

NEXT UHCA MEETING MARCH 1
 ALICE BIRNEY ELEMENTARY
 AUDITORIUM / 4345 CAMPUS AVENUE
 6:45 pm CRIME WATCH, 7:00 pm MEETING

FUTURE USE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPERTY
 Our featured speakers at the UHCA meeting on Thursday, March 1, 2018, will be Richard Barrera, District D Board Trustee for the San Diego Unified School District, and Chris Ward, Councilmember for the Third District. Make sure you fill out the survey before the meeting.



University Heights Community Association March 2018



NEWS

SCHOOL DISTRICT SWAP: DISASTER OR OPPORTUNITY?



Just a portion of the Education Center property involved in planned swap. Photo: David Holts

Alarm bells rang when it became known that the San Diego Unified School District plans to take advantage of an Education Code provision that would allow it to exchange the Education Center property at Park Boulevard and Normal Street for a new, 185,000 square-foot home somewhere near a freeway. The Education Center property would then be developed, presumably to its highest and best use as mixed use commercial and residential. That would have a major impact on our neighborhood.

Many residents would rather see the property become a park and the historic Teacher's Annex building restored as a library and community center, but that costs money. Probably a lot of it. Some want to see more housing, to make living here more affordable and to allow others to move to our wonderful neighborhood. But that has impacts on neighborhood character and quality of life.

The San Diego Unified School District, like many in California, finds itself property rich but revenue poor because of demographic changes and declining enrollments. It needs a new administrative center, but that costs a lot of money it doesn't have. However, it does have the Ed Center property, a significant asset that is underused, and whose buildings are inadequate and expensive to maintain.

This situation could be a disaster on a par with the threat of condos on the Trolley Barn Park site that rallied neighbors to create UHCA in the 1980s. Or, it could be a great opportunity. Imagine if the properties the district trades for a new center are more valuable than the building they receive (which is what

they expect). Perhaps a portion of the surplus could go toward funding restoration of the Teacher's Annex. DIF fees from development might pay for a new park or improvements to Washington Street. That would be a big win.

Although it is natural to fear change, if the change is inevitable, it is appropriate to insist upon compensation for the loss of a historic building, hard-to-come-by open space, increased density, and more traffic. UHCA intends to provide a forum for such a discussion with city and school district officials at its next community meeting on March 1, because that's what a community association does. You should be there (and become a member), because that's what concerned neighbors do. *-William Smith*

LOOKING AHEAD: THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018

University Heights turns 130 this year! To commemorate this important event, our featured speaker, Kristin Harms, will present about the early history of University Heights, one of San Diego's oldest communities. Kristin is a long time resident of UH, past chair of the UH Historical Society, and a member of the Board of the UHDCDC. This is certain to be an interesting and informative meeting. So bring all your questions about the history of our wonderful community to the meeting. See you there!

SAVE THE DATE

Event: UH 130 (University Heights is 130 years old this year!)
Date: Saturday, April 28th
Time: 5 pm - 8 pm
Place: 4600 block of Park Blvd. (under the UH sign)
Tickets: Buy tickets at Twigg's (at Park Blvd. & Madison Ave.) \$10 for adults, free for children under 12
 Participating establishments include Muzita's Abyssinian Bistro, Twigg's, Madison on Park, Red House, Soltan Banoo, and more. Live Music from 5:30 pm-9 pm.

RICHARD BARRERA

Richard Barrera has represented District D on the San Diego Unified School Board since 2008. He has helped lead the District through the most devastating financial cutbacks in the history of California public schools, by pulling together a community coalition of students, parents, teachers, classified staff, neighborhood, business and civic leaders around a long-term vision of excellence in our public schools.

Despite the budget cuts, during Mr. Barrera's time on the Board students in San Diego Unified have achieved record high graduation and attendance rates, record low dropout, suspension and expulsion rates, and today rank at or near the top of large California Districts in reading, math, science and social science proficiency.

Along with a focus on supporting students in the classroom, Mr. Barrera has also led the District's efforts in securing billions of dollars in investment in school facilities, including breakthrough investments in 21st century technology and environmentally sustainable infrastructure. He has led the effort to honor the work of our educators by increasing salaries, maintaining affordable healthcare, and increasing effective training for the people who work directly with our kids.



VOTE! ELECTIONS FOR UPTOWN PLANNERS AND NORTH PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE

University Heights is represented by two city-recognized community planning groups. Uptown Planners represents those UH residents who live west of Park Blvd., and North Park Planning Committee (NPPC) represents those who live east of Park Blvd. Both

community planning groups will be holding elections for their respective boards in March.



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SURVEY RE FUTURE USE OF THE ED CENTER PROPERTY

As explained in last month's News, the San Diego Unified School District will be exchanging their property at Park Blvd. and Normal St. for a property elsewhere in San Diego. We encourage you to take the following survey in order to further our goal of providing crucial community input on this important issue as the SDUSD goes through the process.

Please check as many potential uses of the property as you wish to indicate your preference. To submit your entry, please do one of the following: tear out the survey and return it to UHCA at the next community meeting on March 1, or email your response to Stuart McGraw (UHCA Treasurer and Board member of Uptown Planners) at stumcgraw@gmail.com, or mail your response to UHCA, PO Box 33032, SD, 92163. Additional copies of the survey will be available at the UHCA meeting on March 1.

- Q What use would you like to see on the Ed Center property?**
- () (A) Residential (apartments, condos, etc.)
 - () (B) Commercial/ retail
 - () (C) Mixed use (residential and retail)
 - () (D) Institutional (for example, library, community center, etc.)
 - () (E) Park (playground, gardens, dog park, etc.)
 - () (F) Other (fill in the blank _____)

Thank you for your participation and your interest in keeping our neighborhood the best in San Diego.

MEMBERSHIP

JOIN TODAY AND HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE! OUR SUCCESS IS LARGELY DEPENDENT ON VOLUNTEER EFFORTS FROM AREA RESIDENTS LIKE YOU.



NEW / RENEWING MEMBERS

GOLDEN OSTRICH
Jessica Colosimo & Case Iest

BUSINESS
Yedid Becker & Como Se Dice



HOUSEHOLD

Terry Hayes, John Leier, Cliff Schireson & John Venekamp, Scott Nesor, Margaret Ohl & Kathleen Maloney, John & Kirsten Chandler, Carissa Gonzales, Michelle Livermore, Randall Wilde, Tom Hallauer & Valerie Breen, Stephen Doster, Breanna & Melissa Strand, Loretta McNeely, Bonnie & George Lamb, Debra Fisher, Michele Morgan & Steve Winchell.

JOIN, RENEW OR DONATE ONLINE AT UHSD.ORG.



Clip & Return to: **UHCA PO BOX 33032 San Diego, CA 92163**

Many thanks to all our members for your dues and donations, which go directly to programs and events that make UH the wonderful community it is. We greatly appreciate your support.

Yearly Membership

- \$25 Household
- \$45 Membership & 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. For more info, email membership@uhsd.org

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 meet record goals for 2018 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 the various events and general meetings.



UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

UHCA NEWS

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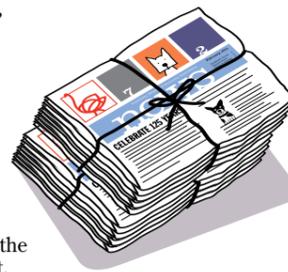
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Published 10 times per year by the University Heights Community Association. We welcome articles, letters, and announcements about issues and events relating to University Heights. The deadline for submission is the 5th of the month. Email submissions to uhcanews@yahoo.com. We retain the right to edit submissions for style and content.



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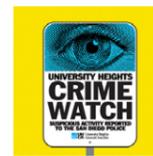
UHCA OFFICERS

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BOUNDARIES AND ZONE WATCH



Zone Watch Coordinators manage email lists of participants wishing to receive University Heights crime watch information and updates. Download more on the UH Zone Watch program at uhsd.org or contact your zone's coordinator, or Nan McGraw.

