies that are crucial to San Diegans.

Beginning a new phase is always an opportunity to reflect on, and recommit to, the core principles that compel us to public policy: Shaping a California that is economically strong, where there are good-paying jobs and decent homes, where everyone has a chance at a high-quality education and access to healthcare, where our neighborhoods are safe and culturally vibrant, and where individuals and communities are respected and protected, no matter who they are, where they come from, or whom they love.

It continues to be a privilege to represent you, and I look forward to working with you in the year ahead. My aide Toni Duran will represent me at your meetings, and please feel free to contact her at my district office (619-645-3133).

—Toni G. Atkins, State Senator for the 39th Senate District, which includes University Heights.



from your assembly member

HAPPY NEW YEAR, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS!

Greetings From Your New State Assembly Member, Todd Gloria

Winter is often considered a season of change and transformation. Last month, I experienced a welcome change of my own as I was sworn in as your new California State Assembly Member. Although my commute to work has changed, the issues that motivated me every single day as your City Councilmember continue to motivate me today as your Assembly Member. Our region is still plagued by a housing affordability crisis—not only in the amount of affordable housing, but also in housing middle class families can actually afford. Additionally, too many of our neighbors remain homeless and have limited access to support services that will help them get off the streets permanently. Combine these ongoing issues with our state's crumbling transportation infrastructure and the efforts we still need to combat climate change, and it is clear we have much work to do.

As your representative in Sacramento, I intend to make progress on these issues and more in the coming year and beyond. Further, with my appointment by the Assembly Speaker to serve in his leadership team as an Assistant Majority Whip, I am confident that I will have more opportunities to advance these priorities and help move California forward. As we do progress, I know challenges lie ahead – particularly as we begin to see the incoming federal administration unveil its policy priorities. Despite what may occur at the federal level, California is ready. We will remain true to our shared values of inclusion and equal protection under the law, as evidenced in the prudent state budget that Governor Jerry Brown introduced. Although I am concerned the budget does not sufficiently address our state's housing affordability crisis, I am pleased that we have rainy day funds sufficient to weather the potential negative impacts federal government action or an economic downturn may cause. In times like these, we must remember the old saying, "As California goes, so goes the rest of country." California is a leader, and I believe the rest of nation is looking to us as a beacon of hope and progress. That's exactly what we will be.

—Todd Gloria, State Assembly Member, 78TH Assembly District.

COMMUNITY PLAN REDUX Preservation Groups File Suit

The fight over the Uptown Community Plan update isn't quite over yet. On Tuesday, January 4th, two community-based preservation organizations, Mission Hills Heritage (MHH; missionhillsheritage.org) and Save Our Heritage Organization (SOHO; sohosandiego.org), filed suit in Superior Court against the City of San Diego. The two groups claim the Uptown Community Plan update as approved by a November 14, 2016, City Council vote violated numerous sections of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Uptown Community Plan covers Mission Hills, Hillcrest, Banker's Hill, and University Heights west of Park Blvd.

The complainants allege six causes of action in the suit, including failure to comply with CEQA requirements, failure to adequately consider environmental impacts as required by CEQA, and failure to adopt feasible mitigation measures and alternatives required by CEQA. The suit also claims violation of the city's General Plan and Climate Action Plan and seeks to have the vote voided and the implementation of the community-plan update halted.

Work began on an update to the Uptown Community Plan eight years ago. During that time, Uptown Planners and numerous community groups reviewed

various proposals to increase density and building heights, eventually reaching a compromise plan that Uptown Planners approved last October. The following month the City Council shocked the Uptown community when it cast aside the eight years of community input. Apparently bowing to pressure from Hillcrest developers, the City Council instead adopted a Planning Department proposal that included several last-minute changes. The lawsuit claims the changes were made without proper public review, ignored environmental impacts, and deleted planned historic districts in Hillcrest.

MHH advocates for preservation and protection of "the character, charm, and historic resources" of Mission Hills. Its website provides a copy of the suit, as well as a way to make donations to its legal defense fund. SOHO is San Diego's foremost historic preservation advocacy group, drawing membership from all over the city and county. Every year it publishes "A Most Endangered List" of historic sites in San Diego. One site on the list is the Teachers' Annex building on the old Normal School site in University Heights.

Other community and preservation groups are expected to add their voices in support of this action. —Philip J Gill

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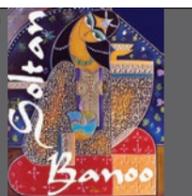


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