

**Next UHCA Meeting**  
**June 1**  
 CD4 COUNTY SUPERVISOR  
 CANDIDATES FORUM  
 6:45 pm at 4345 Campus Ave.  
 www.uhsd.org/attend-a-meeting

No meetings in  
 July or August.  
 Next meeting  
 September 7,  
 2023. Have a  
 good Summer.



New in UH:  
 Japanese  
 restaurant  
 Hatsuzakura  
 SEE PAGE 6



**Pet of  
 the  
 Month:  
 Stanley**  
 SEE PAGE 4



**Party  
 on  
 Park  
 recap**  
 SEE PAGE 8

# NEWS

University  
 Heights  
 Community  
 Association  
 June 2023



To the world, you  
 are a dad.  
 But to our family,  
 you are the world.

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## Meet the San Diego County Supervisor District 4 Candidates

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors voted in early May to hold a special election on Tuesday August 15, 2023 to fill the District 4 Supervisors' seat to be vacated by Nathan Fletcher on May 15, so that constituents in that district can select a replacement for the remaining 3-1/2 years of that term. Three candidates announced they are campaigning to fill that position. If no one receives a majority of the votes, a run-off election between the two candidates with the most votes will be held on Tuesday November 7, 2023. Please join us on June 1, 2023 in the

Alice Birney Elementary School Auditorium, 4345 Campus Avenue to meet and hear from each of the candidates personally, to help you decide who will best represent University Heights. The candidates with links to their Websites are:  
 Amy Reichert,  
 amyforsandiego.com  
 Janessa Goldbeck,  
 www.janessagoldbeck.com  
 Monica Montgomery Steppe,  
 www.monica4sandiego.com  
 Candidates continued on page 3



Amy Reichert



Janessa Goldbeck



Monica Montgomery Steppe

## June 1 Planning Commission Meeting



On Thursday June 1, the San Diego City Planning Commission will meet to consider the Housing Action Package 2.0. This includes Senate Bill 10.

At the UHCA meeting on May 4, speakers explained that SB 10 is an optional program which is unneeded and would be very harmful. It would allow up to a 10-unit building on residential lots, and has been called "**The end of single-family neighborhoods**". Affordable housing and needed infrastructure are

not being provided. If enacted, SB 10 cannot be reversed.

Volunteers are needed to attend the Planning Commission meeting to show that the residents expect to be heard.

The plan is to gather on June 1 at City Hall, 202 C Street. Volunteers will meet outside at 8:30 am, and go inside at 8:45. Signs are not needed.

If you can attend, contact: Carmen Cooley, jacooileymuseumsd@gmail.com .

—Carmen Cooley

## Friends of the UH Library Chapter Seeking Two Board Members

The Friends of the University Heights Library chapter is currently seeking two board members, a Secretary and Treasurer. The current Treasurer will be staying on the board and running for President. The current President and Secretary will be completing their terms of office and will not be renewing, so we need two new people to join us,

otherwise, we may have to close the chapter. The election will be held at the June 13th meeting. Please contact Bren Breithaupt at bnice2meplease@gmail.com if you are interested in being put on the slate of candidates. We do need community support at this time to continue the good work of the chapter.

—Bren Breithaupt

## BE KIND TO UNHOUSED PEOPLE

We've all noticed the tents. The shopping carts. The dirty clothes. The unhoused person curled up in the fetal position sleeping on the sidewalk. Campers and cars parked on the street, sheets draping the windows for privacy for those sleeping inside. What happened? Who are these people? How did they get to this point in their lives? I can't speak for them, but I can tell you how I went from my comfortable life in a University Heights studio to draping sheets and sleeping in a 2008 Corolla at Morley Field. So let's rewind a little.

I met Mary in the summer of 2010 when I moved to San Diego from Seattle. I was renting the small granny flat that she owned behind her house on the corner of Alabama & Howard Streets. The price was right. The location was perfect and although it was super small (225 sq. ft.), I made it my own.

Fast forward a decade to 2020. I got a text from Mary - inviting me over for a glass of wine. This was not unusual, as we'd often sit on her porch and chit chat, but this chit chat had a somber undertone. Her cancer was back. She was a 3 time cancer survivor, but now at the age of 70 it was back and had spread to her lung.

For the next year I drove Miss Mary to all of her chemo and radiation appointments. In February of 2021, Mary lost her battle and passed away. As it usually happens when someone dies, the property goes to a beneficiary, in this case, her son - and it didn't take long for the vultures to come knocking. The vultures in this case were a husband and wife development team that pitched Mary's son an offer he couldn't refuse, as Mary's house was on a corner lot and the perfect location for a brand spanking new apartment complex. We've all seen these eyesore's sprouting up like bad weeds, taking over the charm of University Heights. And so it begins.

I was notified from the buyers in August 2022, that December 1st my power would be cut and I had to be out. Out of my home! My safe space! I was spiraling and scrambling to find a new place. I had no emergency fund. No first/last month or deposit even if I found something. I moved in with my friend Ryan for a couple months and still wasn't able to come up with anywhere to live. I was terrified, as things weren't working out with Ryan. He was great and I was so grateful, but his place was just too small. In order to save us, I decided I needed to leave. Where could I go?

After Mary's passing (as a huge thank you) her son gave me her car, a modest gold Toyota Corolla that we'd spent so much time in, driving back and forth to those awful appointments. I was so appreciative and that first night in the park, (as I was hanging up the sheets for privacy) I thought of Mary and thanked her again for the shelter.

I spent weeks in that car. It was depressing, embarrassing, uncomfortable and draining. I couldn't stand it anymore. It was a Sunday night and one of those atmospheric rivers was hitting San Diego. It was pouring rain. I hadn't talked to Ryan in days. I missed him. I missed my studio. I missed my life. I was drunk and high on weed and spiraling out of my mind. The rain was streaming down the windshield and the tears were streaming down my face. I reached into the glove compartment and held them in my hand. I held them in my hand for a while. I just wanted to sleep. I got out of the car, sat up on the picnic table and emptied the bottle of pills into my mouth. Who would find me? A kid kicking around a soccer ball? A woman walking her dog early in the morning? That terrified me and I thought, I'm better than this. I threw them up and went to Ryan's. I was sobbing when I woke him up. I was embarrassed, nervous and scared to tell him my thoughts, but I was alive!

I spent the next few weeks at my parent's in Idaho. I needed a major re-group, and luckily I have a family who rallied behind me.

It's May 1st 2023. A new month. A new fresh start and I'm happy to say I am doing well. I'm back in San Diego and have found a new place to live. Not just back in San Diego, rather back in University Heights and ironically back on Alabama Street - a block South of 'Mary's Corner'. Although everything was demolished in April, the memories I will always cherish. Thank you Mary for twelve great years on our little corner of the world.

So the next time you see that tent. That shopping cart. That unhoused person curled up in the fetal position or that car with the sheets in the window, be kind. They have a story too.

If you or someone you know are having suicidal thoughts, call or text the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988.

—John Hensley

*Plan Ahead & Save the Date*  
**UH Community  
 Yard Sale**  
**Saturday, June 3**  
 Time to clean out the garage,  
 closet, or storage space?  
 Looking to pick up a few  
 items? Be part of the University  
 Heights Yard Sale.