- 1 Nan McGraw** nmcsan@aol.com
- 2 Pam Isaacs** pamisaacs1@gmail.com
- 3 Mary Lange** mlangeuhcazone3coordinator@gmail.com
- 4 Christopher Hutchinson** christopherhutchinson@hotmail.com
- 5 Tamara Zyhylij** tamara@tamarazhomes.com
- 6 Mark Koopman** mkzw6@yahoo.com



NEW CRIME WATCH SIGNS

Be on the lookout for the new signs that are now up. If you know of an old dilapidated sign that should be given priority, please email UHCA Secretary Kurt Hermansen at: kdh@habeaskurtus.com.



SLOW DOWN SIGNS

Speeding on neighborhood streets in UH is a chronic problem. Shaving time off trips by speeding has small benefits and high risks. Set your alarm clock 15 minutes ahead and slow down.

UH PHONE BOOK

Emergency • Police • Fire • Medical 911
Non-Emergency Suspicious Activity, Homeless Outreach Team, etc. 619-531-2000
 Online: non-emergency problems: www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done
SD City Services non-emergency: street lights, pot holes, etc. 619-527-7500
 Online: www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments
SD City Services emergency 619-527-7500
 Online: www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments
 Storm damage: fallen trees, flooding, clogged storm drains
Alert San Diego reverse 911 notification to mobile phones for emergencies
 Requiring evacuations www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego/
2-1-1 San Diego
 Free Community Resources Cal Fresh, Medi-Care, Covered California, etc. 211 or 858-300-1211
Abandoned Vehicles 858-495-7856
Alice Birney Elementary 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 Patrol (RSVP) 619-692-4945
 Vacation home security check, welfare of home-bound, patrolling business districts, homeland security support
SDPD Community Relations Officers:
 David Surwilo (dsurwilo@pd.sandiego.gov) 619-692-4858
 Ricardo Pinon (rpinon@pd.sandiego.gov) 619-692-4821
SDPD Western Division 5215 Gaines Street 619-692-4800
Shopping Cart Pick-Up Service 800-252-4613
UHCDC University Heights Community Development Corp 4452 Park Blvd 619-297-3166
University Heights Public Library 4193 Park Blvd 619-692-4912
UH Zone Watch Coordinator Nan McGraw nmcsan@aol.com 619-260-0668
Graffiti: In Progress Emergency: 911
 Report Online: apps.sandiego.gov/streetdiv/) email photos: cericson@pd.sandiego.gov
 Graffiti Hotline: 619-257-7500
SD Vector Control mosquitoes / ticks / rats 858-694-2888
 Online: vector@sdcounty.ca.gov

If all else fails, email TRenner@sandiego.gov at Councilmember Chris Ward's office.



DISASTER CONTACTS

In case of a major disaster such as an earthquake or fire, have two out of state contacts on speed dial. When the power is off cordless phones won't work. Have a basic phone you can plug into a phone jack that you can use for calls.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CAROL NEIDENBERG

Admittedly, I have mixed feelings about the proposed increased housing density and development in University Heights. In many ways, I straddle the fence: a preservationist at heart, yet also a pragmatist. I feel fortunate to have moved to UH when it wasn't necessarily a desirable community and now live in an historic 1915 Craftsman overlooking a beautiful canyon.

Through my day job of working with disabled and homeless individuals, I have grown keenly aware of the profound lack of affordable housing. Looking at census figures, we know that University Heights is considered to be a "lower income" neighborhood (based on the county's median income) with residents' incomes averaging about \$79,000. We all know that there's a critical need to build housing. How will that happen and where it will happen? We see all around us older houses being demolished to make way for

infills of multi-unit rentals or condos. Who can afford those units when the initial prices start at half a million or the rental cost is above \$2,000 for a one-bedroom?

To resolve this housing crisis, our elected officers, community leaders, and residents need to work together. The possibility of redeveloping the Educational Center is upon us. New housing must accommodate a range of people including families, students, and seniors.

What makes a neighborhood vibrant is a mixture of residents, housing, places to shop and eat, and green space. UH wants to preserve its rich history while at the same time embracing innovative solutions, so we can prepare for our children and successive generations. Whatever plan is finally approved must include these critical elements.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

A few highlights of the February meeting:

- 6:45 pm. Crime Watch: Officers Surwilo and Pinon reported about a recent shooting on El Cajon Blvd. near Florida St. They also reminded us to turn on home alarms, and to remove tempting items from our cars to discourage break-ins.
- 7:00 pm. Welcome. Pizza and cookies provided by Red House Pizza.
- Reminders/Updates. Rod Girvin reported that the city will power wash the Vermont St. Bridge (a Hep A precaution). The Beautification committee volunteers will paint the benches in the Trolley Barn Park.
- UH Librarian, Holland Kessinger, told us to be on the lookout for rocks in the community with special messages on them. Also, check out the UH Library's Facebook page.
- Movies in the Heights kickoff will be May 19 at the Trolley Barn Park.
- Philip Gill reported that the UH130 Celebration will be April 28, 5-8 pm. He is trying to get UH on the "Open House" architectural tour for March 2019. To volunteer, contact Philip at philip@art-design-and-style.com.
- Julie Rubtchinsky reported that the UH Tag Sale will be on Sunday, April 29, 9 am-1 pm at the Trolley Barn Park. \$20 UHCA member registration, \$25 for non UHCA members. www.UHSD.org for registration.
- Randy Wilde announced NPPC (North Park Planning Committee) elections March 20.

- Reports from elected officials:
 - Tyler Renner from Councilmember Chris Ward's office stated that Chris will continue to be involved with housing and homelessness issues.
 - Nerea Urtasun from County Supervisor Ron Roberts' office stated that the county has gone four weeks with no new Hep A cases. Get your flu shot. Free blood pressure and heart screenings on Feb. 14. Know your numbers.
 - Jonathan Clark from US Representative Susan Davis' office stated she has a redesigned website.
- Our featured speaker, Shanan Spearling, New Zealand native and owner of Red House Pizza, is the co-owner of the future Kairoa Brewing Co., now under construction at the corner of Park Blvd. and Madison Ave. (formerly Mueller College). The rooftop restaurant will be a family-friendly, pet-friendly brew pub with a carousel. Beer will be produced in-house for consumption on site, but no full liquor license. 15-20 beers will be available as well as ciders, kombucha, and wine. Fish & chips, New Zealand lamb, burgers, sandwiches, vegetarian, and vegan fare will be served. Dining area will be on the Park Blvd. side to deflect noise from the residential areas of the neighborhood. Kairoa will keep the 14 parking spots presently on the property.
- The next UHCA meeting will be Thursday, March 1. Subject will be the Ed Center land swap.— *Kurt Hermansen, UHCA Secretary*

UTILITY UNDERGROUNDING UPDATE FOR UH

The City of San Diego is in the process of updating its utility undergrounding master plan, which is expected to be submitted to the City Council for approval in May 2018.

The new plan will document only the upcoming five years of implementation, with annual updates to cover an additional fifth year, in contrast to the past process of trying to estimate the entire remaining areas to be undergrounded over the approximately seventy years to complete that effort.

Unfortunately, the first draft five-year implementation plan for undergrounding does not include any portion of University Heights. Mission Hills, North Park and South Park all have large areas scheduled for undergrounding, but there is nothing planned for our neighborhood. This means we will continue to pay a surcharge for undergrounding, but will not see any benefits in our neighborhood, potentially for decades to come.

I encourage you to contact Councilmember Chris Ward's office with comments. Tyler Renner is the Council Rep for University Heights, and you can reach him at trenner@sandiego.gov. Molly Chase is Councilmember Ward's Chief of Staff, at mbchase@sandiego.gov.

Here are some of my thoughts/comments:

We would like University Heights to be added to the new five-year undergrounding master plan and would like the community to be involved in the

planning process.

The City is prioritizing areas that are heavily used by bicyclists and pedestrians and our neighborhood certainly fits that description. University Heights is enjoyed by local residents, people from surrounding neighborhoods, and out-of-town visitors (especially because of our central location and proximity to Balboa Park, downtown, and the beaches). We have incredible vistas from our neighborhood and removal of the power lines would make our neighborhood even more beautiful and safe for residents and visitors.

