VIEWPOINT

SAVE THE ED CENTER

When the Eugene Brucker Education Center was constructed in 1953, we lived in a very different time, one characterized by post-war optimism, urban expansion and a prospering economy. In this atmosphere, our city of San Diego constructed a forward-looking “education center” for the growing city. Today, the San Diego School District, under financial pressures, is considering the site away, leaving University Heights to face the developers. We do not know what the soon-to-be owners will do with the site, but considering the increase in neighborhood property values, the housing crisis, and the dense condominium/mixed-use construction throughout the area, it seems fair to assume we will soon see plans for a thick slab of condos built to the sidewalks.

The Eugene Brucker Complex should not be torn down. While change is inevitable, we can do our best to influence what will come; whatever happens to the site will greatly alter the neighborhood forever. Whether the Ed Center, through adaptive reuse, goes the (commendable) way of Liberty Station, housing, community services or something else, the building should remain.

For fans of modernist architecture, the building has many merits, with its rows of aluminum framed awning windows, glass-enclosed stairs, and asymmetrical massing at its entrances. It is not the delicate modernism of Irving Gill, which would be so influential to older parts of the city. Nor is it the post World War II architecture of slick corporate surfaces and painstaking details. It is, rather, a tougher modernism of post-war economic change that has been of great benefit in public service through education. It is the architecture of Brown v. Board of Education, desegregation, and the 1968 Bilingual Education Act. As such it is part of the spirit of progressivism and inclusion that characterizes this part of San Diego.

Keeping the Eugene Brucker Education Center standing, ideally under historic preservation, would allow the site to retain its present character. The open grass and mature trees around the property serve as an unofficial public park and are enjoyed every day by the community. Judging from published comments from other residents, these expansive open areas are understandably important to the community, one whose only other outdoor public space is the beautiful but distant Trolley Park.

The Ed Center is a valuable building to this community’s history and should remain a tangible piece of our past. It is not an imitation of an earlier form of modernist architecture; this is real “Midcentury Modernism,” with its ethics and progressivism intact. Unlike most of our historic architecture, this is a building that is not an imitation of an earlier form and the dense condominium/mixed-use construction throughout the area. It is not an imitation of an earlier form of modernist architecture; this is real “Midcentury Modernism,” with its ethics and progressivism intact.

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The topic for the next meeting is Ed Center Exchange Update: Richard Barrera, San Diego Unified School Board Trustee and representative for University Heights.

GARDEN OF THE MONTH

MUCH MORE THAN A GARDEN

When a homeowner is equally devoted to gardening, art and sustainability, the results can be amazing. In the case of Louisa Campagna’s garden, it creates a delightful environment that keeps evolving naturally. This is a woman who uses solar panels, plugs in her small electric car and channels rainwater into multiple barrels for a garden hose.

All About Gardens – Bill Tall

Bill Tall, owner of City Farmers Nursery, will be our guest speaker at the May 3rd meeting. Always entertaining, Bill will talk about his unique nursery and give down home advice about gardening and much more. If you haven’t been, City Farmers is a treasure chest of stuff. You can find everything from bee keeping equipment to solar ovens, Bag Balm, seeds, pond supplies, hydroponics, canning supplies, animal feed, and, of course, plants. It’s a great place to take your kids or just yourself. A family-owned, independently operated, garden center, Bill at age 16, started the nursery in 1972. Bill and his son, Sam, carry on this family owned business. It is a working farm where you can visit their animals, see bonsai, roses and California natives and eat at Nate’s Garden Grill. City Farmer’s naturally maintains every plant, bush, and tree as Mother Nature intended. The tradition of four decades of free advice—whether you want to create healthy soil or need help identifying bugs—they have the time and staff with the knowledge to make sure your garden projects thrive. The nursery is located at 3110 Euclid Avenue. The hours are 9:00 every day but Monday.

Come to this informative evening and experience Bill Tall, gardener extraordinaire.
JOIN, RENEW OR DONATE ONLINE AT UHSD.ORG.

YEARLY MEMBERSHIP

Donor

$_________ Donation for Keeping up the Good Work

(Donate as a member or non-member)

Business Name ____________________________

Address ____________________________

City/State ____________________________

Phone ____________________________

Email ____________________________

Referred by ____________________________

Yearly Membership

☑ $50 Household

☑ $45 Membership & mailed UHCA News

☑ $75 Business Membership

☑ $20 Golden Ostrich

Name ____________________________

Email submissions to uhcanews@yahoo.com. We retain the right to edit submissions for style and content.

Monthly Membership

Announcements about issues and events relating to University Heights. The deadline for submission is the 5th of each month. 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 each month. Email submissions to uhcanews@yahoo.com. We retain the right to edit submissions for style and content.

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

SHARE WITH US!

Volunteer Your Time on a UHCA Committee!

☐ Beautification & Planning Keep UIH beautiful.

☐ Blockwalker Help deliver newsletters to UIH residences and businesses.

☐ Marketing & Merchandising Promote UHCA via marketing/advertising, visual arts, photography, and product merchandising.

☐ Membership Help meet record goals for 2018 membership and meeting attendance.

