All celebrations related to spring are in full swing, and that old German hare still plays his role as a seasonal icon. Vintage baskets and 19th-century German depictions of Mr. and Mrs. Rabbit are harder to find these days. Antique shops are one source. We found some at the venerable Zac’s Attic on Adams Avenue, along with traditional Russian painted eggs. Ask owner Dave McPhetres to dig them out from his amazing clutter of collectibles. The antique malls along Newport Avenue in Ocean Beach are enduring sources for browsing. With antique shopping gone from bricks to online, it is hard to find traditional candies made in Torino, Italy. Also find baskets in Little Italy that qualify as fine art at Kazuo Kuwabara’s Oriental Treasure Box on Kettner, and Vitreum also has a booth at the Hillcrest Farmer’s Market on Sundays with delicate bonsai and unique glass flower holders.

While at the Hillcrest EM plant nursery, create a spring basket from the terrific selection of starter pots of herbs and lettuces at Whole Earth Acre. A variety of mints and thymes, lavender and chives, scented geraniums, and a few filmy ribbons... think of the basket of culinary joy you can create. Another culinary destination is the new Barons, 32nd St. and University Ave., with its carefully curated shelves. It’s the first grocery chain to feature an olive oil and vinegar bar.

Hessian Global Goods, the big red house on Park Blvd near Centre Street, is like a mini-Mingei museum, but Vivian and Verena also have fresh roasted coffee, teas, bulk herbs and spices by the pound, and a few unique baskets.

Have your nails painted in Easter-egg colors. Original Skin & Body Care—Easter-egg colors. Have your nails painted in Easter-egg colors. Original Skin & Body Care, located near Meade, can provide palazzo purples and lavenders, perfect pinks, and the “E” color yellow, robin’s-egg blues, and “Greens Come True.” Yup, that’s a color.

In Balboa Park, the flower festival Art Alive is April 27-30 at The San Diego Museum of Art. Our UH neighbors Florabella will participate for the umpteenth time and Carlos Franco of Green Earth Acre returns to perform his floral magic in the rotunda.

—The Unknown Shopper

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Whatever happened to those papier-maché egg containers that open into two halves? You could stuff them with many-colored jellybeans, pastel Jordan almonds, and tiny foil wrapped chocolate eggs! The more common cartoon bunnies and Easter goods are found in grocery and big box chains, but I say pooh to plastic!

Asenti Pasta in Little Italy is one of the places you still find traditional candies made in Torino, Italy. Also find baskets in Little Italy that qualify as fine art at Kazuo Kuwabara’s Oriental Treasure Box on Kettner, and Vitreum also has a booth at the Hillcrest Farmer’s Market on Sundays with delicate bonsai and unique glass flower holders.

While at the Hillcrest EM plant nursery, create a spring basket from the terrific selection of starter pots of herbs and lettuces at Whole Earth Acre. A variety of mints and thymes, lavender and chives, scented geraniums, and a few filmy ribbons... think of the basket of culinary joy you can create. Another culinary destination is the new Barons, 32nd St. and University Ave., with its carefully curated shelves. It’s the first grocery chain to feature an olive oil and vinegar bar.

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—The Unknown Shopper
April is National Volunteer Month.

This means my column is an easy one to write because the community association’s volunteers accomplish all of the following:

- 62 uncomplaining volunteers deliver more than 4,500 copies of the UH News to homes, apartments, condos, and businesses throughout the entire UH community.
- More than 20 individuals contribute to this neighborhood newspaper by writing articles, conducting research and interviews, and supplying photos.
- Dozens of residents assist with the numerous clean-ups, help with Trolley Barn Park improvements, and pick up trash and weeds along the Washington Street medians.
- Volunteers sweep the Vermont Street Bridge regularly and pick up the trash that gets discarded on and around the bridge. Over the holidays, volunteers add lights and decorations to spruce up this gateway bridge.
- Grant applications are regularly submitted to improve the community, including three recent ones to place the Neighborhood Watch Signs, and to fund such programs as “Cycling in the Heights” and “Motes in the Park.”
- Thank to our city and county elected officials who continue to support UH, many of these applications are successful.

I feel very fortunate to have neighbors who care about others. Recently, I’ve been told how different our meetings are than those in other communities. We provide useful updates and recognize people for their contributions — whether it’s veterans who served our country or blockwalkers who deliver hundreds of newspapers ten times a year. These individuals work quietly to improve the quality of life in our neighborhood and make a difference. Most work without remuneration. I salute them for their willingness to volunteer year after year.

If you don’t already volunteer, won’t you join us over the next few months? Help us create the host the “Cycling in the Heights” event on May 20; work with us to make the Trolley Barn Park an even better place for individuals and families; and help us grow our membership and sell merchandise so we can continue to host the “Coffee with the Cops,” “Carnival in the Heights,” and “Lights in the Heights” — to name just a few of our unique community events. There are many ways you can help your community. Volunteer and make UH a better place for all of us to live and work.

