We hope you will join us for the November 2 UHCA meeting. We have lots on the agenda, so there will be something to please everyone. A sampling:

Our guest speaker will be Christy Jaynes, who will discuss Entertaining for the Holidays, including suggestions on food, table settings, floral design, etc. Christy is a young entrepreneur with several years in the home design retail business. She currently owns Kiko & Sven, a shop on Adams Avenue, and she was a previous co-owner of Progress in South Park.

Because we are at the height of pumpkin season, we are all about pumpkins! We will provide a variety of pumpkin treats for you to sample at the November meeting.

We will honor our neighborhood Trash Angels who work long and hard to keep our community clean and attractive. Our Angels are: Amy Waterman, Sol Schum, Andy Lange, Jeffrey Harding, Rod Girvin, Robert Dowell, DeJaan Bentford, and Barbara Noyer.

Of course, we will have UH merchandise for sale (T-shirts, tote bags, etc.), and we encourage you to buy University Heights merchandise for holiday giving.

November is the kick-off for UHCA’s annual Giving Tree for Birney Elementary School students. The tree will be featured at our November and December meetings.

A bundle of upcoming holidays are staring down at us from the calendar about now. Whether you are having a romantic dinner for two, a picnic on Thanksgiving, or an open house for the whole neighborhood, you are looking for new ideas. Creating a special ambience from the front door to the table depends on time of day and season.

Pick a November theme (perhaps the blazing fall colors of a New England forest or the seashell tones of a beach), a December one (a fantasy of snowy white and icy sparkle), or traditions handed down in your family. Set the mood with sunny SoCal colors at an outdoor picnic or after sunset, with the golden glow of lots of candles throughout the house. Gather a pile of pumpkins and feathers or ravage the yard for evergreen boughs and ornamental berries.

If your cupboard contains small collectibles of some sort—snow globes, paper weights, mini teddy bears or match books—a display down the center of the table can provide a theme and spark conversation.

History might inspire as well. Renowned hostess Pauline de Rothschild, at Chateau Mouton-Rothschild, famously created table landscapes of fresh moss, weeds, and ferns on her selection from hundreds of tablecloths and 180 different sets of china.

Next UHCA Meeting Nov 2
Entertaining for the Holidays, All About Pumpkins (With Treats) & More!

Alice Birney Elementary
Auditorium / 4435 Campus
6:45 Crime Watch 7:00 Meeting
THE TRASH ANGELS: THE HEROES OF THE 'HOOD

There are many unsung volunteers in University Heights who contribute to our sense of community and neighborhood pride by keeping Uh1 looking great. This month we salute those who perform one of the least desirable but critically important tasks: trash removal.

The University Heights Community Association created the Trash Angel Program to deal with the ugly reality of emptying the trash receptacle on the Uh1 side of the Vermont St. Bridge. (No, the City does not empty that trash bin.)

Our Trash Angel heroes are Amy Waterman, Sol Schum, Andy Lange, Jeffrey Harding, Rod Girvin, Robert Dowell, and Dejuan Benford. The “Queen” Angel is Barbara Noyer. Without her, the program would be much more difficult. Barbara lives near the bridge and allows the Angels to put stinky bags of trash in her black bin. She then pushes the bin to the curb every week for pick up. Several of the angels have steadily volunteered since the program was created in 2015.

Usually the satisfaction of volunteering—seeing your accomplishments, pride and sense of community, and the camaraderie of working together—is its own reward. Occasionally we have the ability to add to that by personally and publicly acknowledging our volunteers. UHCA will be singing their praises and offering small tokens of our appreciation to these silent heroes of the ’hood at the November 2nd Uh1 Meeting (6:45 pm, Alice Birney School Auditorium). Come offer your thanks in person to the Uh1 Trash Angels.

PLUME

THE HEROES OF THE 'HOOD

Our own Thanksgiving table, she arranges the lathe-turned candles she carries in hues of fall with lots of pumpkins and tree bark. A buffet of charcuterie, fromage, and savory bites might include decor like the crazy-wild knitted sausages at Maison en Provence in Mission Hills. Yes, knitted, not edible. Murray’s Cheese inside Ralphs, the deli at Whole Foods, Venison in various spots including Mission Hills, or Herb & Estery, the boho-glossy deli and takeout in Little Italy, all can provide the edible goods.

