

**NEXT UHCA MEETING
THURS., MAR. 5, 2020**

ALICE BIRNEY ELEMENTARY
AUDITORIUM / 4345 CAMPUS AVENUE
6:45 pm CRIME WATCH, 7:00 pm MEETING
DISCUSSION AND Q & A WITH EXPERT PANELISTS

Homelessness: Causes & Solutions
Panel Discussion with Thought Leaders and Practitioners



University Heights Community Association March 2020



NEWS

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

Like other major West Coast cities, San Diego faces two different but related problems: affordable housing and homelessness. Proximity to downtown and its history as a “streetcar suburb” make University Heights a target for increased housing density. The canyons and nearby medical facilities present UH residents with the challenge of reconciling quality of life with the heart-breaking reality of homelessness.

On March 5, at 7:00 pm, at our regular monthly meeting, the University Heights Community Association will offer a public forum on these important topics, with help from a panel of experts: Barbara Jimenez, Director of Regional Operations for the county’s Health and

Human Services; and John Brady, director of advocacy for the Voices of Our City Choir and a respected voice with lived experience.

On the homelessness front, the good news is a lot of hardworking, knowledgeable, and caring people are on the job. The problems are now better understood, and best practices have been identified. Coordinated planning is in place, and resources are being marshalled. Measurable progress is starting to be made.

However, much more needs to be done, and new problems will arise. If you believe the poor will always be with us or that incompetent bureaucracy is the

norm, come to the March 5 meeting to ask your tough questions. If you listen with an open mind, you may just find yourself energized with new hope.

On the affordable housing front, the future of the Ed Center property brings the issue directly to our doorstep. Because the school district owns the land and does not need to make a profit, it can make a significant dent in the lack of moderately priced workforce housing. Yet banal architecture will do nothing to honor this historic site, and the community wants green space. A solution can be found, but only with open minds and informed debate. We hope to see you on March 5.

—William Smith

LOOKING AHEAD

THE UPCOMING UHCA MEETING WILL BE

**THURSDAY
APRIL 2, 2020**

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

**TOPIC: HELP DECIDE
WHERE THE MONEY GOES**

UH Infrastructure Discussion



**UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
NEIGHBORHOOD**

TAG SALE

SAVE THE DATE!



Ostrich Nest
Sell your used items at the 3rd annual community yard sale!



More details: www.uhsd.org (click “Events”)
Questions? Email us at tagsale@uhsd.org

WE CALL IT A TAG SALE SUNDAY MAY 3, 2020

Back by popular demand, The UHCA Tag Sale, “The Ostrich Nest,” is here again! 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 used items others could use. This is the place to do it. Our very own community Ostrich Nest right here in University Heights has become an annual event! On Sunday, May 3, 2020, we will be setting up in the Trolley Barn Park to hold the third annual UHCA community-wide tag sale.

The inspiration for this event comes from my early summers in Arlington, VT, where a town-wide sale called Norman’s Attic is quite the yearly happening. The name honors former local resident and iconic artist, Norman Rockwell. Since Norman never lived in San Diego (and most of us don’t even have attic space), we named our sale the Ostrich Nest with a nod to our neighborhood heritage and the communal nature of ostriches—they share a nest!

The idea of sharing community brings our UH residents and surrounding neighbors together to sell their stuff at the Ostrich Nest. It is a great way to reuse, renew, and recycle, and maybe find some treasures too. Every penny you make selling is yours, and the money we raise from booth registration will go toward improving the Trolley Barn Park.

Come participate and see what everyone is talking about. Start cleaning out

that closet, garage, or storage unit, and register online now for a spot to sell your stuff. For more information and to register, visit our tag sale page on the UHCA website: www.uhsd.org, or email us at tagsale@uhsd.org.

—Julie Rubtchinsky

APRIL: SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING IN UH

Come to the April meeting to decide how the city should invest in University Heights:

Public Facilities Planning develops policies and allocates funding towards infrastructure, including mobility improvements, parks, recreation, libraries, and fire and police stations.

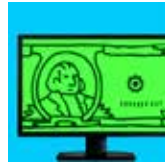
Pedestrian-related traffic accidents are on the rise in UH. Come to the April meeting to learn about planned traffic calming solutions, including roundabouts, curb bulb outs, stop signs, and speed bumps.

Uptown is already deficient in parks, and high density development is on the way. The Uptown Community Plan requires at least one recreation center in Uptown. How can we fulfill this demand? Would you like to see investment in our local library? Come to the April meeting!

—Stu McGraw

MEMBERSHIP

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



NEW/RENEWING MEMBERS

GOLDEN OSTRICH

Jessica Colosimo & Cornelius Iest, Mary Anne Stevens.

