As we reported in last month's UHCA News, Lennar Multifamily Communities (LMC) has submitted plans for an 8-story, mixed-use apartment building on a 2.34-acre site directly across from the Birney Joint Use Playing Field (bound by El Cajon Blvd. on the south, Park Blvd. on the west, and Meade Ave. on the north). The plans include 375 apartments with 480 parking spaces, and 10 percent of those will be deemed affordable. Because the zoning for the site conforms to the 2016 North Park Community Plan Update, City staff can approve the project without public input (that is, ministerial approval) as long as it meets all zoning requirements.

LMC contacted UHCA President Carol Niemann to set up a meeting to discuss the project. We hope that this meeting will be completed in just over a year.

We would like to thank Councilmember Ward for his intervention on our behalf. If you are concerned about the impact of this project on our neighborhood or have suggestions for improvements, please let Councilmember Ward’s office know. Send messages to TWrenner@sandiego.gov. We will report on any further developments in regard to this project in next month’s newspaper. — Maureen Markey

Please join us at UHCA’s monthly meeting on Thursday, October 4, which is all about elections. If you typically look with dread at that election booklet with pages and pages of turgid language about all the ballot propositions, then we aim to make it easier. Here is your answer to becoming a well-informed voter!

Our featured speaker will be Professor Ron Shaheen, ably assisted by attorney Kurt Hermansen (he is also UHCA Secretary). Professor Shaheen will provide a thorough, understandable, and objective overview and analysis of several key propositions on the November 2018 ballot.

Proposition 6 (Voter Approval for Future Gas and Vehicle Taxes and 2017 Tax Repeal Initiative) is a constitutional amendment that would repeal the gas and diesel tax increases and vehicle fees enacted by the Legislature in 2017 and require voter approval for fuel tax and vehicle fee increases in the future.

Proposition 10 (Local Rent Control Initiative) would repeal a 1995 statute, the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act, thereby allowing local governments to adopt rent control ordinances.

Proposition 12 (Farm Animal Confinement Initiative) would ban the sale of veal, breeding pigs, and egg-laying hens confined in areas that are less than a specific number of square feet.

Residents of the City of San Diego will also vote on two rival initiatives dealing with the development of SDCCU Stadium, formerly known as Qualcomm Stadium, and the surrounding land. The “SoccerCity” proposal is supported by local business leaders, philanthropists, and soccer professionals. The second, the “SDSU West” proposal, is supported by several prominent local politicians and community organizations. Both proposals promise a renovation of the stadium, the creation of a park and river walk, and retail development, but there are also some significant differences.

UHCA will provide index cards for attendees to submit written questions or comments. During Professor Shaheen’s presentation, Kurt Hermansen will review the questions and summarize them to eliminate repetition. Thus attendees will have an opportunity to discuss these propositions and voice their opinions.

Please join us for this informative presentation and lively discussion on important issues. And don’t forget to vote in November! If you attend this discussion, you can enter that voting booth with confidence that you understand what you are being asked to vote on.

UHCA will also hold its annual election of officers at the October meeting.

— Ron Shaheen and Maureen Markey

MOVIE IN TROLLEY BARN PARK
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13
SUNSET (APPROX. 6:15 PM)
TOY STORY TERROR &
THE PRINCESS BRIDE

LOOKING AHEAD:
THE NEXT UHCA MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2018
ALICE BIRNEY ELEMENTARY
AUDITORIUM / 4345 CAMPUS AVENUE
6:45 pm CRIME WATCH, 7:00 pm MEETING

TOPIC #1: HOUSING PROJECT ON PARK BLVD. AT EL CAJON AND MEADE
TOPIC #2: THANKSGIVING
We hope to have a representative of Lennar at the meeting who will address community concerns about the project. If we are unable to get a commitment from Lennar, the meeting will be an open session to solicit community input about this project which can then be put into a letter to Lennar. For the second part of the agenda, the theme is gratitude. Come share with your neighbors your anecdotes, stories, or just a lot of the things you are thankful for this Thanksgiving season. Some holiday treats will be available as well.
MEMBERSHIP
JOIN TODAY AND HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE! OUR SUCCESS IS LARGELY DEPENDENT ON VOLUNTEER EFFORTS FROM AREA RESIDENTS LIKE YOU.

NEW / RENEWING MEMBERS

GOLDEN OSTRICH
Paul & Priscilla Heisel

Volunteer Your Time on a UHCA Committee!

- Beautification & Planning: Keep UH beautiful.
- Blockwalker: Help deliver newsletters to UH residences and businesses.
- Marketing & Merchandising: Promote UHCA via marketing/advertising, visual art, photography, and product merchandising.
- Membership: Help meet record goals for 2018 membership and meeting attendance.
- Neighborhood/Zone Watch: Join your neighbors to keep UH safe.
- UHCA News: Write articles, take photos or sell ads; these are just a few of the many ways to contribute your talent, creativity and energy to our paper.
- Program & Events: Plan and oversee the various events and general meetings.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BOUNDARIES AND ZONE WATCH

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

SLOW DOWN SIGNS

University Heights crime watch information and updates. Download more on the UH Zone Watch program at uhsd.org or contact your zone’s coordinator, or Nan McGraw.

DANGEROUS STREET SIGNS
Be on the lookout for the new signs that are now up. If you notice something that is not in place, please report it to the UHCA. New signs are placed with the cooperation of the city for the safety of all residents.

MOVING SLOWLY

San Diego city streets are now getting moving slowly signs. These signs are to remind drivers to mind the speed limits,

NON-EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency • Police • Fire • Medical
Non-Emergency Suspicious Activity, Homeless Outreach Team, etc.

