**University Heights Community Association // February 2016**

**UH, NP AT ODDS ON FUTURE DENSITY**

**IN A SURPRISE MOVE ON JAN. 19TH NORTH PARK PLANNERS APPROVED THE SAME CITY DENSITY BONUS PLAN UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS RESIDENTS REJECTED. READ UHCA'S OBJECTIONS BELOW AND STAY TUNED TO UHCA NEWS AND THE UHCA WEBSITE WWW.UHSD.ORG FOR THE EFFECTS ON FUTURE DEVELOPMENT ON PARK AND EL CAJON BLVDS.**

Marlon I. Pangilinan  
City of San Diego Planning Department  
12202 First Avenue MS-443  
San Diego, Ca 92104

Dear Mr. Pangilinan

I'm writing as President of the University Heights Community Association to give our community's input on the proposed Community Plan update. We held a series of meetings including a full community association meeting to inform everyone of the proposed changes and to discuss our collective thoughts. We also reviewed notes from the North Park Planning Committee and Uptown Planners since University Heights is currently divided between the two.

We realize that growth within University Heights is inevitable but we want to have a voice in how that growth happens. We want to make sure our neighborhood blends with the communities around us as part of the “City of Villages” concept the city has proposed. We want to retain the village character of University Heights with its rich historical details while promoting growth within our boundaries in specified areas. We want smart growth based on factual numbers and wish to retain a functional community infrastructure.

Based on the numerous meetings we've had on the Community Plan update, there are three major areas I would like to address in this letter. These are:

- Three specific properties in our neighborhood that we're concerned about future development
- The overall concept of a “Density Bonus”
- Our strong desire to make University Heights part of one planning group

The three properties we're most concerned about lie along El Cajon Blvd. The greatest changes will happen along these corridors in the next few decades. The large parcel of land currently owned by San Diego Unified School District which borders Normal Avenue and Campus Street along with the lot at the northeast corner of Park Boulevard and El Cajon Blvd are gateway properties for both El Cajon Blvd and its “City of Villages” concept and our own Park Blvd business district. We also concerned about potential future development of the property owned by Victory Outreach Church on the southeast corner of Park and McAle, across Park Blvd from Birney Elementary.

Continued on page 11

**UPDATE ON THE POINT: PROPOSED LIQUOR BAN AND CURFEW MOVE FORWARD**

By Doug Wallingford

In the December/January issue of the UHCA News, your views were solicited on a proposal to adopt a 24-hour alcohol ban and a 10pm to 6am curfew for the open space area known as The Point in University Heights. The survey, which was available on the University Heights Community Association (UHCA) website, confirmed the community's overwhelming support for the proposal. Of 76 individual responses, 88 percent supported an alcohol ban and over 80 percent supported the proposed curfew. UHCA members, who comprised 55 percent of the survey respondents, supported the proposal by similar margins. The curfew will not apply to the pathway along the Mission Valley rim between New York and Rhode Island Streets.

In December, the University Heights Recreation Council, acting as the University Heights (UH) community advisory panel to the city’s Parks & Recreation Department (P&R Department), issued a letter in support of the alcohol ban and curfew proposal. The P&R Department will present the proposal to the Park and Recreation Board, the City Council’s Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee, and finally to the full City Council in April or May, with the second reading in May or June. If the proposal passes, the alcohol ban and curfew should be in place later this summer.

After a lull from the recent weather and holidays, illegal activity will undoubtedly pick up again. The increased vigilance of UH residents and other actions taken in recent months are helping to make a difference!

Further background information and the detailed survey results are available on the UHCA website at www.uhca.org.

**FEB 4 MEETING**

We will begin our meeting at 6:45 with San Diego Police Department Officer David Surwilo. He will troubleshoot and answer our concerns regarding a few “hot spots” in University Heights. Among problem areas are the Vermont Street Bridge, the UH Library and the canyon rims where people from outside UH have recently come for drug exchanges. Please join the discussion.

There will be updates from our political representatives and announcements from UHCA committees.

Our program will feature Janet Tait and Doug Wallingford offering a PowerPoint presentation with the survey results and the proposed solutions to The Point’s recent problems. A proposed curfew and alcohol ban is moving forward.

Finally, there will be aaffle for a $50 GIFT CERTIFICATE to our new, hot restaurant, Madison.

**Read our Madison review on p. 9.**

**LOOKING AHEAD**

The March 3rd University Heights Community Association (UHCA) meeting will be dedicated to children’s literacy and reading. The month of March celebrates Read Across America, an annual program created by the National Education Association in 1997 to promote reading in the United States, especially reading for children. March 2nd was chosen as Read Across America Day because it is the birthday of Dr. Seuss, a longtime resident of San Diego who wrote many wonderful children's books. We hope you will join us for a scintillating discussion about how to encourage reading and literacy.

Continued on page 11
It’s February, which means love is in the air! The cynical among us might gripe that Valentine’s Day is a manufactured holiday designed to feed our capitalist economy. They’d probably be right, but since most of the money for this holiday is spent on local restaurants, florists and chocolatiers, I’m okay with it. If you have a valentine, I do hope you’ll consider having your Valentine dinner at one of our local University Heights restaurants or purchasing your flowers from our neighborhood florist. And if you’re single this year, just remember that Valentine’s Day is a manufactured holiday designed to feed our capitalist economy.

But what is this thing called love? We love our spouse, our parents, our children, our siblings and our friends. But I also love Italian food and Major Crimes on TNT. I love western North Carolina. I love driving cross country. I love my two dogs, Charlie and Hazel. I love parties and people. Telling someone you love going to the farmer’s market can be said with essentially no emotional consequences. But telling that same person that you love them for the first time can be an emotional minefield filled with self-doubt and fear that they won’t say it back.