Email [UHyardsale@gmail.com](mailto:UHyardsale@gmail.com) to register & be included on the map

# MEMBERSHIP

**JOIN TODAY AND HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE! OUR SUCCESS IS LARGELY DEPENDENT ON VOLUNTEER EFFORTS FROM AREA RESIDENTS LIKE YOU.**



**NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS**  
**BUSINESS/ CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP**  
NuSpine Chiropractic

### GOLDEN OSTRICH

Anna Warren, Paul D. Adams, Phyllis Charlton & Randi Dropkin, Stephen Lewis

### HOUSEHOLD

Alysha Christensen, Barbara Noyer, Joan Foster & Susan Virgilio, Karen Keltner & Evelyn DeLaRosa, Naida Hindert, Pete Brown, Teresa Jackson



**JOIN, RENEW, DONATE, OR VOLUNTEER ONLINE AT UHSD.ORG.**

### GIFT

Karen Keltner & Evelyn DeLaRosa

### OUR MISSION

The University Heights Community Association (UHCA), founded in 1984, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, member-supported community association dedicated to improving the quality of life and the sense of community in San Diego's University Heights.

Clip & Return to: UHCA PO BOX 33032 San Diego, CA 92163



## Yearly Membership

- ( ) Feather – give what you can \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) \$36 Plume (Household)
- ( ) \$120 Golden Ostrich (Household)
- ( ) \$100 Business Plume

## Donor

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation for Keeping Up the Good Work (Donate as a member or non-member)

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Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

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City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Referred by \_\_\_\_\_

NEW  RENEWAL

## Volunteer Your Time on a UHCA Committee!

- Beautification & Planning** Keep UH beautiful.
- Blockwalker** Help deliver *UHCA News* to neighborhood residences and businesses.
- Marketing & Merchandising** Promote UHCA via marketing/advertising, visual arts, photography, and product merchandising.
- Membership** Help meet record goals for 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 the *UHCA News*.
- Program & Events** Plan and oversee the various events and general meetings.

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

## UHCA NEWS

**EDITORIAL TEAM** Nan McGraw, Stu McGraw

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS** Nan McGraw, Stu McGraw, Jane Gilbert, John Hensley, Lauren Doucette, Carmen Cooley, Bren Breithaupt, Tom Mullaney, Joshua King, Judith Annicchiarico, Helene Idels, Ernie Bonn, Ginger Weatherford, Jennifer Bishop, Sarah Layne, Andy Hinds, Jon Von Erb, Mara W. Elliott

**GRAPHIC LAYOUT** Patty Howland

**PHOTOS AND GRAPHICS** Paul Farris, Patty Howland, Rey Palisoc, Jennifer Bishop, Stu McGraw, David Harrison

**ADVERTISING DIRECTOR** Email Stu McGraw at ads@uhsd.org

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 first of the month. Please see www.uhsd.org/submissions for details.

## UHCA BOARD

JD Abercrombie  
Mark Brlej  
Sol Schumer

Lisa Getz  
Nan McGraw  
Stu McGraw



**WEBSITE** https://www.uhsd.org/



**FACEBOOK** https://www.facebook.com/UniversityHeightsCommunityAssociation



**INSTAGRAM** https://www.instagram.com/universityheights\_sdcommunity/

## UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BOUNDARIES AND ZONE WATCH



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.

- 1 Nan McGraw** nmcsan@aol.com
- 2 Pam Isaacs** pamisaacs1@gmail.com
- 3 Mary Lange** mlangeuhcazone3coordinator@gmail.com
- 4 Heather Wilcox** zone4watchuhca@gmail.com
- 5 Tamara Zyhylij** tamara@tamarazrealestate.com
- 6 Nan McGraw** nmcsan@aol.com



### CRIME WATCH SIGNS

UHCA installed 60 new signs in 2016. If you know of an old sign that needs replacing or a location needing a sign, email signs@uhsd.org.



### SLOW DOWN SIGNS

Speeding on neighborhood streets in UH continues to be a problem. Shaving time off trips by speeding has small benefits and high risks. PLEASE SLOW DOWN! Please email signs@uhsd.org.



### File a Police Report Online with SDPD

tinyurl.com/SDPD-OnlineReport

## UH PHONE BOOK

<b>Emergency • Police • Fire • Medical</b>	9 1 1
<b>Non-Emergency</b> Suspicious Activity, Homeless Outreach Team, etc.	619-531-2000
<b>SD City Services: Emergency &amp; Non-Emergency</b> Street lights, potholes, etc. Online: www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments	619-527-7500
<b>Alert San Diego</b> Reverse 911 notification to mobile phones for emergencies requiring evacuations	www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego/
<b>2-1-1 San Diego</b> Free Resources: CalFresh, Medi-Cal, Covered California, etc.	2 1 1 or 858-300-1211
<b>Alice Birney Elementary Office</b>	619-497-3500
<b>Brush and Weed Abatement</b>	619-533-4444
<b>Code Violations</b>	619-236-5500
<b>County Dept. of Environmental Health</b> Public Health/Rats/Rodents	858-694-2888
<b>Downed Power Lines / SDG&amp;E</b>	800-411-7343
<b>Emergency Water / Sewer Repair / Sink Holes</b>	619-515-3525
<b>Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)</b> 5am-3pm M-F	619-446-1010
<b>Narcotics</b> Suspicious drug house / anonymous	619-531-2468

<b>PATH (People Assisting The Homeless)</b> path@epath.org	619-810-8600
<b>Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP)</b> Vacation home security check, welfare of home-bound, patrolling business districts, homeland security support	619-692-4945
<b>National Suicide &amp; Crisis Lifeline</b>	9 8 8
<b>SDPD Community Relations Officers:</b> David Surwilo Michael Hayes	dsurwilo@pd.sandiego.gov mhayes@pd.sandiego.gov
<b>SDPD Western Division</b> 5215 Gaines Street	619-692-4800
<b>Shopping Cart Pick-Up Service</b>	888-992-4778
<b>UHCDC</b> University Heights Community Development Corporation	619-297-3166
<b>University Heights Public Library</b> 4193 Park Blvd	619-692-4912
<b>UH Zone Watch Coordinator</b> Nan McGraw nmcsan@aol.com	619-260-0668
<b>Graffiti:</b> In Progress Emergency: Report Online: Graffiti Hotline:	9 1 1 www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done 619-527-7500
<b>SD Vector Control</b> mosquitoes / ticks / rats Online: vector@sdcountry.ca.gov.	858-694-2888

**If all else fails, email Malik Thornton**  
ThorntonM@sandiego.gov at Council member Stephen Whitburn's office.



### DISASTER CONTACTS

In case of a major disaster, have two out-of-area contacts handy. When the power is out, landline phones may not work. Make sure your cell phone is charged. Call 211 for updated information.



Download this app for reporting non-emergency issues, like abandoned vehicles, street repairs, potholes, graffiti, code violations, over-watering, sidewalk problems, etc. to the City of San Diego  
[www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done](http://www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done)

## UHCA MEETING NOTES

**Community Meeting Summary**

The May 4, 2023 UHCA community meeting began with a Crime Watch segment discussing various issues in the neighborhood.

The main presentation consisted of a panel of four people who explained current proposals in land-use and housing.

First of all, Stu McGraw explained that Chris Ward and Stephen Whitburn were invited as panelists, but could not attend. Councilmember Whitburn's representative Malik Thornton pledged to report the concerns of attendees to the Councilmember.

Lisa Sinclair gave an introduction to Neighbors For A Better San Diego (NFABSD). That group was started as a voice for residents about ADUs, and later expanded into other housing topics.

Danna Givot spoke for NFABSD about the Housing Action Package. She explained that most of the proposal involves incentives to developers, in the form of density bonuses. Danna focused on Senate Bill 10 (SB10), a program which would allow up to 10 units on parcels zoned for single-family and multi-family use.