City Services: Call沙00-411-7343 for live chat, 4-10 pm weekdays
1-800-273-TALK (8255). #BeThe1To at www.bethe1to.com; Website: up2sd.org; call local hotline at 888-724-7240
For immediate confidential, suicide crisis counseling 24 hours a day, seven days a week, call toll-free, San Diego County Access & Crisis Line, 1-888-724-7240. Other resources: Lifeline Chat at suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat,

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS NEWS

is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For more info, email membership@uhsd.org

University Heights Community Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization. A portion of your membership dues and donations, which go directly to programs and events that make UH the wonderful community it is. We greatly appreciate your support.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Suspicious Activity, Homeless Outreach Team, etc. 619-531-2000

SD City Services non-emergency: street lights, pot holes, etc.
online: www.sandiego.gov/safety/nu/Departments

City Services emergency: call 911

2-1-1 San Diego
Free Community Resources Call fresh, MedCare, Coved Medical California, etc.

Abandoned Vehicles
Alice Birney Elementary Office
Animals / Non-Emergency
Brush and Weed Abatement
Code Violations
Crime Stoppers Tip Line
Department of Environmental Health public health / rats / rodents
Downed Power Lines / SDG&E
Emergency Water / Sewer Repair / Sink Holes
Narcotics / suspicious drug issues / anonymous
Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP)

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

SDPD Community Relations Officers:
01-888-724-7240

SDPENews

SDPD Western Division 5215 Gaines Street

SSPD Division

Suicide Prevention—National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

911
619-531-2000
619-527-7500
619-527-7500
619-531-2000
619-527-7500
619-531-2000
619-527-7500
1-888-257-7500
1-800-273-TALK (8255).
1-888-724-7240.
800-273-7301.
1-888-424-3838.
1-888-724-7240.
1-888-724-7240.
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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Our jam-packed September 6, 2018, University Heights Community Association (UHCA) meeting included the following:

CRIME WATCH (6:45 pm)

Community police officers reported that a homeowner in University Heights shot a city worker who was working on water lines. The homeowner mistook the city worker (who will survive) as a threat.

The SDPD Western Division’s Crime Fighter of the Month Award was presented to Nan McGraw for decades of service and leadership in keeping our neighborhood safe.

A homeless encampment in the canyon below Panorama St. has resulted in burglaries in the neighborhood. Although the city does not clean up private property, SDPD does respond and conducts sweeps, but some homeless people return.

For reliable information on crime in the area, do not rely on Facebook or Nextdoor. Instead, go to https://www.crime-mapping.com/.

Community member requested that SDPD provide extra patrols at Trolley Barn Park and Birney Elementary School playing field to curb scufflaw dog owners who let their dogs run off leash.

COMMUNITY MEETING (7:00pm)

Announcements

The monthly UHCA meeting opened with announcements by VP Maureen Markey.

UHCA’s next Cookies With the Cops will be on October 10. See UHCA website and October News for locations and times. Mystic Mocha at 5:30 p.m. is the first of three stops.

Uptown Planners: Bill Smith reported that he was appointed at Tuesday night’s meeting that the DMV will undertake a major rebuild of its field office on Normal Street. Construction will start in 2020 and take about 13 months. Because the DMV is a state agency, the project is exempt from city planning regulations. See http://www.normalstreetdmv.com/.

North Park Planning Committee (NPCC): Randy Wilde reported on proposed historic districts in UH. A Park Blvd. residential historic district, and an expansion of the existing historic district on Shirley Ann Place. One of NPCC’s many projects includes the proposed undergrounding of overhead wires. See http://www.northparkplanning.org/.

Movie in Trolley Barn Park. Saturday, Oct 13, at 6:15 p.m. The Princess Bride and Toy Story Terror. Free popcornt and face painting!

 Beautification: Rod Girvin reported that UHCA’s major fall cleanup on November 10 will include planting at Birney Elementary.

UH Library:ibel Schechter reported that our new temporary branch manager is Zenia Gaspar.uish events and programming of the Library Week is next month.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Debbi Pacecca, a breast cancer survivor, joined by Steven Whitburn from the American Cancer Society, urged people to sign up online for the annual fundraising walk, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, on October 21 in Balboa Park. The 4.2 mile route starts at the corner of 6th and Laurel Sts. and includes walking on the northbound lanes of the 163 Freeway.

UHCA will elect officers for the upcoming year at its October meeting. Current slate of officers up for reelection includes: Carol Neidenberg, Pres.; Maureen Markey, VP; Kurt Hermansen, Sec’y; and Stu McGraw, Treas. No further nominations were received at the meeting.

JD Abercrombie announced an upcoming concert by San Diego’s homeless choir. See https://www.voicesofsource.org/.

ELECTED OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

Tyler Renner for Councilmember Chris Ward’s office:

City trucks are cleaning brush from under the Vermont Street bridge for fire abatement.

Councilmember Ward met with Lennar MultiFamily Communities (LMC) about the housing project to be built on Park Blvd. between El Cajon Blvd. and Mescal St. (former site of Luti Motors and New Vision Church). The project will comply with city zoning requirements.

Councilmember Ward met with NFP’s many projects includes the City has met with scooter companies to develop a regulatory framework for the sale use and operation of scooters.

Councilmember Ward did not support the annual fundraising walk, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, on October 21 in Balboa Park. The 4.2 mile route starts at the corner of 6th and Laurel Sts. and includes walking on the northbound lanes of the 163 Freeway.

