

NEXT UHCA MEETING FEBRUARY 1

ALICE BIRNEY ELEMENTARY
AUDITORIUM / 4345 CAMPUS AVENUE
6:45 pm CRIME WATCH 7:00 pm MEETING

Our featured speaker at the UHCA meeting on Thursday, February 1, 2018, will be Shanan Spearing, who owns Red House Pizza on Park Blvd. Shanan will discuss his latest project, Kairoa Brewing Company, which will occupy the property on the northeast corner of Park and Madison formerly occupied by Mueller College. Please join us at the meeting for an interesting discussion of this new addition to UH, and sample some excellent pizza from Red House, which Shanan has promised to bring. In addition, check out our new, cool UHCA merchandise, and enjoy some Valentine's Day treats.

LOOKING AHEAD:

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2018

The topic for our next meeting is: Future Use of the Board of Education Property. Our featured speakers will be Richard Barrera, District D Board Trustee for the San Diego Unified School District, and Chris Ward, Councilmember for the Third District. This issue of the UHCA News contains several articles on this important land use issue in our community. Please attend the March 1 meeting when we will have more information regarding the proposed development of this parcel.

University Heights Community Association February 2018

NEWS



SCHOOL DISTRICT MOVING TO REDEVELOP ED CENTER PROPERTY

You may have heard the saying that 1 percent of the people make things happen, 10 percent pay attention to what's happening, and the rest just ask, "What happened?" However, don't feel bad if you weren't aware that the San Diego Unified School District recently voted to consider swapping its Education Center at Park Boulevard and Normal Street for a new ready-to-occupy headquarters and auditorium somewhere near a freeway. Even the 10 percent who pay attention were caught by surprise.

The school district took advantage of a California Education Code provision

that lets them trade one property for another without first offering it to other schools or agencies (or for other public purposes such as parks or libraries) and without public notice or input. Developers have until March 15 to respond to the district's Request for Proposal (RFP-SV-18-0709-08-0-2018/NE), issued on December 14, 2017, "to exchange the following District owned real property: Eugene Brucker Education Center, Fremont/Ballard Center, Instructional Media Center, to secure a suitable property to become the new District Central Office."

Whoever the developer is, they may need to request a zoning amendment and changes to the Uptown Community Plan. The Land Use element of that plan requires consideration of the use of the Education Center property for medium-high residential and mixed-use development, but also for "public space, and/or the rehabilitation and reuse of buildings such as the Teachers' Training Annex" (LU-2.17). The Public Facilities element calls for support for relocation of the UH Branch Library to the Teachers' Training Annex "should the property become available," and the Recreational element requires exploring the possibility of "providing a public park" within the redevelopment of the property.

Board Trustee Richard Barrera has requested the community's partnership so you can count on UHCA to provide a forum for residents to voice their concerns and preferences to city officials and potential developers. Stay tuned and stay informed. -William Smith



ANNOUNCEMENT

Upcoming San Diego Unified School District Board of Education Meetings

Dates: 2/13, 2/27, 3/13

Place: Eugene Brucker Education Center Auditorium, 4100 Normal St.

Time: 5:00 pm

Members of the public wishing to provide public testimony must do one of the following by 1:00 pm on the day of the board meeting:

- Submit an online form at sandiegounified.org/forms/public-testimony-request;
- Call the Board Services Office at (619) 725-5550; or
- Turn in a "Public Testimony Request Form" to the Board Action Officer prior to the start of the meeting for non-agenda public testimony.

COMING SOON TO UH KAIROA BREWING COMPANY

Join us at the February 1, 2018, monthly meeting of the University Heights Community Association where we will discuss Kairoa Brewing Company, the new brewpub coming to University Heights this spring.

Originally from New Zealand, I decided to venture out in 2011. Red House Pizza was born, featuring pizzas named after the local area, as well as some tributes to places important to our staff.

We are mindful of the fact that our neighborhood is full of health conscious and ethically driven eaters. We regularly alter our menu by adding new pizzas, creating vegan offerings, and exploring ingredients.

With the upcoming Kairoa Brewing Company, we are looking to build off the founding principles of Red House that have worked so well; fresh ingredients with a creative flair. Kairoa is a passion project, driven by a love of food

and beer and steered by the talents of two brothers. The name is a tribute to our shared New Zealand heritage. Kairoa will be a full service restaurant with shareable plates to enjoy with friends and family. We will offer vegan and vegetarian dishes, as well as gluten-free options and a tasty kids menu. There will be something for everyone and plenty of intriguing flavors for the palates of our patrons.

We will offer a meeting place for old and new friends, a date night location, a kid-friendly atmosphere, and a place everyone feels welcome. Our plan really enables us to design the space into what we need it to be, with more secluded areas for dining, as well as open space and a kid-friendly area.

We hope the neighborhood will come along with us for this exciting ride and help create the community-minded space we so passionately envision.
- Shanan Spearing

SURVEY RE FUTURE USE OF THE ED CENTER PROPERTY

As explained in detail in the News, the San Diego Unified School District will be exchanging their property at Park Blvd. and Normal St. for a property elsewhere in San Diego. We encourage you to take the following survey in order to further our goal of providing crucial community input on this important issue as the SDUSD goes through the process.

Please check as many potential uses of the property as you wish to indicate your preference. To submit your entry, please do one of the following: tear out the survey and return it to UHCA at the next community meeting on Feb. 1 or email your response to Stuart McGraw (UHCA Treasurer and Board member of Uptown Planners) at stumcgraw@gmail.com. Additional copies of the survey will be available at the UHCA meeting on Feb. 1.

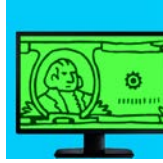
Q What use would you like to see on the Ed Center property?

- (A) Residential (apartments, condos, etc.)
- (B) Commercial/ retail
- (C) Mixed use (residential and retail)
- (D) Institutional (for example, library, community center, etc.)
- (E) Park (playground, gardens, dog park, etc.)
- (F) Other (fill in the blank _____)

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

MEMBERSHIP

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



NEW / RENEWING MEMBERS

SPECIAL DONATIONS

Carol Baras and Baras Foundation, Andrew Guzzon

GOLDEN OSTRICH

Jill Kruse & Renee Gregorio, Monica Lanctot & Adam Graham, Carol Neidenberg, Cynthia Robinson & Lynn Bush, JD Abercrombie & Brie Witko, Andrew Guzzon, Albert & Sharon Cutri, Jeanne Hall & Karen Watts

BUSINESS

Roxanne Govari & Pemberly Real Estate

HOUSEHOLD

Holland Kessinger, Mimi Rothman & Russell Pierce, Mary Jo Barr & Jane Gilbert, Tommy Cope & Filly Gaines, Maureen Markey & Peter Rose, Phil Patterson, Hans & Heidi Baumgartner, Andrew & Mary Lange, Tom Mullaney, Richard Burhenne, James Gerber, Ryan Kelley, Priscilla Dickson, Caryn Sumek, Edith Jacobsen & Gene Johnson, Andy & Paula Cameron, Jean & Deb Andrew, Phyllis Charlton & Randi Dropkin, Linda Hotchkiss & Bridget MacConnel, Patrick Treese, Alex Sachs, Erin & David MacKinnon, Susan & David Holts, Kessler & Tori Randall, Martha Carey & Elisabeth Fidler, Steven Nugent & Donald Ashley, Peter & Gail Volkert, Karen Rohrbaugh & Janis Legzdins

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

JOIN, RENEW OR DONATE ONLINE AT UHSD.ORG.