So we use the same word, “love,” to describe a wide range of feelings of affection and emotional attachment. This February, rather than just focusing on romantic love on a single day, why not spend the whole month celebrating the wide range of love? If you love hiking, take a hike. If you love Adele, sit down just to listen to her latest album. Plan a special outing with your kid or parents doing something you enjoy doing together. Make a conscious effort each day to do some small thing that you love and appreciate it while you’re doing it. Intentionally live a life you love and you’ll love the life you live.

And with that thought, I’ve reached the 350 word limit for this column. That means I’m finished and don’t have to think about this column for another month. I love it!
Twenty-five years ago, University Heights (UH) celebrated the opening of Trolley Barn Park on Adams Avenue. Our community park is steeped in history and when I walk through the park today, I’m grateful to the citizens who stepped up and ensured that our community will be able to enjoy these eight-plus acres of park for generations to come.

Those of us who have called UH home for many years know the history of Trolley Barn Park. For our newer residents, here is a synopsis. In 1899, the San Diego Electric Railway Co. (SDER) began transporting passengers between downtown San Diego and Mission Cliff Gardens in University Heights on the #1 Park Blvd. trolley line. In 1907, SDER added the Adams Ave. shuttle line, connecting Kensington to downtown San Diego with a transfer at Adams Ave. and Florida Street. In 1913, on the northern edge of the Adams and Florida intersection, SDER constructed a large trolley barn to store and to repair trolleys.

The trolleys ran throughout the early 1900’s, finally succumbing to the automobile and buses 1949. The barn was sold to the San Diego Paper Box Co., and functioned as a warehouse for concrete. In years past, when a piece of concrete would protrude up or drop down the city would grind or replace the concrete with concrete. However, the city is using pavement as filler instead of grinding or replacing with concrete. While efficient, the patches make our park appear run down.

To ensure the preservation of our park, we need community involvement. How can you ensure that our park is properly cared for? The simplest thing to do is to express concerns to our councilman’s office, toddgloria@sandiego.gov. You can attend the monthly UH Park and Rec meeting just prior to the monthly University Heights Community Association (UHCA) meeting on the first Thursday of every month. The UH Park and Rec committee is a hard-working group and is the reason we have a mixed-use field at the Alice Birney School. Maybe it is time for UH to establish a volunteer group to pull weeds, prune, plant shrubs and trees, paint the lamp posts and fences, and ensure that our park is properly cared for? It is our park and rolling up our collective sleeves will make the difference.

Trolley Barn Park is a highly valued community asset and as such, it is time to dedicate a UHCA community meeting to address the deferred maintenance with city representatives, discuss community involvement and long term plans for the parks next twenty-five years.

On December 17th, the University Heights Community Association (UHCA) Lights in the Heights Community Committee toured the neighborhood to view and to vote on the best lights for 2015. Award categories were chosen to reflect the diversity of homes and light displays. Overall, we noticed more inflatable figures than in the past and an increased usage of laser lights and projectors. There were more awards this year, including some new categories.

The Lights in the Heights Committee proudly presents the 2015 Lights in the Heights Awards:

- **Best Complex:**
  - 4007-4079 Normal Street

- **Best White Lights:**
  - 4350 Proctor Place

- **Best Business:**
  - Bear Hair by Chuck, 4002 Park Boulevard, Suite B2

- **“Treetacular” Display:**
  - 4445 Maryland Street

- **Best Terrace Display:**
  - 1021 Hayes Street

- **Best Linear Design:**
  - 2012 Lincoln Avenue

- **Best Overall Design:**
  - 818 Madison Avenue

- **“Did Someone Say Bacon” Award:**
  - 4373 Cleveland Avenue

- **“It Takes a Village” Award:**
  - 4545 Rhode Island Street

- **Most Distinctive Display:**
  - 1629 Madison Avenue

- **Most Playful Display:**
  - 988 Johnson Avenue

- **Best Block:**
  - 4500-4600 of New York Street

- **The University Heights Community Spirit Award:**
  - 1917 Madison Avenue

- **Hall of Fame Award:**
  - 1804 Meade Avenue

Sometimes all that crawling on the roof, clambering up a ladder and making sure holiday lights are all in good working order pays off in more ways than lighting up neighbors’ faces on the sidewalk. As a military spouse whose husband is currently deployed, seeing all the effort and creativity that goes into these displays brightened my spirits.

It also makes me grateful that I live in a neighborhood of such artful and talented folks who work hard to bring joy and cheer to their neighbors. And it also inspired me to try some new ideas for decorating at my own house!

Decorating your home, nominating others for an award, and volunteering to judge this sort of contest are little threads that help connect us as a community. If you would like more information on the contest or to volunteer for next year’s event, please contact me at UHCAOstrich@gmail.com.
**LAST CALL for Uptown Planners!**

By Beth Jaworski

Want to have an impact on the future of University Heights and how that future will be shaped? Then step forward and run for a seat on the Uptown Planners.

Seven seats are up for grabs at the March 2016 Uptown Planners meeting. As the three currently serving University Heights residents are term-limited, it is important for UH to have a voice.

Uptown Planners is the official advisory board and community planning group to the City of San Diego regarding land-use, development, and discretionary projects in Uptown, which includes Bankers Hill, Park West, Five Points/Middletown, Mission Hills, Hillcrest, and the portion of UH that is west of Park Blvd.

Board members are elected to four-year terms each March. To qualify to run for a board seat, complete an application form and provide it to the secretary or chair before the election. Board members must either reside or own a business within the boundaries of Uptown and provide proof of his or her address.

Also, candidates must have attended at least three meetings of Uptown Planners in the year prior to the March election to qualify for election. Attendance in the year prior to the March election meeting to qualify for election. Attendance is verified by reference to the meeting sign-in sheets.