### Data Entry Form

**Donor**

| Name: |  
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| City/State: |  
| Phone: |  
| Email: |  

**Volunteer Your Time on a UHCA Committee!**

- [ ] Beautification & Planning
- [ ] Blockwalkers
- [ ] Marketing & Merchandising
- [ ] Membership
- [ ] Program & Events
- [ ] Neighborhood/Zone Watch

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**NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS**

| GOLDFEN OSTRICH: Laura & David Caray | HOUSEHOLD: Walter Russell, Vanessa Eldredge & Jason Redditt, Dennis Mesnick & Sue West, Dorthea Sutiros, Richard Burhemen, Valerie Berg, Joan Emerick, Mary Lou Ruane, Patricia Egan & Meghan Wharton |

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**Blockwalkers Needed**

A group of UHCA volunteers, known as “Blockwalkers,” deliver 4,600 copies of the UHCA News ten times a year. We hope our volunteers deliver to your home, condo, or apartment, but we may miss your home. Our objective is to inform all our residents, both renters and homeowners, about our wonderful community and the news we believe is important to all of us. The UHCA News is available at two kiosks so far: Twiggs on Park Blvd. and Mystic Mocha on Alabama St. and Mission Ave. If you do not receive the News and would like to, please let me know. Better yet, become a “Blockwalker.” — Nan McGraw (nmcsan@aol.com).

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**University Heights Community Association** |

**UHCA OFFICERS**

- President: Carol Neidenberg
- Vice President: Maureen Markley
- Treasurer: Peter Rose
- Secretary: Kurt Hermansen
- Art Director: Andrea Bacal
- Creative Director: Paul Fresno
- Food Editor: Susan Holts

**UHCA News**

- Editor: Maureen Markley, Phyllis Kessel, Nan McGraw
- Contributing Writers: Carol Neidenberg, Michelle Fouwrick, Jill Briggs, Campbell, Nan McGraw, Ron Shaheen, Rod Girvin, Philip J. Gill, Isabel Schuetter, Tom Stringfield, Tommy Coyer, Brandon Butler, Sel Schumere, Andrea Bacal, Beth Jowordski, and Nan Schults
- Food Editor: Andrea Bacal
- Creative Director: Paul Fresno
- Art Director: Brooke Bedwell
- Advertising Director: Susan Holts

**University Heights Boundaries and Zone Watch**

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

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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 silhouettenews@yahoo.com. We retain the right to edit submissions for style and content.**
**UH URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM**

**NEW TREE LOCATIONS**

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**TREE MAPPING UPDATE: The Next Steps**
Here is a quick update on the tree mapping project. We’ve collected maps from all Zones in UH except for Zones 4, 5, and 6. With this information, we have identified more than 200 locations for new trees in the city parkways of our neighborhood! Thank you to all who took the time to collect information and get the maps back to the Beautification Team. After all paper maps of individual blocks and zones were collected, the information was consolidated into a central map. Looking at the map, we can begin to see patterns for streets that have the greatest need for trees. As they have the greatest amount of available space, Cleveland Avenue, Campus Avenue, and Madison Avenue look like promising locations to get the city to plant trees.

Streets trees provide a variety of benefits. They help to protect against air and noise pollution. Their shade helps to decrease the temperatures of sidewalks during the summer, which is a benefit to the numerous families and pets who live in our neighborhood. Studies have shown that residents in areas with more street trees experience better health. Street trees make our neighborhood look beautiful. And this is a project that we can easily work on together to increase the value of our neighborhood. The Beautification Team recommends choosing drought tolerant and native trees. Some drought tolerant and utility-line friendly trees to consider for our neighborhood might be Crape Myrtle, Lemon Bottle Brush, and the Desert Willow. Some native and utility-line friendly trees to consider are Toyon, Western Rosebud, Mountain Ironwood, and Desert Willow. For further information about specific trees provided by the Urban Forestry Department, please visit https://www.sandiego.gov/street/din/services/forestry.

View the tree selection guide at the bottom. Visit http://selecttree.calpoleycsd.org/ to get more information about a specific tree type.

Our next step is for the Beautification Team to contact the City of San Diego Urban Forestry Department to get started on where to plant trees. Remember that the City provides free street trees; they just need to know where to plant them. The City will come out and do its own assessment for dig safe and discuss possible tree choices with residents. We will then leave and record data for Zones 4, 5, and 6. Please contact me at fenwicmk@miamioh.edu to get involved. By our neighborhood working together to create a tree map, not only are we getting trees planted, but we’re also helping to make our neighborhood a better urban environment for all our residents. —Michelle Fenwick

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**SCREEnING THE CRIMINAL HISTORY OF POTENTIAL TENANTS**

**Housing and Urban Development Guidelines**

April is Fair Housing Month! As a followup to the presentation at UHCA’s January meeting, I wanted to give you some specifics about the recently released Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidelines. Under the federal Fair Housing Act (Act), housing providers/landlords must follow certain guidelines when screening potential tenants in order to avoid housing denials that result in discrimination.

A policy or practice will violate the Act when it has an unjustified prejudicial effect, even when there was no intent to discriminate. If a policy or practice limits housing on the basis of criminal history and negatively affects individuals of a particular race, national origin, or other protected class, then the policy or practice is unlawful under the Act; that is, unless it serves a substantial, legitimate, nondiscriminatory interest. Evaluation can include the use of local statistics. For example, studies have shown that Black and Latino males face discrimination, leading to higher rates of arrest and incarceration based on their percentage of the total US population.