HOUSEHOLD

Margaret Cobleigh & Sandra Roberts*, Carissa Gonzales & Alan May, Mike Tan & Darcy Taniguchi, Camille Phillips, Heidi & Hans Baumgartner*, Jim Seagram, Christopher Keach, Dawn Sassi & Bernard Damborn, Carlos Cortez & Edward Turner-Cortez, Loretta McNeely, Janet Tait, and Rebecca Willetts.

*Indicates extra donation

CORRECTION

The guitar student pictured on page 9 in our February issue was incorrectly identified as Sean McNeil. The student's name is Maxton McNeil. We regret the error.

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 Team & 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 2019 membership and meeting attendance.
- Neighborhood/Zone Watch** Join your neighbors to keep UH safe.
- UHCA News** Write articles, edit 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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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 uhcanews@yahoo.com. We retain the right to edit submissions for style and content.



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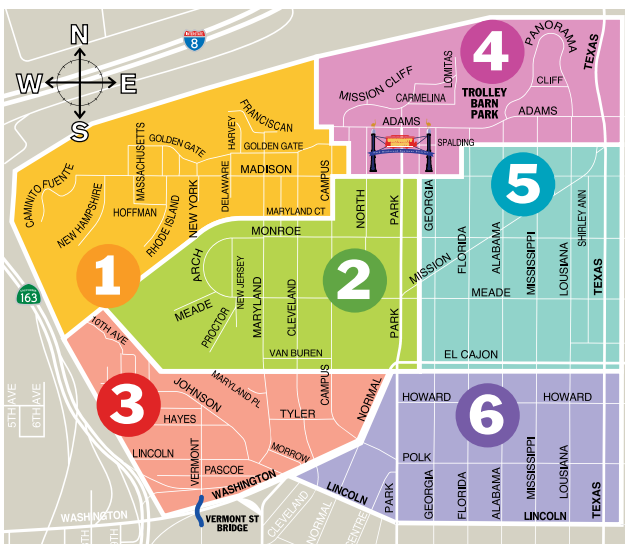
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UHCA OFFICERS

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BOUNDARIES AND ZONE WATCH



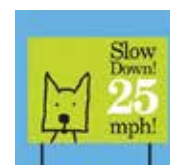
Zone Watch Coordinators manage email lists of participants wishing to receive University Heights crime watch information and updates. Download more on the UH Zone Watch program at uhsd.org or contact your zone's coordinator, or Nan McGraw.

- 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



CRIME WATCH SIGNS

UHCA installed new signs recently. If you know of an old sign that should be replaced or a location that needs a sign, please email UHCA President Carol Neidenberg at president@uhsd.org



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. Online: non-emergency problems: www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done	619-531-2000
SD City Services non-emergency: street lights, pot holes, etc. Online: www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments	619-527-7500
SD City Services emergency Online: www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments Storm damage: fallen trees, flooding, clogged storm drains	619-527-7500
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, such as CalFresh, Medi-Cal, and Covered California	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) Vacation home security check, welfare of home-bound, patrolling business districts, homeland security support	619-692-4945

SDPD Community Relations Officers: David Surwilo (dsurwilo@pd.sandiego.gov)	619-692-4858
SDPD Western Division 5215 Gaines Street	619-692-4800
Shopping Cart Pick-Up Service	800-252-4613
Stonewall Citizens Patrol	sredmond@stonewallcitizens.org
Suicide Prevention—National Suicide Prevention Lifeline For immediate, confidential, suicide crisis counseling 24 hours a day, seven days a week, call toll-free, San Diego County Access & Crisis Line, 1-888-724-7240. Other resources: Lifeline Chat at suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat, 1-800-273-TALK (8255). #BeThe1to at www.bethe1to.com; Website: up2sd.org; call local hotline at 888-724-7240 for live chat, 4-10 pm weekdays	
UHDCD University Heights Community Development Corp	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: Report Online: apps.sandiego.gov/streetdiv/ email photos: Graffiti Hotline:	911 cericson@pd.sandiego.gov 619-257-7500
SD Vector Control mosquitoes / ticks / rats Online: vector@sdcounty.ca.gov	858-694-2888

Https://getitdone.force.com/ Download and use this app if you see a non-emergency problem in the city like potholes, graffiti, etc.

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

It's extraordinary to think that we're already in the third quarter of a new year. By the time you read this, the Impeachment Trial and the Presidential Primary Election will be over. Life goes by in the blink of an eye and this year will be no different. I hope that 2020 will be less contentious and divisive than the previous one.

This past year, I've learned to celebrate occasions and hold those dear to me very close. I've watched people I love bravely fight cancer. I've listened to people who have lost everything and were forced to live in their cars without resources or hope. I've also been to weddings and seen incredible happiness. I've watched infants being held by new parents and witnessed their tears of joy.