Every year we are losing a significant number of mature trees in University Heights because of SDG&E's vegetation management near their power lines. UHCA is currently working with the City to plant new street trees along our roads. We want to protect existing mature trees and new trees by moving the lines underground.

We have fairly frequent power outages in our neighborhood and would benefit from more reliable and safe underground utilities. Our neighborhood is small with natural boundaries from the canyons and could be completed relatively quickly. —*Erin MacKinnon*

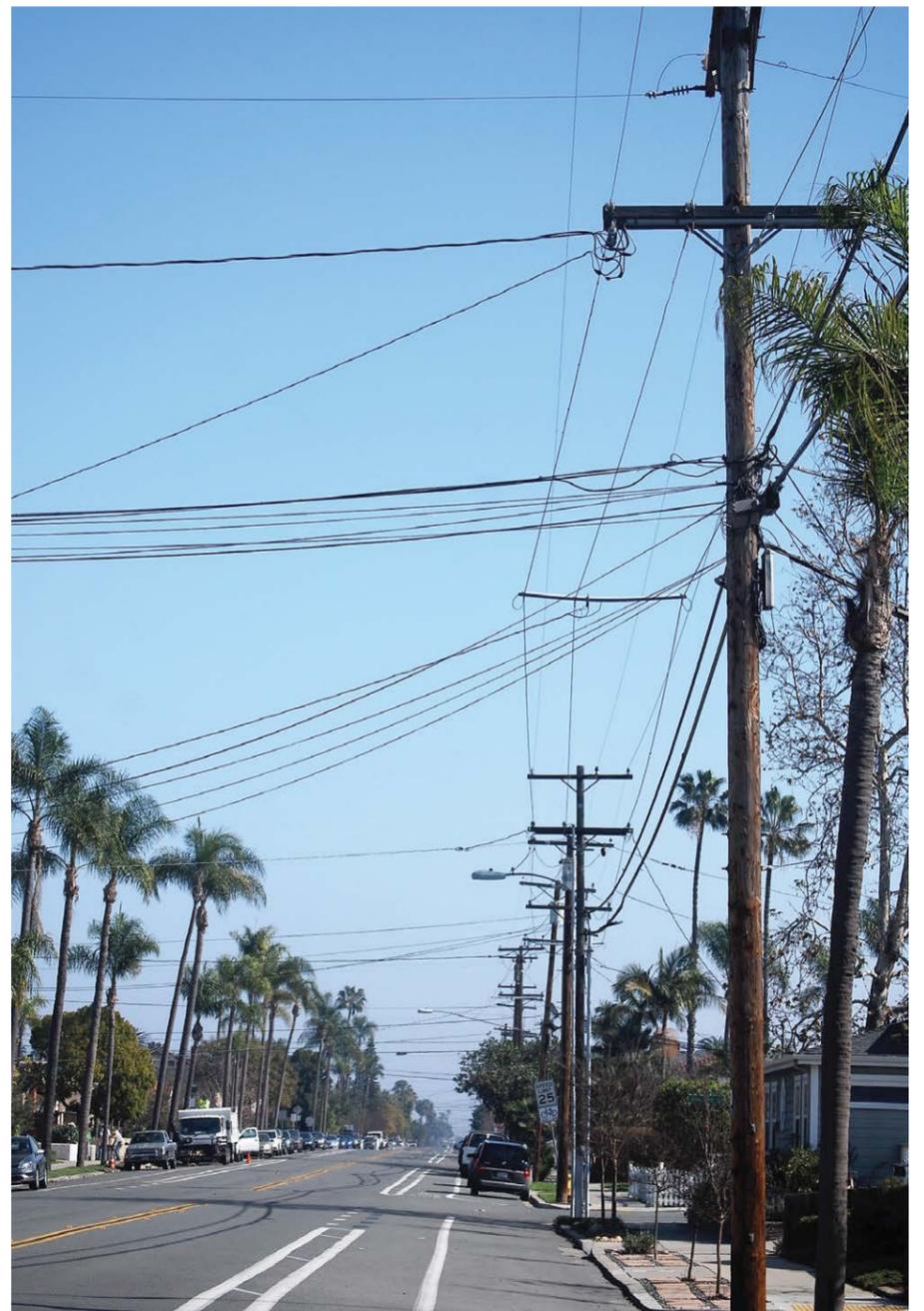


Photo: David Holts

OPEN HOUSE 2018 OFFERS

If you're an architecture and design aficionado, you've probably often passed a building or house and said to yourself "I wish I could get a look at the inside!" Well, now's your chance to do just that. On Saturday, March 24th, and Sunday, March 25th, buildings in San Diego will open their doors to the public as part of this year's Open House! San Diego (OH!).

OH! is a program of the San Diego Architectural Foundation (sdarchitecture.org) that covers Downtown, Bankers Hill, Barrio Logan, and (new this year), Point Loma. The program includes almost 80 sites, twice the number of last year. OH! seeks to showcase outstanding architecture and interior design and to educate the public about the importance of good design in the built environment.

A full list of Open House tours was not available at press time. For more information on this year's Open House program and for specific sites and the tour schedules, go to sdarchitecture.org/program/openhouse/.

All sites are free to the public. Most sites are open from 10 am to 4 pm both days, but some have limited hours. Most sites offer open access or self-guided tours, while others provide regularly scheduled, hosted tours on a first-come basis. Others may require reservations.

San Diego is one of four U.S. cities to have an Open House program. The others are New York (since 2002), Chicago (since 2011), and Los Angeles, which is new this year. In total, 42 cities around the world will participate this year. Besides LA, new cities include Mexico City; Basel, Switzerland; and Rosario, Argentina.

OH! may come to University Heights (UH) next year! To be added to the program, UH must identify a list of possible sites, both historic and contemporary. UH residents interested in working toward that goal should contact Philip Gill at philip@art-design-and-style.com. -Philip J. Gill



- VOTE, cont'd from Page 1

Community planning groups advise the city on infrastructure, land use, development, and transportation issues in their geographic areas. With many ongoing and planned developments along the main corridors of University Heights, both planning groups will have an important role in shaping the neighborhood's future.

Seven seats will be open on the 15-member NPPC in March. In order to vote or stand for election to the NPPC in March, residents and/or property owners must sign in for at least one prior meeting within the past 12 months. Meetings are held at 6:30 pm at North Park Christian Fellowship on the third Tuesday of each month. There will be a Q&A forum so that community members can get to know the candidates on Thursday, March 15, at 6-7:30 pm at the North Park Recreation Center. The election will be held at the regular NPPC meeting on Tuesday, March 20, at 6:30 pm at North Park Christian Fellowship, 2901 North Park Way. More information is available at northparkplanning.org/uncategorized/elections.

Several University Heights residents have stepped up to run for an open seat on NPPC, including Randy Wilde. A long-time resident who has rented on Park Boulevard for the past three years, Randy is working on his Master of Public Policy at UCSD, with research focusing primarily on urban land use, economic, and environmental issues. Randy believes that the combination of historic single-family homes, unique local businesses, transit access, and walkability make UH San Diego's most

livable neighborhood. Randy is a bicycle and transit rider as well as a driver. He believes in balancing the needs of all transportation modes, home-owners, renters, and local businesses. Randy is asking for your support.

Three seats will be open on the Uptown Planners board. Uptown Planners will hold its elections on March 6, at 6 pm at the Joyce Beers Center in Uptown Complex, 3900 Vermont St. Board members of Uptown Planners are elected to four-year terms each March. To vote for Board members or to apply for Board membership, one must either reside or own a business within the boundaries of Uptown and provide proof of his/her address. Also, to qualify for election, Board candidates must have attended at least three meetings of Uptown Planners in the year prior to the March election meeting.

William Smith, an UHCA board member, is running to represent University Heights. You have already met Bill Smith through this newspaper and the UHCA meetings. Bill offers the skills, knowledge, and experience that would benefit not only UH, but all of the communities represented on the committee. Bill is asking for your support.

Please consider voting so that University Heights will be well represented on these important boards.