For more information, check out http://uptownplanners.org/

---

**Happening in the Heights**

**COMEDY**

**SWEDENBORG HALL**

1531 Tyler Ave.  
www.swedenborgianchurchsandiego.org

- Side Stage Improve Class  
  No Side Stage Improve Classes  
  Scheduled for Feb

More Info: mike@sidestageimprov.com

**LESTAT'S ON ADAMS**

3343 Adams Ave.  
(619) 282-0437 / www.lestats.com

- Comedy Night:  
  Every Sat, 8 pm

- Celtic Ensemble:  
  Every Sun 4-6 pm

**MUSIC**

**PARK & REC**

4612 Park Blvd.  
(619) 795-9700 / www.parkandrecsd.com

- The Bedbreakers Band  
  (Uptempo) American Roots, Blues, & Rhythm Music:  
  Performing The Second Saturday Of Every Month Through April 2016: 9 pm

**LESTAT'S ON ADAMS**

3343 Adams Ave.  
(619) 282-0437 / www.lestats.com

- Open Mic Night:  
  Every Monday 6:30–11 pm

3RD SPACE

4610 Park Blvd. (619) 255-1151  
www.3rdspace.co

**ACROSS THE STREET AT MUELLER COLLEGE**

4607 Park Blvd. (619) 507-7223  
www.sidestageimprov.com

- Contact John Ciccolella for details.

**THEATER**

**DIVERSIONARY THEATER**

4427 Park Blvd. (619) 220-0097 / www.diversionary.org

- NOW OR LATER:  
  An incite and politically provocative new play, that takes on religion, freedom of expression and the dangers of an increasingly interconnected global community.  
  —Thurs, Feb 11th - Sun, Mar 13th

**FEBRUARY 2016**

**SUNDAY**  |  **MONDAY**  |  **TUESDAY**  |  **WEDNESDAY**  |  **THURSDAY**  |  **FRIDAY**  |  **SATURDAY**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6
7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13
14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20
21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27
28 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6

**FEBRUARY IS MUSEUM MONTH!**

50% OFF ADMISSION WITH PASS AT PARTICIPATING MUSEUMS. PICK UP A FREE PASS AT ANY MACY’S / SANDEIGOMUSEUMCOUNCIL.ORG
California’s best disc golf courses, and is less than five minutes to one of and your swimming ability. You can stay within your fitness level ocean swim in. There are buoys at the shore, this is a great place to get an for the views alone. 45-minute hike to the top is well worth it of San Diego. A very popular spot, the ends at the highest point in the City minutes away. of the UH restaurant scene 15 years ago, their mother Mahin were the ‘pioneers’ friendly service. Sanam, Roxanne and known for her Banoo restaurant, Azteca de Mole. Salud, Jo and Oz. the Guacamole Tower, the Bacon & Goat lives and opened Cueva Bar. Among our Oz Blackaller, owner of Cueva Bar. AWARDEES: this past year in University Heights. The UHCA recognized attendees sugared up everyone for our annual holiday dessert potluck was a huge hit. Tasty treats from Twiggs and University Heights Village December 16th. Socks were collected at the University Heights (UH) Library, Twiggs and University Heights Community Association (UHCA) meetings. Thank you for your generosity this holiday season. Our annual holiday dessert potluck was a huge hit. Tasty treats from Twiggs and attendees sugared up everyone for our awards ceremony. The UHCA recognized and honored those who served us this past year in University Heights. Awardees: Oz Blackaller, owner of Cueva Bar. Five years ago, Jo and Oz came into our lives and opened Cueva Bar. Among our favorite tapas created by Chef Oz includes the Guacamole Tower, the Bacon & Goat Cheese Stuffed Dates and the Torta Artecta de Mole. Salud, Jo and Oz. Roxanne for Sanam Goversi, Soltan Banoo restaurant, known for her friendly service. Sanam, Roxanne and their mother Mahin were the ‘pioneers’ of the UH restaurant scene 15 years ago, opening their tiny Caspian Café on Park Blvd. Now, their larger space across the street, the successful Persian restaurant Soltan Banoo, provides a memorable dining experience and is an important part of the UH community. Reverend Jonathan Mitchell, Swedensborgian Church pastor, a volunteer for the Friends of the UH Library, Washington Street cleanups, Buchanan Canyon Cleanups, and much, much more. Alfonso Sanchez and Adrian Johnson, Sanitation Drivers, (pictured on the cover with their awards) a great team and friendly weekly service to University Heights. Shanan Spearing and Cindy Hmoung, Red House Pizza owners. It’s more than pizza! It has a great wine list and beers on tap. Plus, they have free delivery! SDPD Officer David Surwilo, San Diego Police Department Community Relations Officer. David responds to our UH issues and needs. In addition, he facilitates our Coffee, Cookies and Ice Cream with the Cops events. UH Branch Library Staff and librarian, Kim Schmidt. Kim, head librarian, and staffers Erin Wilson and Rudy Budz, are a delight. Their hard work and dedication makes the UH library, the oldest branch in the city, a vital part of our community today. Nerea Urtasun, aide to Supervisor Ron Roberts, our point person who shepherded our Neighborhood Reinvestment Program Grant application, which allows us to create and install the extraordinary street pole banners up on Park Blvd and Washington Street. Abel Woldemichaël, owner of Muzia’s. For the past seven years, Abel and his extraordinary staff make regular customers and newcomers feel like part of the family. Their excellent food and service has turned Muzia’s into a neighborhood meeting place. Thank you and congratulations to our awardees: Jo and Oz Blackaller, Sanam Goversi, Reverend Jonathan Mitchell, Alfonso Sanchez, Adrian Johnson, Shanan Spearing, Cindy Hoang, Officer David Surwilo, Kim Schmidt and the UH Library Staff, Nerea Urtasun, and Abel Woldemichaël.
Okay, so it's February already, but this writing is my first opportunity to say it to you all, since we don't publish in January—Happy New Year!

Before talking about the Friends' plans for the New Year, I have one item of last year's business to complete. I would like to offer a sincere and heartfelt “thank you” for the generous food donations to our Holiday Party on December 16th at the University Heights Library from two of my favorite neighborhood restaurants. My deepest thanks go out to Shanan Spearing and Cindy Hmoung of Red House Pizza at 4615 Park Blvd. and Abel Woldemichael of Muzita's Abyssinian Bistro at 4651 Park Blvd.