I once read that the secret to happiness is to find joy and gratitude in small things—a beautiful sunset, a child laughing, a spectacular flower in bloom. Another key to happiness supposedly

is removing fleeting pursuits. Our lives are too valuable to waste time chasing and maintaining unneeded possessions. (Note my unapologetic plug for selling those unwanted and unloved items at the UH Ostrich Nest Tag Sale on May 3.) Make the most of every opportunity. Forgive those who need to be forgiven. Express love and gratitude to those who deserve to hear it. Live lives of significance. Follow (my version of) the Golden Rule and treat others as you would treat yourself.

Each new day is an opportunity to make a difference. Don't waste it. Donate your time, become a volunteer, help your neighbors. Join us in expressing gratitude that we are in San Diego, living in University Heights, and being part of this new decade that holds such promise for Americans to eradicate childhood hunger, become energy independent, and eliminate homelessness. Only by working together can we achieve these goals.

RANTS & RAVES

RANT: NOT EVERYTHING OLD IS GOOD! NOT EVERYTHING NEW IS BAD!

The term "neighborhood character" is too often brandished in arguments against the inevitability of change in University Heights. If the intent of the term is to describe the small scale and walkable pattern of our neighborhood development, I would agree and would include diversity of style. But the core commercial areas of UH, to me, would be better described as a drive-through zone: gap-toothed and overdue for change. There has been improvement on Park, and we have plenty to anticipate in the form of large scale projects on El Cajon Blvd. near Florida St. & Park Blvd. Some say, "there goes the neighborhood character," to which I say, "Great!" Those sites had character we can definitely improve upon. Should I miss the overwhelming toilet smell by the billboard bus stop bench? Or the billboard itself, that grand, default gateway to the center of the neighborhood? Or the vast crumbling pavement expanses devoid of vegetation save the odd, tenacious weeds sprouting up from the cracks? I look forward to new lighted sidewalks without trip hazards. And landscaping including street trees. And businesses within walking distance from home, whether part of the actual development or those that will move in to take advantage of the concentration of new housing. Someday I'll be happy to miss some eyesores on Adams as well. While some rant about the

loss of what is old and familiar, I say, look at our potential!
—Mike Burrows

RAVE: THE KINDNESS OF NEIGHBORS IS ONE OF OUR BEST CHARACTERISTICS

I should have renamed my dog, Sable, "Blanche DuBois" because she has always depended on the kindness of strangers. Luckily for her, she lives in UH. When Sable was little, her owner was not the best father, so a neighbor up the street adopted her, and they were happy for many years. Then Sable's mom got cancer and was in and out of the hospital. Again, neighbors stepped in and fostered the dog. When her mom didn't make it home from the hospital, Sable needed a new home, which is how she finally came to live with Mike and me. Besides this little dog, the neighbors were also able to find homes for three cats and two birds.

When Sable and I go for our walks, she is greeted by many friends who are still looking out for her. Because of her, I have met and befriended many more wonderful people who also have dogs or who just like dogs. That's the thing about dogs, they cause us to greet each other, share a few words, and connect more. University Heights is a great place to live, with the best people and the best dogs. (We'll talk about the owners who don't pick up their dogs' poop another time!)
—Steffanie Fry



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

The Feb. 6, 2020, meeting of the University Heights Community Association (UHCA) opened with President Carol Neidenberg's welcome and announcements to a crowd of about 70.

- Welcome. **Join UHCA!**
- Mark your calendars for upcoming events:
 - » Tag Sale – 3rd annual: May 2
 - » Party on Park Blvd: April 25. Food from local businesses, 5-8 pm
 - » Movies in the Park: SANDAG grant, 1st movie, May 16
- UH Branch Library, Elaine Sinsuan, Librarian: February is 50% off museum month; pick up a pass at UH library.
- Tyler Renner, City Councilmember Chris Ward's office: Ward is Land Use and Housing Committee chair.
- Nick Zinter, Supervisor Nathan Fletcher's office.
- Jonathon Clark, Congresswoman Susan Davis' office: New rep introduced himself.

Panel Discussion: Bill Smith introduced the five City Council District 3 candidates and requested short self-introductions.

- Chris Olsen: Lives in community. Independent city budget analyst, so he can be critical of use of funding. Also teaches class at SDSU. Issues: Homelessness: will fund plans to implement solutions, see what have other cities done. Climate action and affordable housing.
- Toni Duran: Former rep for Toni Atkins' office. Lives in community, has struggled with finding affordable housing. Issues: Homelessness, community clean-ups.
- Steven Whitburn: Believes we can solve our problems. Issues: Homeless-

ness, building affordable housing, improve sidewalks and streets from state funding.

- Adrian Kwiatkowski: Worked on City Charter, strong mayor plan, smoke-free beaches and parks, veteran support, seal protection in La Jolla.
- Michelle Nguyen: Parents left Viet Nam for better life. USD grad in international business, member of CA Army National Guard, experienced with gov't contracting, not a politician but a business person. Believes men are homeless because of job loss, women because of abuse.