MARCH 2018 Women's History Month American Red Cross Month

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 UH Rec Council Meeting Alice Birney Library, 5:30 pm UHCA Meeting: Alice Birney Auditorium, 6:45 pm Curbside Recycling & Yard Waste Collection	2	3 The Point Clean Up 1:30 - 3:30 pm Golden Gate btwn RI & Del.
4 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm	5 UHCA News Deadline for April Issue	6 Uptown Planners Meeting Joyce Beers Center Uptown Complex 6:00 pm	7 UHCDC Meeting 4452 Park Blvd. Suite 104, 6:30 pm	8 International Women's Day	9	10
11 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm Daylight Savings Time begins 	12	13 Hillcrest Town Council Joyce Beers Center, Uptown Complex, 6 pm Friends of the Library, UH Chapter UH Branch Library, 6 pm	14	15 Curbside Recycling & Yard Waste Collection	16 Preview Book Sale (Friends members only) Friends of the Library, UH Library 3 - 6 pm 	17 Book Sale (open to the public) Friends of the Library, UH Library, 8 am - 3 pm St. Patrick's Day
18 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm Bag O' Books Sale (open to the public) Friends of the Library, UH Library, noon - 4 pm	19	20 North Park Planning Committee North Park Christian Fellowship, 2901 North Park Way, 6:30 pm UHCA News out Spring Begins	21 UH Library Task Force Meeting UH Library, 6:30 pm	22	23	24
25 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm Palm Sunday	26	27	28 UH Book Club & Salon UH Library, 6:30 pm	29	30 Good Friday Passover begins at sundown Curbside Recycling & Yard Waste Collection	31 Cesar Chavez Day

ON THE BOULEVARDS

THE NEW EL CAJON BOULEVARD

This column was deliberately named “On the Boulevards” (note the s at the end of the word boulevard) to drive home the point that there are two main thoroughfares that dominate the cityscape in our community of University Heights (UH), and both are named “Boulevard.” One is Park Boulevard, the rather humbler of the two, which has the UH street sign.

The other is El Cajon Boulevard, the larger, broader, more traffic-heavy of the two and the one that is currently the focus of much development and redevelopment in UH. At the corner of Florida St. and El Cajon Blvd.,

construction of The Boulevard by H.G. Fenton, the local real estate and development company, continues apace. Expected occupancy is listed on the company website, hgfenton.com, as “spring 2018,” but I think that looks dubious as they are still building out the stud walls of the upper floors.

The Evelyn, at 2129 El Cajon Blvd., is a just-completed luxury townhouse community, with car access through a rear alley into a shared parking court. The building is a mix of one, two, and three bedroom rental units, with garages and rooftop decks. Rental prices start at \$2500 for a one-bedroom unit to \$4000 for a loft.

Then there’s the curious Exotic Gardens, at 4319 Mississippi St., an L-shaped building that wraps around an apparent lone holdout bungalow and that has a side that fronts El Cajon Blvd., directly across from the Lafayette Hotel. The lone bungalow continues as a hair salon. Units in this five-story building include a mix of studios, one bedroom and two-bedroom units, and two-bath lofts, with rents starting at \$2050 per month for one of those studios.

The corner of El Cajon and Mississippi is quite the spot. Two more existing buildings at that intersection are in the

beginning stages of redevelopment or renovation. On the northwest corner is a mid-century modern building that displays a Friend to Friend (F2F) Episcopal Family Services sign. The building is empty and has a fence and screen around it, indicating some renovation may be in short order. Across the street directly, on the southwest corner, and as it happens, right next to The Evelyn, is a boarded-up bungalow with a worn and forlorn looking “Health Services” sign above the door. It looks more like a teardown, but we’ll see.

And lastly, let’s once again give kudos where due, to the Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows at 2223 El Cajon Blvd., whose own renaissance a few years ago from a rundown Clarion to the height of hip in University Heights, has in many respects helped drive the resurrection of El Cajon Blvd. and the surrounding parts of UH both north and south of El Cajon.

—Philip J. Gill is the Special Projects Contributing Writer for UHCA News. If you are a business owner, shopkeeper, or restaurateur in University Heights with an upcoming special event, new menu items, holiday business hours, a remodel, or what have you, drop me a line via email at philip@art-design-and-style.com. I’ll do my best to get you included in the On the Boulevards column in the next issue. Submittal deadline is the 3rd of each month for the following month’s publication.



El Cajon Old and New: At left, boarded up “Health Services” building. At right, The Evelyn, front and center, and an abandoned shopping cart. Photo credit: Philip Gill.

BUNGALOW COURTS THE ORIGINAL “TINY HOME VILLAGE”

No doubt you’ve read the headlines: “Tiny homes are the next big thing!” A growing list of fans exclaim their benefits: “Less cleaning!” “More time!” “Affordability!” Some say it’s even better when you pull a few together because then you have a small community, or a “tiny home village,” as they are generally known. These homes/villages are most sought after by two of the largest population groups: seniors looking to downsize, and millennials with college debt and a desire for the walkable lifestyle.

Many in University Heights know that tiny home villages aren’t actually a new idea. We know them as bungalow courts. These charming little cottages fit the current definition of small/tiny home living. They are fully self-contained homes with a bedroom, bathroom, kitchen/kitchenette, and living space in a 450-800 sq. ft. package.

These homes come in many different layouts and designs, usually in clusters of six to ten, but they all have one thing

in common. They are miniature communities that have nestled into neighborhoods so well that very few have been torn down. A study done by J.R. Curtis and L. Ford in 1988 found that 80 percent of the bungalow courts in central San Diego were still intact and the vast majority appeared to be in excellent condition.

Rene Davids, a researcher from UC Berkeley, found that bungalow courts increase residents’ health by naturally creating community while also allowing space for each individual’s identity. She believes that the benefits extend to other homeowners in the area because the courts’ design fits into the character of the neighborhood.

If bungalow courts fit the lifestyles and pocketbooks of the two largest groups of our population, stand the test of time, and are healthy places to live, why don’t we build more of them? —Ellen F. Stone, M.A.; Nonprofit Professional and Mental Health Advocate; Chair, Tiny Home Central 619-616-0079.

THIS IS OUR HOME

They say there’s no place like home. In University Heights we are fortunate to call such a neighborhood our home.

In recent years there has been a shift in the American collective consciousness towards the ideology of urban living. This has changed many urban, inner-city neighborhoods into hotbeds for conformist gentrification because of their now sky-high rents, attracting a clone-like, cookie-cutter clientele whose social isolation can be compared only to that of their gated suburban ancestors.

In 2018, University Heights has yet to succumb to the peer pressure of its neighborhood cousins. Art, liberty, culture, diversity, community, connection: Just a handful of words that come to mind when describing University Heights. Every year politicians make campaign promises to reshape their community into a place that holds many of the values that we already enjoy in University Heights. Houses of every shape and size, color, and style peacefully coexist beyond the sidewalks of our community. From the mystique of the restored Bentley to the nostalgia of the Volkswagen buses and Vespas, both

pedestrian and motor travelers share our streets year-round. Whether you’re meeting for coffee on Park Blvd. or cruising down the palm tree-bordered Maryland Street at sunset, University Heights is never disappointing.

Our neighborhood is accepting and tolerant. Regardless of family or political party affiliations, the majority of Americans share the ideology of an accepting and peaceful future for the United States. University Heights is already this country. University Heights is the America I want to live in, the America I believe in. — Adam Bloodgood



FOOD AND BEVERAGES

GUINNESS IRISH LAMB STEW

Here are a few recipes to try for St. Patrick's Day. More are available on the Internet.

This stew is Ireland's national dish, not the corned beef and cabbage usually consumed by Americans on St. Patrick's Day. There must be as many versions of this stew as there are cooks. One thing to remember:

INGREDIENTS

- 5 pounds lamb shoulder chops
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. pepper
- 20 baby red-skinned or Yukon gold potatoes
- 6 large carrots, peeled, quartered
- 3 medium onions, quartered

PREPARATION

Trim and reserve fat and bones from lamb. Cut meat into 1 1/2-inch pieces. Place fat in heavy large Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Cook fat until 3 tbsp. drippings are rendered, about 5 minutes. Using large spoon, remove any solid fat from pot. Discard. Sprinkle or shake lamb with flour, salt, and pepper. Working in batches, add lamb to pot. Sauté until brown on all sides, about 5 minutes per batch. Using slotted spoon, transfer lamb to plate. Add bones to pot. Cook until brown, about 5 minutes. Using tongs, transfer bones to plate.