A landlord or rental agent will be unable to show that a policy or practice is necessary to achieve a substantial and nondiscriminatory interest if the landlord does either of the following: excludes persons merely because of previous arrests without any conviction; or imposes a blanket ban on any individual with a conviction record. A provider with a more tailored policy or practice that excludes individuals with only certain types of convictions must prove that the policy serves a substantial, legitimate, nondiscriminatory interest. The policy must differentiate between criminal conduct that poses a risk to resident safety and/or property and criminal conduct that does not.

—Brandon Butler

To learn more, please contact Brandon Butler, at Legal Aid Society of San Diego, (619) 471-2623, or Brandon@lasd.org.

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**BUILD THAT WALL AROUND UH!**

Inspired by President Trump’s plans to build a wall along the U.S.- Mexican border, UHCA president Dan Freed wants to build a wall around University Heights. The wall would run along Texas Street from Mission Valley to El Cajon Boulevard and along El Cajon and Washington Street from Texas to 163rd. Freed says a wall 30 feet high, along with a form of a beer patrol staffed principally with RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol) members. The RSVP volunteers would undergo training with assault rifles and tasers that could be used as they enforce the UH border to ensure residents of Normal Heights, Hillcrest, North Park, or any other area don’t enter UH illegally.

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**FRIENDS OF OLD TROLLEY BARN PARK**

The Friends of Old Trolley Barn Park (FOTBP) are happy to announce some exciting upcoming events at the Park. On April 8th folks are invited to a community cleanup and beautification day at the Park. Roll up those sleeves, bring your rakes, gloves, and kids and pitch in to make our Park looks its best before the summer movie and concert events. Look for flyers around town with details.

We have also finalized our line-up for the Movies in the Park series. On May 20th, join FOTBP and UHCA for a bike-themed event and movie night featuring the Stephen Spielberg classic E.T. On August 20th, bring the family to enjoy the fun of the original Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. And on October 21st, celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Princess Bride. We will also include animated short films to start off the movie nights before small kids need to head home to bed. Start times will vary, so look for flyers. More details to come! —Jill Briggs Campbell

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**COMMUNITY HOUSING WORKS**

**Senior Apartments at Texas & Howard**

Our meeting on April 6 will feature a presentation and discussion of the Community Housing Works (CHW) project at Texas and Howard Streets, known as North Park Senior Apartments, although it is actually located in University Heights. The apartment project will be San Diego’s first LGBT-friendly, affordable senior housing community.

William Kelly, consultant for the LGBT Community Center, will address the opportunity for affordable senior housing provided by this project. He will discuss the qualifications for residency and the structure of the application process. For example, applicants who meet the age requirements for 55+ senior housing and who qualify as earning equal to or less than 60% of the Area Median Income (as defined by guidelines by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the State of California), will be eligible to apply and will be treated equally without regard to sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other protected class status or characteristic. Attend the UHCA April 6 meeting to find out more.

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In order to enter UH, non-UH residents would be required to obtain a visa-like document from the University Heights Community Association (UHCA). Freed said that visa applications from EMT personnel and family members of UH residents would be quickly approved. Non-UH residents would have no family ties who wish to visit one of UH’s many fine restaurants or coffee shops, however, would need to prove they have a parking spot lined up for the time they want to be in UH.

The cost of the wall is estimated at $250 million. Freed said the residents of Normal Heights and Hillcrest would pay for the wall, costing UH residents nothing. A random survey of Normal Heights and Hillcrest residents by this paper asking for comment on their willingness to contribute financially to construction of the wall principally generated comments that can’t be printed. —Anonymous
**APRIL SHOWERS BRING MORE THAN FLOWERS**

In San Diego, rain also brings a nuisance we aren’t used to coping with: MOSQUITOES! Although many of us are very happy to welcome the return of rain to quench the thirst of our gardens (and lower part of our bills dedicated to irrigation), precipitation also threatens to increase mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes reproduce by laying their eggs in standing water. A small amount of water standing in a flower pot or a palm frond is enough to perpetuate their life cycle. Mosquito larvae are greyish/black and look a little bit like a crooked ¼ inch cane. They tend to float near the top of a water source or you might see them wiggling in shallow water.

The best way to prevent mosquitoes from reproducing in and around your yard is to remove standing water. Check periodically and remove or reposition any items that might collect even a small amount of water. Also be sure rain gutters are properly sloped. Suggesting gutters can trap enough water from rain or condensation to support mosquito larvae. The best way to prevent mosquitoes from reproducing in and around your yard is to remove standing water. Check periodically and remove or reposition any items that might collect even a small amount of water. Also be sure rain gutters are properly sloped. Suggesting gutters can trap enough water from rain or condensation to support mosquito larvae.

Another way to prevent mosquitoes is to use fish or larvicides. I have a small fountain and a few small fish bowls/bowls in my yard. These features can be ideal places for mosquitoes to breed. I successfully and easily control larvae year round using the following methods.

I stock my larger water features with a few Gambusia species of small fish called “mosquito fish.” One or two Gambusia is enough to perpetuate their life cycle. Because Gambusia is considered an invasive species, it needs to be kept from invading any of our native water ways including rivers and lakes. You need very few Gambusia in your landscaping to control mosquitoes. If they begin to over populate, you may return unwanted fish to county vector control offices (see UH Phone Book) or local participating garden centers or bury them in your landscape. Do not release Gambusia into our lakes and rivers.