Check out the new coffee cart on Hussian’s Park Blvd. front yard, while gathering up and checking out the new coffee cart on Little Italy, all can provide the eatable goods. Uh2, spots including Mission Hills, or Herb & Estery at Whole Foods in Mission Hills. Yes, knitted, not edible. Murray’s Cheese inside Ralphs, the deli at Whole Foods, Venison in various spots including Mission Hills, or Herb & Estery, the boho-glossy deli and takeout in Little Italy, all can provide the edible goods.

President's Corner

Carol Neidenberg

A friend recently told me about an app that helps her sleep. The purpose is to relax you enough that you can be hypnotized to sleep soundly through the night. In one part, there’s a suggestion that asks you to think about what you’re grateful for. Despite having a loving spouse, a cuddly, fun-loving, my friend could think only of her dog!

I soon began thinking about what I’m grateful for. I am grateful that I grew up in a family that was loving and supportive despite several life-changing hardships. However, I lived in a safe and protective community filled with neighbors we had known for years, and I didn’t even think about violence or strangling harm us. I’m grateful that I had a childhood filled with good memories. I am grateful that I have a kind daughter who is happy and healthy. I am grateful for my friends and family, and the health I enjoy. And yes, I am also grateful for my sweet and friendly cat.

I love living in university Heights. I love it here. I have wonderful neighbors where people know each other and watch out for each other. I love that so many people roll up their sleeves and try to improve the community and make a difference – no matter what they do – whether it’s a volunteer project once a month or once a year.

So I am grateful to you, and wish you and your family a very happy and healthy holiday season.

In Case you missed it last Month, you missed a hot one

City Councilmember Chris Ward, the keynote speaker at last month’s meeting, spoke to a packed auditorium at Birney Elementary School (UHCAs October 5, 2017, general meeting had standing room only, given the raging debate about short-term rentals in San Diego.

Our meeting started with comments from SDPD Officer Ricardo Pison and San Diego Deputy City Attorney Han Hirshman. They are available to help us address crime in our neighborhood.

Then, Councilmember Ward addressed UHCA member concerns about San Diego’s horrible Hepatitis A outbreak and about construction projects in Hillcrest, North Park, and University Heights.

But most compelling was Councilmember Ward’s responses to sometimes hostile questions from San Diego residents about short-term vacation rentals. Many questions were presented in a civil manner because they were written on index cards and read by a neutral moderator (Bernie Horn). But some audience members delivered their questions with a heap of emotion, which many found to be an unpersuasive method of delivery. But emotions run high when short-term rentals result in the loss of sleep or quiet enjoyment of one’s residence. Rowdy applause arose when Councilmember Ward stated that short-term rentals are illegal in San Diego! But the excitement abated when Ward said we don’t have enough police for code enforcement. The controversy over short-term rentals was not solved at UHCA’s October 5 meeting, and it is not going away anytime soon in San Diego and other tourist destinations. All city council members I have in this neighborhood work hard to become experts on the problems and potential solutions to the burgeoning short-term rental business bonanza.

Editors Meeting Note: To those who attended our first UHCA sponsored activity, we want you to know that the October meeting was not representative of our monthly meetings. The signs, the protests, the behavior, and the banners on rental trucks do not represent UHCA’s position on STVRs. In fact, UHCA has not taken a position on STVRs. For the most part, the rude and disruptive people who tried to hijack the meeting were not UH residents at all. They belong to an organization called “Save Our SD Neighborhoods!” and they come to meetings all over San Diego to protest against STVRs. As a community organization, UHCA’s responsibility is to encourage open, civil, and democratic dialogue among residents, business owners, and elected officials. We believe it is possible to vigorously disagree with someone (other meeting attendees, the individual attempting to conduct the meeting, or our elected political representatives) without resorting to disagreeable tactics like catcalls, booing, and insults. And we make every effort to keep the discussions at our monthly meetings professional and polite, no matter how controversial the issue at hand.