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

Yearly Membership

- \$25 Household
- \$45 Membership & mailed UHCA News
- \$75 Business Membership
- \$100 Golden Ostrich

Name _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Referred by _____

- NEW
- RENEWAL

University Heights Community Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization. A portion of your membership is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For more info, email membership@uhsd.org

Donor

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

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 arts, 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

UHCA NEWS

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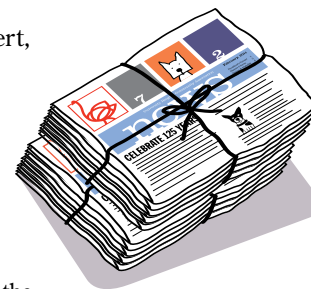
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Published 10 times per year by the University Heights Community Association. We welcome articles, letters, and announcements about issues and events relating to University Heights. The deadline for submission is the 5th of the month. Email submissions to uhcnews@yahoo.com. We retain the right to edit submissions for style and content.



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SECRETARY Kurt Hermansen

TREASURER Stuart McGraw

WEBSITE uhsd.org

FACEBOOK /universityheightscommunityassociation

INSTAGRAM /UniversityHeightsSD

UHCA OFFICERS

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 Christopher Hutchinson** christopherhutchinson@hotmail.com
- 5 Tamara Zyhylij** tamara@tamarazhomes.com
- 6 Mark Koopman** mkzw6@yahoo.com



NEW CRIME WATCH SIGNS

Be on the lookout for the new signs that are now up. If you know of an old dilapidated sign that should be given priority, please email UHCA Secretary Kurt Hermansen at: kdh@habeaskurtus.com.



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.

UH PHONE BOOK

Emergency • Police • Fire • Medical 911
Non-Emergency Suspicious Activity, Homeless Outreach Team, etc. 619-531-2000
 Online: non-emergency problems: www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done
SD City Services non-emergency: street lights, pot holes, etc. 619-527-7500
 Online: www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments
SD City Services emergency 619-527-7500
 Online: www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments
 Storm damage: fallen trees, flooding, clogged storm drains
Alert San Diego reverse 911 notification to mobile phones for emergencies
 Requiring evacuations www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego/
2-1-1 San Diego
 Free Community Resources Cal Fresh, Medi-Care, Covered California, etc. 211 or 858-300-1211
Abandoned Vehicles 858-495-7856
Alice Birney Elementary Office 619-497-3500
Animals / Non-Emergency 619-767-2675
Brush and Weed Abatement 619-533-4444
Code Violations 619-236-5500
Crime Stoppers Tip Line 888-580-TIPS (8477)
Department of Environmental Health public health/rats/rodents 858-694-2888
Downed Power Lines / SDG&E 800-411-7343
Emergency Water / Sewer Repair / Sink Holes 619-515-3525
Narcotics suspicious drug house / anonymous 619-531-2468

Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) 619-692-4945
 Vacation home security check, welfare of home-bound, patrolling business districts, homeland security support
SDPD Community Relations Officers:
 David Surwilo (dsurwilo@pd.sandiego.gov) 619-692-4858
 Ricardo Pinon (rpinon@pd.sandiego.gov) 619-692-4821
SDPD Western Division 5215 Gaines Street 619-692-4800
Shopping Cart Pick-Up Service 800-252-4613
UHCDC University Heights Community Development Corp 4452 Park Blvd 619-297-3166
University Heights Public Library 4193 Park Blvd 619-692-4912
UH Zone Watch Coordinator Nan McGraw nmcsan@aol.com 619-260-0668
Graffiti: In Progress Emergency: 911
 Report Online: apps.sandiego.gov/streetdiv/) email photos: cericson@pd.sandiego.gov
 Graffiti Hotline: 619-257-7500
SD Vector Control mosquitoes / ticks / rats 858-694-2888
 Online: vector@sdcounty.ca.gov

If all else fails, email TRenner@sandiego.gov at Councilmember Chris Ward's office.



DISASTER CONTACTS

In case of a major disaster such as an earthquake or fire, have two out of state contacts on speed dial. When the power is off cordless phones won't work. Have a basic phone you can plug into a phone jack that you can use for calls.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CAROL NEIDENBERG

Not dissimilar to many of your New Year's resolutions, my top ones fall into a few general categories: eat better, save more money, and exercise more. By the time you are reading this column, however, 25 percent of New Year's resolutions will have been forgotten including most likely mine. It is estimated that by December 2018, only 10 percent of our resolutions will have been fulfilled. Then why do we even make them?

Perhaps this time, I'll try another approach and focus on feeling more compassion and gratitude. Starting with the many volunteers who work tirelessly—and oftentimes unseen—to make UH a better place to live and work. We need to take pride in the small accomplishments such as the bridge holiday lighting, the Texas Street clean up, the successful bike to work and movies in the park events. As your President, I commit to listening more carefully and expressing my ongoing gratitude towards the countless volunteers. I will strive to improve our communication with UHCA mem-

bers to encourage greater participation and involvement, whether it be on an on-going committee or a one-time event.

This year holds the promise of being the most eventful and impactful one for University Heights in decades. I am referring to the redevelopment of the massive property owned by the San Diego Unified School District, generally known as the Educational Center (located at the intersection of Park Blvd., El Cajon Blvd., and Washington St.) . This is the time for us to come together. Let our collective New Year's Resolution be to work together to "avoid the ravages of apathetic and helpless neighborhoods" (apologies to Jane Jacobs). As an involved community, we need to engage the soon-to-be-chosen developer early on to ensure buildings that balance the multiple needs and create a space for 21st century living. A re-envisioned space that can be used by diverse people in an ever-changing urban community. University Heights has a long history of activism. The time to be heard and become involved is now.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

The December 7, 2017, University Heights Community Association general meeting included announcements, awards, and a dessert potluck.

During the crime watch part of the meeting, Nan McGraw asked residents to be on the lookout for smoke and fires during this dangerous fire season. She reminded us that San Diego's very first 5-alarm fire, in our own Buchanan Canyon in the mid-1905s, destroyed a number of homes on Rhode Island Street.

Sean Redmond from Stonewall Citizens' Patrol, our neighborhood eyes and ears for the San Diego Police, encouraged attendees to visit www.stonewall-citizens.org to apply to be a volunteer.

Rod Girvin enthusiastically reported on all the wonderful beautification efforts underway in UH, including the Texas Street cleanup, which had 55 volunteers ranging in age from five to seventy-five.

Rod also encouraged UH residents to get into the holiday spirit for a chance to win kudos in the Lights in the Heights contest. Nan McGraw reminded attendees of the Caroling in the Heights schedule and

locations. This year we added a second set of carolers to stroll Park Boulevard.

The UH Tag Sale event, a neighborhood garage sale, is in the planning stages and is slated for April 2018.

We met the new branch manager of the UH Library, Holland Kessinger, who invited everyone to stop by the library, say hello, and let her know what you'd like to see at the library.