Danna made these points about SB 10:

- There's no need to increase allowable density, since the city already has zoning which would allow large-scale development: Hundreds of thousands of housing units.
- SB 10 would put density in the wrong place, up to one mile from transit, despite evidence that 1/2 mile is the practical distance.
- No additional infrastructure is planned with SB 10.
- Lots with high fire-risk are not exempt.
- The city is planning to approve SB 10 with no environmental analysis; that is, without considering harmful impacts.
- Unbelievably, SB 10 is irreversible. Land which is upzoned by SB 10 could not later get corrections; it could not be downzoned even when circumstances change, or harmful impacts multiply.

SB 10 would mean the end of single-family neighborhoods. Our message to the mayor and Councilmembers must be: No on SB 10.

Susan Candell made a presentation on behalf of Our Neighborhood Voices.

She is mayor of Lafayette, Calif., and described a planned statewide ballot measure. The initiative is intended to return the control of zoning back to the city and county governments. This is needed because the politicians in Sacramento have reversed a century of local zoning, and have passed over 100 bills which usurp control from cities and counties. The goal is to qualify the initiative for the 2024 election.

Tom Mullaney spoke on behalf of Uptown United, about Complete Communities. Projects are already being approved under that program.

He described the 261 unit project at "301 Spruce Street" in Bankers Hill. It's 200 ft tall, only 10 ft from the nearest house. Neighborhood opposition is strong.

He explained that the residents and city officials don't yet know the citywide impacts of Complete Communities, yet the mayor wants to expand the program. The Housing Action Package would make a bad program even worse, with three revisions to Complete Communities:

- Elimination of the open space requirement on certain projects.
- Increase in the Floor Area Ratio, allowing larger buildings.
- Allow affordable units to be built off-site: Anywhere in the community.

From all four panelists, the message was clear: Residents need to get involved in two ways.

1. Register for updates at these three websites:

[NeighborsForABetterSanDiego.org](http://NeighborsForABetterSanDiego.org)

[OurNeighborhoodVoices.com](http://OurNeighborhoodVoices.com)

[UptownUnitedSD.org](http://UptownUnitedSD.org)

2. Send messages to our mayor and councilmember: "No on SB 10. No on excessive density."

Mayor Todd Gloria, [mayortoddgloria@sandiego.gov](mailto:mayortoddgloria@sandiego.gov)

Councilmember Stephen Whitburn, [stephenwhitburn@sandiego.gov](mailto:stephenwhitburn@sandiego.gov)

— Tom Mullaney

*Candidates continued from front page*

**Amy Reichert**

Amy Reichert is a passionate San Diego native who is running for San Diego County Supervisor to make a significant impact on families in District 4. Her primary objectives include making San Diego more affordable for struggling families, providing shelter and essential services to the homeless community, preserving the unique character of neighborhoods, and ensuring public safety by addressing crime. Amy has been a crucial defender of various groups' rights in the region, including children, first responders, teachers, healthcare workers, and small businesses. Her efforts to unify people from diverse political backgrounds towards a common goal have been instrumental in promoting collaboration and progress in the region.

With a degree in Political Science from San Diego State University, and her passion for San Diego, Amy brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the table. She currently resides in District 4 in La Mesa with her husband and two sons, giving her a first-hand understanding of the challenges faced by families and small business owners in the region.

Amy Reichert's commitment to improving San Diego and serving her community makes her an outstanding candidate for San Diego County Supervisor. For more information, please visit her website at [AmyForSanDiego.com](http://AmyForSanDiego.com).

**Monica Montgomery Steppe**

Monica Montgomery Steppe was born and raised in San Diego and spent most of her life in District Four. She serves on the San Diego City Council, representing over 160,000 San Diegans where she chairs the Budget & Government Efficiency Committee -- overseeing the process for the City's \$5.2 billion dollar budget. She's also on the San Diego City-County Reinvestment Task Force, the board of MTS, and the San Diego Workforce Partnership.

Before entering elected office, Monica dedicated her life to public service law. She fought for families to stay in their homes during the Great Recession, worked at the ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties, and served as a Senior Policy Advisor at the City of San Diego.

Monica's experience positioned her to make a significant impact in City Hall. She brought historical levels of investment to her district -- over \$100 million in new parks, paved streets and repaired sidewalks, a new senior center, a new library, neighborhood clean ups, affordable housing, and small business support. She helped lead the effort to keep renters in their

homes and businesses during the COVID-19 crisis. Additionally, she worked with community leaders to create a holistic approach to public safety that reduced homicide in her council district by 50%.

Monica's personal experience has also shaped her priorities as a public servant. When she was 20 years old, she became seriously ill. During her recovery, she relied on county services and witnessed firsthand the flaws in the system. Monica is committed to changing the way resources are delivered to those who need them most.

If elected, she will be the first Black woman to serve on the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

**Janessa Goldbeck**

Janessa Goldbeck is a decorated Marine Corps veteran who, in addition to deploying overseas, fought a policy banning women from top jobs in the military and stood up for victims of sexual assault as a Uniformed Victim Advocate.

She is the CEO of Vet Voice Foundation, a national nonprofit organization with more than 1.5 million members that gives veterans and military families a bigger say on the issues that matter -- like lowering costs for families, confronting the climate crisis, standing up for workers' rights, addressing inequality, and ensuring safe and healthy communities.

Last year, Vet Voice Foundation played an integral role in securing the largest expansion of healthcare benefits for veterans in 30 years and successfully pushed the VA to finally begin providing reproductive healthcare services to women veterans.

Janessa grew up right here in San Diego County and cut short her career in the Marines to come home and take care of her mom, a retired public school teacher, in her final fight with Alzheimer's. That experience made her a fierce advocate for the most vulnerable members of our community and those who care for them.

Janessa is a deeply invested leader in our community and serves on the board of MANA de San Diego, the San Diego LGBT Community Center, UCSD's Chancellor's Community Advisory Group, the San Diego Mayor's LGBT Task Force, and on the County of San Diego's Behavioral Health Advisory Board.

Before joining the Marines as a Combat Engineer Officer, Janessa worked as a human rights advocate to protect civilians in conflict zones. She holds a B.S. from Northwestern University and a Masters in Public Leadership from the University of San Francisco. Janessa and her wife Carol live in San Diego with their dogs and a small flock of hens.



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# Pet of the Month Stanley

Stanley is an eight-year old dachshund mix who was rescued from the San Diego County Animal Shelter in 2019. He moved to University Heights one year ago with his parents and instantly fell in love with the new sights and smells.

Before heading to the park in the morning, you can find him at a local coffee shop, where his dad will order a cold brew (just black), while Stanley paws toward the barista hoping for a spare treat.

As his mom works from home, Stanley spends most of his day on her lap, chewing on his squirrel toy or napping.

Stanley's secret crushes are his aunts, whom he will run to immediately on sight. His favorite season is Spring, when the flowers are just right for sniffing and the grass tastes fresh, despite his allergies - it's worth it! The average number of days it is sunny in San Diego is the same number he spends sunbathing by the window. If it's just right, you can walk up to him and he'll roll over for "belly."

He loves spending time with his parents as they explore dog-friendly places to visit. He'll sit on the patios at Johnston's and El Zarape watching humans and dogs walk by and wait for someone to eventually say 'hello' or sneak him a snack. One of his favorite moments was his 'Padres Pets' feature on the jumbotron at Petco Park with his mom.