Question and Answer session. Sample questions:

- How to supply affordable housing and middle level housing
- Status of SB50 (statewide rent control)
- What to do with the school board property on Normal St.
- How to address homelessness
- How to address traffic and parking
- How to address drug use

Good questions from audience. Excellent responses from candidates: articulate, knowledgeable, thought provoking. Positive feedback from audience. Thanks to Bill Smith for organizing and chairing panel discussion.

Vote on March 3rd!

Next meeting **Thursday, March 5.** Topic: Homelessness: Causes and Solutions

Meeting adjourned, 8:15 pm.

—Peter Rose, UHCA Secretary

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ON THE BOULEVARDS

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON PARK AND EL CAJON BOULEVARDS

On Park Boulevard

Check out the beautiful new mural that graces Park Boulevard Foods at the NW corner of Monroe St. and Park Blvd.

On El Cajon Boulevard (ECB)

The Red Fox restaurant's lease has been extended through March at the Lafayette location. Groundbreaking will begin soon on their new restaurant across the street at the NE corner of ECB and Mississippi.

Have you seen the newly painted house on the SW corner of ECB and Mississippi? Artist Maggie Shen, who painted the house, received permission to showcase her artwork on this property, which will be redeveloped this summer by Trestle Company into low-income housing units with ground floor retail.

Maggie has traveled from Taiwan to the US to Europe (France and Switzerland) and back to the US, settling in San Diego. She's been an art student and

a teacher, with a particular interest in public art and a specialty in art therapy. She combines these interests in striving to create art that makes a positive impact on people and functions as a welcoming gesture to the community.

Maggie told us that with this project, she had a very short time to plan. However, everything worked out seamlessly. In regard to visual impact, she understood that she had to include the roof, thus treating the entire house as an object/sculpture, and using colors to diffuse the edges and boundaries of the house. Of course, she had to remove the fences as well. To create a warm and welcoming intention, she used the colors from the environment, such as the green/blue (the base color) from the street lamp, and the orange, pearl, and green/yellow from the building across the street. Although this house will eventually disappear from the site, she wanted it to be more welcoming with a positive and festive feel.

In talking to the neighbors, Maggie learned that the empty house had been occupied by squatters and that the police had been coming out quite a lot, which she thought was sad because a stereotypical house like this should be a safe place that someone could call home. On the other hand, in its own way it hosted people without a home. Just after she had painted half of the house, someone tagged the house on the clean wall. Maggie decided to leave a note to include the graffiti artist in the project because he or she was also a part of the community. Magically, no further tagging occurred after the note.

Many people stopped by to have very positive conversations while Maggie was painting with help from two fellow artists, Christi and Armando. She said it was such a great experience to make a place that creates conversations and interactions in the community.

Other happenings on ECB:
The Lafayette always has something

going on www.lafayettehotelsd.com/events/calendar. And check out the new community event space at 2104 ECB, the Blvd. Court. Their First Fridays host live music, vendors, funky art, craft beer, and food trucks (blvdcourt.com).
—Nan McGraw

[Editors' Note: ON THE BOULEVARDS is an occasional feature of the UHCA News that runs when there are items of interest on Park Blvd. and/or El Cajon Blvd. If you are a business owner, shopkeeper, restaurateur, or just a resident of University Heights with an upcoming special event, new menu items, holiday business hours, a remodel, or whatever, please email Nan McGraw at nmcsan@aol.com, using the subject heading On the Boulevards. We will do our best to get you included in the On the Boulevards column in the next or a future issue. Submittal deadline is the 5th of each month for the following month's publication.]



BLVD. COURT

Photo: Paul Farris



Mural on the side wall of PB foods.