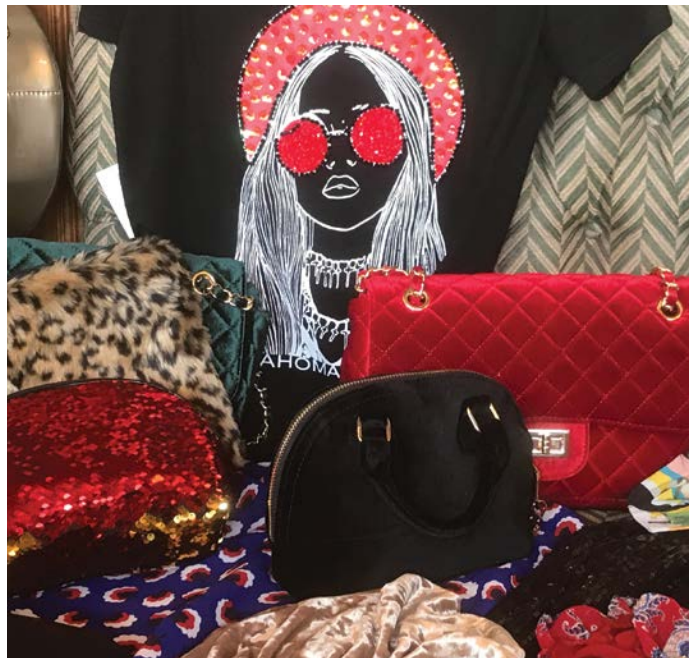
On behalf of Assemblymember Todd Gloria, Nick Serrano gave us a legislative update.

President Carol Neidenberg, assisted by Greg Sorini, awarded certificates to all Plume recipients from 2017.

After the announcements and awards, everyone enjoyed a delicious dessert potluck. *—Kurt Hermansen, UHCA Secretary*

STREET SEEN

LOVE ALWAYS



Far left, West Lewis St.,
Left, Le Bel Age
Photos: Paul Farris



Top, Sydney Lynch bracelet;
Left, Liaung Chung Yen cuff
Taboo Studio

Before you head for a box of See's and a dozen red roses, up your game with something else for Valentine's Day. Start on a tree-shrouded block of West Lewis Street in Mission Hills that offers boutiques that beg to be given more than a window shopper's glance. Jammed to the ceiling, **With Love**, a purveyor of greeting cards, was named with February written all over its face. Look up and oddly you'll also encounter antique birdcages looming overhead and vintage typewriters. Check out a corner and there are block-printed dishtowels with quotes from Oscar Wilde and others. Cards and stationery fill the rest of the space.

An artist, appropriately named Valentine Viannay, creates the dishtowels. I've had one hanging on my stove for some time that still makes me smile: "Anyone who eats three meals a day should understand why cookbooks outsell sex books three to one." Valentine paints and prints many more products than towels, which you'll find at her studio/art gallery, **L'Atelier**, if you wander over and down on Reynard Way. Across the street from With Love, is the 30-year-old boutique of fashion, frippery, and furbelows, **Le Bel Age**, and catty-cor-

ner across the street, with more racks of fashion and a hint of haute couture, **Chateau Bel Age**. All three of these shops are a family affair by Jimmy and Valerie Ferrari. The joy and challenge of these places is that they envelop you in a quandary of choices.

Whatever you do, do not miss stopping into **Taboo Studio**, tucked into a long, narrow but totally elegant space on this street. Founded 30 years ago by four women and located downtown originally, it has been for all that time the go-to destination known internationally for contemporary artist-designed fine jewelry. Two of the original owners, Jane Groover and Joanna Rhoades, still own the shop. This is a gem.

Heading out of Mission Hills, down Washington to India Street, search among the maze of businesses on the upper deck of that block to **Shakespeare's Corner Shoppe & Afternoon Tea**. Duck in and you've landed in the world of the British and Emerald Isles. Tins of sweets and biscuits abound, but if you reserve a place ahead, the Valentine's

Day Tea has an extensive menu and three seatings. Scones and Eccles cake, pasties and sausage rolls also can be had as take-out from their bustling kitchen bakery.

University Heights residents, Barry and Cate Bell, owners of **Found Image Press**, produce a glorious selection of Valentine cards, found online and in shops all over the country.

Gifts of another ilk, bath and body goods that pamper, are for sale at a newish shop in Bankers Hill, **Thread + Seed**. You'll find it located in the latest notable architectural statement from Lloyd Russell, a building with the endearing moniker, **The Louie**.

At press time, architect Jonathan Segal reports that **Park and Polk** should have a **UPS Store** moving in by March. *—The Unknown Shopper*



Found Image Press

OPINION

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION SITE?

School District Issues RFP for Real Estate Exchange

On December 17, 2017, the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to exchange three of its properties, one of which is the Eugene Brucker Education Center (Ed Center) at 4100 Normal Street, for one property to become the new District Central Office.

The Ed Center site, approximately 11 acres, includes the historic Teachers' Training Annex and two other historic buildings, but does not include Birney Elementary School or the Joint Use Field.

The timeline for review and approval of proposals is as follows:

- March 15, 2018: Proposals due
- April-May 2018: Board of Education review of proposals in closed session
- June 2018: Approval of exchange

Next Steps

In accordance with Education Code Section 17536, SDUSD can exchange three properties for one property. However, if and when the exchange is completed, any proposed changes to the property will need to be reviewed and approved by the City. This process includes input from City staff, Uptown Planners, and

the public. It will then be reviewed by the City Land Use Committee, Historic Resources Board, and City Planning Commission, with a final decision by the City Council.

The Land Use for the site is currently designated as Institutional and the underlying zoning is RM-2-5, which allows for up to 29 dwelling units per acre and four stories.

Community Input Needed

Input from the community will be very important to help guide the future use of this property. Your participation at

community meetings, Uptown Planners, Historic Resources Board, Planning Commission, and City Council will ensure that whatever happens to this site will be the best for University Heights, Uptown, and the City of San Diego.

The March 1 meeting of the UH Community Association will be devoted to this topic. The UH Community Development Corporation and UH Library Task Force are engaged as well. *—Bill Ellig, University Heights resident, Member of Uptown Planners*

THE FUTURE OF THE OLD EDUCATION CENTER

A prominent local landmark, listed on the National Register of Historical Places, and perhaps University Heights' most significant building, the Teachers' Training Annex and the parcel on which it is located are making local headlines.

The Teachers' Training Annex, built in 1910 in Italian Renaissance Revival style and its 11.2 acres at the intersection of Park Blvd., El Cajon Blvd., and Normal St., may be changing hands in the near future. The San Diego Unified School District is interested in swapping the parcel for a new, ready-to-move-into headquarters and has set a March 15th deadline for proposals from developers.

The San Diego Unified School District, which currently owns the site, is housed

in predominantly aging buildings, most of which were built between 1910 and 1952. The District is seeking a move-in ready 180,000 square-foot building that is freeway close.

Some land-use professionals, such as Gary London, a local real estate economist, are skeptical about the proposal's chance of success: "How many developers are out there who just happen to have an 180,000 square foot building they'd like to trade for the Education Center?" Buildings of comparable size are currently worth between \$57 million and \$86 million.

Locals have been lobbying for years to preserve the beautiful Teachers' Training Annex and re-purpose it as a new

library or community center. In 2004, the city completed an assessment of the city's historical assets; but since then, there have been no serious proposals about restoration or re-purposing of the Annex.

Because the site is located near the new Rapid Bus Route, there is speculation among city and district officials that the property might be redeveloped for high density housing with perhaps a modest retail component. The school district appears to be motivated to reach an agreement in order to prepare for any additional budget shortfall.