☐ Neighborhood/Zone Watch Join your neighbors to keep UIH safe.

☐ UHCA News Write articles, take photos or sell ads; these are just a few of the many ways to contribute your talent, creativity and energy to our paper.

☐ Program & Events Plan and oversee the various events and general meetings.

Program & Events

Join your neighbors to keep UIH safe.

Volunteer Your Time on a UHCA Committee!

Join your neighbors to keep UIH safe.

Volunteer Your Time on a UHCA Committee!

Join your neighbors to keep UIH safe.

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Join your neighbors to keep UIH safe.
Fences, gates, walls. Do you think they make good neighbors? I understand the historical reasons for walls and fences. When the majority of people lived on farms, these types of barriers were used to keep cows from leaving your property and entering your neighbor’s. Nowadays there aren’t farm animals in the urban core.

For some reason, I’ve seen quite a few fences, gates, and walls being put up in our neighborhood recently. Attractive ones, white ones, stained ones, painted ones, short ones, and tall ones. So much new construction that I began wondering what started this trend.

First, I thought it had to do with increased crime. Having checked the SDPD crime stats, there doesn’t seem to be a trend worth mentioning. I also checked if there was a problem with the homeless from entering and sleeping on our properties. Found out that this is usually not a problem in most areas of UH. Perhaps then the walls & fences have more to do with dogs entering front yards and doing their business. Although UH is a walkable, dog-friendly community, I checked with my neighbors and didn’t get a consensus for that theory. The last observation to note is the substantial increase of young children in UH and their subsequent need to have safe play areas. After all, we only have one Trolley Barn Park.

I hope this construction trend isn’t a reflection of the political movement to build a border wall with our southern most neighbor. Instead it’s homeowners wanting to define their space, create extra privacy, and improve the value of their home. Plant a drought-tolerant front yard and take advantage of great weather. If so, I look forward to colorful flowers, fanciful yard decorations, and neighbors together enjoying one of the great communities in San Diego.

The Crime Watch portion of our meeting began at 6:45 pm. Officers David Surwilo and Ricardo Pinon were on hand along with Deputy City Attorney Han Hershman to address homeless issues and the fire under the Vermont Street Bridge. SDPD has a new division: Quality of Life Unit which will deal mainly with homeless issues.

Announcements were made by:
- Tyler Remer from Councilmember Chris Ward’s office: the fire under the bridge and undergrounding utilities in UH (more about those p. 10).
- Nick Serrano from Assemblymember Todd Gloria’s office: California legislature is undergoing the budget process now. Assemblymember Gloria authored a bill to help homeless youth and a bill to limit concealed weapons.
- Toni Duran from State Senator Toni Atkins for President pro tempore: congratulations to Toni Atkins for the remarkable achievement to be the first woman President pro tempore of the California Senate.
- Zach Runshaf from Congresswoman Susan Davis’ office: the omnibus bill passed with 3 billion for the National Institute for Health and an increase in HUD funding.

Surveys:
- IN CASE YOU MISSED IT
  - SURVEY RE FUTURE USE OF THE ED CENTER PROPERTY
    As explained in March’s News, the San Diego Unified School District will be exchanging their property at Park Blvd. and Normal St. for a property elsewhere in San Diego. There is still time to take the following survey in order to further our goal of providing crucial community input on this important issue as the SDUSD goes through the process. Please check as many potential uses of the property as you wish to indicate your preference. To submit your entry, please do one of the following: tear out the survey and return it to UHCA at the next community meeting, or email your response to Stuart McGraw UHCA Treasurer and Board member of Uptown Planners (uptownplannersca@gmail.com) or mail your response to UHCA, PO Box 33032, SD, 92163. Additional copies of the survey will be available at the next UHCA meeting.

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

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

COMING SOON: OVERLAY OF 619 AND 858 AREA CODES

In December 2016, the agency that manages telephone area codes forecast that the 619 area code would run out of phone numbers for new services by the first quarter of 2018. They decided the best solution would be to take the adjacent 858 area code, which has plenty of remaining unused phone numbers, and overlay it with the 619 area code. New 619 area code phone number requests could then be assigned an 858 area code phone number, and vice versa.

Beginning November 11, 2017, calls from the 619 and 858 area codes can be dialed as 1 + area code + telephone number, or callers can continue using just the seven-digit telephone number within the same area code as in the past.

However, beginning May 19, 2018, callers from the 619 or 858 area codes must include the area code for all calls. If you do not include the area code when dialing, your calls will not be completed, and a recording will instruct you to hang up and dial again.

Beginning June 19, 2018, new phone numbers in the former 619 region may be assigned numbers using the 858 area code, and vice versa.

What you need to do
- You must change your dialing procedure to include the area code. In addition all service, automatic dialing, equipment, or other equipment programmed to dial a 7-digit number will need to be reprogrammed to use the new dialing procedure. You should also update stationery, checks, advertising materials, Web sites, contact information, and personal pet ID tags to ensure the area code is included.