Another very easy, effective, and environmentally sensitive way to control mosquito larvae is to use a larvicide containing bacillus thuringiensis (BT). BT is a naturally occurring and ubiquitous compound. I use a product named “Mosquito Bait.” Mosquito Baits are small, domed-shaped disks that look like shredded bark. Float them in your water feature and they will slowly release BT. You can purchase them at most well-stocked garden centers or bury them in your landscape. I bought a package last summer and I still have 80 percent of them left. And I paid less than $10.

—Beth Jaworski

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**APRIL2017**
University Heights is a bike friendly community! Thus it’s no surprise that UH was recognized and awarded a grant from the iCommute GO by BIKE Mini-Grant Program to promote bicycling regionally. UHCA is excited to host our very own Oscar-themed, red carpet movie premiere on May 20th. This sponsored, free event is being dubbed Cycle in the Heights, and the featured film will be E.T. for the bike-in movie night at Trolley Barn Park. In conjunction, activities and free games will be provided, such as corn hole, hula hoops, lawn bowling, and many more.

Residents will notice our commitment to bicycle awareness month with community cycling artwork on street pole banners displayed around University Heights during April and May. Along the commercial district corridors, “Bike to Work” banners will be used to promote bicycling to work; official bike to work day is May 19th. “Bike Locally” banners will appear throughout the neighborhood to encourage bicycling as an alternative mode of transportation.

UHCA’s long term vision is to use part of the grant to partner with local businesses to provide light infrastructure, such as bike racks and corrals, in an effort to promote safe bike parking, reduce traffic flow, and create easier accessibility to the UH business district.

On May 20th, cyclists and movie buffs should plan to arrive by 7 PM at Trolley Barn Park, as the Cycle in the Heights movie premiere will start promptly at 7:15 PM. Residents are encouraged to ride bikes to the movie, and volunteers will be happy to valet bicycles so that UH attendees can find the perfect spot to watch the movie. Neighbors and friends, you can spread out on blankets or grab a favorite chair and enjoy a bag of popcorn while you catch this classic flick beneath the stars. As a bonus, cyclists will receive a valet ticket that will be entered into a raffle for prizes. If this is up your alley: please accept this formal invitation to fix your flat, dust off your bike saddle, and join your neighbors for an unforgettable evening at Cycle in the Heights. —Tommy Cope

—John F. Kennedy

“Nothing compares to the simple pleasure of riding a bike.”

—John F. Kennedy
**Birney Elementary School**

As we go to print, Birney is having its notoriously busy March before we go to break, returning on April 26th. On March 3rd, we hosted our annual Bedtime Stories event as part of the NEA’s Read Across America celebration. Students came in their pajamas with blankets and pillows to have Birney staff, parents, and community members read them stories. We were so thrilled to have Monica Lanctot of UHCA share her love of reading with us, along with Officer Jon Cooksey of SDUSD PD, Patrick of San Diego Fire Rescue Engine 5, Roxanne Gourav of Pemberley Realty, Josette Alvarez of Keller Williams Realty, plus Birney parents and staff members, including our principal, Amanda Hammond-Williams. The well-attended event was a great success and we hope community readers will return for future Bedtime Stories events.

On March 17th, Birney hosted its annual Run for the Green health and wellness fun run. Although the final numbers are not in, The Friends of Alice Birney Elementary would like to thank the following businesses and organizations for sponsoring Birney’s Run for the Green T-shirt: UHCA, the Imperial Court de San Diego, Jimmy Carter’s Mexican Café, Global Mortgage, Sorted Nest, Nexus Planning and Research, Mary Anne Stevens, Pemberley Realty, Baras Foundation, Lloyd Realty Group, Josette Alvarez of Keller Williams Realty, plus Birney parents and staff members, including our principal, Amanda Hammond-Williams. The well-attended event was a great success and we hope community readers will return for future Bedtime Stories events.

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The UH community is welcome to join the next Birney Night Out on Friday, May 12th at U-31 (3112 University Ave.) to support our International Baccalaureate program, beginning at 6:30 PM. In addition to great food and drinks, we will have a DJ, a raffle, and a silent auction. Donating a prize to our Silent Auction is a great way to get the name of your business in front of the families of our 560 plus students, especially those who want to patronize local restaurants, hotels, and services that support our local school. Contact us at alicebirneyfriends@gmail.com, or visit our website at FriendsofAliceBirney.org for more information. —Kim Schultz

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**ROO NEWS**

**Roosevelt Middle School**

Come Help Us Build a Mosaic Mural at Roosevelt IB Middle School!

The creation of our mosaic mural will be led by the non-profit arts organization — ARTS — A Reason To Survive (www.areasonsontosurvive.org). They also helped us create mosaics at another neighborhood elementary school. This organization is dedicated to assisting youth in building hope, self-confidence, resiliency, and 21st century life and work skills through art!

When:
- Saturday, April 8th - 9 AM - 4 PM (place mosaic tiles)
- Sunday, April 9th - 9 AM - 3 PM (grout mosaic tiles)

Where:
- Roosevelt IB Middle School
- 3366 Park Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92103

Meet in front of the office

The Project:
Leave your artistic mark on the Roosevelt Campus by helping to create a mosaic masterpiece! We are looking for enthusiastic artists, craftspeople, students, parents and community members to be a part of the team to make the mosaic mural with the guidance of Rob Tobin, from the non-profit organization, ARTS.

**NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!**
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
All you need is a willingness to try and a spirit of fun! Come for the day or just a couple hours. Any and all kinds of help will be welcome and appreciated! We’ll need help with set-up, tile sorting, tiling, runners, clean-up, etc. Make sure to dress to get dirty! We hope to see you there! Need info? email: info@friendsofroosevelt.org. This project has been funded by Friends of Roosevelt Foundation. Thanks to all those who donated to make this possible!
IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

At the UHCA meeting on March 2, Nan McGraw opened the meeting with an announcement about free refreshments and tote bags available for sale at the meeting. The attractive tote bags are made from recycled University Heights banners.

During the Crime Watch part of the meeting, Officer Ricardo Ploton reported that the Western Division has a new captain, Captain Paul Connelly, and two new lieutenants. He suggested that citizens concerned about loitering on their property (especially in carports off alleys) submit a letter of authorization for police to step onto the property to take any necessary enforcement measures. The letter of authorization can be found on the City website. Officer Ploton also mentioned efforts by the various divisions to reach out to the homeless.

For the regular part of the meeting, President Carol Noldenberg welcomed everyone, and announced that UHCA members would get a discount on the sale of the tote bags sold at the meeting.

Nan announced the upcoming celebration of the 20th anniversary of the University Heights sign on April 29 in the 4000 block of Park Blvd. Food, art, and music will be part of the festivities, which begin at 5 PM. Participating merchants include Muzza’s Albany’s Bistro (4651 Park), Meraki Cafe (1315 Adams), Emplio (4670 Park), Park & Rec (4602 Park), Red House Pizza (4615 Park), Soitan Banoo (4645 Park), Twigs Coffee House (4590 Park). Other merchants are expected to participate.

The evening will commence with a 5 PM welcome featuring Chris Ward, our newly elected Third District City Councilmember, County Supervisor Ron Roberts, and Kevin Whaley, a longtime UH resident who designed the sign 20 years ago. The kick-off will be in front of Park & Rec, 4612 Park Blvd. Other community residents, politicians, and public servants who were instrumental in steering and obtaining funding for the UH sign have also been invited but have not yet confirmed. At precisely 8 PM, there will be a special relighting of the UH sign in front of the old Mueller College building on Park at Madison.

A special shout out to John and John at Park & Rec and Abel at Muzza’s for their early and steadfast support of this event.

—Philip J. Gill

Philip J. Gill, Chair of the UH Sign 20th Anniversary Committee, can be reached at philipjgill@gmail.com.

ELECTRIFYING YEARS

Celebrate UH Sign’s 20th Anniversary on April 29th

Nothing symbolizes our community’s sense of pride and place more than the neon “University Heights” sign in the 4000 block of Park Blvd. To join your fellow UH residents from 5 PM on the evening of Saturday, April 29th, to celebrate the sign’s 20th anniversary.

On that evening, many neighborhood bars, restaurants, coffee houses, and merchants will offer complimentary samples of food and drink. Discounts available for anyone wearing anniversary wristbands, which can be purchased (for $10) at a desk in front of Twigs. Children under 12 are free.

Participating merchants include Muzza’s Albany’s Bistro (4651 Park), Meraki Cafe (1315 Adams), Emplio (4670 Park), Park & Rec (4602 Park), Red House Pizza (4615 Park), Soitan Banoo (4645 Park), Twigs Coffee House (4590 Park). Other merchants are expected to participate.

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THE CHIPS ARE IN
Friends of the UH Library

The University Heights Branch Library has joined the electronic age!

No, I don’t mean the bank of personal computers in the main room. They have been there for some time. I mean the new radio-frequency identification (RFID) system that was just installed during a two-week period ending March 11th. This makes the UH library the latest in the San Diego Public Library branch system to complete installation of RFID chips on all its books and “check-out-able” materials.

In case you’re wondering, an RFID system uses electromagnetic fields to automatically identify and track tags attached to objects—in our case, books and DVDs. The system involves three components: the ID tags themselves, an RFID reader, and a host system that collects and analyzes data. The tags, which also electronically store information about the item they’re attached to, are small computer chips about the size of a grain of rice that also contain an antenna that transmits data to the RFID reader. The reader, in turn, is attached to or transmits to the host system, where an application tracks checkouts and returns and helps our library staff gather data to better serve our visitors and their needs.

You have used them at department stores and other retail establishments, where RFID helps speed checkout, organizes inventory, analyze usage, and prevent theft. They are also used to identify lost pets. Well, for many of the same reasons, they will now be used at the UH library.

The most immediate impact on you, my fellow friends, members, and UH library patrons in general, is that they will help speed the checkout and return processes. This is all part of a general effort to continually improve your experience at the UH library and to make your time there more enjoyable. —Philip J. Gill

Philip Gill is President of Friends of the University Heights Library (philip@friendsofthelibrarygmail.com)

UTILITIES UNDERGROUNDING UPDATE

The City of San Diego devised a previous Master Plan for utility undergrounding in 2009, but failed to include critical information, such as the location of SDG&E substations. It used numerous faulty methods, including using fixed costs rather than actual costs for a given area. The City Council district offices also selected arbitrary project areas that were not logically or efficiently chosen.