I know I speak not only for myself but also for the 140 other members of the Friends when I say we thank you and truly appreciate your continued support for our organization.

As we begin the New Year, it's time to remind you that your membership in the Friends renews annually. In the next few weeks, you will be receiving a renewal envelope in the mail. Membership is $10 and $5 for seniors and students.

Please return with your check. We count on membership and book sales to support the UH branch, the oldest branch in the city library system!

We at the Friends of the University Heights Library have lots of plans for the New Year, including continuing support for library programs such as reading for children and computer learning sessions for seniors. We will also be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the opening of the current UH branch library building. So stay tuned!

I wish you all the best in 2016!

Philip J. Gill
President, University Heights Chapter
Friends of the San Diego Public Library
Between the Covers:
What’s Happening at the University Heights Library
By Kim Schmidt, Librarian

Senior Mobile Tech Lab
The first three seminars put on at the library by Senior Mobile Tech Lab were extremely popular. In fact, we have decided to schedule additional labs into the new year. The next lab will be on February 2, 2016, from 12:30pm-2:30pm. See details below.

If you are 60 years or older, join us for one-on-one tutoring in the use of your smartphone, tablet, laptop, electronic reader and the like. Tutors will be on hand with laptops for the public to use. Patrons are also encouraged to bring their own devices to the session. Learn how to send and receive email, surf the internet, use Facebook and other social networks and more. The program is free.

Tofu, The Ancient Food
On Wednesday, February 10th at 6pm, Soy Foods Educator Liz Gary will present information about the history of soy products, how tofu is made and how it is used to replace meat, eggs, and dairy in a number of culinary applications for plant-based meals. See how tofu is used in foodservice and enjoy samples of tofu recipes you’ll be sure to want to make at home.

PLEASE NOTE: The library will be closed Monday, February 15 in celebration of Presidents’ Day.

Meet Toni Atkins, California State Assembly Speaker and Her Staff
The University Heights Library is honored to be chosen as one of the local venues for Public Office Hours for Speaker Toni Atkins and her staff. Please feel free to drop in, say hello, ask questions, and discuss your concerns. The “office” is open to the public at 5:00pm on the first Wednesday of every month. February 3, 2016, will be the next date.

Become a Friend of the University Heights Library
If you enjoy the services and programs provided by the University Heights Branch Library, you need to know that our programming depends on the generosity of donations from the community. One of the best ways you can help support the library is to join the Friends of the University Heights Library. For a minimum donation of $10.00 ($5.00 for students and seniors) you can sign up for an annual Friends membership. Just stop into the branch and ask a staff member for a membership envelope. Help our library to be fabulous, make new friends, join the Friends of the University Heights Library.

Friends of the Library Book Sale - Saturday, February 20 (8 am - 3 pm) and Sunday, February 21 (noon - 4pm)
Find great bargains on books, DVDs, Music CDs and vintage vinyl at the Friends of the San Diego Public Library Book Sale. All proceeds for the book sale go to support the Friends of the San Diego Public Library. Please join us.

Book Club and Salon
February 24th at 6:30 pm at the UH Library. The book: On The Move: A Life by Oliver Sacks

Regular Monthly Programs for Kids
Also on tap are the library’s regular weekly/monthly programs for children, including:
• Arts and Crafts for Children—every Saturday at 10:30am
• Story Time for Babies, Toddlers, and Younger Children, every Friday at 10:30am.

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC. PLEASE DROP IN!

The University Heights Branch Library
4193 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92103
(619) 692-4912

LIBRARY HOURS
Monday 9:30 am–6pm
Tuesday 11:30am–8pm
Wednesday 11:30–8pm
Thursday 9:30am–6pm
Friday 9:30am–6pm
Saturday 9:30am–6pm
Sunday Closed
The Birney community returns from winter break with a lot of gratitude. First of all, we would like to offer a huge thank you to the University Heights Community Association (UHCA) and the University Heights Community Foundation for the nearly $200,000 in gift cards raised this year for Birney families in need! Drastic circumstances, both chronic and sudden, beset several Birney families this holiday season, and they were supremely grateful for the opportunity to buy both food and toys for the holidays.

Several families were also fortunate to participate in the “Irish You a Merry Christmas” event held at Birney on December 19th. At this event, the Irish Outreach businesses in those countries. And the money Roosevelt receives will go to lowering the amount of landfills needed for this purpose. According to the Environment Protection Agency (EPA), over six percent of landfills consist of textile waste, including shoes. We can prevent this number from rising by reducing, reusing, and recycling these items.

Birney Buzz
By Kim Schultz

FEBRUARY PETS OF THE MONTH: CALLIE AND TOBY

Callie and Toby have permanent places in both our home and our hearts. I understand now why people include their pets when talking about their families. Like children, pets rely on us for the necessities of life. We are blessed with love and companionship in return.

Callie’s a different story. Calico kittens, we’ve learned, can be a little neurotic, and Callie is no exception. Though she has calmed down remarkably as she’s matured, she hasn’t lost her kitten like approach to life. Every moment is an opportunity for someone to pet, play with or just pay attention to her. We think her mannerisms are saying something like, “Come on humans-get with the program! It’s all about me!”

Callie and Toby have been with us for six years now. They were Christmas kittens. Adopted through a shelter, they have definitely claimed their places in our lives. They are brother and sister. We didn’t know that a female cat can be impregnated by more than one male in the same litter. Thus, we have a Tabby (Toby) and a Calico (Callie) from the same mother. They each have their own unique personalities.

Toby must have some royal blood in him. His coloring leads us to think he might have some Abyssinian in him. He loves to sit regally on the back of the sofa, watching the world go by, paws crossed ever so properly. He lets us know when he needs something, but mostly, he likes to be with himself.