Add vegetables, parsley, and thyme to pot. Stir to coat with drippings. Return meat and bones to pot. Add Guinness or water or stock and bring to boil. Reduce heat to medium-low. Cover pot tightly. Simmer until lamb is tender and vegetables are soft, stirring occasionally, about 1 1/2 hours. Alternatively, you

the stew must be cooked slowly until the lamb is meltingly tender. This stew can be made with beef instead of lamb, if you prefer. And substitute water or stock for the Guinness if you want. The stew can be made ahead and reheated later or the next day, which actually improves the flavor. Serve with Irish soda bread. Serves 6.

- 2 medium leeks (white and pale greens parts only), split lengthwise, cut into 1/2-inch-thick slices
- 1/3 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1 1/2 tsp. chopped fresh thyme
- 2 cups Guinness Draught (or water or stock)
- 1 bunch Italian parsley (for garnish)

can place covered Dutch oven in a moderate oven (325 degrees) for 2 hours.

Remove pot from heat or oven. Discard bones. Place 1 cup vegetables in food processor and puree. Add to stew. Season with salt and pepper. Garnish each serving with chopped parsley. Can be made 1 day ahead. Cover and chill. Bring to a simmer before serving.

Adapted from Epicurious.com © Conde Nast Digital, Inc. All rights reserved. —Maureen Markey



BITTERSWEET CHOCOLATE IRISH WHISKEY CAKE

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup plus 2 tbsp. Irish whiskey
- 6 oz. bittersweet (70% cocoa) chocolate (such as Scharffen Berger or Callebaut), chopped
- 2 tsp. instant espresso powder dissolved in 6 tbsp. hot water or 6 oz. strong brewed coffee
- 1/3 cup blanched almonds (about 2 oz.), lightly toasted

- 6 tbsp. all purpose flour, divided
- 3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) unsalted butter, room temperature, divided
- 7 tbsp. vanilla sugar, divided
- 3 large eggs, separated
- Pinch of fine sea salt
- 2 oz. semisweet chocolate, chopped

PREPARATION

Position rack in center of oven and preheat to 350°F. Butter and flour 8-inch-diameter springform pan.

Boil 1/2 cup whiskey in small saucepan until reduced to 1/4 cup, about 2 minutes. Combine bittersweet chocolate, espresso mixture, and 1/4 cup boiled whiskey in small metal bowl. Place bowl over pan of simmering water. Stir until mixture is smooth. Remove bowl from heat. Finely grind almonds with 2 tbsp. flour in food processor.

With electric mixer, beat 1/2 cup butter and 6 tbsp. vanilla sugar in medium bowl until fluffy. Beat in egg yolks 1 at a time, then sea salt. Fold in chocolate mixture, then ground almond mixture. With clean dry beaters, beat egg whites in another bowl until soft peaks form. Gradually add 1 tbsp. vanilla sugar, beating until stiff peaks form. Fold whites into batter alternately with remaining 4 tbsp. flour in 3 additions. Transfer batter to prepared pan.

Bake cake until tester inserted into center comes out clean, about 40 minutes. Cool in pan on rack 30 minutes. Remove pan sides and cool cake completely.

Combine semisweet chocolate and remaining 2 tbsp. whiskey in small metal bowl. Place bowl over pan of simmering water and stir until smooth. Remove bowl from heat. Add remaining 1/4 cup butter to chocolate mixture, 1 small piece at a time, whisking until each piece is melted before adding next. Place bowl over larger bowl of ice water. Using electric mixer, beat icing until thickened to spreadable consistency, about 1 minute. Spread icing over top and sides of cake.

Makes 8 to 10 servings. Can be made 8 hours ahead. Cover with cake dome and let stand at room temperature.

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THE COFFEE STOP

TWIGGS BAKERY & COFFEEHOUSE

The moon showed up at the coffee house and sat on top of a cup, but just for those who paid attention and received a well-made beverage and well-located seat. Yes, some things can turn a good evening coffee into something special if you are lucky – and I think I was.

A hot winter is not common in San Diego, nor is the celestial phenomenon of a super blue blood moon. It happened very early in the morning and when it got dark again, I took the #11 bus to Park Boulevard Business District and got off at Stop No. 11673 under the neon trolley light.

Drinking coffee after noontime is prohibited for many people. This is not my case, but Twiggs Bakery & Coffeehouse has a dedicated decaf grinder for espresso beverages and one air pot for those who are wary of sleepless nights.

I ordered a latte. Instead of a fancy pattern on top, the barista made a small but perfect bright circle surrounded by a thick dark brown ring. It seemed simple, but when I sat down at the corner of the large table, I saw the moon through the open door rising from a silhouette of trees in a dark sky.

That image was also in my cup, and then I realized that just three chairs

and one couch had the same perspective. Some of the customers had their backs to this or were looking at their screens. For just 20 minutes I had this framed, beautiful view in an urban context which included people carrying laundry baskets, buses making the "kneeling" sound, an incomplete liquor sign, and pedestrians walking in for a drink and enjoying the mild weather.

At the renovated Twiggs, evenings have another advantage. After 5 pm all pastries (excluding cakes) are sold at a 50 percent discount. The next blue moon will happen in March, but you can enjoy good coffee and baked goods every day—and a moonrise almost every night.

Twiggs Bakery & Coffeehouse is located at 4590 Park Blvd., open Monday through Thursday from 6:30 am until 11 pm and Friday through Sunday a bit later. —Felipe Gonzalez



EATING OUT IN UH

American Market	4395 Cleveland Ave.	296-8333
Bahia Mexican & Seafood	1985 El Cajon Blvd.	542-0540
Bahn Thai	4646 Park Blvd.	299-6363
bfd (big front door)	4135 Park Blvd.	255-4100
Circa Restaurant	2121 Adams Ave.	296-9152
Cueva Bar	2123 Adams Ave.	269-6612
El Zarape	4642 Park Blvd.	692-1652
Flavors of East Africa	2322 El Cajon Blvd.	955-8778
Grains	2201 Adams Ave.	269-5999
Great Maple	1451 Washington St.	296-8268
Hope at Lafayette	2223 El Cajon Blvd.	780-0358
Hundred Proof	4130 Park Blvd.	501-6404
Lestat's on Park	4496 Park Blvd.	501-6638
Loving Hut	1905 El Cajon Blvd.	683-9490
Madison	4622 Park Blvd.	296-6566
Mama's Bakery & Lebanese Deli	4237 Alabama St.	688-0717
Meraki Café	1735 Adams Ave.	269-9618
Muzita Abyssinian Bistro	4651 Park Blvd.	546-7900
Mystic Mocha	2105 Mission Ave.	688-0858
Park Boulevard Deli	4504 Park Blvd.	295-1362
Park House Eatery	4574 Park Blvd.	295-7275
Pizzeria Bruno Napoletano	4207 Park Blvd.	260-1311
Pizzeria Luigi	2121 El Cajon Blvd.	294-9417
Plumeria Vegetarian Cuisine	4661 Park Blvd.	269-9989
Pomegranate Restaurant	2312 El Cajon Blvd.	297-4007
Pop Pie Co.	4404 Park Blvd.	501-4440
Red Fox Steak House	2223 El Cajon Blvd.	297-1313
Red House Pizza	4615 Park Blvd.	546-7430
Small Bar	4628 Park Blvd.	795-7998
Soltan Banoo	4645 Park Blvd.	298-2801
Sprouts Market & Deli	4175 Park Blvd.	291-8287
Summer's Market	4602 Park Blvd.	296-0504
Twiggs	4590 Park Blvd.	296-0616
Twisted Taps (brews & chews)	2302 El Cajon Blvd.	542-9927
Wing Stop	1901 El Cajon Blvd.	297-9464

Restaurants that have supported UHCA and its programs with advertising and/or gift cards are indicated in **bold**. Please support those businesses that support UHCA.