In addition, the council district boundaries have changed since 2009, so the new plan will reflect the new district boundaries. As a result, the Utilities Undergrounding Program Master Plan is being updated to accomplish the following goals: to reflect current costs; to identify ways to make the process more efficient; to implement the project areas more quickly; and to minimize inconvenience to community members. To determine the order of implementation in different areas, priority will be given to areas near SDG&E substations (residential areas receiving the highest priority) and areas that provide the greatest public benefit (for example, if streets are being torn up for other reasons, such as SDG&E substations. It used numerous faulty methods, including using fixed costs rather than actual costs for a given area. The City Council district offices also selected arbitrary project areas that were not logically or efficiently chosen.)

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- A 77-page Utility Undergrounding Program (UPP) Master Plan Update: https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/draft_uup_master_plan_update_report10-25-13_final.pdf (PDF/pages 6 and 7 is a 2-page summary, if you want to read just that portion)
- City’s main Utilities Undergrounding Program Web page is: https://www.sandiego.gov/undergrounding/
- If you want to provide input to any of this process: https://www.sandiego.gov/undergrounding/overview/contact-form

MOSQUITO CONTROL IN UH

With the threat of West Nile Virus and the Zika Virus, the San Diego Department of Public Health has decided to take aggressive measures to control, if not eliminate, the mosquito population. DDT was widely used as a highly effective insecticide until it was banned in 1972 in the United States after it was discovered to cause cancer and pose a serious threat to wildlife, particularly birds. Given the threat of a mosquito explosion following all the rain over the winter, however, health officials have been weighing the serious threat to wildlife, particularly birds. Given the threat of a mosquito explosion following all the rain over the winter, however, health officials have been weighing the serious threat to wildlife, particularly birds.

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Between the Covers:
What’s Happening at the University Heights Library

FEATURED EVENT
Hullabaloo (4/12, 4 PM–5 PM)
Enjoy a free concert featuring the 2-man family favorite band, Hullabaloo.

ONGOING PROGRAMS & EVENTS
Children’s Weekly Program Schedule
Morning Story Time (Thursdays, 11:30 AM)
Game Club (Mondays, 4:30 PM)

Book Club
Last Wednesday of the month, 6:30 PM

Senior Mobile Tech Lab
Second Friday of each month, 2 – 4:30 PM
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 so on. 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, but you must register in advance by calling 619-471-2713. This is the number for the agency that provides the tutors, not the library.

The Tech Lab is a service provided by the Consumer Center for Health Education & Advocacy. Thank you, Tech Lab tutors, for the great service you provide!

Friends of the Library Book Sales
Shop for great bargains on books, movies, music, and more!
April 14, Friday, 3 PM-6 PM: Preview for Friends of the University Heights Library, members only.
April 15, Saturday, 8 AM-3 PM: Sale open to the public
April 16, Sunday 12 PM-4 PM: Bag-O-Books Special Deal.
All proceeds for the book sale go to support the Friends of the San Diego Public Library.

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.
—Isabel Schechter, Secretary, UH Friends of the Library

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

The April Book Club & Salon:
Toms River: A Story of Science and Salvation
By Dan Fagin
Published in 2013 and Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, this riveting true story of a small town ravaged by industrial pollution, Toms River blends hard-hitting investigative reporting, a fascinating scientific detective story, and a memorable cast of characters into a wide-ranging narrative in the tradition of A Civil Action, The Emperor of All Maladies, and The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks. Journalist Dan Fagin revisits the sixty-year story of rampant pollution and inadequate oversight that made Toms River a forewarning for fast-growing industrial towns from South Jersey to South China. As current examples, we now have Flint, Michigan (deliberate contamination of drinking water), and Aliso Canyon, California (SoCalGas leak from its natural gas storage facility causing evacuation of residents), as well as the impending disposal of nuclear waste from the decommissioned San Onofre Plant. Beware the possible elimination of the EPA!

Toms River, New Jersey, is a small town near the Jersey shore that developed around chemical industries and the wartime technology boom of World War II. While the author explores the history of this small town and the effects of its proximity to the local chemical plant, he focuses on the extremely high occurrence of childhood cancer which has been linked to the area’s air and water pollution. It is a well-documented tale of dumping at midnight and deceptions in broad daylight, of corporate greed and government neglect, and of brave families who fought a long legal battle, which resulted in a pioneering government study, the revelation of an extensive cancer zone, and a settlement of over $35 million.

Join the Book Club & Salon discussion on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 6:30 PM. The book will be available at the UH Library’s front desk during March/April. New members are always welcome!
UH Book Club & Salon
WEDNESDAY, April 26, 2017 at 6:30 PM
UH Branch Library
4193 Park Boulevard (at Howard Avenue)
619-692-4912

—Isabel Schechter, Secretary, UH Friends of the Library
WE MUST CREATE MORE HOUSING FOR OUR SENIORS

Last July, I had the privilege of making some brief remarks at a groundbreaking ceremony for North Park Senior Apartments, a 76-unit affordable housing project targeted at LGBT seniors located at the corner of Texas Street and Howard Avenue.