Birney Buzz
By Kim Schultz

Birney Buzz
By Kim Schultz

Callie and Toby have been with us for six years now. They were Christmas kittens. Adopted through a shelter, they have definitely claimed their places in our lives. They are brother and sister. We didn’t know that a female cat can be impregnated by more than one male in the same litter. Thus, we have a Tabby (Toby) and a Calico (Callie) from the same mother. They each have their own unique personalities.

Toby must have some royal blood in him. His coloring leads us to think he might have some Abyssinian in him. He loves to sit regally on the back of the sofa, watching the world go by, paws crossed ever so properly. He lets us know when he needs something, but mostly, he likes to be with himself.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE:
ROOSEVELT PTSA IS DOING A SHOE DRIVE TO SUPPORT SIXTH GRADE CAMP!

Fiji Yogurt has partnered with the Roosevelt PTSA For the rest of the school year, just say “I’m with Rosie” any time you visit a Fiji Yogurt location—the nearest one to University Heights is located at 1010 University Blvd.—and 25 percent of your purchase will be donated to the Roosevelt Parent, Teacher, Student Association (PTSA).

The Great Kindness Challenge
From January 25th thru 26th, Roosevelt participated in “The Great Kindness Challenge.” For one school week, Roosevelt students devoted themselves to performing as many acts of kindness as possible, such as smiling at twenty-five people, thanking a bus driver, doing a chore without being asked, or making sack lunches for homeless people. The Great Kindness Challenge helps create a culture of kindness on campus, and helps to promote tolerance, unity and respect, which dovetails nicely with our International Baccalaureate ideals!
By Andrea Bacal

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** The lights are on again on Park Boulevard!

By end of 2014, the business district on Park Blvd.—lovingly referred to some residents as “the village”—saw two of its mainstay businesses, Bourbon Street and Lei Lounge, close. For much of the year, the north side of the 4600 block on Park was quieter and darker than residents have been used to. But the spring of last year Park and Rec opened at 4612 Park, replacing Bourbon, and, as of the last days of December, a new restaurant and bar, Madison, has opened in the old Lei location at 4622 Park.

There are so many good things to say about our newest neighborhood restaurant, Madison. You can’t miss the baby blue exterior. Chic is the word that comes to mind when thinking about the interior spaces. The bar area is spectacular, light and airy with plenty of room at the well-attended bar. They have a “curated” cocktail menu, and both times I was there, my friends ordered traditional manhattans, which, they both said, were wonderful.

The service, starting with the charming Alli, hostess and reservationist, was wonderful. In spite of being open only a week, their service was impeccable. Very attentive without being hovering, the wait staff had very detailed knowledge and informed opinions—when asked—of all the offerings.

The food menu is divided into “Shares,” “Salads” and “Plates.” Starting with the Shares, we found the star to be the Hummus. Made with a touch of currried onions and served with a pickled cauliflower, garbanzo bean side, the hummus was tasty and surprising enough to be interesting, while still being recognizable as hummus. The Mac & Cheese was the only thing we tried that was disappointing. We all thought they could eliminate the crab meat—which did not make much of a showing—and potato, and introduce more and more flavorful cheeses. We are all so used to very creative and flavorful mac and cheeses these days, that this version seems underwhelming.

We tried several salads, and the winner here for us was the Steak Salad. If you order it, do not expect salad in the traditional sense. Slices of perfectly grilled and seasoned skirt steak are served with three wonderful sides—almost no salad greens to speak of. The steak was so good, I would be excited to see the chef tweak this into an entrée.

The Plates, or entrees, that we tried were wonderful. The Sesame Crusted Pork Chop was the juiciest pork chop I have ever had. Admit it, juicy is not a word one usually thinks of when describing pork chops—this one is different! And it was perfectly cooked with just a hint of pink in the center. The Gnocchi was served with jumbo grilled shrimp, corn and a truffle cream sauce to die for—it was everyone’s favorite. Every mouthful was like a dream, and I for one didn’t want it to end. But we felt the Carnitas Pappardelle just missed. The steak was so good, I would be excited to see the chef tweak this into an entrée.

The Plates, or entrees, that we tried were wonderful. The Sesame Crusted Pork Chop was the juiciest pork chop I have ever had. Admit it, juicy is not a word one usually thinks of when describing pork chops—this one is different! And it was perfectly cooked with just a hint of pink in the center. The Gnocchi was served with jumbo grilled shrimp, corn and a truffle cream sauce to die for—it was everyone’s favorite. Every mouthful was like a dream, and I for one didn’t want it to end. But we felt the Carnitas Pappardelle just missed.

In terms of credentials, there are many. Sandiegoville.com says, “The new restaurant and bar is a collaboration of familiar restaurant industry faces, such as Chef Mario Canaresi of BCCE San Diego—charged with designing the Madison Menu, to those better known for their design and cultural endeavors, including Jeffrey Fink, owner of M-Theory Music & managing partner of FLUXX, and ARCHISECTS, the industrial design firm behind FLUXX’s rotating themes. Partner and General Manager Matt Sieve, formerly of Isabel’s Cantina and third generation restaurateur, will run Madison’s day-to-day operations.”

Sieve talked about how they wanted to introduce Madison to the neighborhood before scheduling their public grand opening. From the looks of things, they are successful in doing that. The bar is busy, people walked in to eat and drink throughout the evening, and everyone seemed happy. They will have to address the breeze in the large open restaurant area during the winters, which, at least this year, is chillier and wetter than usual.

All in all it is a very welcome addition to our ever-growing list of neighborhood eateries. I hope that they extend their schedule just a bit, at least to include weekend brunches in nicer weather, as they said they might do soon.