--- from Page 1

For her own Thanksgiving table, she arranges the lathe-turned candles she carries in hues of fall with lots of pumpkins and tree bark. A buffet of charcuterie, fromage, and savory bites might include decor like the crazy-wild knitted sausages at Maison en Provence in Mission Hills. Yes, knitted, not edible. Murray’s Cheese inside Ralphs, the deli at Whole Foods, Venison in various spots including Mission Hills, or Herb & Estery, the boho-glossy deli and takeout in Little Italy, all can provide the edible goods.

Check out the new coffee cart on Hussian’s Park Blvd. front yard, while gathering up not only special coffees and teas for your party, but also tiny ethnic toys or textiles to decorate the table. No rules apply for innovation with plates, glasses and flatware. From Grandma’s Linges to mismatched items from a thrift store, be original. For the occasional serving piece, placemats and lots of paper party goods, Pigment in North Park is a good bet. Come spring, they’ll have a second location in Liberty Station.

Finally open (we hope) is Minou, a creperie on downtown’s Eighth Avenue. It is the offspring of popular Café Chloe on Ninth. Bonus news: Green Fresh Florals in Hillcrest now carries a line of indoor/outdoor furniture with a Mexican resort vibe, The Acapulco Collection.

Don’t miss the November 2 Uh1 meeting for more ideas on entertaining for the Holidays. –The Unknown Shopper
**MYSTIC MOCHA**

Although Mystic Mocha has been a mainstay as an excellent coffee and breakfast place in our neighborhood for quite some time, they recently added lunch service until 2 pm to their repertoire. You will find their lunch specials for the week on the chalkboard inside, which they change once a week. In addition, their regular, extensive breakfast menu includes many items that are appropriate for lunch.

Mystic Mocha is definitely a gathering place for surrounding UH neighbors. Free Event Wednesdays are held on the first, second, and third Wednesdays of the month from 10:30-11 am on the patio, geared for all ages and especially beneficial for unschooled or home-schooled children. Local professional storyteller, Walter Ritter, has been known to read a story or two:

- Storytime Serenity - 1st Wednesday
- Crafty Arts - 2nd Wednesday
- Circle of Instruments - 3rd Wednesday

Three of us gathered for lunch on an early fall day, sitting at one of the rustic picnic tables outside. The weather and conversation were delightful; but the flies, eager for our lunch, were a problem that needs to be addressed.

Each of us ordered one of the lunch specials. The cold Vegetarian Vegetable Sandwich was on a delicious toasted French roll. The medley of chopped onions, peppers, carrots, and mushrooms was delicious though a bit of a challenge to keep contained in the roll. It needed a bit of zing, like a dash of olive oil and red wine vinegar on the roll, a la an Italian deli. The chicken salad was accompanied by fresh tomatoes, salad greens, and tasty grapes. It was delightfully absent of too much mayo, which is usually the case.

All three of us opted for iced tea with a slice of lime. Tempting for next time was the vast array of coffee drinks and beer, hard cider, and a selection of French wines.

Although dessert is not the focus of Mystic Mocha, their wonderful breakfast pastries are available if you crave a little something sweet (but not overly sweet) at the end of a meal. Muffins and scones, including vegan varieties, combine different fruits and nuts on a daily basis. Oh, and those scrumptious chocolate chip/peanut butter/coconut/walnut cookies, which also come in a gluten-free form. We did a blind taste-test and could not tell the difference between the gluten and gluten-free varieties. And, just to top things off, we split a delicious banana milkshake three ways, which Natalie was kind enough to pour into demitasse cups for us!

The service was very good. Owners Francis and Natalie provide a warm and friendly style of hospitality at their petite café. —UHCA News Editorial Staff

**UH Book Club & Salon**
6:30 pm
UH Library

**Book Sale**
(open to the public)
Friends of the Library, UH Library, 8 am - 3 pm

**North Park Planning Committee**
North Park Christian Fellowship
2901 North Park Way
6:30 pm

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

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**UHCA News Editorial Staff**

**Mystic Mocha**
2105 Mission Ave.
University Heights
619-688-0858
Hours: Every day, 6:30 am – 2 pm

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

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**UHCA News Editorial Staff**
STUFFING OR DRESSING?