If my schedule were suddenly bursting with appearances at affordable housing groundbreaking events, I would be a very happy legislator. As it is, they come far too infrequently. Our state is experiencing a severe housing crisis that is increasing demand for affordable homes like the ones that will fill North Park Senior Apartments. We lost $1 billion a year for affordable housing when the state ended home sales.

Apartments. We lost $1 billion a year for affordable housing, generating hundreds of millions of dollars each year through a small recording fee on certain types of real estate documents, not including home sales.

SB 2 is part of a package of priority housing bills in the Senate that will help our state treat the symptoms of our serious housing crisis. It’s a meaningful action that low-income families — and seniors throughout California are counting on. —Toni G. Atkins

State Senator for California’s 39th District, which includes University Heights

We should be promoting this type of affordable housing project, adjacent to public transit and shopping centers, all across California to serve all constituencies, not just seniors or the LGBT community. This is exactly what I intend to work toward as your Assemblymember. In addition to serving on the Assembly’s Aging and Long-Term Care Committee, I have the tremendous honor of being named by Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon as Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Housing Affordability for the Working and Middle Class. This appointment gives me the opportunity to lead future policy efforts in the Assembly related to housing affordability. I intend to work with my colleagues in the Legislature to examine successful projects, like the North Park Senior Apartments, so we can replicate this success in other California cities. It is of the utmost importance to me that our state realizes its obligation to take care of the trailblazing generations that made possible everything we value as Californians. —Tod Gloria, State Assembly Member, 78th Assembly District

California’s Housing Crisis

California is in the midst of a housing crisis. Rents in nearly every city have increased, squeezing household budgets and preventing many from entering the housing market. The lack of affordable housing has a greater impact on some of our most vulnerable populations, including senior citizens.

With one in five California seniors living in poverty, the housing crisis makes seniors more susceptible to homelessness than ever before. The ability of California’s seniors to live independently depends on giving them the freedom to choose where they live and to control their life circumstances.

That’s why I was pleased to support a first-of-its-kind, aging-in-place project in University Heights last year. Known as the North Park Senior Apartments, a 71-unit LGBT-friendly affordable senior housing complex located at Texas and Howard Streets, this community will provide cost effective housing as well as access to critical support services on-site.

One transitional housing program in San Diego for otherwise homeless seniors has 18 units and 60 people on the waiting list. An affordable apartment project in City Heights has 150 units and 170 people on the waiting list. Even many seniors who have homes are house rich but cash poor and have trouble maintaining their homes. The need is great.

I have a bill — SB 2, the Building Homes and Jobs Act — that will help. It will create a permanent source of funding for affordable housing, generating hundreds of millions of dollars each year through a small recording fee on certain types of real estate documents, not including home sales.

SB 2 is part of a package of priority housing bills in the Senate that will help our state treat the symptoms of our serious housing crisis. It’s a meaningful action that low-income families — and seniors throughout California are counting on. —Toni G. Atkins

State Senator for California’s 39th District, which includes University Heights

10 News University Heights Community Association | 4.2017 www.uhsd.org

FROM YOUR SENATOR

Penny and Her Thoughts

Woof’s Up, Neighbors!! I’m Penny. My parents and I are fortunate enough to live here in University Heights. We love walking the streets and saying “Hi” to friends like Einstein, Sebastian & Aggie, Mooches, Lola, or Tina and his cat, Carl. Sometimes on walks I’m given treats and I am especially appreciative of neighbors who share their water dishes. Thanks! I also love playing at Grape Street Park with my dogs, chasing bubbles, and soaking up the rays in the yard.

I first met my mom and dad at the Gaines Street Humane Society. They’re always telling folks, “We don’t know who rescued whom!” An upside of being a pound puppy. I speak four languages, Spanish (my native tongue), English, Farsi, and puppy sign language. So if our walking paths cross, I’m always eager to say “Hola,” “Hello,” “Salam,” or to exchange a sniff. Life is good in this Hood!

Get a pet? Got a story? Want some space for your pet? Send your story and a picture of your pet to Nan McGraw at nmcu@sd.com.
Universities Heights is very dark, partly because of a lack of street lights (see below) but also because we just don’t light up outside our homes. Most of us don’t even think about it, but we should. A brighter street is a deterrent to crime. All it takes is your porch light or solar lights in your yard. Let’s all remember to Light Up UH beginning with our own homes.

In August, 2006 the Universities Heights Community Association compiled a list of locations where street lights were needed to improve safety in our neighborhoods. We sent the list to then Councilmember Toni Atkins and also to the chief Operating Officer and Public Works Superintendent of the Street Department. The list from 2006 is provided below, but it is incomplete. Some neighborhoods, especially Zone 6, are not represented here. We need your input. Please contact Nan McGraw if it is particularly dark in your neighborhood, at nmcsan@aol.com.

- 4300 Louisiana Street (mid-block)
- 4400 Louisiana Street (mid-block)
- 4600 Louisiana Street (mid-block)
- Mission Avenue (at alley, between Mission Avenue and Louisiana Street)
- 1880 Mission Cliffs Drive (mid-block)
- 1400 Van Buren Ave.
- 1203 Pascoe Street
- 4100 Vermont Avenue
- 1241 Lincoln Avenue
- 1000 Hayes Avenue
- 1215 Meade Avenue (near alley)
- 4751 Lomitas Drive (pole present)
- Lincoln Avenue & Maryland Street intersection
- 4561 Rhode Island St (pole present)

In the meantime, light up your house, your block, and your neighborhood!