UH BEAUTIFICATION TEAM REPORT

OFF TO AN IMPRESSIVE START

The University Heights Beautification Team and its supporting volunteers got off to a fast start in the new year. The first week of January found team members adding new plants to the bus stop garden on Park Boulevard adjacent to the Birney playing field. Later in the month, volunteers completed a major landscape project along the entrance to the 163 onramp at the intersection of Lincoln and Washington. Weed cloth was put down prior to placement of rocks, with the addition of new drought-tolerant plants to significantly improve the appearance of this high visibility area. Before the month came

to an end, another team continued with the stripping, priming, and painting of benches in Trolley Barn Park in our ongoing bench restoration initiative.

Throughout the month, team members and supporting volunteers continued to empty the trash can at the Vermont Street Bridge while whacking weeds and picking up trash throughout the community. Thank you to all of the volunteers who have gotten us off to a great start this year in helping to make our community such a beautiful place to work and live. – *Rod Girvin, Chair of the UHCA Beautification Team*



STREET TREE UPDATE

What better way to show someone you love them than by planting a tree in their honor? The UHCA Beautification Team is still collecting signed water agreements for a free street tree planted by the city. Mayor Faulconer and the City of San Diego have made a pledge to plant 1,000 new street trees by the year 2020 (as outlined in the City's Climate Action Plan). As a community, we would like to help out as much as possible.

Overall, they are a win-win for everyone, and the UHCA Beautification Team would love to get as many of the allocated street trees the City has planned for our neighborhood.

A wise person once wrote, the best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago - and the second best time to plant one is now, so we are calling for your assistance to help make our neighborhood a beautiful and livable place.

The benefits of street trees go beyond environmental concerns as well. While helping to boost property values, they lower ground temperatures, making it more convenient to walk and bike. Street trees slow traffic, help keep parked cars cool in the summer, and can assist in lowering your cooling

If you would like to participate in the UH Street Tree team, or if you have a parkway in front of your house or business and want a free tree planted, please email Michelle Fenwick at fenwicmk@miamioh.edu. The more signed water agreements we have before summer, the better! –*Michelle Fenwick*





UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD TAG SALE



**Sunday, April 29th
9:00am - 1:00pm
Trolley Barn Park
(Adams Ave.)**

The First Annual Ostrich Nest

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Grab your spot now and start putting aside your great used stuff to sell. All proceeds go to improving Trolley Barn Park!

Registration & details at:
www.uhsd.org (click "Events")

Questions? Email us at tagsale@uhsd.org

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK CLUB AND SALON

LOVERS AT THE CHAMELEON CLUB, PARIS 1932, BY FRANCINE PROSE

Francine Prose presents a historical novel built around a famous photograph by Brassai of two women at a table in a Paris nightclub, Le Monocle, in 1932. The one wearing the tuxedo is athlete, race-car driver, and Nazi collaborator Violette Morris. Prose considered writing a biography about her, but instead shaped a union of fact and fiction by creating a circle of witnesses and recorders of varying degrees of reliability. She utilizes characters loosely based on noted artists and writers of that time and brings them together

at the “anything goes” Chameleon Club, where they cross paths with Lou Villars, the fictionalized version of Violette Morris.

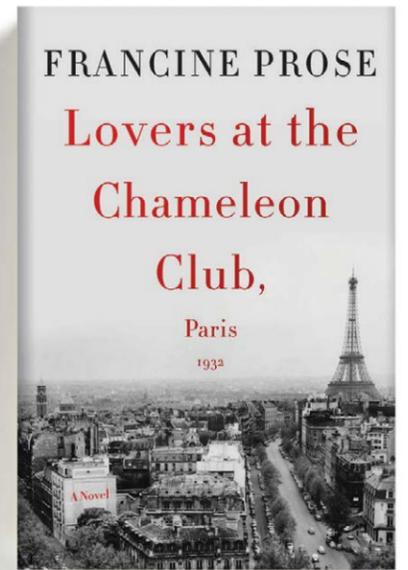
The author effectively weaves together the stories of these multiple personalities to tell the larger picture of France and Europe between the World Wars. The novel captures the brilliance of Paris’ bohemian art scene in the 20s and 30s, as well as the dark days that followed.

Join the Book Club and Salon discussion.

New members are always welcome! The book will be available at the UH Library’s front desk during February and March.

UH Book Club & Salon

Wednesday, March 28, 2018, at 6:30 pm
San Diego Public Library, University Heights Branch
4193 Park Boulevard
(at Howard Avenue)
619-692-4912



THE UH BRANCH LIBRARY BETWEEN THE COVERS

Greetings! As we March on through 2018 (see what I did there?!), we hope you will visit us soon at the University Heights Library. We have lots of new books, DVDs, and CDs for you to explore, along with magazines and audiobooks galore! And if you haven’t checked out our online databases and resources, you should. Using your library card, enjoy free access to newspapers, magazines, ebooks, and more!

near paper airplanes that may be unlike any they have ever seen or built before! Looking to get crafty this spring? We’ll be crafting every Saturday at 10:30 am during our Arts & Crafts time for kids (of all ages).

Lastly, don’t forget to spring those clocks forward on March 11. And keep an eye out for some special gifts from the UH Library as you walk about the community; the UH Library Rocks (wink wink), and we hope you think so too! See you soon!

–Holland Kessinger, Librarian, University Heights Branch Library, (619)692-4912, uhstaff@sandiego.gov.

Kids, join us at the Library as we discover “Awesome Aerodynamics” with the San Diego Air & Space Museum on Wednesday, March 14, at 4:30 pm. Participants can engi-

THE FRIENDS OF THE UH LIBRARY GET SOCIAL WITH US!

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, SnapChat, and who knows what else! Social media is everywhere these days. From grade schoolers to grandparents, we use social media to keep us connected to the world.

library building) on March 17-18, April 21-22, or May 19-20, and select any regularly priced book. Then show the cashier your library card and smartphone or printout showing that you have followed the Facebook page. It’s that easy!

One way you can stay connected with the University Heights Branch Library is to follow the library’s Facebook page @universityheightslibrary. The Facebook page contains posts about programs and events at the library and is your source for information about our branch (including our secret treasure rocks hidden throughout the community), Library Shelfie Day (there’s that social media again!), and more.

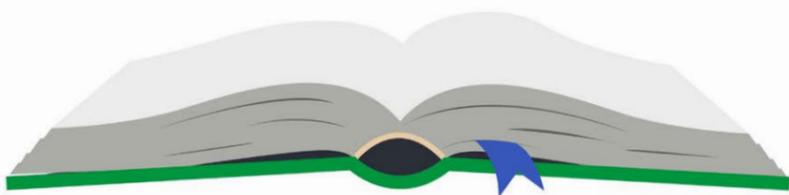
So now, let’s get social! –Isabel Schechter, Secretary, Friends of the University Heights Library



To encourage you to follow the library’s Facebook page, we are offering a free book (one per person) to anyone who follows the page. To claim your free book, come to the Friends of San Diego Public Library Book Sale (located at the rear of the

Library Hours

Monday	9:30 am – 6 pm
Tuesday	11:30 am – 8 pm
Wednesday	11:30 am – 8 pm
Thursday	9:30 am – 6 pm
Friday	9:30 am – 6 pm
Saturday	9:30 am – 6 pm
Sunday	Closed





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SCHOOL NEWS

BIRNEY BUZZ



We are excited to celebrate our 11th Run for the Green on March 16th. Throughout the next several weeks students will gather pledges for this popular event that highlights health and wellness. Keep an eye out for students running lemonade or snack stands around University Heights

for donations for Birney, and please show them your support! Run for the Green makes it possible for Birney to offer every student its award-winning International Baccalaureate program with art, foreign language enrichment, a unique garden program, field trips, educational assemblies, and more. Go

to FriendsOfAliceBirney.org to make your donation and help keep this world-class program in University Heights.

We would like to thank Las Patronas for providing a \$12,858 grant to install shade structures over our garden classroom. These shades provide sun protection and allow a more enjoyable learning experience.