Is it stuffing or is it dressing? It depends on what part of the country you’re from. That geographic orientation may also dictate the ingredients in your favorite stuffing recipe. There are as nearly as many variations on ingredients as there are people who love stuffing. My husband’s family (from Vancouver BC) always prepared a rice-based stuffing with the turkey, but my family (from the Midwest) preferred a bread-based stuffing with numerous variations. The cornbread stuffings originated in the Northeast and the South. In my very large family, my dad always made the stuffing, and he always made five different kinds: Sage, Apple and Nut, Sausage, Oyster, and Cornbread with Wild Rice and Cranberries. It sounds like a lot, but Thanksgiving dinner usually included at least 30 people, so there was plenty for everybody. The following recipe can be used for the simplest sage stuffing, or as the basis for an apple and nut or a sausage or a cornbread-cranberry version—or all of them combined. I have made stuffing with all variations, alone and combined, and all were delicious!

**Sage Stuffing With Variations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1½ cups unsalted butter</th>
<th>1 Tbs. fresh thyme, chopped</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 medium onions, finely chopped</td>
<td>(or 2 tsp. dried thyme)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1½ cups celery with leaves, finely chopped</td>
<td>2 tsp. dried rosemary, chopped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 cups leeks, thinly sliced</td>
<td>1 tsp. each, salt and pepper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ cups portobella or pre-cooked mushrooms, finely chopped</td>
<td>2 bunches fresh parsley, finely chopped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 cloves garlic, chopped</td>
<td>3 large eggs, beaten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ to 2 ½ cups of chicken stock or broth</td>
<td>5 to 6 cups dry white or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Tbs. fresh sage, chopped</td>
<td>whole grain bread, cubed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*(or 1 Tbs. dried sage)*

**DIRECTIONS**

1. Combine bread and cornbread cubes in a 12 x 17" roasting pan. Bake 20 to 25 min. at 350° until breads are dry and starting to brown at the edges. Cool and place in a large mixing bowl.

2. Melt 1 teaspoon butter in a large pan and break up and brown the sausage (if using). Remove sausage from the pan and drain on paper towels. Add remaining butter to pan and brown the bread cubes. Add onions, mushrooms, leeks, celery, cayenne, and garlic, and sauté until the vegetables are soft and most of the liquid from the mushrooms has evaporated. Stir in the sage, thyme, rosemary, and salt and pepper. Add the pepper to the mixture to the bread cubes and stir.

3. In a small bowl, combine the beaten eggs and 1 ½ cups of the stock or broth. Pour the stock mixture over the bread mixture and toss lightly to coat. Add more stock if necessary (up to 3 cups total) to keep the mixture moist (moist enough to hold together when lightly pressed, but not so wet it packs tightly). Stir in parsley, apples, nuts, and cranberries (if using).

4. Butter a large baking dish or lasagna pan. Spread the stuffing evenly in the dish, cover with foil, and bake in a 400° oven until heated through, about 30 to 40 min. Uncover and bake until the top is crisp and brown, about 30 min. more. Although it is traditional to bake the stuffing inside the turkey, modern practice does not consider this advisable because of the possibility of food-borne illness from improperly or incompletely cooked food.