Proposals for redevelopment of the site are due March 15, 2018, and the winning application will be voted on in June. The school district retains the right to reject all submissions. *—Beth Jaworski*



FEBRUARY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 UH Rec Council Meeting Alice Birney Library, 5:30 pm UHCA Meeting: Alice Birney Auditorium, 6:45 pm 	2 Groundhog Day 	3 The Point Clean Up 1:30 - 3:30 pm Golden Gate btwn RI & Del.
4 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm	5 UHCA News Deadline for March Issue	6 Uptown Planners Meeting Joyce Beers Center Uptown Complex 6:00 pm	7 UHDC Meeting 4452 Park Blvd. Suite 104, 6:30 pm			
11 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm	12 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday 	13 San Diego Unified School District Meeting 4100 Normal St., 5 pm Hillcrest Town Council Joyce Beers Center, Uptown Complex, 6 pm Friends of the Library, UH Branch Library, 6 pm	14 Valentine's Day Ash Wednesday	15 	16 Chinese New Year Preview Book Sale (Friends members only) Friends of the Library, UH Library 3 - 6 pm	17 Book Sale (open to the public) Friends of the Library, UH Library, 8 am - 3 pm
18 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm Bag O' Books Sale (open to the public) Friends of the Library, UH Library, noon - 4 pm	19 Presidents' Day (Observed)	20 UHCA News out North Park Planning Committee North Park Christian Fellowship, 2901 North Park Way, 6:30 pm	21 UH Library Task Force Meeting UH Library, 6:30 pm	22 George Washington's Birthday		
25 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm 	26	27 San Diego Unified School District Meeting Auditorium, 4100 Normal St., 5 pm	28 UH Book Club & Salon UH Library, 6:30 pm			

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS ARCHITECTS LOUIS GILL AND THE SWEDENBORGIAN CHURCH

Almost 50 years since his death, Louis John Gill (1885-1969) remains one of San Diego's most important and admired architects. For University Heights (UH) residents and visitors, his Swedenborgian Church at 4144 Campus Ave. (at the corner of Tyler Ave.) remains a much admired work and a cherished member of our community that was luckily saved from redevelopment last year and reborn as the Dharma Bum Buddhist Temple (thedharmabums.org).

Louis Gill was the nephew and one-time architectural practice partner of Irving Gill (1870-1936), himself considered one of the foremost California architects of his generation. Despite their close connection, the Balboa Park-based non-profit San Diego History Center (www.sandiegohistory.org) says Louis was widely recognized during his own lifetime for both his architectural designs and his contributions to the practice of architecture. He was a founder of the San Diego Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA; aiasandiego.org), and he helped document the structural failures caused by the 1933 Long Beach earthquake, leading to the creation of the first earthquake-resistant building codes in the U.S.

The younger Gill's body of work, both in partnership with his uncle and later on his own, included the bayfront San Diego County Administration Building, the original San Diego Zoo structures, and the Rees-Steely Clinic at Fourth and Grape on Bankers Hill (now owned by Sharp-Rees Steely), as well as numerous private residences and churches. Luckily for us, many of these buildings still exist, though some, such as the Rees-Steely building, are threatened.

The younger Gill was decidedly on his own when he designed and constructed the Swedenborgian Church in 1927, with a parish hall addition fronting Tyler Avenue completed in 1933. One might even say that after he struck out on his own, Louis entered an "ecclesiastical period" in which he designed a succession of notable religious structures, including the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Coronado (1920); the Mission Hills Congregational Church (1921), now the Mission Hills United Church of Christ; and St. James-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church in La Jolla, designing both the bell tower (1928) and chapel (1929). All are still in use today as houses of worship.

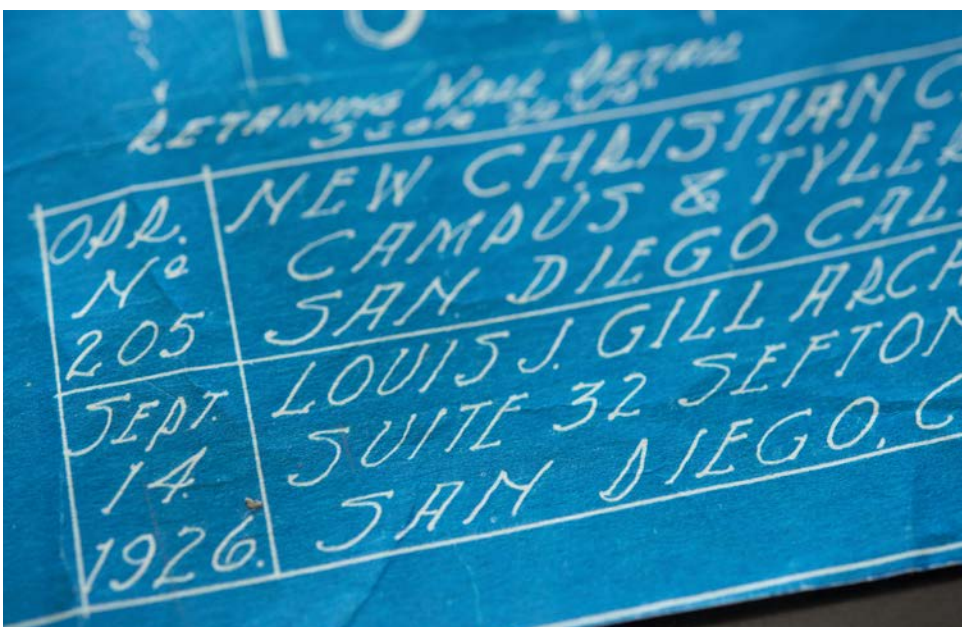
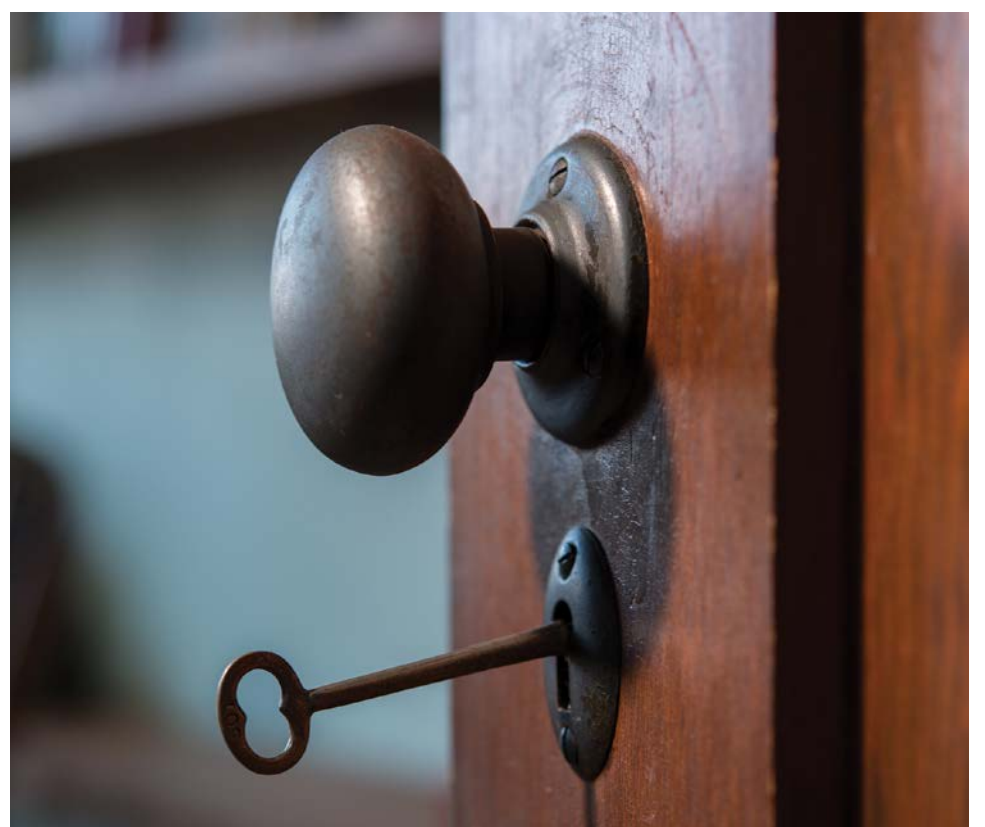
Like his uncle, Louis Gill practiced a restrained form of historicism inspired by the Spanish colonial heritage of Southern California. The L-shaped Swedenborgian building is a simple, white stucco-surfaced structure, a pure geometric shape that gives a nod to early 20th century modernist architecture. Though unadorned, the building distinguishes itself from bland modernism, however, with dark painted, arched, stained-glass windows and a simple bell tower that rises noticeably over the front door. Both elements clearly drew inspiration from the early Spanish missions, including San Diego's own in Mission Valley.