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JOIN THE UH OSTRICH STRIDERS UH TEAM FOR MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER WALK

The annual American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk (Making Strides) supports the fight against breast cancer, the second leading cause of cancer death in women. And UH has recently created its own team, the UH Ostrich Striders, to participate in the walk, which takes place in Balboa Park on Sunday, October 21. Registration for this non-competitive, inspirational event begins at 6:30 a.m. and the walk is set to start at 7:30 a.m. from the corner of 6th Ave. and Laurel St.

Money raised by Making Strides supporters helps the American Cancer Society (ACS) fund innovative breast cancer research, promote education and risk reduction, and provide comprehensive patient support to those who need it most. Since 1993, more than 13 million supporters have raised more than $810 million nationwide. Last year, more than 25,000 walkers in San Diego helped raise over $863,000.00.

Please join us for the walk and encourage your neighbors and friends to join as well. The link to our team page is: http://main.acsevents.org/goto/UHOstrichStriders. Our email address is UH-Ostrich-Striders92110@gmail.com. You can also donate to this worthy cause at our team page. Come to this inspirational event, meet some new people, get a little exercise, and support the lifesaving work ACS does. We hope to see you there.

— Maureen Markey & Melissa Leitch

Who has a can-do spirit, always lends a helping hand, has a great attitude, sees a need and fills it, and gets the job done without fanfare? It’s Brent Orlesky, of course. He is a modest man, and doesn’t want or seek attention. He may even be embarrassed about receiving this Plume, but he richly deserves it.

Brent, a polite Canadian, arrived in San Diego in December 1996 and immediately fell in love with the city. Later, he met his partner and now spouse, Ron Oliver, and in 2002, they bought their house in UH. Very quickly they met their neighbors, Edie and Geneene. Edie was treasurer of UCHA at that time and promptly recruited Brent to take over as the new treasurer. Brent was elected in 2002 and served in that position for four years, before being term ended. But he never stopped working on behalf of this community. Fifteen years ago, Brent began by washing the Vermont Street Bridge and moved on to watering and weeding the Gateway at Pascoe and Washington, and planting and watering the trees on Park Blvd. bordering Birney Elementary. That task was a huge chore, involving running hoses across the street from the Church to water the trees and purchasing better quality hoses, because the cars driving over the hoses destroyed them. Brent has also consistently offered his excellent accounting, bookkeeping, and grant reporting skills to UHCA. Brent is the consummate volunteer. And, fortunately for all of us in UH, he’s still at it.

OUR UH HISTORY

A NEIGHBORHOOD ICON IS MOVING THE RED FOX ROOM

The Red Fox Room has been at the Lafayette Hotel location for more than 52 years. You old timers probably remember The Cotton Patch in the Point Loma area and The Butcher Shop in Mission Valley. Well, The Red Fox Room was in it our neighborhood and still is. In 1969 John Demos bought the restaurant. His son, Jim, now runs it along with the grandsons who bus tables on occasion. John still frequents his restaurant and schmoozes the customers with his delightful personality. Although their lease will be up in March, father and son hope to reopen across the street in the same block, at the northeast corner of Mississippi St. and El Cajon Boulevard.

Here is a bit of history you may not know: The Red Fox Room, an old inn in Surrey, England, dates from around 1560. The room was dismantled in 1926 and shipped to the United States for petite, blond, sienna-colored wood, and placed in storage. Then, in 1959, it found its resting place in the Lafayette Hotel and was restored.

The next time you’re there for dinner and drinks, notice the carved figures from Charles of London on the back of this Plume, but he richly deserves it. Jim Demos and his dad now face redevelopment and permit hurdles in order to build at their new site. We wish them the best of luck going through this process and look forward to a grand reopening at their new location in the spring of 2019. This neighborhood icon needs to stay in University Heights. — Nan McGraw

OCTOBER 2018 OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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<td>Uptown Planners Meeting</td>
<td>Joyce Beers Center Uptown Complex, 6 pm</td>
<td>UHDCD Meeting</td>
<td>UH Rec Council Meeting</td>
<td>UHCA News Deadline for November issue</td>
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<td>Hillcrest Farmers Market</td>
<td>UH Library, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>The Point Clean Up</td>
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<td>UH Library Task Force Meeting</td>
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<td>Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Annual Walk</td>
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<td>UH Library, 3-6 pm</td>
<td>Bag O’ Books sale</td>
<td>November UHCA News</td>
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<td>UH Book Club &amp; Salon</td>
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THE BARAS NONPROFIT FOUNDATION CLOSES

Yes, the Baras Thrift Shop is now closed. After fifty years in business, Carol Baras is retiring. She says it is time.

In 1968 Carol and Bill Baras opened their business, Hypnos Morpheus. They were the first tenants of the first office building in Mission Valley. Hypnos Morpheus was taken from Greek mythology. Hypnos (the god of sleep) and Morpheus (the god of dreams who sends messages to the dreamer). Through hypnosis, Carol and Bill helped people with various addictions and other issues. You name it, Hypnos Morpheus addressed it.

Even rascal teens attended their classes. Law students took them to help them pass the bar. By 1978, at the height of the self-help movement, Carol and Bill started their foundation which eventually led to the Baras Nonprofit Thrift Stores. Carol wanted to help kids after a young boy told her he was bad. That incident helped Carol decide to support kids by forming a foundation and becoming the Story Lady. Taped phone stories for kids were recorded by Carol so kids could listen whenever they dialed the number 291-Kids. This became so popular that Carol was noticed beyond San Diego. The New York Times, Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Examiner, Daily Mirror of London, Hour Magazine, People Magazine, even Who's Whose wrote about her. She appeared on television’s Good Morning America and The Today Show.