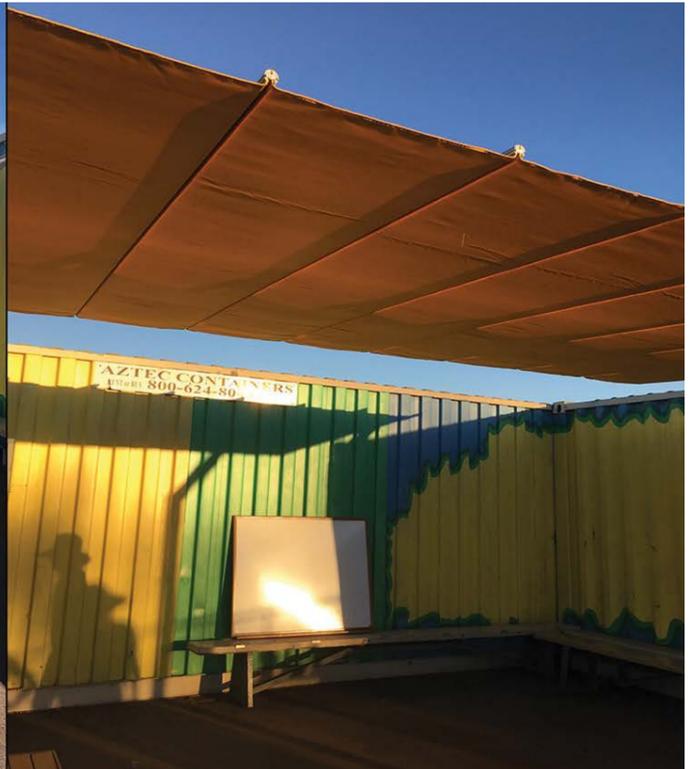
We will be celebrating International Mother Language Day at Family Friday on the 2nd of March, ending in a display of students' home language flags and a world map showing the global

diversity of our community. The following week, on March 9th, we offer bedtime stories and celebrate literacy by reading picture books to participants while they relax and enjoy snacks.

Our second book fair will be held March 19-23, the same week as Parent Teacher conferences. The second Trimester will end with a Morning Buzz. Please join us at the front of the school at 9:15 am on March 23rd for coffee, pastries, and conversation before we head off to Spring Break. - Ari Honarvar



Left: Birney's beloved coach, Carol Lord, receives a rose during January's Kindness Week.



Right: New garden shade structure.



ROO NEWS

Sponsor a Student (or Two) For Sixth Grade Camp

For more than 60 years, San Diego 6th grade students have enjoyed the great experiences offered by the Outdoor Education 6th Grade Camp program, but the days of district funding for 6th Grade Camp are over. The Roosevelt PTSA now helps sponsor Sixth Grade Camp, but we need your help. We always have a number of students who cannot afford the cost and are in need of scholarships. If you remember the fun and friendship you experienced at Sixth Grade Camp, or just want to help send as many kids as possible to camp this year, visit the website and click the "donate today" button: <https://friendsofroosevelt.org/contribute/>. Thank you!

St. Patrick's Day Parking

Attending the St. Patrick's Day parade but dreading finding parking? We've got

you covered! Parking on the Roosevelt campus will be available for a \$15 donation on March 17 beginning at 10 am (Top of the morning to ye!) and close at 10 pm (Hand me a Guinness!). The festivities on 6th Avenue are a five-minutewalkwestonUpasandacross the Rte.163 foot bridge. All proceeds support the PTSA and the International Baccalaureate Program at Roosevelt.

North Park Fastpitch Girls Softball

Early Bird registration for the North Park Fast Pitch Girls Softball league is now open! There are no city boundaries to this league and the registration price of \$145 includes a uniform (shirt and socks only), a team photo, and an electronic portrait. Visit npfastpitch.org to register, or for more information, email npfastpitch@gmail.com. -Laura Dadmun



If you happen to be driving in University Heights on a Monday morning, you will probably see orange cones and two guys in bright shirts working in a median or on the side of the road. It would be understandable if you assumed these were CalTrans or city workers, but you would be wrong. In fact, they are Andy Lange and Robert Dowell, two volunteers.

In addition to being a part of every UHCA Beautification Team project, Andy and Robert meet every Monday morning at the UHCA shed at the en-

trance to the Vermont Street Bridge. There they load up their vehicles with trash bags, weed whackers, brooms, and other tools. They then head out into University Heights where they remove weeds from medians and the side of the road, pick up trash and other debris, clear out what has been left behind by the homeless, and in general fix any other problem that they find throughout the community.

If you see these two dedicated volunteers as you drive by, honk and wave to show your support. A pile of plumes and many thanks to Andy and Robert for all that they are doing to make our community a better place for us all to work, play, and live.



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FROM YOUR SUPERVISOR

HOW A COMMUNITY ENDED AN OUTBREAK LOTS OF THANK YOUS AS HEP A EMERGENCY COMES TO AN END

As the Hepatitis A outbreak winds down – and let’s be clear, that it is not officially over just because the emergency has ended – I want to thank University Heights residents and all San Diegans for their response.

Since the County medical team became aware of the Hepatitis A outbreak last March, the county’s Health and Human Services team in partnership with others began writing the book on how to respond. It was more than public health notices, press releases, and 100-plus media interviews. It was also more than giving 117,000 vaccinations, distributing sanitation kits, and pushing out extensive education materials to one and all. Our entire region coalesced in a way I’ve never seen. At the County, we stayed with and followed the guidelines and guidance from the experts at the Centers for Disease Control.

Our hospitals and medical community were indispensable, treating not just those who showed up on their doorsteps. The ambulance and paramedic community delivered thousands of vaccinations. It was a first for California, and happened because of a coordinated legislative effort to waive state rules. Special thanks go to Senate Speaker Toni Atkins and Assembly Member Todd Gloria.

Law enforcement’s Homeless Outreach Teams brought county public health nurses, day and night, into remote

areas where they could interact directly with those most vulnerable. The homeless provider community response was exemplary, with everyone doing their share – and more. San Diego’s tourism and restaurant industries were incredibly engaged. By re-emphasizing sanitation and encouraging vaccinations, I believe they may have prevented the virus from spreading into a new population.

County leadership kept the resources flowing, while our four top doctors worked non-stop schedules. The fantastic four pored through administrative work, met daily with government, business and media, and, most importantly, mapped for us (with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control as their guide) a strategy to deal with an outbreak unlike any faced by a major U.S. metropolitan area in my lifetime.

Finally, I want to thank our crucial partner, the members of the public. As awareness spread, they didn’t panic and demand vaccinations en-masse. Instead, they examined the situation factually and generally sought vaccinations only if they were going to be in close contact with the at-risk population. Acting otherwise would have crippled the vaccine supply.

We also grieve for the 20 individuals who died, and for their surviving friends and family members.

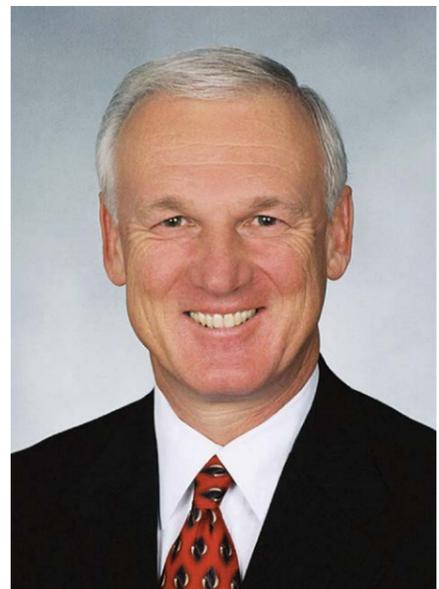
To the many more people who suffered through Hep. A., and beat it, I offer my

sympathies for what was likely a great personal struggle.

We will probably never know how this variant of Hepatitis A made its way into our community, but we must be vigilant to keep it from returning. What we do know is that our entire community rose up to help bring this outbreak to an end as a public health threat.

Thank you all. Thank you very, very much.

–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.



FROM YOUR COUNCILMEMBER

LOOKING FORWARD TO A BUSY YEAR

My team and I are excited to be back in full swing for my second year in office serving District Three and University Heights. I have taken on new committee assignments this year, with more opportunities to strengthen our communities and move San Diego forward.