What will remain the same
- Your telephone number, including current area code, will not change. The price of a call, coverage area, or other rates and services will not change because of the overlay. What is a local call now will still be a local call regardless of the number of digits dialed. You can still dial just three digits to reach 858 as well as 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711, and 811. More information is available at http://www.cpac.ca.go.us/010005172c/. Jump to Toolbar.--Sol Schumer
I have been crossing different borders: real and imaginary, since I was a child. Sometimes with my mother to buy a few groceries and freshly ground coffee while my father was napping; or alone with my bike to ride the Imperial Valley roads and see the desert sunsets through my teenage eyes. As I grew up, there were more and different boundaries. Part imaginary, part real, is the border between University Heights and Hillcrest, as the bus passed over Lincoln Avenue and neither a sign nor an officer asked the driver to stop. Later, when I saw the rainbow flag on Normal Street, I knew that we were entering into our neighbor’s lively area.

Crossing borders in search of things I cannot find moves me, so I got off at the stop No. 10852, crossed the street looking to hear the buzz of a crowded coffee bar, to smell coffee in the progress of roasting and to taste a sandwich. But none of these three things occurred. Weeks before, at night, I passed in front of Better Buzz and saw a line of at least 12 or more people and no signs or alone with my bike to ride the Imperial Valley roads and see the desert.

Now I know when to go to this place filled with words and bee cells. Whether I am in the mood for a packed or uncrowded cafe, a still or moving coffee roaster, a purist or liberal drink and a family or an adult meal, Better Buzz has it all. –Felipe Gonzalez

EATING OUT IN UH

American Market 4395 Cleveland Ave. 298-8033
Bahia Mexican & Seafood 1985 El Cajon Blvd. 542-0540
Bahn Thai 4846 Park Blvd. 299-6363
Blu (big front door) 4130 Park Blvd. 255-4100
Circa Restaurant 2121 Adams Ave. 296-9152
Cuvee Bar 2123 Adams Ave. 269-6612
El Zarape 4642 Park Blvd. 692-1652
Flavors of East Africa 2322 El Cajon Blvd. 955-8778
Grains 2201 Adams Ave. 269-5099
Great Maple 1451 Washington St. 296-6268
Hope at Lafayette 2223 El Cajon Blvd. 780-0358
Hundred Proof 4130 Park Blvd. 501-6404
Lester’s on Park 4406 Park Blvd. 501-6638
Loving Hut 1905 El Cajon Blvd. 683-9409
Madison Mama’s Bakery & Lebanese Deli 4622 Park Blvd. 296-6666
1735 Adams Ave. 269-9018
Meraki Café 4651 Park Blvd. 546-7700
Mozza Abyssinian Bistro 2105 Mission Ave. 688-0958
Mythic Mocha 2106 Park Blvd. 295-1362
Park House Eatery 4514 Park Blvd. 295-7275
Pizzeria Bruno Napolitano 4027 Park Blvd. 260-1311
Pizzeria Luigi 2121 El Cajon Blvd. 284-9417
Plumena Vegetarian Cuisine 4651 Park Blvd. 269-9869
Pomegranate Restaurant 2312 El Cajon Blvd. 297-4007
Pop Pie Co. 4404 Park Blvd. 501-4440
Red Fox Steak House 2223 El Cajon Blvd. 297-1313
Red House Pizza 4616 Park Blvd. 546-7340
4828 Park Blvd. 795-7599
Soltan Baroo 4845 Park Blvd. 298-2901
Sprouts Market & Deli 4175 Park Blvd. 291-8287
Summer’s Market 4622 Park Blvd. 296-0504
Twiings 4506 Park Blvd. 296-0616
Twisted Taps (brews & chews) 2302 El Cajon Blvd. 542-9027
Wing Stop 1905 El Cajon Blvd. 297-9464

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

FIRE SCARE INSPIRES ACTION

Tuesday, March 27, 2018, was a beautiful spring day that began with every- one in University Heights (UH) going about their normal mid-week routines until suddenly around noon sirens, helicopters, and smoke intruded on the peace and tranquility of the community. The canyon under the Vermont Street Bridge was on fire.

Were it not for the actions of these first responders, the fire could have rapidly spread throughout the canyon and into UH due to the large number of dead trees, dense vegetation, and heavy accumulation of trash and debris from homeless encampments.

Maintenance of the canyon under and east of the bridge is the responsibil- ity of the city. Caltrans is responsible for the canyon starting 150 feet west of the bridge. The University Heights Community Association (UHCA) and its Beautification Team, along with numerous residents, have been re- questing both the city and Caltrans for years to get the canyon cleared of homeless encampments, dead trees, and brush. Only the camps have been cleared occasionally. The heavy accumu- lation of encampment debris and dead vegetation are unsightly and un- sanitary and during heavy rains would clog storm drains and ultimately end up in the ocean. The greater concern, however, has been the extreme poten- tial for a fire.

The UHCA Beautification Team will continue to work with the city and Caltrans to ensure that canyon main- tenance is ongoing to keep it clean, attractive, and fire resistant. Check the canyon for progress and do not hesi- tate to contact Councilmember Ward’s office at (619) 236-6633, christopher-ward@sandiego.gov, and President pro tempore Senator Toni Atkins’ office at (619) 653-3133 and express your con- cerns. -Rod Girvin

Louisa says, “I feel strongly about living as sustainably as possible and have tried to reflect that commitment in the garden, primarily in the choice of plants (cactus and succulents in the front, native plants in the back canyon area) and a water collection system.”