Carol wanted to help kids after a young boy told her he was bad. That incident helped Carol decide to support kids by forming a foundation and becoming the Story Lady. Taped phone stories for kids.

When: Saturday Oct13, 6:30 pm
Where: Trolley Barn Park
(1943 Adams Ave.)

Inconceivable!! The Princess Bride came out 31 years ago. Hard to believe that it’s still as good as ever. It’s the story of a man and a woman who lived happily ever after—even though the courtship almost killed them!

Follow Buttercup, Wesley, and their friends and enemies as they face the Cliffs of Insanity, Iocaine Powder, the Pit of Despair, and Rodents of Unusual Size. This cult classic will be the final film of the 2018 Movies in the Park series.

In preparation for Halloween, we have something else for the kids! We’ll start the evening with a showing of Disney/Pixar’s Toy Story of Terror at 6:30 pm. Woody and the gang set about getting to the bottom of the mystery after they are held up at a roadside motel, and members of the group start to disappear from everywhere.

Madame Sorini will again paint faces at the Movie in the Park! She was such a hit at the August showing of Finding Nemo that we have invited her back. She will be ably assisted by her friend Sarah.

Bring blankets & sweaters, chairs & snacks, kids & pets, and settle in for an evening of fun under the stars. As always, free popcorn!

CONGRATULATIONS TO NAN MCGRAW

At the September 6 UHCA community meeting, Officers David Surselv and Ricardo Pinon of the San Diego Police Department presented the Western Division’s Crime Fighter of the Month award to Nan McGraw for her many years of dedication and hard work in making University Heights a safer place to live and work.

For more than thirty years, Nan has been the driving force behind Neighborhood Watch, Zone Watch, Coffee With the Cops, Ice Cream With the Cops, Cookies With the Cops, and all the other programs that have kept our neighborhood the delightful and unique place it is.

Thanks, Nan, for all you do, and congratulations on this well-deserved award!

FINDING NEMO A BIG SUCCESS

Finding Nemo, the second movie in the UHCA sponsored summer series of Movies in Trolley Barn Park, was a huge hit when it was shown in August. We had a great turnout of about 400 people. Eight wonderful volunteers worked in the areas of merchandise, free popcorn, a library book table, free face painting, general help, talking to neighbors, and of course set up and teardown. Flyers and posters around the neighborhood, at the UH Library, and in businesses on Park Blvd., as well as ads on Facebook and Constant Contact helped us advertise the movie.

The free popcorn was a hit as always, and Marcia Sorini’s face painting booth had an even longer line than the popcorn! Thanks to all the great volunteers and to those UH residents and other friends who turned out for the movie. Our next (and last for the season), on October 13 at 6:30 pm in Trolley Barn Park, will be The Princess Bride and Toy Story of Terror. (See the ad on page 1.) Come, bring your kids, and join us for another fun evening in the Park.

— Greg Sorini and Maureen Markey
FOOD AND BEVERAGES

RESTAURANT REVIEW

TREATS AT EL TIANGUIS

The enthusiasm among neighborhood friends for the tiny new El Tianguis sent me rushing over to El Cajon Boulevard for lunch.Rolled taquitos are their specialty and basically that’s it. But they’re absolutely the best of any rolled tacos I’ve had in years.

Nice, thin corn tortillas, made on site, are filled and rolled into the lightest, crispiest, most delicious, most satisfying crunchy bites. They’re smothered in lascious guacamole and cheese, nestled in a chiffonade of lettuce with their green tomatillo, spicy red sauce, and pico de gallo on the side.

You can create a feast of many flavors from the simple menu. Choose taquitos filled with shredded beef, shredded chicken, golden mashed potatoes (vegetarian), or lentil and quinoa (vegan). Order an extra order of taquitos for your Hallowe’en party.

Everything about the place is sunny and cheerful. I recommend picking up some taquitos for your Hallowe’en party.

— Phyllis Kessel with thanks to Suzy Holts

EL TIANGUIS
2610 El Cajon Blvd.
North Park, San Diego
619 677 3581

Hours: 11 am-9 pm, every day

6 News | University Heights Community Association | 10.2018 www.uhad.org

RECIPE

JACKIE’S PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE BARS

1 (16 ounce) package pound cake mix
3 eggs
2 Tbs. butter, melted
4 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
1 (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
1 (16 ounce) can pumpkin (not pumpkin pie mix)
½ tsp. salt
1 cup chopped nuts (I use walnuts or pecans)

Combine pound cake mix, 1 egg, and 2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice. Press into 9x13 inch pan.

In bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Add condensed milk, 2 eggs (beaten slightly first), pumpkin, remaining 2 teaspoons of the pumpkin pie spice, and salt. Mix well until thoroughly incorpo-

rated and pour over crust. Sprinkle with nuts. Bake for 30-35 minutes at 350 degrees until set. Cool and then refrigerate for at least two hours. Cut into bars. Store in refrigerator.