The Swedenborgians, who occupied the church until last year, are a reformed Christian denomination founded on the writings of Swedish mystic and theologian Emmanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772). The San Diego congregation had grown so small that it could no longer afford to maintain the UH building.

Even with the change of ownership last year, the Swedenborgian Church/Dharma Bum Temple remains very much unaltered from Gill's original design. The elegant simplicity and serenity of Gill's design remains, as do the original wrought-iron chandeliers, pulpit, and pews in the main worship hall upstairs, and the arched windows throughout. The only noticeable changes are a wheelchair ramp at the front door, installed during the Swedenborgians' tenure, and the location of the original church pews, which have been rearranged to better suit the needs of the Dharma Bum Temple and its members.

Jeff Zlotnik, who helped found the Dharma Bums in 2006, said that for many years the group wanted to bring together, at a single location, their temple, operating out of a storefront downtown, and a bookstore in the College Area. None of the many churches and other buildings they considered purchasing seemed right, he added, until the Swedenborgian property became available. The building offered the right "feeling of karma," Zlotnik says. The two are now housed in the UH property, with the former upstairs worship hall used for daily classes and the parish hall on Tyler used for the bookstore. Zlotnik says the temple is open daily to any and all visitors, as long as they respect the regularly scheduled classes that are held every morning and evening. —Philip J. Gill, *Special Projects Contributing Writer for UHCA News.*

Photos: David Harrison



ON THE BOULEVARDS

THE STRANGE TALE OF THE LAZY EYE COFFEE LLC

By now you've probably wondered why the vacant lot on Park Boulevard near Adams Ave. is still sitting empty and forlorn. The site was once an early twentieth-century storefront that fit in well with the rest of the 4600 block of Park Blvd. For many years, it housed a legal services firm run by a longtime University Heights (UH) resident who closed up shop two years ago. After sitting vacant for a while, the storefront was demolished and the lot leveled all the way through from Park to the alley behind it, leaving a fence, a boarded wall, lots of dirt, and nothing else.

Many expected a new two-story coffee shop to fill the lot. But those plans were apparently delayed pending the outcome of a breach of contract lawsuit between the plaintiff, Robert E. Sherwood, the owner and developer of the proposed Lazy Eye Coffee shop, and the defendant, Eugene Vogele, the owner of the adjacent building that houses Lancer's Bar and Cecelia's Fine Jewelry at the corner of Park and Adams Ave. Mr. Sherwood alleges that Mr. Vogele promised to remove an unpermitted, second-floor deck at the back of his building that would interfere with the construction of the new, two-story coffee shop on Park, but that Mr. Vogele failed to do so. Filed on April 7, 2017, in the Superior Court for the County of San Diego, Case Number 37-2017-00012535-CU-BC-CTL is accessible online. The case is scheduled for a civil jury trial on May 24, 2018.

All of this legal maneuvering may have been for naught. A week before Christmas, Mr. Vogele passed away, leaving the future of the lawsuit and perhaps the construction of the new coffee shop uncertain. I'll be following up in the coming months.

Although events may have put the lawsuit to rest, many of us are wondering what comes next for the corner property and its neighbor. Rehab or redevelopment? Besides ground floor retail, the two-story structure also contains as many as 11 studio apartments, all empty and unrented. That many studios back on the market would certainly help the tight rental market in UH, and the building's location and lot size could prove tempting to an outside developer.

—Philip J. Gill is the Special Projects Contributing Writer for UHCA News. If you are a business owner, shopkeeper, or restaurateur in University Heights with an upcoming special event, new menu items, holiday business hours, a remodel, or what have you, drop me a line via email at philip@art-design-and-style.com. I'll do my best to get you included in the On the Boulevards column in the next issue. Submittal deadline is the 3rd of each month for the following month's publication.

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

WINE AND CHOCOLATE TO PAIR OR NOT TO PAIR

Being in the wine business, I'm asked frequently about how to pair wine with food. It's typically an easy question to answer. However, there is one pairing that people seem to think is terrific until they actually try it. That pairing is wine and chocolate.

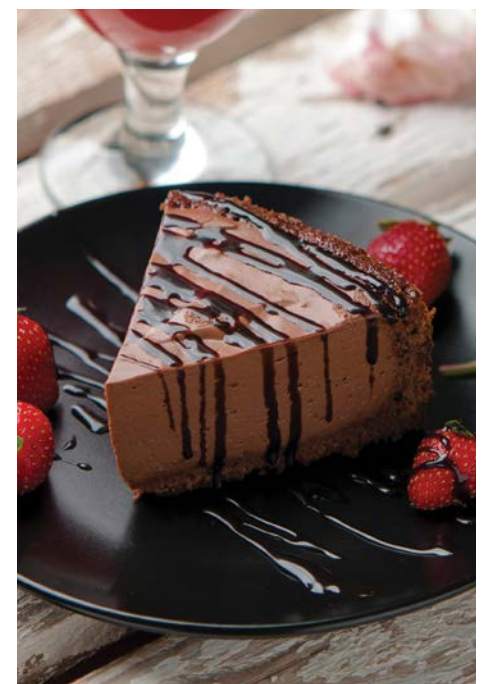
Some people swear that dark chocolate and red wine make a great pairing. I absolutely disagree. Most of the time, a dry red wine is not going to be an ideal pairing because the sweetness of the chocolate will bring out the tannins and acidity of the wine, making it taste sour. And no one wants to drink sour wine.

Instead, the key is to match the sweetness levels. Lots of people will say they don't like sweeter style wines, but it's been my experience that they haven't had quality dessert wines. Here are some of my favorite pairings:

- Banyuls is a sweet, fortified red, made from mostly Grenache grapes from Southern France, with a strawberry and spice flavor profile. It works with both white and dark chocolate.
- Vintage Port, another fortified wine, helps bring out the natural sweetness of the chocolate.
- Sweeter Champagne, Prosecco, and Cava also play well with chocolate desserts. Choose demi sec or doux here.
- Italy's Moscato d'Asti and Brachetto d'Acqui team up well with chocolate desserts featuring berries. Think flourless chocolate torte with fresh raspberries and a dollop of whipped cream.

• Alsatian Grand Cru Rieslings and Gewurtztraminer wines paired with white chocolate mousse will make for an unforgettable dessert experience.