Photo: Dave Holts



Artist Maggie Shen in front of painted house on ECB. Photo: Paul Farris



House on ECB painted by artist Maggie Shen. Photo: Paul Farris

MARCH 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm	2	3 Board of Education Meeting Eugene Brucker Auditorium, 4100 Normal St., 5 pm Primary Election	4 UHCDC Meeting 4452 Park Blvd., Suite 104, 6:30 pm	5 UH Rec Advisory Group Meeting, Alice Birney Library, 5:30 pm UHCA Meeting Alice Birney Auditorium, 6:45 pm UHCA News articles due	6	7 Trolley Barn Park Canyon Restoration Event 9 am-noon (volunteers appreciated)
8 Daylight Savings Time begins Spring ahead one hour at 2 am Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm	9	10 Friends of UH Library 6 pm, UH Library Board of Education Meeting Eugene Brucker Auditorium, 4100 Normal St., 5 pm Hillcrest Town Council Joyce Beers Center, Uptown Complex, 6 pm	11 Beautification Team Meeting Hope Lounge, Lafayette Hotel, 6:30 pm	12 Uptown Planners Meeting Joyce Beers Center, Uptown Complex, 6 pm Vote for new board members. uptownplanners.org/community-participation Curbside Recycling & Yard Waste Collection	13	14
15 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm	16	17 St. Patrick's Day North Park Planning Committee Board elections North Park Christian Fellowship, 2901 North Park Way, 6:30 pm	18 UH Library Task Force Meeting UH Branch Library, 6:30 pm	19 Spring Begins	20 Preview Book Sale (Friends members only) UH Library, 3 - 6 pm	21 Book Sale (open to the public) UH Library, 8 - 3 pm
22 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm Bag O' Books sale (open to the public) UH Library, 12 noon-4 pm	23	24 UHCA News Out North Park Christian Fellowship, 2901 North Park Way, 6:30 pm Board of Education Meeting Eugene Brucker Auditorium, 4100 Normal St., 5 pm	25 UH Book Club & Salon UH Library, 6:30 pm	26 Curbside Recycling & Yard Waste Collection	27	28
29 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9 am - 2 pm	30	31 Cesar Chavez Day UH Library and County / Park offices closed	1	2	3	4

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

HISTORY-MAKING KITCHEN TABLE SETTLES IN SAN DIEGO

If you're of a certain age, or just a good student of 20th century American history, then you know our current US Head of State isn't the first one to have an interesting relationship with a Russian leader. Back in 1959, then Vice President Richard Nixon wasn't so much a pal to Soviet First Secretary Nikita Khrushchev, however, as he was a thorn in the Russian Premier's side.

Attempts to help thaw the Cold War in the late 1950s included cultural exchanges through which people in the USSR and the US were supposed to learn about each other, leading to less fear and suspicion between our countries. For one such effort, the Soviets set up a "typical" communist home in New York for Americans to learn from, and in Moscow, the US set up a "typical" American home of the sort that, Nixon told Khrushchev, would have cost \$14,000 in California that year.

The American kitchen was full of the latest labor-saving appliances and modern design, but Khrushchev fumed in disdain. As TV cameras rolled, the

Russian leader claimed that capitalist America was churning out inferior homes and furnishings that weren't made to last. Labor-saving devices, such as the electric dishwasher, weren't needed by communist women (Khrushchev and Nixon both referred solely to women as the users of these kitchens of the future). Besides, Khrushchev insisted, the USSR would surely surpass American ingenuity and wealth very quickly, since theirs was a superior form of government. Nixon held his own in front of the TV cameras, at turns smiling and joking, then pointing forcefully at his opponent, arguing that the diversity of options in America, and the freedom for people to choose how they would live, was what made America great.

Watched on televisions across the US (and later, in edited form, across the USSR), the debate between these world leaders was coined the "Kitchen Debate" because so much of the argument took place in and about the kitchen of the American model home. Nixon gained greatly in popularity back in the US for his handling of the communist leader. And the sleek, modern table in that model American kitchen wound up back in the family home of the kitchen's designer, Carl Sundberg of Sundberg Ferar Industrial Design in Detroit. Now, sixty years later, the table lives on here in San Diego, brought here by Carl Sundberg's daughter, Susan Riley, a retired graphic designer who also happens to be the mother of Sheep Riley, owner of bfd, our popular local deli!

docent for the Mingei Museum, teaching and learning alongside a cadre of dedicated and talented volunteers, has enriched her time here in San Diego. It has allowed her to serve the community, particularly the scores of school kids who tour the park's museums each day, which brings her great joy.

And that sleek, modern table over which Nixon and Khrushchev debated the relative merits of their countries' economic systems? From Moscow to the Riley family's Detroit-area kitchen, to New Jersey, and finally San Diego—including a 2018 stint on the PBS Antiques Roadshow filmed in Coronado—the "Kitchen Debate" table now graces the home of Susan Riley's daughter in San Marcos.

Whether made of Formica and steel, solid oak, or something else, most kitchen tables have seen a family debate or two among the occasional celebrations and quotidian comings and goings of daily life. But the Riley family table's fine Mid-Century design, and the personal and historical events embedded in it, certainly make the table an extraordinary piece of furniture indeed.

—Judith Annicchiarico

[Editor's note: "Meet Your Neighbor" is a relatively new feature for the UHCA News. If you know an interesting neighbor we should profile, please let us know at uhcanews@yahoo.com.]



Richard Nixon pointing at Nikita Khrushchev, 1959



Susan Riley and her family's table, 2020



Richard Nixon laughing with Nikita Khrushchev in foreground, 1959.