University Heights has featured this succulent/native plant garden on a tour in the past but this passionate gardener continues to adjust, nurture, and add her distinctive vision to a landscape that wraps around and spills down her canyon property. It has become a rare delight for anyone lucky enough to wan- der its distinctive paths up and down or stand on one of the many decks to view the layers of scenery.

Landscaping of this kind can trick the eye and make the garden feel more spacious than it probably is in square footage.

Louisa moved to University Heights 14 years ago and had never had a suc- culent garden before. She “inherited” many of the mature succulents in the front garden, like the 15-foot Madagascar ocotillo and several euphorbias. Her water-wise plan grew from there, with initial help from Michael Buckner, Deeter Buckner Design, (originally The Plant Man). “Michael added many new succulents, rock focal elements and river rock swales resembling creek beds,” says Louisa. “The back garden and terracing were the work of Greg Rubin’s company, California’s Own Native Landscape Design.” They specialize in native plants. Incidentally, Greg Rubin was named the 2018 Horticulturist of the Year.

A serendipitous occurrence was the arrival of Kioko Mwitiki from Nairobi, Kenya, when Louisa saw an exhibit of his metal animal sculptures at the San Diego Zoo. During a couple of summers he stayed in Louisa’s guest studio. As a result, “Several of his welded recycled metal animal sculptures like the goril- la and several hippos hang out in my garden,” she says. John McDavid, a University Heights resident and metal sculptor, made the elegant stylized tree railing in the back area.

Decks on three levels, plus the guest- house canyon deck, afford plenty of locations for potted plants and places to entertain, sit and enjoy the view across the canyon. Coyote and skunk, opossum, and raccoons are just some of the wildlife. Gophers are a problem in keeping some things thriving.

Living is on the top floor while Louisa has a working pottery studio on the level below, with rain chains and water barrels for collecting. Besides her own ceramics, she has collected pieces by others like well-known ceramist Lana Wilson.

A mosaic wall incorporates all kinds of broken pottery, old tools, and oth- er “found” objects from her garage, and an old soapstone tub is tiled as a fountain. Winding paths lead down the slope through a wilder garden of native plants like black, white and Cleveland sage, Artemisia, buckwheat, and Cean- othus (wild lilac). There also are Cata- lina ironwood, Manzanita, Eucalyptus and Brazilian pepper trees. Deep in the canyon, during a heavy rain, a streambed runs with water.

The critters that naturally slither and buzz around these slopes must find this is a paradise. The drought tolerant garden reflects Louisa’s fine example as a steward of the land. Not only can people enjoy the experience, but also all of nature’s living things that travel through or find a home here. -Phyllis Keese

Much More Than a Garden, cont’d from page 1

DISCOVER THIS VERY COOL COCKTAIL SUPPLY CO.

My daily exercise hike, this one around El Cajon Boulevard, yielded an intriguing small business that is easy to miss by auto-lomotion. Collins & Coupe, in its location just east of Utah St., is worthy of mention and repeat visits. Yes, it’s a retail supply where both home and professional bartenders can find supplies. But it’s much more.

It’s a friendly, one of a kind shop that is a source for both new product and vintage collectibles that range around the notion of interesting alcoholic beverages and entertaining with style. This time around we bought Orange Blossom Water for Middle Eastern recipes, the best authentic Maraschino Cherries and Dirty Sue olives for cocktails.

Owner Gary McIntire, with his co-owner wife, chef Logan Mitchell McIntire, has turned what must have been an obsession with collecting vintage bar goods, and a taste for sophisticated entertaining, into a charming enclave of irresistible items for our home gustatory adventures.

You’ll find a whole wall of new and vintage stemware, shot glasses, punch bowls, decanters, shakers, ashtrays, and a wall of shrubs, bitters, mixers, and syrups, plus lots more. As soon as the new freezer is in place, you will be able to buy clear, hand cut ice cubes. I never knew I needed them!

Bartending books for sale are starting to fill a shelf here. This is a great addition to the lore and practical knowledge of cocktail craft. Sign up with Gary and he’ll alert you to his next bartending class in the store.

Classes are small and range from Bartending 101 to more specific drink lessons. Gather a group of friends to book a class. Sometime in the not too distant future, a bottle shop/bar/restaurant called Native Spirits will open in the neighboring Ethiopian grocery and restaurant space after they move to another location. No date yet available but stay alert.

CYCLE IN THE HEIGHTS

"You can’t buy happiness, but you can buy a bicycle and that’s pretty close."

-Anonymous

For the second consecutive year University Heights (UH) has been recognized as a bike friendly community and awarded the iCommute GO by BIKE Mini-Grant. As a result, UHCA is excited to host our very own red carpet movie premier. The event is free and the featured film will be Breaking Away at Trolley Barn Park.