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**American Market**

4395 Cleveland Ave.

296-8333

**Bahia Mexican & Seafood**

1985 El Cajon Blvd.

542-0540

**Bahn Thai**

4646 Park Blvd.

299-8363

**Bibi’s (big front door)**

4135 Park Blvd.

255-4100

**Cicada Restaurant**

2121 Adams Ave.

296-9152

**Cueva Bar**

2123 Adams Ave.

269-6612

**El Zarape**

4642 Park Blvd.

692-1652

**Fieval of East Africa**

2327 El Cajon Blvd.

955-8779

**Grains**

2201 Adams Ave.

269-5999

**Great Maple**

1451 Washington St.

296-8268

**Hope at Lafayette**

2231 El Cajon Blvd.

789-0358

**Hundred Proof**

4130 Park Blvd.

501-6400

**Le Cafe’s on Park**

4496 Park Blvd.

501-6038

**Loving Hut**

1905 El Cajon Blvd.

683-9480

**Mama’s**

4623 Park Blvd.

296-8586

**Mama’s & The Lafayette & Beline & Lobo**

2437 Alabama St.

688-2717

**Meraki Cafe**

1735 Adams Ave.

269-9618

**Muzita Abyysinian Bistro**

4651 Park Blvd.

546-7900

**Mythic Mocha**

4107 Mission Ave.

688-0697

**Park Boulevard Deli**

4504 Park Blvd.

295-1362

**Park House Eatery**

4574 Park Blvd.

295-7725

**Pizzeria Bruno Napoletano**

4207 Park Blvd.

269-1311

**Plumeria Vegetarian Cuisine**

4651 Park Blvd.

269-9989

**Pommeletrage Restaurant**

2331 El Cajon Blvd.

297-4007

**Pop E Co.'s**

4024 Park Blvd.

448-4440

**Red Fox Steak House**

2917 Adams Ave.

297-1317

**Red House Pizza**

4815 Park Blvd.

546-7430

**Small Bites**

4628 Park Blvd.

755-7988

**Solito Bistro**

4645 Park Blvd.

298-2890

**Sprouts Market & Deli**

4175 Park Blvd.

281-8283

**Summer’s Market**

4602 Park Blvd.

296-2054

**Twin Taps (beer and wine)**

2302 El Cajon Blvd.

542-9397

**Wing Stop**

1901 El Cajon Blvd.

297-9482

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

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GULLIVER’S CORN

Hands down, this is my favorite holiday recipe. Over the years, it has developed a major following and is the one dish I make that everyone requests. Even though I always double this recipe, there is never enough Gulliver’s Corn left over the next day! This recipe can be made ahead of time, then popped into the oven with the other side dishes while the turkey rests.

1 (16 ounce) bag frozen corn

1 cup whipping cream

2 tsp. salt

1 tsp. sugar

3 lbs. flour

3 Tbs. melted butter

3 Tbs. grated parmesan cheese

(see quality, aged parmesan for the best results)

½ cup grated parmesan cheese

2 Tbs. butter

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**THANKSGIVING WINE PAIRINGS**

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays. I love everything about the day, from pouring the first glass of sparkling wine while prepping the turkey to go in the oven to capping the day with a final glass of wine and a big slice of pumpkin pie covered with whipped cream. The question I am asked the most is what wines should I serve on this holiday? If you guessed Chardonnay and Cabernet, that response would be incorrect. Both of these wine styles tend to be higher in alcohol and neither complement the juicy turkey and rich side dishes.

I like to start the day off with a glass of dry Prosecco or Champagne. Both pair well with a festive mood and pair perfectly with any appetizers you plan to put out for your crowd of hungry guests. For guests who don’t like sparkling wines, a Grenache-based Rose from the Southern Rhone is always a great choice.

For the dinner itself, the best wine choices are a dry Riesling, preferably from Alsace, and either a red Burgundy from France or a medium-bodied domestic Pinot Noir. I can hear the gasps now—Riesling? Really? Yes, really. There is a common misconception that all Rieslings are sweet but this is not the case. Rieslings range from zero residual fruit sugar, which translates to bone dry on the palate, to very sweet. A dry Riesling with its beautiful, crisp acidity is always a great choice.

Once the dishes have been cleared and the leftovers put away, it’s pie time. You really want to go with sweet wines here to bring out the sweetness of the desserts. If you were to choose a dry wine, it would taste overly acidic. One of my favorites is a Grand Cru Gewurztraminer, which tastes like rose petals dipped in honey. Port, a wine fortified with a neutral grape spirit, is always a great choice, as well. —Jennifer Williamson

Jennifer Williamson is a professional wine consultant with Quigley Fine Wines. You can contact her directly with any wine related questions at jwilliamson@quigleyfinewines.com.

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EATING OUT IN UH
**LIBRARY NEWS: FRIENDS OF THE UH LIBRARY AND THE UH BRANCH LIBRARY**

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**WE ARE THANKFUL FOR OUR FRIENDS**

As Thanksgiving and the winter holidays approach, our thoughts turn to the families and friends that have been a part of our lives, and to year-end planning and New Year’s resolutions.

The Friends of the University Heights Library is thankful for the many members who help us support our branch library. Our steadfast committee members attend our monthly meetings and work on programs and events throughout the year, including our annual August book sale. Our new and returning chapter officers provide vision and leadership to help us achieve our goals. Co-Presidents, Maureen Markey and Vickie Church; 1st VP, Nan McGraw; 2nd VP, MaryBeth Chruden; Treasurer, Peter Rose; and Secretary, Isabel Schechter. And our general members support the library through membership dues, donations, and volunteer service. To each of you, a sincere thank you for everything you do to support our community’s greatest resource.