Stanley

You can follow Stanley's day-to-day via @goodboy\_stanley on Instagram. His nicknames are bean boy, Mr. Stanley, Stan the Man and baby boy. He is the apple of his parents' eyes and hopes more dogs in the shelter system get the opportunity he has.

— Cynthia Herrera

**Do you know a pet we should feature? We'd love to highlight all of our furry (and not so furry) UH neighbors! Send info & photo to news@uhsd.org!**

## SUSTAINABLE UH

# Support Your Local Pollinator!



The wildflower superbloom this spring has been a delight to behold. But the mustard plants (with their admittedly gorgeous golden flowers) that sprang up among more benign blooms on the stretch of Texas Street leading to Mission Valley, among many other places, are not welcome guests. That particular invasive species chokes out native plants important to our local ecological web and then dries up to become fuel for wildfires. We should definitely remove any mustard we have access to around our homes and accessible canyon areas before the plants go to seed.

Native plant species are critically important to the health of our environment, particularly because local pollinators – birds, bees, butterflies, bats, etc. – need native plants to survive and thrive. And we need these pollinators to thrive for many reasons.

The National Wildlife Federation designates June as National Pollinators Month and recommends planting native species pollinator gardens to fight some of the effects of climate change. Pollinators sustain our ecosystems, and because we humans have been instrumental in harming the ecological web around us, pollinators need us to help repair the damage we've done. They need nectar and pollen from native plants, as well as access to clean water and shelter from the elements and predators. They often need specific plants in which to nest and breed. This is where pollinator gardens come into play.

Cheers to the folks who have turned their entire yards into pollinator wonderlands, but a pollinator garden doesn't have to be huge. Native pollinator-friendly species can be planted in pots on a patio or balcony, along sidewalk easements, or even in window boxes. So we can all do our parts!

Learn about which native trees, flowers, and shrubs to plant (including where to find the correct milkweed species to support Monarch butterflies) by attending local garden club events and by checking online information sources such as the San Diego Pollinator Alliance online toolkit (PDF file [tinyurl.com/3rcdyc9w](https://tinyurl.com/3rcdyc9w)).

Helpful links and videos on pollinator-friendly gardening are also available at the Greater San Diego Resource Conservation District's website (YouTube channel [tinyurl.com/4p94582u](https://tinyurl.com/4p94582u)).

The spring superbloom we've been enjoying reminds us that nature can be amazingly resilient, particularly when we work with the rest of the natural world rather than against it. The payoff – healthy birds and bees, fragrant flowers, thriving gardens, and a more sustainable environment – really is spectacular.

—Judith Annicchiarico

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# UH TOTES

One-of-a-kind graphic tote bags made from upcycled University Heights street pole banners. Handmade here in San Diego. No greenhouse gas emissions. No shipping thousands of miles from overseas. Your purchase contributes to the community by helping fund our neighborhood projects, instead of contributing to a landfill or that big trash pile floating in the Pacific Ocean. [totes@UHSD.org](mailto:totes@UHSD.org)

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SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

June 2023

Generate Positivity Month  
LGBT Pride Month  
National Zoo & Aquarium Month

**1** UH Park & Rec Meeting 5:30 pm  
UHCA Meeting 6:45 pm  
www.uhsd.org/attend-a-meeting  
July/August News Articles Due

**2** Nighttime Zoo Begins

**3** UH Community Yard Sale 7 am  
UH Library: Toddler Storytime 10 am

Curbside Recycling

**4** Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm  
UH Canyon Cleanup 9 am - 12 noon

**5** World Environment Day

**6** SDUSD Board Meeting 5 pm sandiegounified.org  
Uptown Planners Meeting 6 pm uptownplannersd.org  
D-Day

**7** UHCDC 6 pm uhcdc.org  
No UHCA Beautification Meeting

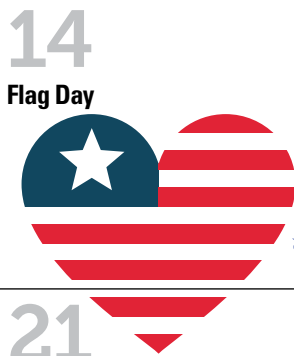


**10** UH Library: UH Garden Club Irrigation 101 10-11:30am

**11** Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm

**12** International Falafel Day

**13** SDUSD Board Meeting 5 pm sandiegounified.org  
UH Library: Children's Storytime & Crafts 6-7 pm  
Friends of the UH Library Meeting 6 pm  
Hillcrest Town Council Meeting 6:30 pm



**15**

**16** World Sea Turtle Day

**17** UH Library Book Sale 9am-3pm  
UH Library: NExT Workshop, Grades 3-5 10:30am-12:30pm

**18** Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm  
UH Library Book Sale 12-3 pm  
Father's Day

**19** Juneteenth

**20** North Park Planning Committee 6:30 pm

**21** Summer Begins

**22** World Rainforest Day

**23** National Take Your Dog to Work Day

**24** UH Library: Chazz: Drumming & Percussion Show 3-4 pm

**25** Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm

**26**

**27** SDUSD Board Meeting 5 pm sandiegounified.org  
July/August News Out

**29** National Day of Joy

**30**



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## IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

## NuSpine Chiropractic

Joshua and Iny King, residents of University Heights, are starting a new chiropractic business locally. As a patient himself, Joshua has sought chiropractic care at various times in his past and experienced the positive effects that this care had towards his wellbeing. However, it wasn't until the past couple years that he experienced a wellness model within chiropractic that offered a new approach, and together with Iny they decided to match their entrepreneurial aspirations to a business that makes a true impact on people's lives.

Joshua says "I always enjoyed being able to stop by the gym after work without having to schedule an appointment, so why not for chiropractic care as well?"

The simplicity and accessibility that NuSpine Chiropractic offers became the driving force behind the decision to open a location in the community. The Kings have a passion for helping people through chiropractic care, and they are excited to bring NuSpine to this vibrant community.

They chose to open their practice close to University Heights because of its amazing community and its focus on health and wellness. The neighborhood is home to many health-conscious individuals who are interested in alternative approaches to healthcare, making it the perfect location for their business.

When asked what NuSpine offers to its patients, Iny said "The NuSpine promise is simple ... walk-ins always welcome, no appointment necessary, top-notch care by licensed chiropractors, and convenient hours."

Starting a new business is never easy, but Joshua and Iny are up for the challenge. They are excited to be part of the University Heights community and are committed to providing exceptional chiropractic care. With their passion and expertise, NuSpine Chiropractic is sure to become a staple in the neighborhood for years to come.

NuSpine Chiropractic, 1262 University Ave, [tinyurl.com/NuSpine-Hillcrest](http://tinyurl.com/NuSpine-Hillcrest)



## CALLING ALL UH VETERANS

UHCA looks forward to honoring our local veterans once again this coming Veterans Day in November. It's been too long since our last tribute. We've lost some brave souls the last few years but we still have Vietnam vets and many others who have served our country. UHCA would like to honor you this coming November. Please contact me with name, branch of service, years of service and deployments to: Nan McGraw, [nmcgsan@aol.com](mailto:nmcgsan@aol.com) or 619-260-0668.

—Nan McGraw

## NEW IN UH

## Hatsuzakura - Cherry Blossoms and Exceptional Japanese Cuisine

When Sakura Kadoya's mom and dad opened a small sushi restaurant in University Heights in 2019, she never envisioned that 4 years later she would be opening up her own restaurant right next door. Sakura's parents are the owners of Soichi – the sushi restaurant on Adams Avenue that earned a Michelin star in 2021. Sakura worked at Soichi from the beginning – mostly as a waitress, but also learning the ropes behind the scenes, the things that go into running a great restaurant. Her father is the head chef at Soichi, and her mother runs the business.