Don't save the chocolate just for dessert. If you do have a special bottle of Cabernet or Bordeaux that you must open on Valentine's Day or a special anniversary, consider using chocolate as a component in your main dish. I love ribs with a dry rub featuring cocoa powder as a component or chocolate used as part of a sauce. *—Jennifer Williamson is a professional wine consultant with Quigley Fine Wines. You can contact her directly with any wine related questions at jwilliamson@quigleyfinewines.com.*



CALL IT A TAG SALE

On Sunday, April 29, 2018, we will be in Trolley Barn Park to hold the first annual University Heights community-wide tag sale. You may know it as a garage sale, a yard sale, or even a swap meet, depending on where you grew up. By any name, it's a great way to sell those items others may have more use for than you do—and now you have a place to do it. At our very own community tag sale right here in University Heights!

The inspiration for this event comes from my summers in Arlington, Vermont, where a town-wide sale called Norman's Attic is quite the yearly happening. The name honors former local resident and famous artist, Norman Rockwell. Since Norman never lived in San Diego and most of us don't have attic space, we named our sale the Ostrich Nest! The history of ostriches in our unique UH neighborhood appears as a fairly regular feature in the UHCA News. Did you know that ostriches share nests? They put all their eggs in a "dump nest" and take turns caring for it.

We hope that the idea of a sharing community brings our UH neighbors together to sell their stuff at the Ostrich Nest. It's a great way to reuse, renew, and recycle and maybe find some new treasures, too! Every penny you make selling is yours, but the money we raise from registration will go toward improving University Heights.

It's not too early to register online now for a spot to sell your stuff, so start cleaning out that closet and tagging those great finds. For more information and to register, visit our page on the UHCA website: www.uhsd.org/tag-sale or email tagsale@uhsd.org —Julie Rubtchinsky



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EATING OUT IN UH

American Market	4395 Cleveland Ave.	296-8333
Bahia Mexican & Seafood	1985 El Cajon Blvd.	542-0540
Bahn Thai	4646 Park Blvd.	299-6363
bfd (big front door)	4135 Park Blvd.	255-4100
Circa Restaurant	2121 Adams Ave.	296-9152
Cueva Bar	2123 Adams Ave.	269-6612
El Zarape	4642 Park Blvd.	692-1652
Flavors of East Africa	2322 El Cajon Blvd.	955-8778
Grains	2201 Adams Ave.	269-5999
Great Maple	1451 Washington St.	296-8268
Hope at Lafayette	2223 El Cajon Blvd.	780-0358
Hundred Proof	4130 Park Blvd.	501-6404
Lestat's on Park	4496 Park Blvd.	501-6638
Loving Hut	1905 El Cajon Blvd.	683-9490
Madison	4622 Park Blvd.	296-6566
Mama's Bakery & Lebanese Deli	4237 Alabama St.	688-0717
Meraki Café	1735 Adams Ave.	269-9618
Muzita Abyssinian Bistro	4651 Park Blvd.	546-7900
Mystic Mocha	2105 Mission Ave.	688-0858
Park Boulevard Deli	4504 Park Blvd.	295-1362
Park House Eatery	4574 Park Blvd.	295-7275
Pizzeria Bruno Napoletano	4207 Park Blvd.	260-1311
Pizzeria Luigi	2121 El Cajon Blvd.	294-9417
Plumeria Vegetarian Cuisine	4661 Park Blvd.	269-9989
Pomegranate Restaurant	2312 El Cajon Blvd.	297-4007
Pop Pie Co.	4404 Park Blvd.	501-4440
Red Fox Steak House	2223 El Cajon Blvd.	297-1313
Red House Pizza	4615 Park Blvd.	546-7430
Small Bar	4628 Park Blvd.	795-7998
Soltan Banoo	4645 Park Blvd.	298-2801
Sprouts Market & Deli	4175 Park Blvd.	291-8287
Summer's Market	4602 Park Blvd.	296-0504
Twiggs	4590 Park Blvd.	296-0616
Twisted Taps (brews & chews)	2302 El Cajon Blvd.	542-9927
Wing Stop	1901 El Cajon Blvd.	297-9464

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

UH BEAUTIFICATION

LIGHTS IN THE HEIGHTS WINNERS

On the evening of December 19, a panel of judges from the UHCA Beautification Team toured all of University Heights to look at the beautiful holiday decorations put up by so many of our community members. These residences truly did light up the Heights this year. As always, the judging was very difficult because of so many wonderful displays. But after much deliberation, the following were declared the winners:

- Zone 1: 818 Madison Avenue
- Zone 2: 1804 Meade Avenue
- Zone 3: 1211 Maryland Place
- Zone 4: 2128 Madison Avenue
- Zone 5: 1917 Madison Avenue
- Zone 6: 1729 Lincoln Avenue
- Best Balcony: 4140 Mississippi
- Best Complex: 4165-4173 Mississippi
- Best Block: Caminito Fuente
- Best Business: Pemberly Real Estate

Awards were hand delivered in January. Thank you to everyone who made University Heights so beautiful during the festive holiday season. – Rod Girvin, Chair of the UHCA Beautification Team

Left: Zone 3, Right top: Zone 6, Right middle: Zone 1, Right bottom: Caminito Fuente, Photos: MaryBeth Chruden



SCHOOL NEWS

BIRNEY BUZZ



Birney students kicked off the New Year by focusing the first back-to-school weeks on kindness and gratitude. We would like to offer our own gratitude to our wonderful community. Through your generosity, we were able to raise \$23,400 from 177 donors! As if that wasn't amazing enough, our group of anonymous matching families donated an additional \$4,000 for a single day grand total of \$27,400! Thank you for helping us raise much-needed funds to maintain our International Baccalaureate curriculum which offers specials such as Spanish, Art, and an award-winning, one-of-a-kind Garden program.

As part of a wonderful beautification project, we have planted 40 trees around the Birney campus. Until the rains come, we ask for community volunteers to help us water these trees. For more information, please email bbsherwin@yahoo.com.

On the 23rd of February, please join us for Morning Buzz. Parents and community members are welcome to gather at 9:15am in front of the school for free coffee, pastries, and conversation.

Birney's Run for the Green on March 16th is celebrating 11 years of funding our IB program. This celebration of health and wellness allows our students to garner sponsorship for the laps they run on the day of the event. Birney continues to provide opportunities and experiences that allow each of our nearly 600 students to reach their fullest potential. Whether it is through volunteering or monetary donation, every effort takes us closer to our goal. For more information on how to keep this world-class program in University Heights, go to FriendsOfAliceBirney.org. –Ari Honarvar

HISTORICALLY DESIGNATING YOUR HOME - PART 2

In the last issue of UHCA News, I discussed the merits of historical designation of individual properties. If you would like to investigate the designation potential of your own house, you can do the research and paperwork required, or you can obtain the help of experts in this field, some of whom also offer initial assessments for a reasonable fee. Although it is a time-consuming and exhaustive effort, researching and compiling the necessary information is an educational and rewarding experience. You will learn a wealth of information about your home, including its complete history, architectural elements, and former owners and occupants. You will find the specific requirements for designation on the City Development Services historical resources website at: <https://www.sandiego.gov/development-services/historical/requirements>. One or more criteria related to occupants, events, architecture, materials, craftsmanship, and other aspects must be met for a property to be designated. The property must also have a high degree of integrity from its original construction.

be several months before the nomination comes to the HRB for a vote. Once the HRB votes to designate a property, an application to establish a Mills Act contract may be submitted during the following year, for a potential property tax reduction in the year after that.