Friends of the UH Library memberships are good from January through December, but if you join or renew now, your membership will be effective immediately and continue through December 2018. That’s an extra two months of membership for your dues. Please consider making a donation to the Friends of the UH Library. Tax-deductible membership dues and gifts are matched by the City of San Diego and are used to purchase books, materials, programs, and equipment.

Thank you for your continuing support of our branch library.

-Isabel Schechter, Secretary, Friends of University Heights Library, friendsoftheuhlibrary@gmail.com

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**BETWEEN THE COVERS**

Hello to all of our friends in University Heights! In a whirlwind of events, our new librarian, Alan Bugg, was just so good at his job, he got promoted to be the new manager of the Valencia Park/Malcolm X branch library. Alan, we were so glad to have you here, even for the short amount of time, and we are so sorry to see you go! We’ll try to do the polite thing and wish you well and not sob at your feet. Thanks to Alan, we’ve been able to envision the future of our branch library. Maybe next month will bring a new article by a new librarian! It could happen!

Swing by your library in November to see what’s up! Perhaps you’ll be one hosting the holiday dinner this year and you need a cook book on how to roast a turkey. We will show you our magnificent collection of cook books under 641.5. We have books on low sodium, vegetarian, baking, Paleo, juicing, and raw diets (not recommended for the turkey dinner). Maybe the guests at the kids’ table need to be entertained! Come by and check out some holiday books or DVDs. Let us know how we can help you have a smooth and easy holiday.

Speaking of Thanksgiving, the big news this year is that all libraries will be open during the Thanksgiving weekend. We’ll be closed on Thanksgiving, but open on Friday, November 24th, and Saturday, November 25th. This will mark the first time the UH Library has been open during that weekend in quite a while!

Here’s our schedule for November:

- Crafts on Saturday at 10:30 am
- Story Time on Thursday at 11 am
- Come and see Mad Science “Fun With Fossils” November 8th at 4:30 pm

Please note that there will be no steam story time this month.

See you soon!

- Erin Wilson, Library Clerk, University Heights Branch Library, (619) 692-4912, sandiego.gov

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**NOVEMBER BOOK CLUB AND SALON**

**EVERYONE BRAVE IS FORGIVEN BY CHRIS CLEAVE**

Chris Cleave’s new novel is set during the years 1939-1942 in London, where citizens had slim hope of survival during the ongoing blitz, and on the strategic island of Malta, which had daily bombardments by the Germans. The story follows the journeys of four young Londoners fighting their own personal battles from the outbreak of the war to the summer of 1942.

Cleave paints an emotion-filled portrait of a damaged city with its inequities amplified by war and also of courageous individuals whose connections to one another make them stronger. His storytelling involves themes of racism, class, female empowerment, and the emotional disruptions induced by war. Readers who admired the author’s 2009 bestseller, Little Bee, will find much to like in this one.

An interesting observation: the author revealed in his notes that his book was inspired by the lives of his grandpar- ents. His maternal grandfather served in Malta, and his paternal grandmother drove ambulances during the blitz.

Join the Book Club and Salon discussion. New members are always welcome! The book will be available at the UH Library’s front desk during October/November.

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**OUR UH HISTORY**

**THE OSTRICH STORY OF UH**

Told for 129 years, this tale never grows old. University Heights is one of San Diego’s oldest communities – one with a colorful and exciting history. Our story began in 1889 when the College Hill Land Association subdivided the land that bordered the City Park for the purpose of developing the University of Southern California College of Fine Arts. The lots were sold at “reasonable prices” and part of the cost was to go into a college building fund. However, a national recession stopped the construction. In 1898, the land was donated to build a Normal School, a teacher training college.

Today this historical site is the Trolley Barn Park, a crowning achievement of UIICA. The Park, inspired by the original Mission Cliffs Gardens, won a prestigious AIA Orchard Award in 1992. One hundred twenty-five years after its beginnings, UH remains a vibrant neighborhood, and the ostrich graces our pages as a reminder of our community’s proud heritage.