Ice matcha latte



Strawberry parfait

In 2022, chef Oz Blackaller, the owner of the restaurant next door to Soichi, Cueva Bar Café, (later rebranded as De Nada Kitchen & Market) decided he wanted to sell his restaurant and contacted the Kadoyas. He was curious to see if they had any interest in expanding Soichi. The family preferred the small, intimate vibe of Soichi and declined chef Oz' offer. However, in January of 2023, having been unable to find the right buyer, chef Oz reached out to the Kadoyas again. This time, Sakura expressed her desire to run her own restaurant; and so, her mother and father helped make it a reality.



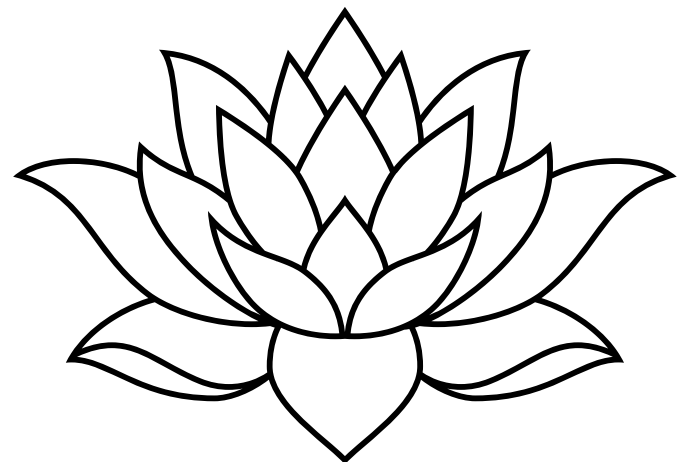
Omurice

Initially, Sakura wanted her restaurant to focus mainly on desserts and tea. However, after more discussions with her mom and dad and partner, Rey Palisoc, it was decided to model the new restaurant after the Japanese-style cafes in the 1950s called "Kissten" – a place to hang out with friends or family and sip coffee and eat light snacks. As they started to plan the menu, Sakura and Rey wanted to serve Japanese comfort foods, such as Omurice (egg omelet with rice inside), Doria (a hot dish of rice with tomato sauce and cheese), and Naporitan (Japanese pasta with tomato-based sauce). In addition to serving coffee (with beans purchased from a local Japanese business, Bay Park coffee), they will be serving a wide variety of teas, including Hojicha – a roasted green tea.

In choosing the name for her restaurant, Sakura wanted something that was bright and cheerful. She opted for "Hatsuzakura" – the Japanese word for the first cherry blossoms of the season. Sakura and Rey have spent the last few months totally re-designing the space that was once a dark tapas bar. They used pastel colors to lighten and brighten up the space. It remains a delightfully small cozy restaurant that can accommodate about 20-25 patrons. Sakura kept the bar seating and will be serving Japanese beers and wines. Eventually, they plan to have tables outside for alfresco dining for, hopefully, more customers.

They anticipate the restaurant will open sometime in mid-May. Sakura will be in the kitchen cooking up the fabulous dishes and Rey will be welcoming in the customers and running the business-side of things. The plan is to be open 6 days a week (closed on Mondays) from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sakura and Rey want their restaurant to be a place to hang out, socialize, and eat good food – whether it is a date night, girls' night out, or family get together, they want everyone to feel welcome and have a delicious meal at Hatsuzakura. Located at 2123 Adams Ave, [hatsuzakurasd.com](http://hatsuzakurasd.com).

—Jane Gilbert



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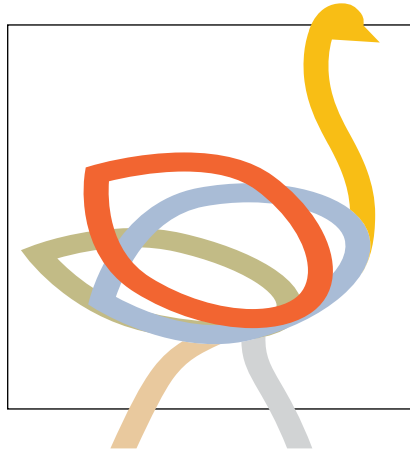
OUR UH HISTORY

# THE OSTRICH STORY OF UH

Told for 135 years, this tale never grows old.

University Heights is one of San Diego's oldest communities, one with a colorful and exciting history. Our story began in 1888 when the College Hill Land Association subdivided the land that bordered the City Park for the purpose of developing the University of Southern California College of Fine Arts. The lots were sold at "reasonable prices" and part of the cost was to go into a college building fund. However, a national recession halted the construction. In 1898, the land was donated to build a Normal School, a teacher training college.

At the end of North and Adams Avenues, the San Diego Cable Railway Company developed The Bluffs, a park that eventually was purchased by John D. Spreckels just before the turn of the 20th century. This 20-acre botanical garden, Mission Cliff, was the end of the line for the streetcars Spreckels owned and was considered the city's premier public park. In 1904, the Harvey Bentley Ostrich Farm moved to UH and enjoyed great success because of the popularity of ostrich feathers in women's fashions.



The farm also was open to the public and visitors could ride the birds for a fee. In 1913, a trolley car barn was built next to the farm. The barn was used for repairs and downtime storage of the trolley cars until the 1940s, when buses replaced the street cars.

From 1949 until 1986, the property was the home of the San Diego Paper Box Company. In 1979, the property was sold and the building was demolished. Today this historical site is the Old Trolley Barn Park, a crowning achievement of UHCA. The Park, inspired by the original Mission Cliff Gardens, won a prestigious AIA Orchid Award in 1992. One hundred and thirty-five years after its beginnings, UH remains a vibrant neighborhood and the ostrich graces our pages as a reminder of our community's proud heritage.

## June 4th UH Canyon Cleanup

Fire Season is rapidly approaching fueled by the record rainfall this winter. Now is the time to work together to mitigate the risks from the buildup of invasive vegetation and highly flammable waste from abandoned campsites. All of UH is in a Cal Fire zone because of our proximity to canyons, so this concerns all of us. UHCA is teaming up with I Love a Clean San Diego and Adopt a Canyon to conduct fire mitigation in UH.



Cleanup Volunteers in June 2019

The first of these cleanups will be Sunday June 4th from 9 am to Noon at the S-163 freeway on-ramp (near Washington St just west of Lincoln Ave), which will be closed to traffic during the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon.

We will start at Mystic Canyon (aka Camelot Canyon) under the Vermont St Pedestrian Bridge and work our way down along Hwy 163. Please sign up at [cleanup@uhsd.org](mailto:cleanup@uhsd.org). Remember to wear protective clothing and bring water. Tools will be provided. Please tell your neighbors. Thank you and stay safe!

—Stu McGraw



## UHCA NEWS HELP WANTED

If you would like to submit articles for publication, have a knack for editing, or want to get more involved with keeping our community better informed, consider helping the UHCA Newspaper. We're looking for writers and editors to lend a hand. This is a great way to volunteer a little bit of your time. Send an email to [news@uhsd.org](mailto:news@uhsd.org) and let us know how you want to contribute to our monthly publication.