With designation comes the responsibility to maintain the property in good repair, as well as restrictions on exterior modifications visible to the public. Yet most owners of older homes are willing to comply with the restrictions as they can offset expenses with tax savings realized under the Mills Act. Property owners are also rewarded with the pride of owning and caring for a valuable city resource and doing their part to preserve San Diego history. – Steven Kolbert



Requests for historical designation are submitted via nomination reports to the Historical Resources Board (HRB), which meets monthly to vote on such requests. Prior to these meetings, the City Development Services staff will review reports for accuracy and completeness, conduct site visits, seek public comment, and develop recommendations for the HRB. Depending on the timing of submissions, it may



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LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK CLUB AND SALON

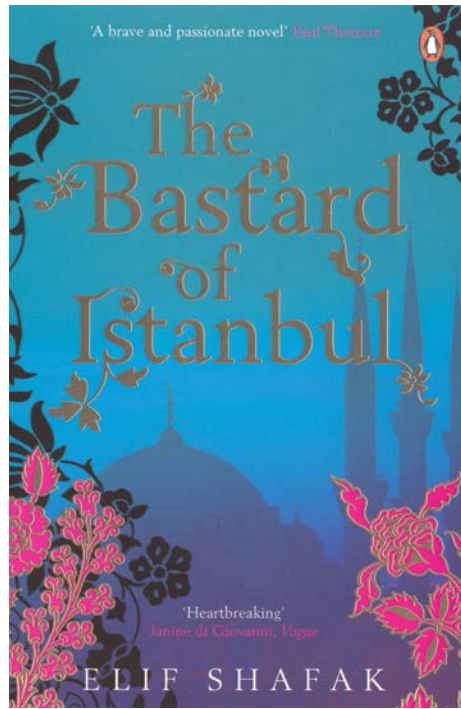
THE BASTARD OF ISTANBUL BY ELIF SHAFAK

Turkish author Elif Shafak, in her second novel in English, confronts her country's violent past and the "Armenian question" in the tangled histories of two families. Set in Istanbul, the book's action takes place mostly in a home shared by four generations of middle-aged sisters, their mother, grandmother, and teen-aged daughter/niece, Asya. The household extended family has never asked who fathered Asya, the "bastard" of the title.

The family's one estranged brother lives in Arizona with his wife and her Armenian daughter, who grew up on her family's stories of the 1915 genocide. She goes to Istanbul to discover her roots and for vindication from her new Turkish relatives. Shafak is often funny and her insertion of recipes and folk tales into the text makes it both entertaining and enlightening.

It is interesting to note that Shafak was charged with "public denigration of Turkishness" when the novel was published in 2007; however, the charges were later dropped. Because of her frank look at the Turkish/Armenian horrific past, this makes it essential reading.

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 January and February.

UH Book Club & Salon

Wednesday, February 28, 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

Hello, University Heights! I'm thrilled to be the new Branch Manager for the University Heights Branch Library and I look forward to working with such an engaged and vibrant community. Having worked as a Librarian for more than ten years, I am dedicated to connecting people with information, programs, and resources that help enrich their lives. If you haven't been to the Library in a while, please stop by. We have a wonderful collection of material for you to check out (e-books, DVDs, and more) and a great and friendly staff to help meet all of your information needs. And to those of you we see often, thank you for supporting your local library. We strive to be the place for opportunity, discovery, and inspiration in the University Heights neighborhood and we hope to see you soon!

Join us on Wednesday, February 7th at 4:30 pm for Window Flowers, a program presented by the San Diego

Chinese Historical Museum in celebration of the Chinese New Year. Please contact 619-692-4912 to register; registration is required and space is limited.

In honor of Presidents' Day, the Library will be closed on Monday, February 19th. In honor of Presidents' Day, the Library will be closed on Monday, February 19th.

On February 28th at 4:30 pm, we're excited to celebrate Black History Month with an African Drums workshop presented by Master African Drummer, Nana Yaw Asiedu.

And as always, join us the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at 11 am for storytime, and every Saturday at 10:30 am for crafts!

-Holland Kessinger, Librarian,
University Heights Branch Library,
(619) 692-4912, sandiego.gov.

Library Hours

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



THE FRIENDS OF THE UH LIBRARY LIBRARY RESOLUTIONS

The Friends of the University Heights Library is an all-volunteer group that provides our branch library with financial and volunteer support. The support we are able to provide depends on you.

One of the ways you can support the libraries is to donate books to the monthly Friends of the San Diego Public Library book sale. If you made a New Year's resolution to clean up your bookshelves, this is the perfect opportunity! You can drop books off at the brightly colored donation bin located on the Howard Street side of the building, near the back of the building. You can also drop off books at the back of the building on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to noon. If you have a large number of books, you can make an appointment for drop-off, or

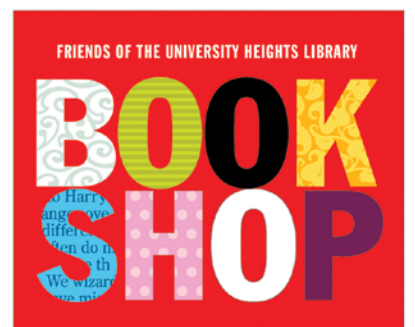
arrangements for a pick-up. Our branch receives a portion of the monthly sales, so you can also support our branch by shopping at the book sale!

If you have not already renewed your membership to the Friends of the UH Library, please do that this week. If you have not joined, membership is available for as low as \$5 for students and seniors, \$10 for individuals, and \$20 for a family. You can pick up a membership form at the branch.

Thank you for your continuing support of our branch library.

Please join us in continuing to support our branch library. Thank you. -Isabel Schechter, Secretary, Friends of the University Heights Library

NOW OPEN UH FRIENDS BOOK SHOP. AMAZING BARGAINS. GREAT SELECTION.



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FROM YOUR STATE ASSEMBLYMEMBER

LOOKING FORWARD TO A BUSY 2018

Getting back on the plane to Sacramento is bittersweet. Naturally, I am sad to leave my hometown and resume the back-and-forth routine, but I am also encouraged by our progress last year and our ability to build on that progress this year. At the top of my priorities this year continues to be California's housing crisis. Truly, it's the most pressing issue facing our State because it impacts virtually every aspect of our society. That's why I am elated Speaker Rendon has appointed me to serve on the Assembly's Housing Committee. This gives me a greater opportunity to help shape statewide housing policy and bring solutions to the table that will get us closer to our ultimate goal: a roof over the head of every Californian at a price they can afford.

why I'm proud to co-author SB 100, legislation that sets an accelerated goal for California to reach 100 percent clean energy by 2045. While these are just a few of the issues I am focused on this year, as your Assemblymember, I want to know what's important to you. When you have a moment, I would encourage you to send me a note at assemblymember.gloria@asm.ca.gov to share your perspective and priorities. I can't do my job without your input, so I hope you will be in touch. As always, it's a pleasure to serve as your voice in the State Assembly.

– Todd Gloria, Assemblymember for California's 78th Assembly District, which includes University Heights



In addition to housing, I am also concerned about the elements outside of the home—specifically, energy and water conservation. Look no further than this winter to realize another drought could be closer than anticipated. To that end, water conservation should be part of California's parent culture, something we do consistently and not just when necessary.

Similarly, I believe it's time we push forward on renewable energy. That's

FROM YOUR STATE SENATOR

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE RESIDENTS OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS!

The Legislature started a new session in January, and my colleagues in the Senate honored me by electing me as their next President Pro Tem. I am humbled by the trust they have placed in me, and I will work hard every day to earn it.

Meanwhile, I was in a great position to enhance San Diego's influence by increasing the number of local residents appointed to important statewide policy boards and commissions. Our state always has challenges to overcome, and as they present themselves in 2018 and beyond, I will work diligently with the governor, my colleagues in the Senate, and Speaker Rendon and my former colleagues in the Assembly to solve them and improve life for everyone in San Diego and all of California.