1959 American kitchen exhibit with famous table in forefront

Sheep Riley and his wife and business partner, Laura, had picked San Diego as a place to live and work based on Sheep's earlier family vacations here. When it came time for Sheep's parents to relocate from New Jersey as they contemplated retirement, moving to Mid-City San Diego, close to their children's families and to a wealth of cultural amenities, made great sense. Susan and her husband love that Mid-City amenity so many of us value—the ability to be almost anywhere we want to go within 15 or 20 minutes. They're particularly fond of Balboa Park and all it has to offer. Susan's work as a

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

BFD

Big Front Door (bfd) has been an award-winning deli in University Heights since 2012, owned and operated by Sheep and Laura Riley, who have 20 years of experience in the San Diego restaurant industry. The Rileys' mission is to run a classic neighborhood deli that the community can depend on with most items prepared in house from quality ingredients. BFD often caters events for the Zoo and radio station KSDS, among other clients. Sheep and Laura enjoy sharing their hospitality with everyone in the UH neighborhood, including their pets. Located at Park and Polk, in the award-winning Jonathan Segal mixed-use building, they look forward to seeing and serving you soon.




Sheep Riley, Owner of BFD in UH.
Photo: Dave Holts

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FOOD AND BEVERAGES

RESTAURANT REVIEW

YIPAO COFFEE RETURNS TO UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

The beloved, bright yellow coffee trailer that called the corner of Madison and Park home for nearly a year suddenly closed in December. The Columbian coffee-roasting company, Yipao, had cultivated a loyal clientele who came not only for caffeinated beverages, but also for the colorful patio and friendly faces. Many of us worried: Was this it for Yipao?

Thankfully, the beloved coffee vendor and its caffeinated beverages will return to University Heights with a new, permanent residence. Yipao owners Jairo and Maria Antonieta are excited about their new space allowing them to grow their business. "Our long-term vision is...to serve the best fresh, specialty Columbian coffee with our very own coffee roaster, an extended menu, and more seating."

Yipao will return to the neighborhood soon, very close to the old Madison Ave. spot.

That's right. They will be taking up residence on the first floor of Kairoa Brewing Company. At the time of publication, the official start date was February 15, pending receipt of the appropriate permits and licenses.

This isn't the first collaboration for these two local businesses. Yipao cooperated with Kairoa on what they called the Tweaky Buggah, "a golden coffee blonde brewed with Yipao coffee in nitro."

Many details regarding this exciting new alliance are still in the works, but University Heights residents can call themselves pretty lucky with artisanal coffee and locally crafted beers all in the same place. And we can all breathe a sigh of relief that Yipao isn't gone for good. Yipao plans to keep its original coffee and beverage menu, to expand its special drinks menu, and to add a new pastry section with vegan options. Yipao will be open from 9 am to 5 pm. Patrons can either enjoy their coffee with ample seating or grab it to go. Plus Yipao coffee will accompany weekend brunch at Kairoa.

Until their re-opening, Yipao lovers can order beans from the coffee roaster's website yipao-coffee.com and use the promo code UHSD for free shipping to get beans delivered right to their door. Follow Yipao on Facebook and Instagram @yipaocoffee to get up-to-date information.

—Justine Hall





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PET OF THE MONTH

HANGING WITH MR. COOPER

Hi, my name is Cooper! I'm a 9-year-old Yorkshire Terrier with a ton of spunk! Yes, the rumors are true. I'm small in size, but big in personality. I'm sure you're not fooled by my daintiness. I'm feisty, at times bossy, protective, and I sometimes have a big-town attitude.

In my nine years, I have lived in La Jolla, CA; College Station, TX; Manasquan, NJ; and Hoboken, NJ. And now I live in the beautiful, hidden gem of University Heights! In my travels, I have picked up a lot of nicknames, all of which I respond happily to! Coop, Coops, Coopy-boops, Coop DoGG, Coopy, Coopy Lou, Coopy Babes Coop a Loop, and Mr. Cooper.

I was born in Temecula, the Wine Country of Southern California, on April 15, 2010, in a litter of three. A real tax baby! I'm pretty sure that's why my mom chose me. Not the taxes part, but for her love of wine. I'm a true Aries, just like my mom. We like to be number #1 and we are bold, energetic, and

loyal. I also am a great watchdog. When I finally arrived home at Windansea, the small pocket of La Jolla, we moved to College Station, Texas, so that my dad could pursue his MBA. Go, Aggies! After he graduated, we made our way to good ole Hoboken, NJ, where I was enrolled in a Doggie Daycare, also known as Linda's Little Rompers. It was in Hoboken where I discovered my love for "fresh mootz."

During my daycare days, I made lots of little friends, which is why, if you know me, you know I bark a lot. I picked up a lot of habits, both good and bad. I get excited easily and I'm fearful of big dogs, but don't be fooled by my bark. I'm very friendly and I love people—they are my favorite.

I love to give kisses, especially to my dad at night. I guess you could say I have a nightly routine. Once everyone is in bed, I kiss my dad's face clean. He loves it! I've been doing this for nine years. It started off as a way to not

sleep in my crate at night because my mom had rules. No animals were allowed to sleep in the bed. Good thing I implemented the face kissing or else I would probably still be sleeping in a crate.