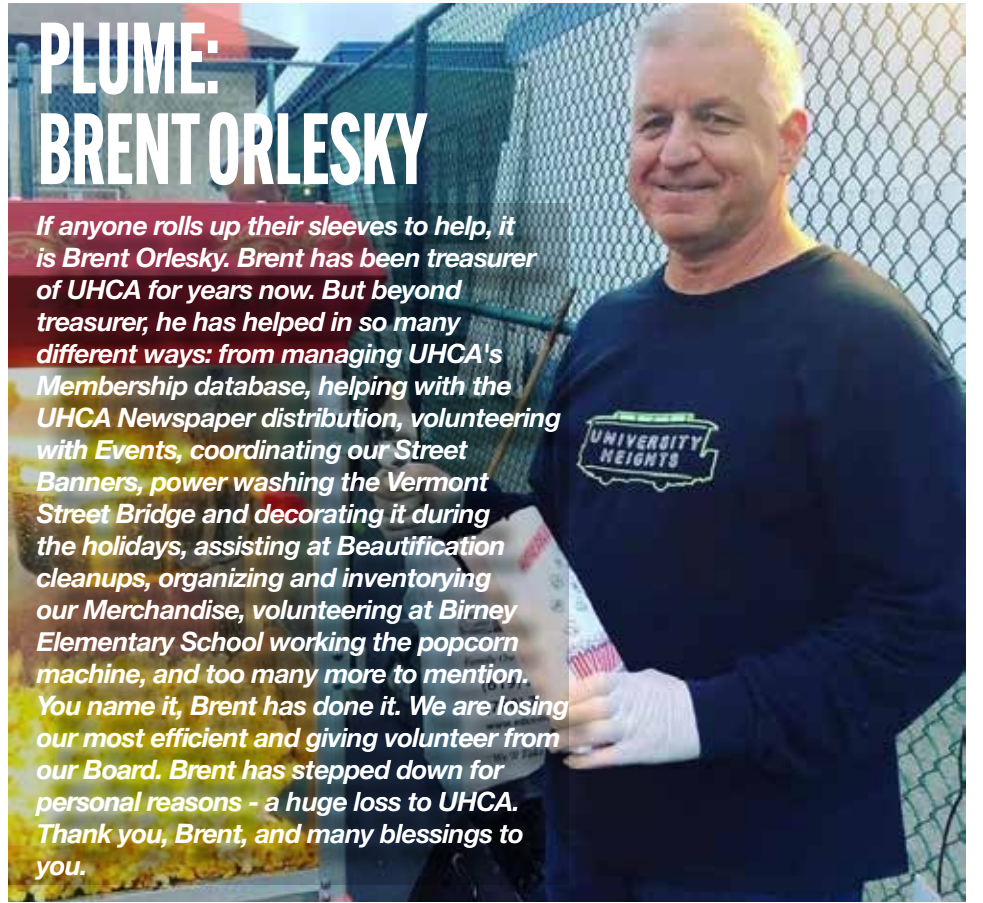
## SUMMER SPORTS ON BIRNEY FIELD

Get ready to have some fun this summer at the Alice Birney Field! Join your neighbors for Grass Volleyball (6v6 Coed Social / Best of 5) on Tuesdays, PRIDE Kickball League (11v11) on Wednesdays, and Kickball (11v11 Coed) on Thursdays, starting June 6th and running until July 13th. Each series will be 4 weeks + 2 playoff weeks. Our friends at Volo Sports [volosports.com](http://volosports.com) are passing along a discount for UHCA members. Please help us reach our GOAL to start a Free Youth League in UH! Please email [sports@uhsd.org](mailto:sports@uhsd.org) for more information. Have a fun summer!

—Stu McGraw

## PLUME: BRENT ORLESKY

If anyone rolls up their sleeves to help, it is Brent Orlesky. Brent has been treasurer of UHCA for years now. But beyond treasurer, he has helped in so many different ways: from managing UHCA's Membership database, helping with the UHCA Newspaper distribution, volunteering with Events, coordinating our Street Banners, power washing the Vermont Street Bridge and decorating it during the holidays, assisting at Beautification cleanups, organizing and inventorying our Merchandise, volunteering at Birney Elementary School working the popcorn machine, and too many more to mention. You name it, Brent has done it. We are losing our most efficient and giving volunteer from our Board. Brent has stepped down for personal reasons - a huge loss to UHCA. Thank you, Brent, and many blessings to you.



## FRIENDS OF BUCHANAN CANYON

On that September day back in 1957 when San Diego had the first 5-alarm fire, it was a relatively mild one for September-75 degrees. The humidity was 55%, but then the 9.5 MPH winds soon whipped up a firestorm of 50 MPH throughout Buchanan Canyon. This fast acting fire took out houses along the canyon rims, many on Rhode Island Street. The lush conditions from our recent rains can turn very dry very soon. It may be time to resurrect Friends of Buchanan Canyon!

Let us know your volunteer interest by sending an email to [buchanan@uhsd.org](mailto:buchanan@uhsd.org).

—Nan McGraw



Buchanan Canyon

## OUR REPRESENTATIVES

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Malik Thornton (district rep.)  
[ThorntonM@sandiego.gov](mailto:ThorntonM@sandiego.gov)

BEAUTIFICATION

# Second Annual Birney Elementary Tree Maintenance Project is Again a Success!

If you have walked along Meade Avenue between Park and Campus alongside Birney Elementary School you will have noticed a number of wonderful changes. The weeds are gone, the area has been mowed, trash and graffiti removed and all the trees have been fertilized and mulched.

In addition, decorative river stones were placed along that section and around the trees. This is all thanks to a very hardworking crew of volunteers that showed up Saturday, April 15, and spent the entire morning working hard to beautify that part of University Heights as part of the Second Annual Birney Elementary Tree Maintenance Project.

A big thank you goes out to the following individuals: Alissa & Jeff Matthias, Frank Santana, Jennifer Bishop, Jeremiah Allen, Kesler Randall, Lynne Russo, Mary Barger, MaryBeth Chruden, Naida Hindert, Rob McDonald, Sol Schumer, Stu McGraw, Zack Garcia.

Special recognition goes out to the following people:

- Alissa & Jeff Matthias for trucking in the river stones and mulch and also spending the entire morning helping with all aspects of the project.
- Kesler Randall for working non-stop mowing down the weeds then weed-wacking the edges.
- Sol Schumer for coordinating all the tools and supplies and getting them to the site.

Our community is incredibly fortunate to have the commitment of all our volunteers and we appreciate you! If you would like to give the gift of your time and energy to beautifying University Heights, please contact Beautification Team Leader Jennifer Bishop at [beautification@uhsd.org](mailto:beautification@uhsd.org) to be added to the volunteer list and notified of future projects.

We are also seeking committee members to help identify and plan future projects. Our committee normally meets the first Wednesday of each month from 6-7 pm, though we will not be meeting in June - August; our next Committee meeting will be on September 6, 2023. Have a great Summer.

—Jennifer Bishop



Alissa & Jeff with River Stones



Frank with Pruned Palm Branches



Kesler Mowing Growth



MaryBeth Weeding



For three hours on Saturday evening April 29th, Park Boulevard from Adams Avenue to Monroe Avenue was transformed into an excited sea of people weaving their way from the Diversionary Theatre to Cecilia's Fine Jewelry. Just about every business and restaurant on Park Boulevard participated in the event offering samples and discounts. Live music by Chickenbone Slim and the Biscuits and Fast Heart Mart Trio whirled through the excited crowd of locals and visitors.

The annual event, hosted by the University Heights Community Association gave anyone who purchased a wristband access to more than 20 restaurants and shops. Each business offered bites to eat and drinks. Kairoa passed out mushroom rolls and Twiggs baked up some tasty bites of cake.

Long-time University Heights residents mingled with newcomers and those whose first time it was in the neighborhood. The event was a combination food festival, restaurant walk, and international food fair and a fitting way to show off our diverse community.