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**UH BOOK CLUB & SALON**

Wednesday, November 29, at 6:30 pm San Diego Public Library, University Heights Branch 4193 Park Boulevard (at Howard Avenue) 619-692-4912
Fall is here at Alice Birney Elementary, and the nation is celebrating our healthy habits. Birney was recently recognized as an Active School and as a National Healthy School award winner. Since we at Birney never rest on our laurels, we have a busy month of school and community events that we hope will be exciting for the whole neighborhood.

If you are a food lover, then join us on November 9 for Family Dinner Night at Chipotle in Mission Valley. Of the profits from the Birney Community’s purchases, fifty percent goes to fund our International Baccalaureate program at Birney. Visit friendsofalicebirney.org for a flyer to take into the restaurant.

During Taste of University Heights on November 12, make our award-winning Birney Garden grow by helping out in the garden, tasting the harvest bounty, and then heading out to enjoy the amazing food the University Heights restaurants are serving.

Book lovers can join us November 13-17 for the PTA sponsored Scholastic Book Fair in the Library. Come pick up some books for those special kids on your holiday list. The PTA-sponsored Bedtime Stories from 6:30-8 pm on November 15 is a special event for families to share the love of reading.

Hockey fans won’t want to miss Birney Night at the Gulls on November 15. Join us as the San Diego Gulls battle the Tucson Roadrunners. For tickets email alicebirneyfriends@gmail.com.

~ Naomi Stevens (President, Birney PTA) & Wendy DeCesare (President, Friends of Alice Birney Elementary)

Parking for December Nights at Roosevelt. 

Going to December Nights? Don’t waste your time looking for parking. Come to Roosevelt! It’s a win for all. For a $15 donation, you get close, convenient parking on the Roosevelt campus will be available beginning Friday, December 1 at 3 pm and on Saturday, December 2 at noon. Come see us!

Happy Thanksgiving From Roosevelt Middle School!

We had a great back to school night at Roosevelt on September 26. We are looking forward to celebrating Thanksgiving with family and friends during our break November 20–24. Happy Thanksgiving to all! –Laura Dadmun

University Heights (UH) is filled with kind, generous citizens who are happy to help those in need. The University Heights Community Association (UHCA) is asking that members of the UH community consider funneling that generous spirit into our holiday Giving Tree. Last year we received $1000 in donations. This year we would love to meet or exceed that amount. The Giving Tree was created to help the children and families from our local Alice Birney Elementary School during the holiday season.

The Giving Tree is filled with ornaments priced from $5 to $25 from stores such as Target, Toys-R-U, Ralphs, and Trader Joe’s. These allow a family to buy gifts or necessities for the holidays.

We will be featuring the holiday Giving Tree at our November and December UHCA meetings, where you will be able to contribute in any of the following ways:

- Select an ornament (or two or three) with a gift amount and store brand, then purchase the matching gift cards to bring to our December UHCA meeting.
- Purchase a gift card (or two or three) in any amount the next time you find yourself out shopping, and bring the gift cards to the November or December UHCA meetings.
- Donate cash, and a member of the UHCA board of directors will be happy to purchase the gift card (or two or three) of your choice and add it to The Giving Tree.

We are also happy to take your cash or gift card donations at any time before our final meeting of 2017. For more information on where to drop off donations, please contact Marcia Sorini at msorini@att.net — Marcia Sorini

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University Heights (UH) is filled with kind, generous citizens who are happy to help those in need. The University Heights Community Association (UHCA) is asking that members of the UH community consider funneling that generous spirit into our holiday Giving Tree. Last year we received $1000 in donations. This year we would love to meet or exceed that amount. The Giving Tree was created to help the children and families from our local Alice Birney Elementary School during the holiday season.

The Giving Tree is filled with ornaments priced from $5 to $25 from stores such as Target, Toys-R-U, Ralphs, and Trader Joe’s. These allow a family to buy gifts or necessities for the holidays.

We will be featuring the holiday Giving Tree at our November and December UHCA meetings, where you will be able to contribute in any of the following ways:

- Select an ornament (or two or three) with a gift amount and store brand, then purchase the matching gift cards to bring to our December UHCA meeting.
- Purchase a gift card (or two or three) in any amount the next time you find yourself out shopping, and bring the gift cards to the November or December UHCA meetings.
- Donate cash, and a member of the UHCA board of directors will be happy to purchase the gift card (or two or three) of your choice and add it to The Giving Tree.