To build upon the success of last year’s Cycle in the Heights event, UHCA will donate three bikes to eligible students at Alice Birney Elementary selected by the faculty. The students will receive the bicycles and be honored at the Cycle in the Heights movie night May 19. Through an art contest, the school will encourage students to bike safely and promote biking as an everyday extension of fun and exercise.

Residents of University Heights will notice our commitment to bicycle awareness month with bicycle themed street pole banners that will be displayed from May to June. Along the commercial district corridors banners will be used to promote bicycling to work, and around the neighborhood as an alternative mode of transportation.

Cyclists and moviegoers should plan to arrive at 7:00 pm at Trolley Barn Park, as the Cycle in the Heights movie premier promptly starts at 7:30 pm. Residents are encouraged to ride bikes to the movie, as bike stalls will be provided. UH attendees can find the perfect spot to watch Breaking Away and friends can spread out on blankets or grab their favorite chair, a free bag of popcorn while you watch this bicycle movie cult classic. As a bonus, cyclists will receive a valet ticket that will exclusively be entered into a raffle for prizes. Please accept this complimentary movie voucher, and join your fellow neighbors for an unforgettable evening under the stars at Cycle in the Heights.

-Tommy Cope, UHCA Bike Czar

ON THE BOULEVARDS

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS GETS THIRD HISTORIC DISTRICT

HISTORICAL RESOURCES BOARD APPROVES VALLE VISTA TERRACE

Valle Vista Terrace has become the third historic district in University Heights (UH), joining Spalding Place, designated last fall, and Shirley Ann Place, designated in 2000, under Criterion A, Valle Vista Terrace under Criterion A and C for its historical and architectural value. The City of San Diego’s Historical Resources Board (HRB) designated Valle Vista Terrace as the newest historic district in UH with an upcoming special event, the featured film will be Breaking Away.

Under Criterion A, Valle Vista Terrace was designated because it played a part in UH’s early development as a “streetcar civilization” from its founding in 1907 through 1942. Under Criterion C, the new historic district encompasses 89 structures, with about 75 per cent of them considered “contributing resources.”

Under Criterion A, Valle Vista Terrace was designated because it played a part in UH’s early development as a “streetcar civilization” from its founding in 1907 through 1942. Under Criterion C, the new historic district encompasses 89 structures, with about 75 per cent of them considered “contributing resources.”

According to Save Our Heritage Organization (SOHO - sohosandiego.org), three Valle Vista Terrace residents challenged the historic district designation to the San Diego City Council, but their appeals were rejected as having no basis at the February 6, 2018, council meeting.

In July of last year, the HRB designated Spalding Place in UH as the community’s second historic district. Although it may appear to be an alley, Spalding Place is a narrow city street that runs east-west, just south of Adams Ave., from Park Blvd. (between Plumeria and Muzita’s restaurants) through to Georgia Street. Lining the quiet street are original and intact bungalows, mostly done in the Arts & Crafts style.

Shirley Ann Place, designated in 2000, is a narrow, one-block historic district running south from Madison Ave. to Monroe Ave., one block west of Texas. It comprises a charming set of 1920s Spanish Colonial Revival bungalows. An expansion of this district to include an additional 20 homes is being considered over the next few years -Philip J. Gill is the Special Projects Contributing Writer for UHCA News. If you are a business owner, shopkeeper, or restaurateur in UH with an upcoming special event, new menu items, holiday business hours, a remodel, or what have you, contact me at philip@art-design-and-style.com. I’ll do my best to get you included in this column.

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-Tommy Cope, UHCA Bike Czar

Cellar Door is also a venture by the McIntires, a private supper club for which he is the bartender and she is the chef. Bring a quarter, play the jukebox of vintage discs while you shop and absolutely immerse yourself in this unique shopping experience. -Phyliss Resell, Collins & Coupe, 619-727-4971.

Above: Find supplies and vintage glassware at Collins & Coupe. Photos: Paul Farris
THE UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESENTS
IN WIDE SCREEN INFLATARAMA UNDER THE STARS

BREAKING AWAY

CYCLE IN THE HEIGHTS MOVIE NITE • SAT MAY 19 • TROLLEY BARN PARK • 7:00-9:30 PM • 7:40 SHOWTIME
BIKE TO THE MOVIE & WALK THE RED CARPET • FREE VALET BIKE PARK, RAFFLE & POPCORN
THE FRIENDS OF THE UH LIBRARY
THE LIBRARY IS YOUR PASSPORT TO THE WORLD!

Disney World, the Grand Canyon, Paris, Tokyo, the moons of Jupiter. The library can take you there! Maybe not physically, but by reading a book about these places, you can get an idea of what it would be like to travel to, and maybe even live there.

In addition to actual travel guides for places I’ve visited, books I’ve read have taken me to New York, Argentina, Mars, and Moscow. This summer, the San Diego Public Li-

rary Summer Reading Program’s theme is “Reading Takes You Ev-

erywhere,” so I’m packing my bags and am ready to travel some more! The program runs from June 1st - August 1st, and you can sign up and keep your reading log entirely online.