So much has transformed along this section of Park Boulevard in the past year and Party on Park offered the perfect way to let our community shine and celebrate all it has accomplished.

A special thanks to the many volunteers who worked tirelessly to plan and implement this community event.



UHCA Table



Bahm Thai



UHCA Library POP



Eden POP



Food Samples



Couple in Hats



Wristbands



Johnston's

We met a lot of new community members who hadn't been in before, and we had a great crowd. Thanks for organizing Party on Park and we look forward to participating again next year. - Diversionary

We loved being a part of it again this year! It brings great attention to local businesses including ours and we appreciate you & the UHCA team for coordinating and putting it all together. - Eden plant nursery

Thanks for everything you do for UH - Hsi Fang Temple

Happy to be on Park! - La Loupe Vintage

Thanks for a gr8 events! We love u guys!! - Liber8fit

We had a great time with the neighbors/ neighborhood. - Parkhouse Eatery

Thank you for putting Party on Park together! I appreciate everything you do for the neighborhood and businesses. - Shangri La Vintage



BETWEEN THE COVERS

# UH Library Happenings

Hello University Heights Community! I am excited to share about June events at the University Heights Branch Library! The storytime & crafts programs with yours truly, Miss Helene the Youth Services Librarian, continues. We are also hosting a Library NExT workshop for youth in 3rd – 5th grade called “Envisioning a Sustainable City of the Future.” Pre-registration is available online at [tinyurl.com/NExTwrkshp](http://tinyurl.com/NExTwrkshp) or by using the following QR code:



The San Diego Public Library’s yearly Summer Reading Program returns! This year’s theme is “Find Your Voice!” San Diego residents of all ages are encouraged to sign up for this event and use their voices to share their stories, express themselves, and spark change. Complete a combination of 10 books, hours of reading or activities to claim your prizes. Sign-up begins June 1st and the program lasts through August 31st.

We want to remind everyone that the Friends of the University Heights Library has an ongoing book sale inside the library during regular business hours. In addition, the Friends of the San Diego Public Library continues their monthly book sale located on the lower level of the library on the third Saturday and Sunday of the month. Please show your support of library services by purchasing books and other items from these Library Friends groups. And do consider joining the Friends of the University Heights Library as they engage in library advocacy and help raise funds to support our library and programs. For more details, visit [friendsofuhlibrary.org](http://friendsofuhlibrary.org).

As of Sunday, April 16th the SDPL Central Library and 14 branch locations have begun to have Sunday hours again. The closest locations to University Heights would be Mission Valley, City Heights, and the downtown Central Library.

You can learn further details about library programs by following the University Heights Branch Library’s Facebook page (@universityheightslibrary) and the SDPL online calendar of events. Please see this UHCA newspaper’s calendar page to make note of our June programs.

—Helene Idels, Library Assistant II  
 University Heights Branch Library  
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[www.sandiego.gov](http://www.sandiego.gov)  
 619-692-4912  
 UH Branch Hours  
 Monday-Tuesday 11:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday-Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
 Closed Sunday

UH GARDEN CLUB

# Irrigation 101

Join the University Heights Garden Club for a seminar on Efficient Irrigation for Urban Farming on Saturday, June 10th from 10:00 - 11:30 AM at the UH Library. Backyard gardener Chris Sera will share with attendees the various types of irrigation systems, including drip emitters, drip line, and low flow in-ground vessels. Chris will also address water pressure regulators, timers, and tapping into existing sprinkler systems for garden bed irrigation.



The University Heights Library will be making irrigation related books available for library card holders to check out for attendees to use for further guidance at home.

Two lucky social media winners will receive low-flow, in ground vessels at the seminar. Winners must be in attendance to receive their giveaway prize.

Register to attend this free event at [tinyurl.com/EfficWatering](http://tinyurl.com/EfficWatering)  
 —Lauren Doucette



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## BIRNEY BUZZ

### Birney's IB Connections Help Its Students Thrive

Birney's IB program is the foundation for the successes that its students enjoy. The program instills that learning is a lifelong journey and emphasizes a global worldview. Recently, Birney was remotely visited by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) to evaluate Birney; this review takes place every five years. In preparation, Birney stakeholders completed a year-long self-study. During the visit, an IB team from Mexico City and Nevada met with a panel of teachers, parents, students, and district leadership.

Ms. Amanda, Birney's Principal, remarked on the IBO visit: "They were very impressed with Birney, commenting on how caring the school appeared to be, both at the staff and student level. They remarked on the amount of joy and happiness they witnessed in the classrooms." Ms. Sims, IB Resource Teacher, added: "We were also commended for our support of students and families during the pandemic, use of a variety of environments including the Birney Garden specials program, and development of connections with our local community."



Interactive exhibit at Torrey Pines allowed Birney students to touch snake skin

Birney's IB program is supported by FOABE, who raises funds to pay for specials. FOABE held one of its



Second graders Sol, Olivia H, Olivia P, and Clara enjoy Movie Night on the Birney Field

fundraisers, the 2nd Annual Birney Movie Night and Bake-off on May 6th. Families entered their baked goods into a competition and also had the chance to vote on their favorites. Tickets were sold to watch the movie *The Mitchells vs. the Machines* on the Birney field. Families laid out blankets, snacked on popcorn and cotton candy, and cozied up for the movie. The event was successful as a fundraiser and in bringing together the Birney community.



Fourth graders look out at the ocean on their field trip to Torrey Pines State Natural Park

FOABE also assists with funding field trips connected to the IB program of inquiry. The fourth grade classes were fortunate to go on their second field trip of the year to Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve. They hiked the trails with park docents and learned about the park's plants, animals, and geology. Fourth grader Devon S said, "It was an amazing, informational field trip that I enjoyed very much. I learned that there are these things called lemonade berries and the coating on the berry tastes like lemonade!"

If you'd like to get involved, please reach out to FOABE at [info@friendsofalicebirney.org](mailto:info@friendsofalicebirney.org).

— Sarah Layne, Proud Birney Parent and UH Community Member

## ROO NEWS

### Roosevelt Middle School Celebrates Centennial with an IB Fest for the Ages

Sorry nerds, May fourth is no longer Star Wars Day. Nor is it Dave Brubeck day, jazz nerds. By proclamation of hizzoner Todd Gloria, May 4, 2023 will heretofore be known as "Roosevelt Middle School Day" throughout the city of San Diego!



Students, Administration, School Board, and City officials celebrate Roosevelt's centennial

Okay, so RMS Day is a one-off for this year, in recognition of a century serving San Diego families; but in the hearts of the Roosevelt community, the day will always belong to us.

On Thursday, May fourth, families, students, staff, and community members celebrated a century of educating San Diego's tweens with DJs, live musical performances, games, food trucks, student showcase exhibits, and a new mascot reveal.

Every year, Roosevelt International Middle School hosts its International Baccalaureate (IB) Fest, an open-house event meant to show off the brilliance of its students and the manifestation of IB principles in the school culture. But this year, IB fest also recognized the centennial of one of the city's crucial educational institutions.

The festivities began with performances by the beginning and advanced Band and Orchestra, under the baton of Nathan Elias-Kocivar, the conductor and music program director. The music was followed by inspirational comments from dignitaries both young and formerly young. Principal Steinberger and School Board Member Richard Barrera kicked off the speechifying, followed by Student leader Jacob Nitzel and ASB President Madi McNamara, who



Steve Hill from the Mayor's office (R) presents Principal Steinberger with the proclamation of "Roosevelt Middle School Day"

shared their experiences as Pandemic-era students at Roosevelt, celebrating the accomplishments and support of their peers and teachers during their tenure.