This recipe was shared with me by our “third daughter” Jackie. She began baking as a young girl and is an amazing baker today. We are fortunate to be part of her family and friends who get to enjoy tasting and eating her culinary treats. She grew up right here in University Heights for her first 16 years before moving to east county. She is passing her love of baking to her own brood, who also happen to be our godchildren. I always get rave reviews whenever I make these pumpkin cheesecake bars in the fall to share at a potluck or party. If you make these, keep the recipe handy as you will most likely be asked for it. Enjoy! — Susan Holts

EATING OUT IN UH

American Market
Baha Mexican & Seafood
Bahn Thai
bkd (big front door)
Circa Restaurant
Cueva Bar
El Zarape
Flavors of East Africa
Grains
Great Maple
Hope at Lafayette
Hundred Proof
Lestat’s on Park
Living Hut
Madison
Mama’s Bakery & Lebanese Deli
Meraki Café
Muzita Abyssinian Bistro

Mystic Mocha
Park Boulevard Deli
Park House Eater
Pizzeria Bruno Napoletano
Pizzeria Luigi
Pumencia Vegetarian Cuisine
Pomegranate Restaurant
Pop Pie Co.
Red Fox Steak House
Red House Pizza
Small Bar
Soltan Banoo
Sprouts Market & Deli
Summer’s Market
Twiggs

2165 Mission Ave.
4504 Park Blvd.
4574 Park Blvd.
4207 Park Blvd.
2121 El Cajon Blvd.
4661 Park Blvd.
2312 El Cajon Blvd.
4404 Park Blvd.
2221 El Cajon Blvd.
4615 Park Blvd.
4628 Park Blvd.
4845 Park Blvd.
4175 Park Blvd.
4602 Park Blvd.
4580 Park Blvd.
2302 El Cajon Blvd.
1901 El Cajon Blvd.

688-0858
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501-4440
297-1313
546-7430
795-7998
298-2801
291-8287
296-0604
296-0616
542-9927
297-9643

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THE FRIENDS OF THE UH LIBRARY NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARY WEEK

October is one of my favorite months of the year. In addition to celebrating my birthday, I get to celebrate National Friends of Libraries Week! This year’s Friends of Library Week takes place October 21-27, and I encourage everyone in the community to celebrate by becoming a member of the Friends of the University Heights Library.

Friends of the Library groups all across the country support their branch libraries in a variety of ways. The Friends of the UH Library has raised funds and provided program support to our branch over the years through expenses such as new children’s books, an expanded Express Books collection, prizes for the Summer Reading Program, our new RFID machines, and more. We also sponsor children’s activities and performances, as well as programming for adults.

We currently have nearly 200 members in our chapter. We would love to grow to 225, or even 250! Remember, our ability to support the programs and services at our branch relies on membership dues and donations. So please help us continue to support the UH library by joining the Friends of the University Heights Library and encouraging your friends and neighbors to join as well. Membership is $5 for students and seniors, and $10 for individuals. You can pick up a membership form at the branch.

The Friends of San Diego Public Library is a California Tax Exempt Non-Profit Corporation under IRS 501(c)(3). FEIN: 95-3313747. If you join starting in October, your membership will be valid until December, 2019. That’s a bonus 3 months at no extra cost! Tax deductible membership dues and donations may be matched by the City of San Diego and used to support programs and purchase books, materials, and equipment. If you would like to know more, please visit our website at friendslibrary@gmail.com. As always, thank you for your continuing support of our branch library. — Isabel Schechter, Secretary, Friends of the University Heights Library

DMV’ Continued from page 1
California Assembyman Todd Gloria (nich.serrano@csm.ca.gov), State Senator and President Pro Tem Toni Atkins (toni.durans@sen.ca.gov); Councilmember Chris Ward (thremer@sandiego.gov), or Contact DMV leadership directly via the website at: www.dmv.ca.gov.

Current city zoning and the Uptown community plan envision high density residential and mixed used development on or near the 2.5-acre DMV site between Market and future linear park along the opposite. If the DMV does not have the location (by car or transit) in the Hillcrest/Hillview area, it should swap or sell the property to a developer. The current plan states that the lot will be open during normal business hours and “when permitted community events occur.” However, the new presence of gated and guarded entries appears to make it clear that the DMV’s willingness to help relieve local parking pressures during off hours is a thing of the past.

Finally, for many, the plan’s most discouraging weakness is its failure to contribute to the creation of a vibrant urban space in what is arguably the most accessible location (by car or transit) in the Hillcrest/University Heights area. The DMV claims the proposal responds to the state’s commitment to compact, infill development simply by rebuilding the office on the same site. The truth is quite the opposite. If the DMV does not have the will, creativity, or skill to design a compact mixed-use project that co-exists with its local office, it should swap or sell the property to a developer. The current plan simply drops a 1961-style suburban DMV site plan onto an extremely valuable urban parcel.

DMV’s suggestion that the DMV site is architecturally “a thing of the past.” Indeed. The land use may be the same and the new building similar in mass, height, and scale, but in fact there could be significant impacts on the future of our community.

Most apparent will be the 7-foot high perimeter fence and gated entryways that would impede access to the Farmer’s Market and future linear park along the DMV’s Normal Street perimeter. The DMV maintains that vandalism problems, as well as worker and customer safety, justify the fence. If such concerns are truly justified, there are better ways to address them. Discouraging pedestrian activity, while unintentionally encouraging “sidewalk camping,” are not among them. A related concern is the lost opportunity to integrate the DMV site into the Normal Street enhancements, perhaps by including a public plaza in its design.

Parking is also a concern, not just because the number of spaces will be reduced from 172 to 141. Neighbors and visitors have come to treat the DMV lot as a de-facto shared parking arrangement (that is, when the business is closed, anyone can park there), no doubt winning kudos for the DMV. The DMV promises to “maintain existing leases with existing community organizations” (including the Farmer’s Market and Uptown District), and states that the lot will be open during normal business hours and “when permitted community events occur.” However, the new presence of gated and guarded entries appears to make it clear that the DMV’s willingness to help relieve local parking pressures during off hours is a thing of the past.