Babies, toddlers, children, teens, and adults are all in-

vited to participate. There will even be prizes! Who can resist a trip to Tahiti AND prizes?

THE UH BRANCH LIBRARY
BETWEEN THE COVERS

Spring has sprung! What does that mean to all of you? Our Summer Read-

ing Program is RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER! Yippee! Prizes for READING! The theme this year is “Reading Takes You Everywhere.” Our Summer Read-

ing Program runs from June 1 through August 1. We encourage all of you (all ages) to check the library’s website and sign up starting June 1!

Schedule of library events for the month of May:

- We will be celebrating Asian/

Pacific American Heritage Month: Every Saturday, 10:30 am – 11:30 am (Arts & Crafts)
- Wednesday, May 9, 4:30 pm DIY Sand Art Air Plant Terrarium
- Thursdays May 10 & 24, 11 am Morning Storytime with Mr. Michael
- Friday May 11, 10:30 am STEAM storytime with Ms. Laura

All libraries will be closed on May 28 for Memorial Day

A list of programs coming this Summer: (All programs are on Wednesdays at 4:30 pm)
- Wild Wonders (Animals) June 6
- Dreamshaper - Georgette Baker (Entertainment) June 13
- Snapology (STEAM: Legos) June 20
- Sparkles the Clown June 27

We appreciate all of your comments and are working hard to make sure your library experience is enriched with good customer service! Thanks for reading!

Follow us on Facebook!
facebook.com/universityheightslibrary/

Like us on Yelp!
yelp.com/biz/san-diego-public-library-university-heights-branch-library-san-diego

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

THE FRIENDS OF THE UH LIBRARY
BETWEEN THE COVERS

Hats off to the organizers of two great University Heights Community Asso-

ciation (UHCA) events. One is under our beloved UH Trolley Sling and one in our Trolley Barn Park. The Univer-

sity Heights weekend of April 28 and 29 could not have happened without the organization of these two teams: the UH130 Team, organized by Philip Jr., Mary Anne Stevens, and Bernie Horan and the Tag Sale Team, organized by Julie Ruchtinsky and her helpers MaryBeth Chruden, Kristie Edgmond, Carol Neidenberg, and Shu McGraw.

Regarding the UH130, UHCA presi-

dent Carol Neidenberg says, “Our his-

toric San Diego community of Univer-

sity Heights was founded 130 years ago and we didn’t want to let this significant milestone pass without a celebration. We’ve received tremendous support from our Park Boulevard merchants for this event and want to invite the entire University Heights community, their friends and family, and neighbors, to come and enjoy the tastes and treats that our community has to offer.”

Thank you to participating busi-

nesses and restaurants including Ban Tai, Cecilia’s Fine Jewelry, Eden, El Zarape, Madison, Meraki’s, Musta’s Abyssian Bistro, Park & Rec, Parkhouse Eatery, Plumeria Vegetarian, Red House Pizza, Small Bar, Soltan Banoo, and Twig’s Bakers & Coffeehouse. A special thanks goes to Billy Watson & His Interna-

tional Silver String Submarine Band, providing music on the front patio at Park & Rec, graphic designer Paul Farris outdid himself as usual with a stunning graphic for the occasion.

We hope you participate and celebrate University Heights activities. More UHCA sponsored events are on the way such as the Movie in the Park May 19. Stay tuned.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Randy Wilde and Steve Doster, who were elected to the North Park Planning Committee (NPPC) on March 20. As many of you know, University Heights is split between two planning groups, Uptown Planners (west of Park Boulevard) and the North Park Planning Committee (east of Park Boulevard). We welcome Randy and Steve and look forward to their participation in the planning of University Heights.

BOOK CLUB AND SALON

ANGELS IN AMERICA: A GAY FANTASIA ON NATIONAL THEMES, BY TONY KUSHER

A quarter-century after stunning the theatre world and receiving numerous awards, including the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, this almost eight hour two-part play by American playwright Tony Kushner is making its return to Broadway in a limited production. A politically explosive play when it had its World Premiere in Los Angeles – Part One “Millennium Approaches” in 1992 and Part Two “Perestroika” in 1993 – it tackled Reaganism, Mc-

Carthyism, immigration, religion, cli-

mate change, and AIDS. A definitive work about the age of AIDS, it is still very timely, featuring political figures only vaguely familiar to many younger theatre-goers but to those who survive the 80s and 90s an impression that they are once again reliving those times.

Kushner was born in Manhattan but spent his childhood in Louisiana. Growing up as a gay Jew in the Deep South made him more conscious of his distinctive identity. He moved to New York City to attend Columbia University. Nothing in his early career predicted the overnight success of Part One followed by the play’s Part Two, which received similar acclaim. The author has continued to write plays and has authored a number of essays and op-ed pieces as well as delivering addresses at universities and political demonstrations. He has also collaborated as a script writer with Steven Spielberg on the movies Munich and Lincoln.

Join the Book Club & Salon discus-

sion on Wednesday, May 30 at 6:30 pm. The book will be available at the UH Library’s front desk during April and May. New members are always welcome!