While I was in Hoboken, I quickly figured out that I hate the cold weather, and I'm not a fan of doggie daycare. After a long 4 and 1/2 years, my wishes finally came true, and it was back to America's Finest City. I couldn't be happier!

Once we bought our home in University Heights, I was determined to get my picture in the paper. It was a long wait, but totally worth it. If you see me walking around with my mom

on Lincoln, Maryland, and Johnson or running around in my yard, please say hello. I may like you but as my mom says, I can't make any promises. I love the spotlight, have tons of energy, and enjoy small dogs.

I'm too young to have an Instagram account, but if you're curious what I'm up to—you can follow my hashtag #cooperkight.

—Meghan Kight



Cooper, Our Yorkie.
Photo: Meghan Kight

SCHOOL NEWS

ROO NEWS

STUDENTS FINDING THEIR HAPPY PACE



Students at Roosevelt Middle School have a new after-school enrichment program that started the first week of February. This new Running Club is led by veteran PE teacher, Coach Sean Sand, a passionate life-long runner. The club brings together 30 sixth, seventh, and eighth graders who are excited about self-improvement and exercising. They meet once a week after school to work on their running skills. Students will log their total mileage, learn techniques to improve their running form, increase their overall endurance, and shorten the time it takes for each runner to run a mile. Coach Sand adds, "Besides running once a week, we will aim to participate as a club in some local 5Ks. Both runner and family participation will be encouraged!"

lens, Roosevelt's PE coaches provide a balanced curriculum that includes both physical and health related knowledge. Topics such as components of fitness, training methods, training principles, nutrition, lifestyle, biomechanics, exercise physiology, and first aid are standard at IB schools.

Coach Sand is an experienced physical education teacher, with thirteen years of experience with San Diego Unified and two with Roosevelt Middle School. His running expertise includes running multiple half-marathons and 5Ks. "This is the first running club in a while at RIMS and we are hopeful to expand it in the years to come," he said.

After School Enrichment clubs are offered for free to Roosevelt students and made possible by generous donors fundraising and organization by the Friends of Roosevelt Foundation. If you'd like to help make these and other great programs available to our approximately 1000 students, please donate today at <https://friendsofroosevelt.org/contribute/>

-Jennifer Ayala, Parent of students at Roosevelt and San Diego High School and a Board Member of the Friends of Roosevelt Foundation

Physical education is standard at San Diego Unified middle schools, but Physical and Health Education play a major role at International Baccalaureate (IB) schools. Per the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO), physical and health education are core subjects. In order to meet IB standards, Roosevelt's PE educators are trained and certified to teach and empower students to understand and appreciate the value of being physically active and to develop the motivation for making healthy life choices. Through this



Coach Sand and RMS Runners: Marina O. (7th), Sanjana F. (7th), Kimberly R.N. (7th), Scarlet G. (7th), and Ismael S. (7th). Photo: Roosevelt Middle School Staff

BIRNEY BUZZ

BIRNEY: DEVELOPING THE WHOLE CHILD



Birney students have "heart"

Photo: Kyle Kindrick

Birney Bees are in the midst of a school-wide Kindness Challenge. Through daily acts of kindness, students are striving to make a difference in the lives of others. As an IB school, Birney teaches children that they can make a difference in the world with their actions, even through basic interpersonal relations. At a time when divisiveness and animosity often dominate discussion, Birney cultivates a culture of care and respect. At the end of the Kindness Challenge, family members join students at school, and together they make a large heart on the playground, symbolizing that our school community is united in creating a culture of kindness!

Enrichment Programs available to students. Students currently have the opportunity to select from Guitar, Yoga, Chess, Public Speaking, Movie Making, Engineering, Dance, Piano Keyboard, Running, Spanish, Drawing, Soccer, and Robotics! These unique, wonderful programs inspire students to explore new interests and build new skills.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to our awesome neighborhood Big Give sponsors: UHCA, Mission Hills Nursery, Cal Community Mortgage, Realtor Mary Anne Stevens, Realtor Monique Motley, Pemberly Realty, Milberg Orthodontics, Financial Alternatives, KGTY, Lennar, Twiggs, and Cal Coast Credit Union. We are extremely appreciative of their generous support of our Birney Bees!

Birney is an exceptional school because it emphasizes development of the whole child: activities such as the Kindness Challenge focus on character development, and events such as our upcoming Run for the Green reinforce the importance of physical health. Birney has been recognized as one of the nation's healthiest schools. The Run for the Green gives all students the opportunity to push themselves to see how far they can run, jog, or walk for thirty minutes. The event is also a critical fundraiser for the school. Jog-a-thon pledges collected by the students help fund the school's IB programs and specials classes (Spanish, Gardening, and Art). The school community will be out in force on March 13 to cheer on the runners. An exciting time for the students, it's inspiring to see how hard the kids work and how proud they are of what they accomplish. If you or your business would like to sponsor this important event, please contact info@friendsofalicebirney.org

More Buzz about our exceptional teachers, written by Birney parents:

"Mr. Peterson takes the time to have each third grade class come to his room and learn to sing as a chorus while he plays piano. At the assemblies at the end of each trimester, the entire third grade sings for the parents. I love that Mr. Peterson brings his talents for music to the entire third grade."