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



As I embark on leadership once again, I feel fortunate to have had the experience of leading the Assembly from 2014 to 2016. As Speaker, I enjoyed an excellent working relationship with Governor Jerry Brown and Pro Tem Kevin de León. Together, we accomplished what I believe were great things for the people of California.

We crafted a major \$7.5 billion water bond and successfully sent it to the ballot, and we created California's first-ever Earned Income Tax Credit. We created a framework for regulating medicinal marijuana in California, and we passed important climate-change legislation in SB 350.

We passed a package of six bills to more tightly regulate tobacco in California, and we passed the End of Life Options Act, allowing Californians suffering from painful terminal illnesses to end their lives on their own terms. We increased funding by \$337 million to care for Californians with developmental disabilities, and ahead of our big housing package in 2017, we allocated \$100 million for affordable housing in the 2014–15 budget.

OUR POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVES

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senator@feinstein.senate.gov

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nerea.urtasun@sdcounty.ca.gov

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senator@harris.senate.gov

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KEVIN FAULCONER
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San Diego, CA 92101
619-236-6330/619-236-7228 fax
kevinfaulconer@sandiego.gov

U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN
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2700 Adams Avenue, Suite 102
San Diego, CA 92116
619-280-5353/619-280-5311 fax
zach.bunshaft@mail.house.gov

SAN DIEGO CITY COUNCILMEMBER
CHRIS WARD, DISTRICT 3
202 C Street, 10TH Floor
San Diego, CA 92101
619-236-6633/619-595-1481 fax
TRenner@sandiego.gov

PUT THE I IN IRA

People agree that saving for retirement is a good idea. Now is the time to take action. An Individual Retirement Account (IRA) will help you get started or continue saving. Contributions each year to an IRA are limited to \$5,500 for both 2017 and 2018, but you have until April 15 or when you file your taxes to make a 2017 contribution, and you can simultaneously get started on 2018.

These choices may be easy for you or may be difficult, and there are a few more rules. Talk to an advisor and determine what is best for you. Then, take action.

–Scott Schechter, Agent, New York Life Insurance Company; Financial Adviser, Eagle Strategies LLC, a Registered Investment Adviser, CA Insurance Lic. # 0E52859

There are two types of IRAs, a Traditional and a Roth. A Traditional IRA contribution reduces your income this year and lowers your taxes. When you take the money out, the withdrawal is taxed, so you have an advantage now and are deferring taxes until later. If you or your spouse has a retirement plan at work, you may not be able to deduct your contribution.

The information contained herein is general in nature and is provided solely for educational and informational purposes. New York Life does not provide legal, accounting, or tax advice. You should obtain advice specific to your circumstances from your own legal, accounting, and tax advisors. Products available through one or more carriers not affiliated with New York Life Insurance Company, dependent on carrier authorization and product availability in your state or locality.

You can make a full Roth IRA contribution for 2017 if your income is less than \$186,000 (married filing jointly) or \$118,000 (single). A Roth IRA does not get the same tax advantage when you make the contribution; however, when you take the money out, there are no taxes. That way, the income you take in retirement is tax-free. Contributions to a Roth IRA may generally be withdrawn at any time without tax consequences. Earnings may generally be withdrawn tax-free if the account is held at least 5 years and withdrawals are made after the account owner reaches 59 1/2. If earnings withdrawals are made before the 5-year period or age 59 1/2, income taxes are due and a 10 percent federal tax penalty may apply.



THEY CALL HER BERNADETTE

That is indeed her name and she stands proudly at 1862 Mission Cliff Drive, wistfully gazing toward the westerly skies. She lives in the front yard of Nadja and JF Lancelot, overlooking Mission Valley. Actually, we call it The Ostrich Haus now and most people in the neighborhood know the place when we say that!

When we first moved to University Heights, my husband and I were enthralled by the rich history of our new neighborhood. We fell in love with the ostrich tales, imagining these silly but majestic birds with their feisty personalities tromping around our hilltops, gazing at the valley below. Being an artist, I immediately knew that I wanted to celebrate this unique symbol of our new home. One day, while my husband was at work, I stealthily ordered a life size statue of the huge bird. When she was delivered-by truck, in two parts-I quickly assembled her (Thanks for the help, Alex, neighbor extraordinaire), tied a huge red bow around her neck, and wrote this message to my dear husband: "You finally have your Bernadette!" You see, JF had always wanted to name one of our daughters Bernadette. The name never clicked with me for our little ones, but now, with this grand new dame in our lives, he could finally have the Bernadette of his dreams! And there she stands now, sometimes requiring a new layer of gold leaf, a little touch up here and there for good measure (she's quite the coquette, you see). And she enjoys celebrating the seasons with various adornments as required.

When Bernadette first appeared on our lawn, the most extraordinary thing happened. One day, a nest with three beautiful papier maché eggs appeared beneath her. We were flummoxed but thrilled! We pondered how this could have happened. A couple weeks later, a sweet sister

team rode by on their bikes and confessed that they had added to our front lawn tableau. What a beautiful gift and what a tremendous sense of community we feel here in University Heights. Thanks so much, "bicycle girls." Although the papier maché eventually disintegrated, another neighbor (thanks, Bill) offered a stone version of the ostrich eggs. These golden beauties will last a lot longer. We've had countless people pose for pictures with our Bernadette, even a group of firefighters once. We feel so fortunate to live in this inspiring, open-minded, and friendly neighborhood. I work in my home studio at the Ostrich Haus and I feel blessed every day to be here. Thanks, University Heights, for the warm neighborly welcome. Bernadette salutes you!
-Nadja Lancelot



.....

OUR UH HISTORY

THE OSTRICH STORY OF UH

Told for 130 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." A portion of the cost was to go into a college building fund, but, 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, 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, enjoying great success because of the popularity of ostrich feathers in women's fashions. The farm 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 home of the 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 years after its beginnings, UH remains a vibrant neighborhood, and the ostrich graces our pages as a reminder of our community's proud heritage.

GARDEN OF THE MONTH

THE GARDEN AS POETRY

When I was a child, I read the book Tom's Midnight Garden by Philippa Pearce. I also read The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett. I suppose, therefore, that I have always held an idea of a garden in my head. I knew that a garden was not simply a yard or a playground. It was more than a collection of plants or an arrangement for "curb appeal." If it were not so, The Hanging Gardens of Babylon would not have been one of the seven wonders of the world. Gardens feed the soul and speak of our connection with the built environment and the natural world.

Whenever I have the opportunity to add or subtract from the garden, I always ask myself, "What would be fun to do?" That way I bring my creative imagination to the task and turn the effort from work to play. When I moved to this address in 1985, there was only the bare ground and weeds out front. I placed desert plants and trees along

the walkway and all the edges of the garden. As they began to mature, they formed natural outcroppings that grew and extended themselves into the surrounding spaces. The garden seemed to form itself.

I have always had help with the garden. My friend, Larry Word, who has a garden of his own and a house of the same age in Golden Hill, has placed his insight and perfectionist stamp on the garden. John McDavid, who lives in the neighborhood, did much of the metal work including the poetry post and the hand rail. It took a village, and if the comments of the neighbors on their way to the Poetry Bridge are accounted for, the satisfaction extends to the whole community. It's taken 32 years to bring it to this level of completion. -Michael Wheelden, an award winning painter, known for his iconic architecture and landscape depictions of Southern California





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