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Our exotic and esteemed Madame Sorini judged the costumes at the Movie in the Park October 21

Brent Orlesky putting up one of our new Crime Watch signs.
**PET OF THE MONTH**

**CHLOE**

I met Chloe less than a year ago walking by my house with her owner. She was always eager to see me—and yes, treats were involved. I have no dogs of my own now, but Chloe brings me so much love and joy which has been absent in my doggy life for so long. After all this time, I finally asked the human on the other end of the leash her name, and if she would write up a little something about Chloe. Here is what she had to say:

Chloe will be eight years old November 8. We got her when she was 12 weeks old and living in New Jersey. She was so small she would disappear in the snow drifts. She now seems to have adjusted to the California weather—she loves to sunbathe on our brick patio. Her favorite treats are cheese, carrots, and frozen green beans. She is well-traveled. She’s driven across the country several times and loves the car. If you spot her, she would love to say hello; but beware of her sneak attack kisses! She can be very enthusiastic. —Renee Gregorio

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**TAKE A BAG, LEAVE A BAG**

We moved to University Heights nearly three years ago now. We knew we were lucky to live in such a great location, but we never imagined that it would be more than a central, trendy neighborhood. It’s a real community with real neighbors that have become almost like family. People always say good morning and acknowledge you as they walk by. They strike up conversations while your dogs give each other sniff baths. It’s the type of neighborhood people only dream about and see in movies. That’s how we feel every time we take out our fur babies, Derek and Mickey. Everything is all magical until we look on the ground and see recycled dog treats (dog poo) everywhere. Someone didn’t pick up. Someone knowingly left their dog’s waste to be someone else’s problem. We don’t get it. We are such a great community of like-minded, friendly, respectful people and yet there is this problem. If you use the Nextdoor app, you will find it’s a problem not only here but everywhere.

We decided to be part of the solution instead of complaining about it which does nothing. Our solution was to donate our time and materials to add doggie “Take a bag, leave a bag” stations around the area. We own both a handyman business (Handy Andy) and a craft/design business (Tools and Tattoos). Needless to say, we know how to solve problems and build. We tried to put up something not only useful, but also beautiful that adds character to the neighborhood. Each station is well thought out, with decor to match the look and feel of everything around it. Take a look for yourself next time you are out. We realize it’s ultimately up to the people leaving their piles of joy for everyone to step in, but we can at least make sure there is no excuse. Now go out and do the right thing. Love where you live! —Andrew and Ludy Robinson

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FROM YOUR STATE SENATOR

FUNDING BILL FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PASSES

San Diegans don’t need numbers to know how bad homelessness has become in our city. We just have to look around to see that we have a genuine humanitarian calamity in our midst. It has gotten so bad that it’s become a serious public-health emergency. Homelessness and disease is the tip of the iceberg when it comes to our state’s larger housing-affordability crisis.

At the recent end of our 2017 session, the Legislature responded to the crisis, passing a package of more than a dozen bills that address our housing problem in a comprehensive manner. The Governor signed the bills on September 29th.

The package includes my signature bill, SB 2, which creates a permanent source of funding for affordable housing. The bill’s most immediate impact will be on homelessness, especially in the first year, when half of the revenue will be used to get people off the streets and into safe homes with supportive services. After the first year, 70 percent of the funding will go directly to local governments to help build affordable housing for struggling families and individuals.

I have been working on this idea as my top priority since I’ve been in the Legislature, and I am grateful to my colleagues and the Governor for helping me get it across the finish line this year. We will have a lot of work to do to solve our housing crisis, but the bills signed in September represent a good start.

In all, I had 12 bills make it to the Governor’s desk, addressing issues such as environmental protection, civil rights, juvenile justice, human trafficking, healthcare, and public safety; they have until October 15th to be signed.

I’m already beginning work on legislation for 2018. My goal continues to be to help improve overall quality of life for people in our community of San Diego and across California.

– Toni G. Atkins, State Senator for California’s 39th District, which includes University Heights

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