In his fifth novel focusing on a rural Vermont talent-ed and passionate midwife, Chris Bohjalian has sensitively captured the dilemma arising out of a difficult situation. Sybil Danforth makes an instant decision to try to save a baby by performing a Caesarian section when she believes the mother is dead. Later her assistant insists that the woman was alive. This leads to a criminal case.

Narrated by the midwife’s teenage daughter with notes by the mother, the story depicts the aftermath of the tragedy. The author shows a thorough study of both midwifery and the female reproductive anatomy. The critically acclaimed novel was selected by Oprah Winfrey for her Book Club in 1998.

In 2001, the novel was adapted into a Lifetime Movie Network television film. In October 2017, the Book Salon chose as its selection Bohjalian’s 2012 novel The Sandcastle Girls, about the Armenian Genocide. 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 September and October.

UH Book Club & Salon Wednesday, October 31, 2018, at 6:30 pm San Diego Public Library University Heights Branch 4193 Park Boulevard (at Howard Avenue) 619-692-4912

THE UH BRANCH LIBRARY BETWEEN THE COVERS

Morning Story Time: Thursdays at 11 am
Arts & Crafts: Saturdays all day
Morning Story Time with Caroline & Penelope: 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 11:30 am

In-N-Out Cover to Cover Library Reading Program: Oct 6-Nov 17. Join our annual In-N-Out Cover to Cover reading program! For every five books you read, you can get a free hamburger or cheeseburger. This program is for children ages 4-12.

Plaster Skull Decorating: Wednesday, Oct 17 at 4:30 pm. Get ready for Halloween and Day of the Dead! Presented by Back From Tombstone, this fun workshop will have participants decorating plaster of Paris skulls. All ages welcome.

All library locations will be closed Thurs- day, November 1, for Staff Development Day.
— Laura Yee, Children’s Librarian, Uni- versity Heights Branch Library, (619) 692-4912, sandiego.gov

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

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BETWEEN THE COVERS

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NEW HILLCREST FIRE STATION #5 OPENS

Hats off to our firefighters for their dedication in keeping us safe. And congratulations! The new fire station #5 in Hillcrest at 9th and University Avenues officially opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony on August 20. One of Mayor Faulconer’s priorities has been to modernize and improve San Diego’s fire stations. This new fire station, the ninth since Mayor Faulconer took office in 2014, was designed by architect Rob Quigley to replace the 1951 facility.

Be prepared for fire. It can happen here and it has! San Diego’s first 5-alarm fire was right here in University Heights in the mid-1950s. The fire went up Buchanan Canyon, destroying many homes on Rhode Island Street. And the recent fire under the Vermont Street Bridge has us edgy, alert, and concerned. Apparently our petitioning the city to remove the debris has finally paid off, with a city worker crew arriving recently to clean up the canyon.

Create defensible space. That includes removing all dead plants, trees, and shrubs; and reducing excess leaves, plant parts, and low-hanging branches. For more detail, see: readyforwildfire.org.

Have an emergency kit ready. Include copies of important papers. Visit preparedsandiego.org.

If a major fire erupts: First, call 911 to alert the fire department. Then,

• Alert family and neighbors
• Have your emergency supply kit ready to go, including supplies for your pets
• Stay tuned to media.
• Visit SDCountyEmergency.com
• Close all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked
• Remove flammable window shades and curtains
• Move furniture to center of the room
• Turn off pilot lights and air conditioning
• Leave inside and outside lights on so firefighters can see your house through smoke
• Bring patio furniture and toys inside
• Turn off gas at the meter
• Back your car into the driveway to facilitate a quick departure
• Fill sinks and tubs for an emergency water supply
• Place wet towels under doors to keep smoke and embers out
• Alter the fire has passed, check your home and roof. Extinguish any fires, sparks or embers
• Check inside the attic for hidden embers

If there are fires that you cannot extinguish with a small amount of water or in a short period of time, call 911.

SCHOOLS NEWS

BIRNEY BUZZ

October is always a fun month at Birney Elementary School. On the afternoon of October 12, we will create our annual human peace sign in the blacktop. The same evening at 6:30 pm we will return to the playground to join the San Diego Astronomy Association for our annual Star Party where we get a telescopic view of the night sky.

We’re excited to host our first Birney Night Out of the school year on October 19. Check out our website for details on this fun event where parents will have a chance to socialize and kids will enjoy a supervised pizza party at the Birney auditorium. We plan to have a silent auction and opportunity drawings.

October 31 is our International Dress Up Parade. Birney will show its international roots and holiday spirit at this school-wide parade. For more information regarding any of these activities, volunteer opportunities, and donations, please go to http://friendsofalicebirney.org.

Did you know that for the price of a latte a week, you can cover the IB (International Baccalaureate) education for one student, including art, garden, Spanish enrichment, field trips, assemblies, and IB materials? A monthly contribution of $20, or the price of a few fancy lattes, could go a long way toward ensuring the continuation of our IB PYP (Primary Years Program) school here in University Heights. Sign up today to give a student a world-class education. http://friendsofalicebirney.org/give-a-latte/

— Ari Honarvar

ROO NEWS

AN ENTIRE SCHOOL CELEBRATES PEACE THROUGH DANCE

For the 11th consecutive year, Roosevelt International Middle School came alive on September 21, 2018, when more than 1000 students plus teachers and staff assembled for the annual Peace One Day dance. Wearing identical student-designed T-shirts sponsored by sixteen local businesses, the throng performed a choreographed dance that concluded in a giant peace sign. What might have seemed like flash mob video was in fact part of Roosevelt’s International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum, integrating IB values with physical education and the performing arts.