**Madison***

6422 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92116

Phone: 619-269-6566

Website: www.madisononpark.com

Hours: Sunday—4PM—12AM

Monday—closed (Hours might differ on Monday holidays)

Tuesday thru Thursday—4PM—12AM

Friday and Saturday—4PM—1AM

**Think about the interior spaces. The bar area is spectacular, light and airy with plenty of room at the well-attended bar. They have a “curated” cocktail menu, and both times I was there, my friends ordered traditional manhattans, which, they both said, were wonderful.**

**The service, starting with the charming Alli, hostess and reservationist, was wonderful. In spite of being open only a week, their service was impeccable. Very attentive without being hovering, the wait staff had very detailed knowledge and informed opinions—when asked—of all the offerings.**

**The food menu is divided into “Shares,” “Salads” and “Plates.” Starting with the Shares, we found the star to be the Hummus. Made with a touch of currried onions and served with a pickled cauliflower, garbanzo bean side, the hummus was tasty and surprising enough to be interesting, while still being recognizable as hummus. The Mac & Cheese was the only thing we tried that was disappointing. We all thought they could eliminate the crab meat—which did not make much of a showing—and potato, and introduce more and more flavorful cheeses. We are all so used to very creative and flavorful mac and cheeses these days, that this version seems underwhelming.**

**We tried several salads, and the winner here for us was the Steak Salad. If you order it, do not expect salad in the traditional sense. Slices of perfectly grilled and seasoned skirt steak are served with three wonderful sides—almost no salad greens to speak of. The steak was so good, I would be excited to see the chef tweak this into an entree.**

**The Plates, or entrees, that we tried were wonderful. The Sesame Crusted Pork Chop was the juiciest pork chop I have ever had. Admit it, juicy is not a word one usually thinks of when describing pork chops—this one is different! And it was perfectly cooked with just a hint of pink in the center. The Gnocchi was served with jumbo grilled shrimp, corn and a truffle cream sauce to die for—it was everyone’s favorite. Every mouthful was like a dream, and I for one didn’t want it to end. But we felt the Carnitas Pappardelle just missed.**

**In terms of credentials, there are many. Sandiegoville.com says, “The new restaurant and bar is a collaboration of familiar restaurant industry faces, such as Chef Mario Canaresi of BCCE San Diego—charged with designing the Madison Menu, to those better known for their design and cultural endeavors, including Jeffrey Fink, owner of M-Theory Music & managing partner of FLUXX, and ARCHISECTS, the industrial design firm behind FLUXX’s rotating themes. Partner and General Manager Matt Sieve, formerly of Isabel’s Cantina and third generation restaurateur, will run Madison’s day-to-day operations.”**

**Sieve talked about how they wanted to introduce Madison to the neighborhood before scheduling their public grand opening. From the looks of things, they are successful in doing that. The bar is busy, people walked in to eat and drink throughout the evening, and everyone seemed happy. They will have to address the breeze in the large open restaurant area during the winters, which, at least this year, is chillier and wetter than usual.**

**All in all it is a very welcome addition to our ever-growing list of neighborhood eateries. I hope that they extend their schedule just a bit, at least to include weekend brunches in nicer weather, as they said they might do soon.**

**Madison***

6422 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92116

Phone: 619-269-6566

Website: www.madisononpark.com

Hours: Sunday—4PM—12AM

Monday—closed (Hours might differ on Monday holidays)

Tuesday thru Thursday—4PM—12AM

Friday and Saturday—4PM—1AM

**Thinking about the interior spaces. The bar area is spectacular, light and airy with plenty of room at the well-attended bar. They have a “curated” cocktail menu, and both times I was there, my friends ordered traditional manhattans, which, they both said, were wonderful.**

**The service, starting with the charming Alli, hostess and reservationist, was wonderful. In spite of being open only a week, their service was impeccable. Very attentive without being hovering, the wait staff had very detailed knowledge and informed opinions—when asked—of all the offerings.**

**The food menu is divided into “Shares,” “Salads” and “Plates.” Starting with the Shares, we found the star to be the Hummus. Made with a touch of currried onions and served with a pickled cauliflower, garbanzo bean side, the hummus was tasty and surprising enough to be interesting, while still being recognizable as hummus. The Mac & Cheese was the only thing we tried that was disappointing. We all thought they could eliminate the crab meat—which did not make much of a showing—and potato, and introduce more and more flavorful cheeses. We are all so used to very creative and flavorful mac and cheeses these days, that this version seems underwhelming.**

**We tried several salads, and the winner here for us was the Steak Salad. If you order it, do not expect salad in the traditional sense. Slices of perfectly grilled and seasoned skirt steak are served with three wonderful sides—almost no salad greens to speak of. The steak was so good, I would be excited to see the chef tweak this into an entree.**

**The Plates, or entrees, that we tried were wonderful. The Sesame Crusted Pork Chop was the juiciest pork chop I have ever had. Admit it, juicy is not a word one usually thinks of when describing pork chops—this one is different! And it was perfectly cooked with just a hint of pink in the center. The Gnocchi was served with jumbo grilled shrimp, corn and a truffle cream sauce to die for—it was everyone’s favorite. Every mouthful was like a dream, and I for one didn’t want it to end. But we felt the Carnitas Pappardelle just missed.**

**In terms of credentials, there are many. Sandiegoville.com says, “The new restaurant and bar is a collaboration of familiar restaurant industry faces, such as Chef Mario Canaresi of BCCE San Diego—charged with designing the Madison Menu, to those better known for their design and cultural endeavors, including Jeffrey Fink, owner of M-Theory Music & managing partner of FLUXX, and ARCHISECTS, the industrial design firm behind FLUXX’s rotating themes. Partner and General Manager Matt Sieve, formerly of Isabel’s Cantina and third generation restaurateur, will run Madison’s day-to-day operations.”**

**Sieve talked about how they wanted to introduce Madison to the neighborhood before scheduling their public grand opening. From the looks of things, they are successful in doing that. The bar is busy, people walked in to eat and drink throughout the evening, and everyone seemed happy. They will have to address the breeze in the large open restaurant area during the winters, which, at least this year, is chillier and wetter than usual.**

**All in all it is a very welcome addition to our ever-growing list of neighborhood eateries. I hope that they extend their schedule just a bit, at least to include weekend brunches in nicer weather, as they said they might do soon.**
All 18 cities in the region and the county, working together as the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), are considering placing a measure on the November ballot to fund infrastructure throughout the community by raising the regional sales tax by up to one-half cent. SANDAG is gathering ideas from the public on what should be included in the measure if one does get placed on the ballot.