UH Book Club & Salon
Wednesday, May 30, 2018,
6:30 pm
San Diego Public Library,
University Heights Branch
( at Howard Avenue)
619-692-4912

University Heights Community Association

www.uhad.org
FAMED JAZZ GUITARIST’S ARCHIVES FIND A HOME

Not everyone realizes that the world-renowned musician, Barney Kessel, was a resident of University Heights for 15 years, from 1989 until his death here in 2004. Recently a donation of his archives worth nearly $2 million was given to the University of Missouri/Kansas City (UMKC). This included audio and film recordings on VHS, DVD and CD that now are housed and being digitized in the Marr Sound Archives at UMKC. The library at UMKC also is cataloging a huge trove of photographs and papers, which date back to the 1940s. Eventually all this material will be available online and in person for research and other purposes.

Barney was on the road performing all over the world, and occasionally in San Diego, when he had a stroke in 1992 at his home in University Heights. That ended his playing career of almost 60 years, but later he did travel to Northern California, New York and Europe for concerts to honor him, while confined to a wheelchair.

Barney was a prodigy in the big band era and an early proponent of the electric guitar. Chios Marx, Artie Shaw, Charlie Barnet and Benny Goodman featured him in the 1940s and early 50s. His stint as the guitarist with the Oscar Peterson Trio in 1952-53, led to parallel careers as a recording artist in Hollywood and touring jazz guitarist with the likes of the Jazz at the Philharmonic. From the 1950s on he also performed with his own jazz trios throughout the Far East, the UK, Scandinavia and Europe.

Besides the dozens of his own recording, he played and recorded with all the jazz greats like Lester Young, Charlie Parker, Ben Webster, Art Tatum, Sonny Rollins and Oscar Peterson. The long list of jazz vocalists he recorded with include Ella Fitzgerald, Anita O’Day, Julie London, Billie Holiday, and Sarah Vaughan.

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Barney worked for decades in Hollywood, where he played on over 500 films when not touring. During the Carter administration he was a musical ambassador for the State Department in Asia. He played in the White house for both Presidents Carter and Nixon.

Barney loved living in University Heights. With his suitcase full of bow ties, his Walter Woods amplifier, and his guitar always packed, it was just a quick trip to the airport, whether coming or going. A true citizen of the world, UH was what he called Home…. –Phyllis Kessel

BIRNEY BUZZ

Birney’s largest fundraiser of the year, Run for the Green, is our annual jogathon in March. Each year students and families work diligently to raise funds by reaching out to the community to garner sponsorship for their running efforts. We broke our all-time record this year and raised over $42,000!

As a part of the event, we conducted a special opportunity drawing to reward the participants hard work. We’d like to extend a huge thank you to University Heights Community Association (UHCA) for the special donation of three bicycles to Birney. This has been a dream in the making and one of the face speaks volumes to the impact this gift has made. The other two bicycles have yet to be awarded but our gratitude is endless. Thanks to the support of our community, through donations, both monetary and in-kind. Thank you, University Heights!

On May 4, we’ll host the May the Fourth Be With You playground playdate. We will give away inflatable lightsabers to the first 100 kids. Everyone is encouraged to dress up in Star Wars costumes.

Teacher Appreciation week is May 6-11. We will be celebrating our teachers and staff and welcome the community to participate. Join us for dinner, drinks, and conversation on May 18 for our 2nd Birney Night Out at US1. We will have a silent auction and opportunity drawings. A generous portion of the proceeds will go to Alice Birney Elementary School – Ari Honarvar

ROO NEWS

Roosevelt’s Annual International Baccalaureate (IB) Festival is May 15

Roosevelt will hold its annual IB Festival on May 15 from 5 to 7 pm. This event will showcase all that an IB education at Roosevelt has to offer as well as spotlight student achievements and performances. Admission is free.

Free Performances of Once Upon a Mattress

On May 24 and 25, the Roosevelt Theater Company will present “Once Upon a Mattress,” a musical comedy adaptation of the fairy tale The Princess and the Pea. Performances are at 6pm in the Roosevelt Auditorium. Admission is free.

Roosevelt Students Win First and Second Place at Mathematics, Engineering, Science, and Achievement Competition.

Congratulations to our RooFriends sponsored MESA group – Mathematics, Engineering, Science, and Achievement – who participated the MESA Day Middle School Competition. Our student teams took 1st place in Prosthetic arm and Creativity Stick Together events and 2nd place in Bridge Structure and Wright Stuff Glider. They will soon be competing in a regional competition and we wish them the best of luck kids! –Laura Dadmun
Celebrating a Community’s Leaders
13 Decades of a Job Well Done

Government can help provide the tools, but a community’s ultimate success lies in the hands of its neighbors. With 130 years of hindsight, it is abundantly clear University Heights has benefited from generations of good community-based leadership. When it comes to the last 30 years, I can attest to those leaders’ skills.

Together, we have worked on many projects, including milestones such as replacing the Vermont Street Bridge, restoring Trolley Barn Park and building the University Heights gateway sign.

Going forward, we have sidewalk improvements, banners, and the concerts and movies in the park on the short-term to-do list.

As residents and visitors alike enjoy a vibrant mix of commercial, housing, recreation, retail and restaurants, we are properly removing.