—Nan McGraw

**University Heights Phone Book**

**Emergency (Police, Fire, Medical)** .......................................................... 911

**Non-Emergency** (Report suspicious activity/NHT-Homeless Outreach Team/etc.) .......................... 619-531-2000

**New app for non-emergency problems** .......................... www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done

**S.D. City Services non-emergency**

(Street lights, pot holes, etc.) .......................................................... 619-527-7500 or www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments

**S.D. City Services emergency storm damage** (fallen trees, flooded streets, clogged storm drains) .......................... www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments .................................................. 619-527-7500

**Alert San Diego** (reverse 911 notification of emergencies requiring evacuations)

for cell phones .......................................................... www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego

**2-1-1** (Free community resources Call Fresh, Medi-Care, Covered California, etc.) .......................... 211

**Abandoned Vehicles** .......................................................... 619-495-7556

**Alice Birney School Office** .......................................................... 619-497-3500

**Animals (Non-emergency)** .......................................................... 619-787-2875

**Brush and Weed Abatement** .......................................................... 619-533-4444

**Code Violations** .......................................................... 619-236-5500

**Crime Stopper Tip Line** .......................................................... 888-580-TIPS (8477)

**Department of Environmental Health** (public health nra/poll) .......................................................... 619-694-2888

**Downed Power Lines** (SDG&E) .......................................................... 800-411-7342

**Emergency Water/Sewer Repair/Sink Holes** .......................................................... 619-515-3525

**Narcotics /Suspect drugs/Arson/Underwew/Undercover** .......................................................... 619-531-2468

**Retired Senior Volunteer (RSVP)** .......................................................... 619-692-4945

**SDPD Community Relations Officers**

David Surovil (dsurovil@lpd.sandiego.gov) .......................................................... 619-692-4545/692-4821

Ricardo Pinon (rpinon@lpd.sandiego.gov) .......................................................... 619-692-4545/692-4821

**SDPD Western Division**

5215 Gaines Street .......................................................... 619-692-4800

**Shopping Cart Pick-Up Service** .......................................................... 800-252-4613

**University Heights Public Library**

4100 Park Boulevard .......................................................... 619-692-4912

**Zone/Neighborhood Watch**

Nan McGraw .......................................................... 619-280-0668

**Graffiti** (in progress 911), report to Graffiti Control .......................... apps.sandiego.gov/streettoiv

**Email photos** .......................................................... Cericson@pd.sandiego.gov & Ricardo Pinon (rpinon@pd.sandiego.gov)

**Kehoe announced that community block grant funding would be given to the University Heights Community Development Corporation (UHCCD) for construction of a UH street sign. The UHCCD sponsored a community-wide contest for an aesthetic design to use as a concept from which the final design would be adapted. More than twenty contestants presented their designs at the September 1994 UHCCD meeting. Kevin Whaley’s design won because it contained strong symbols of University Heights’ history: cobblestone pillars (reminiscent of Mission Cliffs Gardens), rattles (the Bentley Ostrich Farm), and a cable car (the Trolley Barn that housed trolleys).

On April 3, 1997, University Heights celebrated the official lighting of our newly constructed sign spanning Park Boulevard. Diplomatists included Mayor Susan Glickman who officially lit the sign, City Councilmembers Christine Kehoe and Byron Wear (at the time, we were split between two council districts), and County Supervisor Ron Roberts. They bowed the elements that rainy April 3rd evening along with hundreds of neighbors to support and celebrate our community Kevin stated in his address that evening that “In a few minutes when the switch is thrown, the identity crisis (where is University Heights?) will be over. Like the first cable car that made its way into University Heights 110 years ago, our new cable car carries the message that University Heights is a great destination—a destination that has preserved its historical integrity. And, like their plumed fire fathers that manned the Bentley Ostrich Farm in Mission Cliffs Gardens, our new ostriches stand watch over our neighborhood, reminding us that University Heights is a historic and unique San Diego Community.” Kevin went on to thank the Young Electric Sign Company, David Heiven (deceased, former owner of Bourbon Street, now Park & Rec) for his vision, Ernestine Brinn and Chris Milnes (of the UHCCD) for their fundraising efforts, and Janet Wood at the City for insuring a smooth construction project. Many more players were involved, including Ron Johnston and Mary Anne Stevens as outgoing and incoming presidents of UHCA.

Thank you to all who contributed to the sign’s construction and celebration 20 years ago. University Heights finally had an identity right in the heart of our community because of you.

**University Heights Sign: Responsible Parties**

**Mission Hills Community State**

**SAT APRIL 29TH 8-NOON**

**FURNITURE • ART • BABY & TODDLER GEAR • ELECTRONICS DVD’S • BOOKS • HOUSEHOLD • CAMPING GEAR • GARDEN ANTQUES • BAKED GOODS • OVER 50 PARTICIPATING HOMES!**

Maps of participating homes and lists of items offered at Coldwell Banker 1621 West Lewis Street on the day of the Sale after 8am! 619-800-1103
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Scott Schechter, MBA, CFP®
Financial Advisor

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