In 2018, I have been assigned by my colleagues to be Chair of the Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee. Over the next year, this committee will tackle a number of issues including state and federal legislation, provide oversight of local agencies like the Convention Center and Civic San Diego, and pursue economic programs and job development initiatives.

Addressing homelessness continues to be my number one priority and I will continue to lead the Select Committee on Homelessness and serve as Vice Chair of The Regional Task Force on the Homeless. Our three large-scale temporary shelters are all up and running, getting more than 700 homeless San Diegans off the streets and connected. We are also moving forward with increased storage facilities and an intake facility to better coordinate services for homeless individuals

throughout the region. We recently completed San Diego’s 2018 Point-in-Time Count, and once the data is processed, we’ll be even better equipped to target our response to the crisis and get more from our limited resources.

Here in University Heights, a Request for Proposals was recently issued for the San Diego Unified School District Education Center, which includes the Teachers Training Annex #1 Building (located at the intersection of Park Blvd., Normal St. and El Cajon Blvd). Although this is not a city-owned property and the city is not involved in the RFP process, potential plans to redevelop the site could have significant impacts in the community. I believe it is important to reflect the historical significance of the Teachers Training Annex #1 Building in any future plans, and I would like to see a public use for this space. Our office is monitoring the process and will continue to communicate community feedback. You can also contact Khi Jackson directly at the school district at kjackson5@sandi.net.

Thank you for your continued work for University Heights, and for the opportunity to serve our neighborhood. Please stay up to date on upcoming events in

the neighborhood throughout the coming year, and have a safe and happy year. If you need any assistance with city services or have ideas you’d like to share, please contact my liaison to the community, Tyler Renner, at (619) 236-6633 or trenner@sandiego.gov or my office at christopherward@sandiego.gov.

– Councilmember Chris Ward, San Diego City Council, District 3



OUR POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVES

U.S. PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20500 202-456-1111/202-456-2461 fax president@whitehouse.gov

CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN State Capitol, Suite 1173 Sacramento, CA 95814 916-445-2841/916-558-3160 fax governor@governor.ca.gov

U.S. SENATOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN 750 B Street, Suite 1030 San Diego, CA 92101 619-231-9712/619-231-1108 fax senator@feinstein.senate.gov

U.S. SENATOR KAMALA HARRIS 600 B Street, Suite 2240 San Diego, CA 92101 619-239-3884/202-228-3863 fax senator@harris.senate.gov

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STATE SENATOR TONI ATKINS, DISTRICT 39 1350 Front Street, Suite 4061 San Diego, CA 92101 619-645-3133/619-645-3144 fax toni.duran@sen.ca.gov

STATE ASSEMBLYMEMBER TODD GLORIA, DISTRICT 78 1350 Front Street, Room 6054 San Diego, CA 92101 619-645-3090/619-645-3094 fax nick.serrano@asm.ca.gov

SAN DIEGO COUNTY SUPERVISOR RON ROBERTS, FOURTH DISTRICT 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335 San Diego, CA 92101 619-531-5544/ 619-531-6262 fax nerea.urtasun@sdcounty.ca.gov

SAN DIEGO MAYOR KEVIN FAULCONER 202 C Street, 11th Floor San Diego, CA 92101 619-236-6330/619-236-7228 fax kevinfaulconer@sandiego.gov

SAN DIEGO CITY COUNCILMEMBER CHRIS WARD, DISTRICT 3 202 C Street, 10TH Floor San Diego, CA 92101 619-236-6633/619-595-1481 fax TRenner@sandiego.gov



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OPINION

UTILITIES UNDERGROUNDING IN UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

I was unpleasantly surprised to hear during the February UHCA meeting that the Utilities Undergrounding Program is no longer being considered for University Heights.

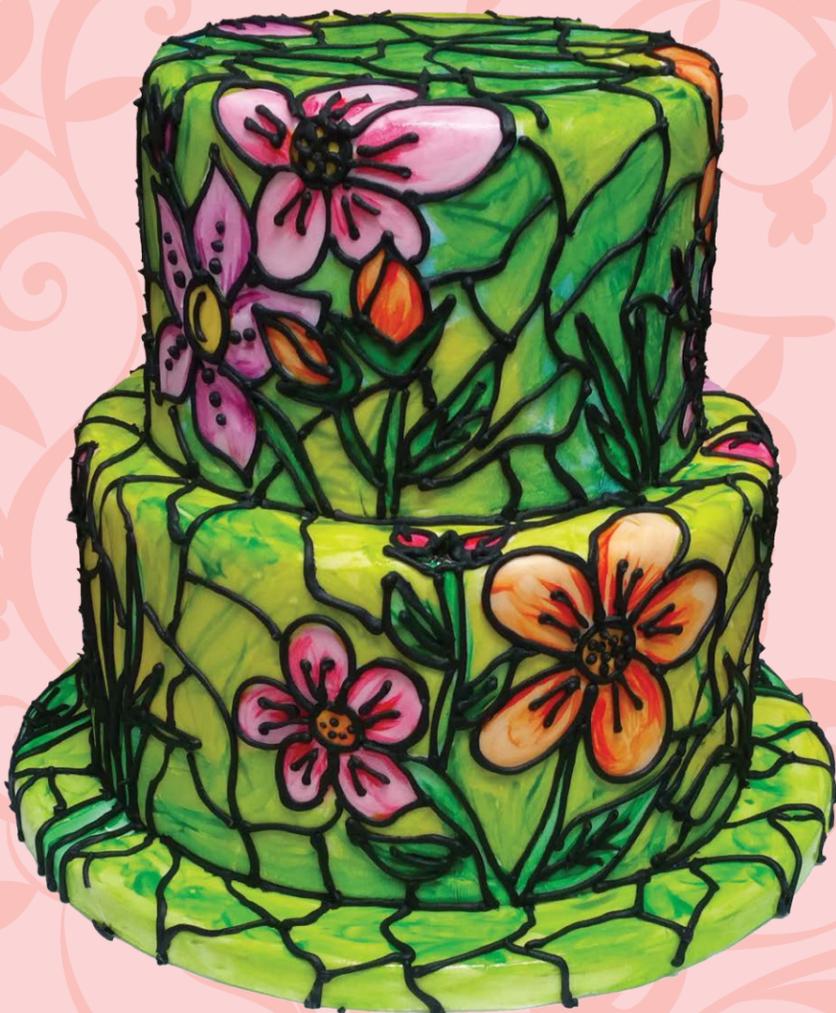
The city is currently relocating approximately 15 miles of overhead utility lines underground throughout the city each year. The city spends approximately \$54 million a year to convert unsightly overhead power and communication lines to safer and more reliable underground systems. Although the city has been undergrounding lines since 1970, approximately 1,000 miles of overhead utility lines remain to be undergrounded. Nearly all residential areas should be completed within the next 54 years.

Based on representations from the city over the past 20 years, we thought that University Heights projects would be on the short list for completion in the next decade. We also understood that funding has been collected by an SDG&E 3.5 percent surcharge since at least 2003. Although there is a disclaimer on the city's website that the City Council may change the order of undergrounding projects set forth in the schedule (<https://www.sandiego.gov/undergrounding>), we believe that the concerns of our neighborhood should still be heard.

Although no University Heights undergrounding projects appear on the list for the next five years, Mission Hills,

North Park, and South Park neighborhoods have areas designated for undergrounding. Some UH residents may not support undergrounding because of construction hassles and utility boxes in the sidewalk right of way. However, for those who want to be rid of the unsightly century-old overhead wires that blight our streets (ignoring for now benefits of undergrounding, including increased fire safety, maintenance, increased urban forestry opportunities, and power reliability), now is the time to do something. Unfortunately, the official comment deadline (Feb. 9) will have passed by the time you read this article.

Nevertheless, we can still contact Councilmember Chris Ward's office and request that University Heights be added to the new five-year undergrounding master plan and that the community be involved in the planning process. Tyler Renner is the Council Rep for University Heights: trenner@sandiego.gov. - *Bill Wild*



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