To follow in those big shoes and contend with inevitable change, tomorrow’s leaders will need to bring their very best efforts.

The San Diego Association of Governments anticipates a 25 percent increase in population for University Heights, from 12,967 people in 2016 to 15,626 by 2051. Many of these new neighbors will be living in new housing, as the number of homes is projected to increase from 6,924 to 9,157. The number of jobs will expand by a third to 3,681.

Lest anyone think the path to 2050 is not yet worth pondering, consider that I’ve been involved with University Heights almost as many years as there are between today and that milestone!

Albert Schweitzer said, “Example is not the main thing in influencing others; it is the only thing.” I am confident there’s shortage of those who have been learning from those examples, and that the future of University Heights remains bright and in great hands.

—County Supervisor Ron Roberts represents University Heights as part of his Fourth Supervisorial District. You can follow him on Facebook at SupervisorRonRoberts, on Twitter at @RonRobertsSD and at www.RonRoberts.com.

From Your Supervisor

City Collaboration with our Community

Every day, my team and I are grateful for the opportunity to advocate for you at City Hall and better align city resources and initiatives with the priorities you have. Our best work comes out of that collaboration with, and feedback from, the community.

For instance, University Heights organized and individuals communicated in high numbers their desire to be included in the Utility Undergrounding 5-Year Master Plan. While we all have been paying a surcharge for undergrounding citywide, and for some, the planned work could extend out to the year 2065 or beyond, together we are making the case for shifts in the timeline. Because of that strong response, my office had the data to show City staff that the need and desire was great to have portions of University Heights brought up into the next five year schedule.

We are encouraging an addition of two super-block undergrounding projects in University Heights, allocated within the next year as part of the current Master Plan. Since current plans have scheduled undergrounding for the mid to late-2020s, this modification would represent significant progress and a win for the community.

The sections that may be selected would be medium-density and targeted to have the widest impact to serve the greatest numbers of residential units in the University Heights community.

Additional information regarding any possible projects is expected to be available in June when the Utility Undergrounding Master Plan Update comes to the City Council.

Meanwhile, residents are well aware of the large fire that occurred under the Vermont Street Bridge on Tuesday, March 27th. The Fire Department was unable to find any direct evidence pointing to an origin, but many suspect it was due to activity in the canyon and fueled by the dense, overgrown brush.

At my insistence, one week after the fire crews from the city, Urban Corps and Caltrans worked side-by-side to clean their respective areas of responsibility. This abatement addressed the encampments, trash and debris. Additionally, the Fire Department notified city staff and Caltrans of vegetation that requires further abatement. My office will regularly push for agency coordination to keep this fire and ensuring minimal damage to the surrounding area.

As we enter into May and community activities pick up, I hope to see you out in the neighborhood. If you need any assistance with city services or have ideas you’d like to share, please contact my liaison to the community, Tyler Renner, at (619) 236-6633 or trenner@sandiego.gov. And Happy 130th Anniversary to University Heights!

Councilmember Chris Ward – San Diego City Council, District 3

Continuing to work on a prompt, comprehensive response. I hope you’ll join me in thanking the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department for their quick response in putting out this fire and ensuring minimal damage to the surrounding area.

City Collaboration with Our Community

Our Political Representatives

U.S. President
Donald Trump
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202-456-1111/202-456-2461 fax
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California Governor
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San Diego Mayor
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San Diego City Council Member
Chris Ward, District 3
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THINK, THEN THINK AGAIN BEFORE YOU INVEST

My former professor, Richard Thaler, recently won the Nobel Prize in Economics. Thaler studies Behavioral Finance, describing human nature’s impact on financial decisions. Here are some of his findings:

Illusion of Control Bias: Many of us believe that with hard work, we can uncover a stock or investment that will make money and can’t lose. In reality, markets go up and down unpredictably. Even Thaler can’t explain the irrationality of the market. No amount of intelligence and diligence can change that.

Recency Bias: Lately, clients tell me they like equity investments. Some of these clients feared investing not long ago during the Great Recession. Thaler describes how recent events are more real in our memories so we give them more weight. We believe that the most recent market trend will continue rather than look at decades of history indicating that when the market is up, we might be better off selling a bit of our investments instead of buying more.

Confirmation Bias: We tend to find information and use explanations that confirm existing beliefs. Believing an investment is good makes us seek evidence that makes it seem even better. Potential negatives are often dismissed without consideration. A lot of things can impact our financial decisions, so think about your choices carefully. After you’ve done that, think again while considering how your decision may have been biased by your human nature.

–Scott Schechter, Agent, New York Life Insurance Company; Registered Representative, NYLIFE Securities LLC (member FINRA/SIPC), Financial Adviser, Eagle Strategies LLC, a Registered Investment Adviser; CA Insurance Lic. # 0E52659

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–Scott Schechter, Agent, New York Life Insurance Company; Registered Representative, NYLIFE Securities LLC (member FINRA/SIPC), Financial Adviser, Eagle Strategies LLC, a Registered Investment Adviser; CA Insurance Lic. # 0E52659
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