Next on the podium was San Diego Unified School District Superintendent Lamont Jackson, who, after lamenting his placement in the lineup after such dynamic young speakers, shared his own hard-won insights regarding leadership.

Finally, Steve Hill, representing Mayor Gloria's office, commemorated Roosevelt's centennial by unveiling the official proclamation of "Roosevelt Middle School Day," noting that his own parents had attended the school in the 1940s.



The cast and crew of Roosevelt's upcoming production of "The Addams Family" pose in front of the selfie wall

After the speeches, attendees were treated to a sneak preview of a number from the Roosevelt Theatre Club's spring musical production of "The Addams Family." They were then invited to observe displays of student projects among the classrooms and buildings on campus. And as the grand finale, the new school mascot, chosen by the student body, was revealed. Roosevelt students will no longer be known as "Roughriders;" but rather, as the equally fierce, but less martial, "Bears."

For more information on what's new with the Roughri-er-Bears, please visit [roofriends.org](http://roofriends.org), home of the Friends of Roosevelt Foundation.

— Andy Hinds

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## 2023 Summer in the Park Concerts

The University Heights Community Development Corporation is currently scheduling its 25th Annual Friday Concert Series in Old Trolley Barn Park, to begin on July 7th. The following bands have been selected: July 14th - Chickenbone Slim and The Biscuits; July 21st - San Diego Funk All Stars; July 28th - Sue Palmer and Her Motel Swing Orchestra.

We are hoping to bring back Plow on July 7th but have not had a confirmation yet. We were sorry to hear that one of their band members had recently been killed in a motorcycle accident.

The UHCA News July/August edition will have a 4-page spread with photos and write ups on the bands, recognition of our co-sponsors, whose continued support enable this annual event to happen. Come to think of it - without the exemplary



efforts of the UHCDC's all-volunteer board (we do have to blow our own horn) this event may not have endured so long and been so successful.

See you there.

— Ernie Bonn, Event Coordinator

FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

## A Code of Conduct Will Encourage Participation in Civic Affairs

The erosion of civility in our society is troubling on many fronts, but especially when it infringes on people's ability to participate in matters of public importance.

For those of us who were brought up to say "please" and "thank you," it is disheartening to see how everyday interactions can now be punctuated by rudeness or personal attacks. Incivility rarely has consequences, and it can even be celebrated – on social media and by the mainstream media – as clever, or justified, or important.

Each round of bad behavior encourages and makes easier the next. The result is that many people no longer want to participate in public discourse. I'm not here as Miss Manners, but as your City Attorney. I see the effects of incivility through the lens of city government and how it can impede our ability to best serve our constituents. In my view, full public participation depends on our creating safe places for our citizens to interact with city officials and with each other.

Our city needs to operate with a Code of Conduct that protects the public's rights before things get too far out of hand. Through such a code, we can set standards for how city officials, city employees, and the public treat each other when we are conducting official business. For example, members of the public should not be intimidated from giving input into public policy. If they cannot address the City Council without being vilified by people who disagree with them, they may never return to the council chambers. They may also balk at bringing other concerns to our attention, such as reporting sexual harassment, conflicts of interest, or other serious problems.

At a recent public hearing on a contentious issue, one group of San Diegans repeatedly hurled vile insults at another during the public comment period. Nothing was said to lower the temperature in the room or subdue the angry rhetoric, perhaps because we're so accustomed to ugly behavior that we no longer gauge its impact on others. But nothing prevents us from promoting mutual respect. Rather than impeding free speech, it encourages it.

Many agencies across the country have



adopted codes of conduct. They typically include:

- Creating a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere that allows people of different viewpoints to disagree and freedom to challenge one another's thinking.
- Modeling of professional and respectful behavior by all elected and appointed officials, including their facial expressions and body language.
- Allowing speakers to make remarks without interruption or argument.
- Promoting thoughtful debate that is free of accusations and personal attacks.
- Extending courtesy even to those who don't return it. Our values are cheapened if they apply only to those who share our views.

Frequently a code of conduct, once adopted, will be posted at public meetings, printed in their agendas, and shown as part of televised proceedings. It also should apply to employees who take phone calls, answer emails, field complaints, or in any way interact with the public.

Of course, adopting a code, and even referring to it regularly, will not prevent some people from acting coarsely and interfering with the conduct of business. But a code can discourage those people from crossing a line that leads to their removal from a public building or meeting. Just as importantly, everyone benefits from occasional reminders about how a civil society works. If the loudest and rudest appear to wield the greatest influence, it may be tempting for others to adopt their tactics. Setting ground rules to make clear what we should expect, and what is expected of us, allows everyone to have a fuller voice in our civic affairs.

— Mara W. Elliott, San Diego City Attorney

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UH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**UH ARCHITECTURAL STYLES: SPANISH COLONIAL REVIVAL**

Founded in 1888, University Heights is one of San Diego’s oldest neighborhoods with several significant historic landmarks including the former Mission Cliff Gardens, Ostrich Farm, Trolley Car barn, and San Diego Normal School.

University Heights also has many older homes, including 170 that are historically designated, representing a wide variety of architectural styles from Craftsman, Spanish Colonial Revival, Minimal Traditional, Contemporary, Victorian, and Queen Anne Free Classic to Mission Revival.



4435 New Jersey St.

This is the second in a series of articles that will focus on the architectural features that define some of the most common architectural styles in University Heights. Homes designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival style were built between 1910 and 1945 and represent about 20% of the properties in the 2007 Uptown Historic Resource Survey database for University Heights.

**What is the Spanish Colonial Architectural Style?**

Architectural style is defined as a set of characteristics and features that make a building or other structure notable or historically identifiable.

Spanish influenced architecture was revived in San Diego when New York architect, Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, designed the master plan for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition. Buildings within the Exposition ranged in style from Spanish Baroque Churrigueresque to more vernacular building forms influenced by the architecture of Spain, Mexico and Native Americans throughout California, the Southwest, and Florida.

After the Exposition closed in 1917 and throughout the 1930s, Spanish influenced design was very prominent in residential architecture.

**Spanish Colonial Style Architectural Features**

There are a wide variety of identifying features of the Spanish Colonial style including asymmetrical facades, stucco exterior walls, prominent arches, low-pitched roofs with little or no eave overhang, and red tile roof cladding. Decorative details influenced by Moorish, Byzantine, Gothic, and Renaissance designs, such as towers, arches, decorative tiles, and grilles, are also utilized.

For a slide show of University Heights homes with Spanish Colonial architectural features, please visit <http://www.uhhs-uhcdc.org/blog>.

— Ginger Weatherford, Architectural Historian, <http://www.gingerweatherford.com>

**The Path to Understanding**

The road to understanding life,  
often a twisted, dark aisle  
along our stop and go approach,  
is filled with tight, narrow openings.  
We learn we have to go slow - yes, slow.

Steady advance is not easy  
if twilight is the fade often given.  
Barriers and risky turns give  
our determination a beating  
standing at forks along any trek.

One presumes pathways to success are based  
on feeling the way forth, guided by walls  
often slippery-wet with potholes cave deep.  
Crossroads make decisions near impossible  
yet alone, we refuse to look back,  
fortitude leading our way.

There will always be sharp curves  
in any progression along life’s journey.  
With committed understanding of a desired end,  
needs and desires, the bright of day will come  
into view, a clear sign of success has been achieved.

- Jon Von Erb, Your University Heights Poet



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