Peace One Day is a nonprofit organization founded in 1999 by British documentary filmmaker and actor Jeremy Gilley, with the goal to establish an International Day of Peace. In 2001, the United Nations adopted an annual day of global ceasefire and non-violence. Each year on September 21, Peace One Day and the United Nations facilitate a day of ceasefire so aid workers can deliver water, medicine, food, and other necessities to war-zone areas.

“Since 2008, Roosevelt has been celebrating Peace One Day to bring awareness to students that there are places in the world where families don’t always have access to clean water, medicine, and food,” says Deborah Chris-tensen, IB Coordinator. Physical and Health Education teachers instruct all students in a choreographed dance. The collaborative dance sends a valuable message that working together makes a stronger community. Celebrating Peace One Day also ties into Roosevelt’s mission. Check out the latest Peace One Day video at www.roose-veltmiddle.org.

Mark your calendars. This year’s Trick or Trot 5K/1 Mile Fun Run will be on October 28 at 8 am at Morley Field. This fundraiser benefits Roosevelt’s IB program. Participants are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes. Early bird pricing ends October 6. To participate or sponsor, please visit www.friendsofroosevelt.org/lotr/ today.

— Jennifer Ayala, parent of students at Roosevelt and Birney and a Board Member of the Friends of Roosevelt Foundation

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UH BEAUTIFICATION

Summer Beautification
The UHCA Beautification Team continued to work throughout the summer to keep our community beautiful. In addition to power washing the Vermont Street Bridge in July, the weekly volunteer team of Andy, Robert, Dawn, and Mark has been blowing down the bridge before starting on their other projects throughout the community such as the ongoing maintenance of the 163 on ramp. Another team completed a routine cleanup up of the University Heights Library Garden and added new plants. Next time you visit the library, be certain to admire the beautiful row of clivia along the front wall of the building donated and planted by Vickie Church. Thanks, Vickie.

Camelot Canyon
After the March 27 fire under the Vermont Street Bridge, many University Heights residents, along with the UHCA Beautification Team and Board members, wrote letters to city officials expressing their grave concern that the canyon remained a fire hazard. They requested city action to clear the dead and overgrown vegetation from the canyon. In response, a company contracted by the city cleared the eastern end of the canyon during the week of September 3. CalTrans had previously cleared the west end of the canyon. The threat of fire has now been suppressed, and the dense cover of vegetation that formerly encouraged homeless encampments has been removed.

Fall Cleanup
This year’s fall cleanup will be November 10 along Campus and Meade adjacent to Birney Elementary and along Park Boulevard adjacent to the joint use playing field. Save the date and join us in the cleanup and renovation of these highly visible sections of our community. Look for more information as we get closer to the date.

Vandalism at Birney
Unfortunately, not all Beautification news is good news. Last summer the UHCA Beautification Team along with Birney administration and parents facilitated planting of trees by the city in the medians along Meade and Campus, adjacent to the school, as part of the UHCA Beautification Team tree initiative. Parent volunteers have been watering and caring for the trees, so the trees have been healthy and thriving. Unfortunately, sometime early in the week of September 3, someone broke off two of the trees at their trunks. Such mindless vandalism is difficult to understand and extremely frustrating in view of all of the time and effort put in by so many people to plant and nurture these trees. Nevertheless, we will not let this senseless act set back the ongoing project to line all streets in University Heights with trees. The Beautification Team will coordinate replacement of the trees by the city and continue its tree initiative throughout the community.

— Rod Girvin, UHCA Beautification Team Leader, crgirvin@cox.net

HALLOWEEN ON MARYLAND STREET

Halloween is on Wednesday, October 31. As usual, nearly all the neighbors on Maryland Street between Madison and Lincoln will go all out with festive decorations and great treats, which attract Trick-or-Treaters as well as lots of onlookers from all over San Diego. Lots of fun and lots to see.

It’s best to avoid driving down Maryland Street that evening. We suggest parking near the Education Center and walking to Maryland Street if you don’t live nearby.

See you on Maryland Street.
Happy Halloween!

UHCA NEEDS TECH VOLUNTEERS!

UHCA is looking for a web designer/developer who has the time and desire to help our organization serve the community with a more usable and informative website. Experience with Wix would be useful but not essential. Alan, if you a Salesforce power user or developer (or know one), we need help fine tuning and migrating membership data to the Non-Profit Success Pack (NPSP), as well as implementing the Volunteer Management module. Contact Bill Smith at walish@msn.com if you’re interested.

UHCA News needs a blockwalker to deliver newspapers on Texas St. between Meade and Lincoln. Contact Nan McGraw at nmcgan@aol.com or at 619-260-0668 if you are interested.
Abraham Lincoln once said, “Elections belong to the people. It’s their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters.” One of my jobs as an elected official is to make it easy to avoid those blisters. Part of that includes making sure we are delivering information in ways that the public demands.

For example, at one time, state and local laws required the County Registrar of Voters to mail paper copies of the sample ballot and voter information pamphlet to each registered voter. Now the Registrar can send them out electronically. If you think the idea of getting election materials in your email is exciting, you aren’t alone. So far, some 40,000 County voters have signed up for digital delivery. While the number of participants sounds like a lot, consider that starting in late September, the Registrar will begin the process of using the U.S. Postal Service to mail out 1.7 million sample ballot pamphlets for the November election.

If that sounds old-fashioned, you can join the digital wave by signing up for email. The actual ballot you will use for digital delivery, while the number of participants sounds like a lot, consider that starting in late September, the Registrar will begin the process of using the U.S. Postal Service to mail out 1.7 million sample ballot pamphlets for the November election.