Do you have thoughts about how to keep the San Diego region moving forward? Is your priority more investment in new and improved transit services, strengthening of the highway network, or enhancing local transportation by investing in roadway, bikeway, pedestrian, and transit upgrades? Perhaps you favor increased investments to reduce the risk of wildfires, or to clean up and restore water quality in our lakes and rivers and along our coastline.

By way of background, it’s important to remember that SANDAG recently approved San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan after three years of extensive public engagement, including input from our community. This plan will build on and add more choices to our region’s transportation system. The ballot measure under consideration could provide funds to help implement the Plan, and possibly other important improvements across the region.

SANDAG has been doing these types of projects and programs for decades. Since 1988, SANDAG has administered TransNet, the voter-approved half-cent sales tax for transportation. These funds have supported completion of more than 600 highway, transit, bike and pedestrian, habitat conservation, local street repair, and grant projects and programs that have kept San Diego moving forward.

TransNet also provides direct funding for local communities, including ones, to help pay for important projects and programs, including fixing potholes and building roads and bikeways.

A ballot measure could raise billions of dollars to fund these types of needed improvements throughout the region. You can help SANDAG by sharing your priorities and suggesting new ideas for regional transportation and infrastructure and other important needs at sandag.org/priorities.

Here are some easy ways to make sure your voice is heard:

Select Your Priorities Online

You can share your priorities with SANDAG by taking a quick online survey about the types of projects and programs that are most important to you. Visit sandag.org/priorities.

Attend a Public Meeting:

Provide your input in person at SANDAG Board and Committee meetings:
- Friday, Feb. 5th at 9 a.m. – SANDAG Transportation Committee meeting
- Friday, February 5th at 12 p.m. – SANDAG Regional Planning Committee meeting
- Friday, February 12th at 10 a.m. – SANDAG Board of Directors meeting
- Thursday, March 10th at 10 a.m. – SANDAG Board of Directors Retreat
- Friday, March 25th at 9 a.m. – SANDAG Board of Directors meeting

All meetings take place in the 7th floor SANDAG Board Room at 401 B Street in San Diego, except the SANDAG Board Retreat, which will be held at Barona, 1952 Wildcat Canyon Road in Lakeside.

This is everyone’s opportunity to weigh in with their priorities and ideas. As the City Council and Board of Supervisors representatives for University Heights, we appreciate you lending your voice to this important discussion.

County Supervisor Ron Roberts and City Council member Todd Gloria are long-time representatives of the University Heights community and have worked cooperatively on regional planning and transportation issues for the last seven years as board members and officers of both the San Diego Association of Governments and Metropolitan Transit System.

Help Shape The Future Of Our Neighborhood And Region

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS’ OPPORTUNITY TO HELP SET PLANNING PRIORITIES

By Supervisor Ron Roberts & City Councilman Todd Gloria

We have a simple message for everyone in University Heights: We want to hear your priorities for our neighborhood and for our entire region.

All 18 cities in the region and the county, working together as the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), are considering placing a measure on the November ballot to fund infrastructure throughout the community by raising the regional sales tax by up to one-half cent. SANDAG is gathering ideas from the public on what should be included in the measure if one does get placed on the ballot.

Do you have thoughts about how to keep the San Diego region moving forward? Is your priority more investment in new and improved transit services, strengthening of the highway network, or enhancing local transportation by investing in roadway, bikeway, pedestrian, and transit upgrades? Perhaps you favor increased investments to reduce the risk of wildfires, or to clean up and restore water quality in our lakes and rivers and along our coastline.

By way of background, it’s important to remember that SANDAG recently approved San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan after three years of extensive public engagement, including input from our community. This plan will build on and add more choices to our region’s transportation system. The ballot measure under consideration could provide funds to help implement the Plan, and possibly other important improvements across the region.

SANDAG has been doing these types of projects and programs for decades. Since 1988, SANDAG has administered TransNet, the voter-approved half-cent sales tax for transportation. These funds have supported completion of more than 600 highway, transit, bike and pedestrian, habitat conservation, local street repair, and grant projects and programs that have kept San Diego moving forward.

TransNet also provides direct funding for local communities, including ours, to help pay for important projects and programs, including fixing potholes and building roads and bikeways.

A ballot measure could raise billions of dollars to fund these types of needed improvements throughout the region. You can help SANDAG by sharing your priorities and suggesting new ideas for regional transportation and infrastructure and other important needs at sandag.org/priorities.

Here are some easy ways to make sure your voice is heard:

Select Your Priorities Online

You can share your priorities with SANDAG by taking a quick online survey about the types of projects and programs that are most important to you. Visit sandag.org/priorities.

Attend a Public Meeting:

Provide your input in person at SANDAG Board and Committee meetings:
- Friday, Feb. 5th at 9 a.m. – SANDAG Transportation Committee meeting
- Friday, February 5th at 12 p.m. – SANDAG Regional Planning Committee meeting
- Friday, February 12th at 10 a.m. – SANDAG Board of Directors meeting
- Thursday, March 10th at 10 a.m. – SANDAG Board of Directors Retreat
- Friday, March 25th at 9 a.m. – SANDAG Board of Directors meeting

All meetings take place in the 7th floor SANDAG Board Room at 401 B Street in San Diego, except the SANDAG Board Retreat, which will be held at Barona, 1952 Wildcat Canyon Road in Lakeside.

This is everyone’s opportunity to weigh in with their priorities and ideas. As the City Council and Board of Supervisors representatives for University Heights, we appreciate you lending your voice to this important discussion.