For voters, the important thing is to arrive at the polls confident and informed, no matter how you got your information, and no matter the eventual outcome. (Does anybody always see the candidate of their choice elected?) My concluding advice was best said by President John Quincy Adams: “Always vote for principle; though you may vote alone, you may cherish the sweetness reflection that your vote is never lost.” — Supervisor Ron Roberts

My name has certainly appeared on the ballot more times than the average voter. My name has certainly appeared on the ballot more times than the average person. You’ll also help save tons of paper and taxpayer dollars in printing and mailing costs. (The actual ballot you will use at the polls remains paper.)

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The joint Historic Districts Subcommittee of Uptown Planners and the North Park Planning Committee held workshops in July and August in order to present reform to the historic district designation process.

To stay informed about historic districts in the neighborhood, check the City’s website or get in touch with Uptown Planners or the North Park Planning Committee. — Randy Wilde, Board Member, North Park Planning Committee

In August, I gathered city and regional leaders to highlight a significant gap in our system of care for homeless San Diegans: the lack of recuperative care facilities and medical respite beds in both the County and City of San Diego.

The challenges created by mental health issues, substance abuse, injury, and chronic illness are the most difficult barriers to address when attempting to help homeless individuals transition off our streets and into more stable and safe conditions.

Recuperative care facilities offer specialized care, recovery, and assistance to homeless individuals who are too vulnerable to properly recover from injury on our streets but are not ill enough to require intensive hospital care. These facilities allow individuals the opportunity to rest in a safe environment while accessing medical care, housing navigation, and supportive services.

Currently, in San Diego County, there are only 73 recuperative care beds, 41 of which are in the City of San Diego. With a homeless population that is aging and struggling with chronic health conditions, physical disability, and/or mental health issues, our communities are in dire need of an investment in additional recuperative care services and facilities.

Embracing a Housing First approach by responsibly investing in recuperative care treatment and facilities will provide homeless individuals, who are often the most challenging patients to treat, a clean, safe place to recover and connect with homeless services.

In my capacity as Chair of the Select Committee on Homelessness and Vice Chair of the Regional Task Force on Homelessness, I will be highlighting and discussing this need, both in the city and the county.

For more information on this important issue, please contact Tyler Renner, my community liaison for University Heights at 619-236-6633 or trener@sandiego.gov. — Councilmember Chris Ward, San Diego City Council, District 3

Several new historic districts have been proposed for the University Heights area. The new historic districts will include the sites of historically significant homes and buildings. The Park Boulevard Residential Historic District would extend from Robinson Avenue to Upas Street along Park Boulevard just north of Balboa Park. The Melhorn & Son Historic District (formerly Shirley Ann Place Historic District Expansion) would include the properties fronting Shirley Ann Place on the block between Madison Avenue and Monroe Avenue. The City sent out notices and held workshops in July and August for affected property owners. Find more information on these historic districts at: https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/programs/historicpreservation/planning/historicdistricts.

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COOKIES WITH THE COPS

Thirty years ago UHCA started Coffee With the Cops (which later morphed into Ice Cream With the Cops and then to Cookies With the Cops). Because crime stats were high, we targeted our most vulnerable areas of University Heights. Several times a year we met with SDPD on Saturday mornings, serving coffee and donuts, and discussing crime in the various neighborhoods of UH. The Vermont Street Bridge was a prime spot. Crime problems at the motel at Washington and Lincoln were affecting the whole community, especially the nearby neighbors. Thanks to neighbors Marie and Steve Long and others, eventually we were successful at closing the motel (now the Bridge View apartment building).

Many of you have observed several various incidents in several areas of UH. Possible drug dropoffs near the Welcome Inn at Washington and Campus and the Buddhist temple at Campus and Tyler. The open spaces on Golden Gate (The Point, at Cleveland and Campus). The west end of Adams Avenue and the west end of Madison Avenue. Homeless individuals and vagrancy in our canyons, alleys, and near the library, where access to freeways and streets like Washington, El Cajon Boulevard, and Texas allow easy pickings, especially at night. To help prevent these problems, be sure to lock up your cars.

Please report all crime activities to SDPD. If a crime is not reported, it’s as if it didn’t happen. If there are no stats, we get no extra patrols. Report crimes in progress by dialing 911. Otherwise report to either SDPD on line or the non-emergency number: 619-531-2000. If you need assistance with transient or homeless related issues, please utilize the free Get It Done app, which can be downloaded to your phone at the app store, or use the City of San Diego’s public website to report issues via the Get It Done link. The city requests that citizens use these two methods for all issues so that both the reporting party and the city can track the initial report and the timeliness of the resolution of the problem. Go to: www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done

Officer Roman, the Community Relations Officer for the new Neighborhood Police Unit, handles all homeless related matters for the city. Contact him at LRoman@pd.sandiego.gov for assistance regarding homeless encampments and support for homeless individuals needing assistance.

Let us know if there is an issue in your neighborhood. You can do any or all of the following: Join Zone Watch (see page 2). Come to the Cookies With the Cops event on October 10 (three locations: 5:30 pm at Mystic Mocha; 6:15 pm next to Trolley Barn Park (corner of Panorama and Adams); 7:00 pm at the Vermont Street Bridge). Attend our monthly Crime Watch meetings at 6:45 pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month, prior to the UHCA meetings at Birney Elementary.

Let us collectively prevent or solve crime in UH. — Nan McGraw
Canyon Craftsman!

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3 Bedrooms 1 Bath  1,163 Square Feet
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