County Supervisor Ron Roberts and City Council member Todd Gloria are long-time representatives of the University Heights community and have worked cooperatively on regional planning and transportation issues for the last seven years as board members and officers of both the San Diego Association of Governments and Metropolitan Transit System.
New Year Un-Resolution
By Miriam Cuaperman

The first weeks of January are coming to a close and possible your New Year resolutions are long gone. If you set up to achieve one of the most popular New Year’s resolutions, losing weight, getting more organized, saving money, or getting fit, you can be in either two groups: the 8% who actually fulfill their resolutions or the 25 who have already given up a week into the year.

Why New Year resolutions don’t work?
Because they come from a place of “should,” they are lofty, with too much pressure on making a big lifestyle change that can be daunting.

How to end the cycle of broken resolutions?
Break it into smaller goals. For example, if your big resolution is about getting fit by going to the gym five days a week when you haven’t been to the gym in years might be setting yourself up to fail. What if you set up to meet 10,000 steps daily with the assistance of an app in your phone or wrist device? Going outside for a walk if you missed the gym is better than giving it all up for not going to the gym five days in a row. Think of S.M.A.R.T goal setting: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Timely.

My goal approach for 2016 is based on a word to inspire me for the year by focusing all actions on it. Some inspirational words can be: Believe, Joy, Simplicity, Fearless, Trust, Strength, Courage, and Growth. I challenge you to try this approach. It will provide you with laser clarity by taking all your big lifestyle plans and narrowing them down into a single focus. This year’s word for me is SIMPLICITY. My goal is to focus in living in moderate minimalism by valuing experiences over material possessions, and by letting go of what I no longer use, love or need, including thoughts, relationships, and habits. In place freeing me to do more of what I really enjoy and love. What is your word?

Miriam Cuaperman is a San Diego-based Integrative Nutrition Health Coach. She can be reached at www.miriamcuaperman.com or coach@miriamcuaperman.com.

CONTINUED FROM COVER

The San Diego Unified School District property is currently designated as “institutional” with a proposed change to Residential Medium allowing 15-29 du/ac. A small parcel of land along Park Blvd. adjoining this larger piece of land is currently used as office space and designated “Office/Residential” allowing 4-5 du/ac. The new plan proposes 0-74 designated “Office/Residential” allowing Blvd. adjoining this larger piece of land du/ac. A small parcel of land along Park to Residential Medium allowing 15-29 “institutional” with a proposed change property is currently designated as

The San Diego Unified School District

CONTINUED FROM COVER

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1

The city’s proposed plan would cause increased density & height on both sides of Park Blvd. in Area 1
University Heights and North Park

Call me for ALL your real estate needs!
619-871-0635

Mary Anne Stevens
Don’t make a Move without me!

Mary Anne Stevens is a Coldwell Banker residential real estate agent. She offers a wide range of services to assist you with your real estate needs in University Heights and North Park. With years of experience in the industry, she is dedicated to providing exceptional service and excellent results for her clients.

Coldwell Banker
619-871-0635
maryanneshomes@gmail.com
123 Camino de la Reina
Suite 100 South
San Diego, CA 92108
www.maryanneshomes.com
CalBRE #01034232

Mary Anne Stevens is a member of the University Heights Community Association (UHCA) and is a certified professional in financial services. She is dedicated to helping her clients实现他们的财务成功。

Roxanne Govari & Team
4637 Park Blvd | San Diego, CA 92116
(858) 778-0677
roxanne@pantherproperty.com
www.facebook.com/roxanne.govari
www.twitter.com/roxanne.govari
www.pantherproperty.com
www.youtube.com/user/pantherproperty

Roxanne Govari & Team are a Coldwell Banker residential real estate group. They offer a wide range of services to assist you with your real estate needs in University Heights and North Park. With years of experience in the industry, they are dedicated to providing exceptional service and excellent results for their clients.

We Can Sell Yours Too!!!

Scott Schechter, MBA, CFP®
Financial Advisor

Eagle Strategies, LLC
1048 Johnson Avenue
San Diego, CA 92103
sschechter@eaglestrategies.com
www.sschechter.com
619-350-3600

Eagle Strategies, LLC is a Registered Investment Adviser. Financial Advisor offering investment advisory services through Eagle Strategies LLC, a Registered Investment Adviser. Registered Representative offering securities through NYLIFE Securities LLC (member FINRA/SIPC).

Helping University Heights businesses and residents achieve financial success.

Properties Sold by Pemberley in 2015!

SOLD !!!
5735 Madison Ave
Sold for $597,000
3BR-2BA House
1,906 Est. Sq. Ft.

SOLD !!!
9511 Collier Ave
Sold for $368,000
2BR-1BA House
1,054 Est. Sq. Ft.

SOLD !!!
4932 San Cristobal
Sold for $435,000
3BR-2BA House
1,860 Est. Sq. Ft.

SOLD !!!
4101 McNeely
Sold for $460,000
3BR-2BA House
1,800 Est. Sq. Ft.

SOLD !!!
8755 University Ave
Sold for $539,000
3BR-2BA House
1,650 Est. Sq. Ft.

SOLD !!!
4730 Elwood
Sold for $499,000
2BR-2BA House
1,000 Est. Sq. Ft.

SOLD !!!
5613 Tennyson Ave
Sold for $489,000
2BR-2BA House
1,050 Est. Sq. Ft.

SOLD !!!
5505-5530 Wilson Ave
Sold for $899,000
2 Units 3BR-2BA
1,100 Est. Sq. Ft.

SOLD !!!
4946 Arizona St
Sold for $599,000
3BR-2BA House
1,430 Est. Sq. Ft.

SOLD !!!
4136-4140 39th Dr
Sold for $599,000
2 Units 3BR-1BA
1,100 Est. Sq. Ft.

Securities LLC (member FINRA/SIPC).