"Coach Lord has made wellness an integral part of the culture at Birney! The running club is so popular that they often have over 100 kids lined up for the timed mile before school. Her P.E. classes are filled with music and games and the kids have so much fun they don't even realize they are exercising. She is positive, encouraging, and upbeat, and remarkably knows the names of most of the 560 plus students at Birney!"

In addition to programs during regular school hours that build the social, intellectual, and physical strengths of our students, we also have an incredible variety of After School

-Erin MacKinnon, Proud Parent of two Birney Bees and Secretary/ Outreach on the Friends of Alice Birney Elementary (FOABE) Board

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Hosted by the University Heights Community Association

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Paul Ferris

LIBRARY NEWS

THE UH BRANCH LIBRARY BETWEEN THE COVERS

The UH Library would like to announce the San Diego Public Library's series of youth events entitled "Spring Into STEAM: Go Wild!" The San Diego Public Library is partnering with local science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics experts and organizations focusing on the rainforest. Different types of science-focused programs for kids between the ages of 9 to 12 years old will take place at all library locations between March and May 2020. Participants will earn a paw print on their bookmark for attending each different workshop. After earning three or more paw prints, students may return their bookmark to their local library to claim a pair of Go Wild binoculars. Check out www.sandiego.gov/steam for more information.

FEATURED PROGRAMS

- Spring Into STEAM's Go Wild with Zovargo. Tuesday, Mar. 17, 3:30-4:30 pm. Grab your magnifying glass and get ready to Go Wild as you discover some of the beautiful animals that make up the rainforest. Learn what we can do to help these animals that are in danger of extinction. Ages 9-12.
- CalFresh Workshop. Monday, Mar. 16, 9:30 am-12 pm. Apply for nutrition benefits (CalFresh) with Feeding San Diego.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PROGRAMS

- Silhouette Studio. First Thursday of each month (Mar. 5), 3:30-5:30 pm. Blend technology with arts and crafts with the use of Silhouette Studio and the Cameo 3 Cutter. Open to ages 12 and up.
- Morning Story Time: Thursdays at 11 am.
- Arts & Crafts: Saturdays all day.
- Fun Learning: Saturdays, 2-4 pm. For kids 4th to 6th grade. Join our teen volunteers who want to share their love for learning. Participate in fun projects.
- Mental Health & Homeless Outreach: Mondays from 10 am to 12 pm. NAMI's Connection 2 Community will be on site to provide resources and information.

As a reminder, the library will be closed on Tuesday, March 31, for César Chávez Day.

Please check our Facebook page and online calendar or give us a call at 619-692-4912 for any further questions. Thank you from everyone at the University Heights Library.

—*Elaine Sinsuan, Branch Manager, University Heights Library, 619-692-4912, sandiego.gov*

UH BOOK CLUB AND SALON MAKE TROUBLE

STANDING UP, SPEAKING OUT, AND FINDING THE COURAGE TO LEAD
BY CECILE RICHARDS

From protesting the Vietnam War in seventh grade to her years as the president of Planned Parenthood, Cecile Richards recounts how she became an activist fighting for women's rights and social justice. She credits her progressive parents, Ann Richards, the former Governor of Texas, and David Richards, a landmark civil rights attorney, for raising her to question authority and fight to make a difference in people's lives. To a certain extent, the memoir serves as a remembrance of her late mother, whose influence as the straight-talking, truth-telling governor is threaded throughout the chapters of her daughter's story.

Richards' championing of workers' rights for janitors and health workers and protests against voter restrictions eventually placed her in Washington, D.C., working for House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. But it is her work as president of

Planned Parenthood that brought her to national attention. In 2018, she stepped down after serving twelve years in that role.

After years of progressive leadership, Richards shares her story for the first time. Her narrative gives readers front-row seats to key events in recent history and will inspire them to stand up, speak out, and lead.

Join the Book Club & Salon discussion. New Book Club members are always welcome! The book will be available at the UH Library's front desk during March.

UH BOOK CLUB & SALON
Wed. March 25, 2020, 6:30 pm
University Heights Branch Library
4193 Park Boulevard (at Howard Avenue). 619-692-4912

FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS LIBRARY

Please support your local library and its Friends group any way you wish. Contact us at friendsoftheuhlibrary@gmail.com. Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 10, at 6 pm, at the UH Branch Library. As always, thank you for your continuing support of our branch library. We really appreciate it.
—*Maureen Markey, President, Friends of the University Heights Library*

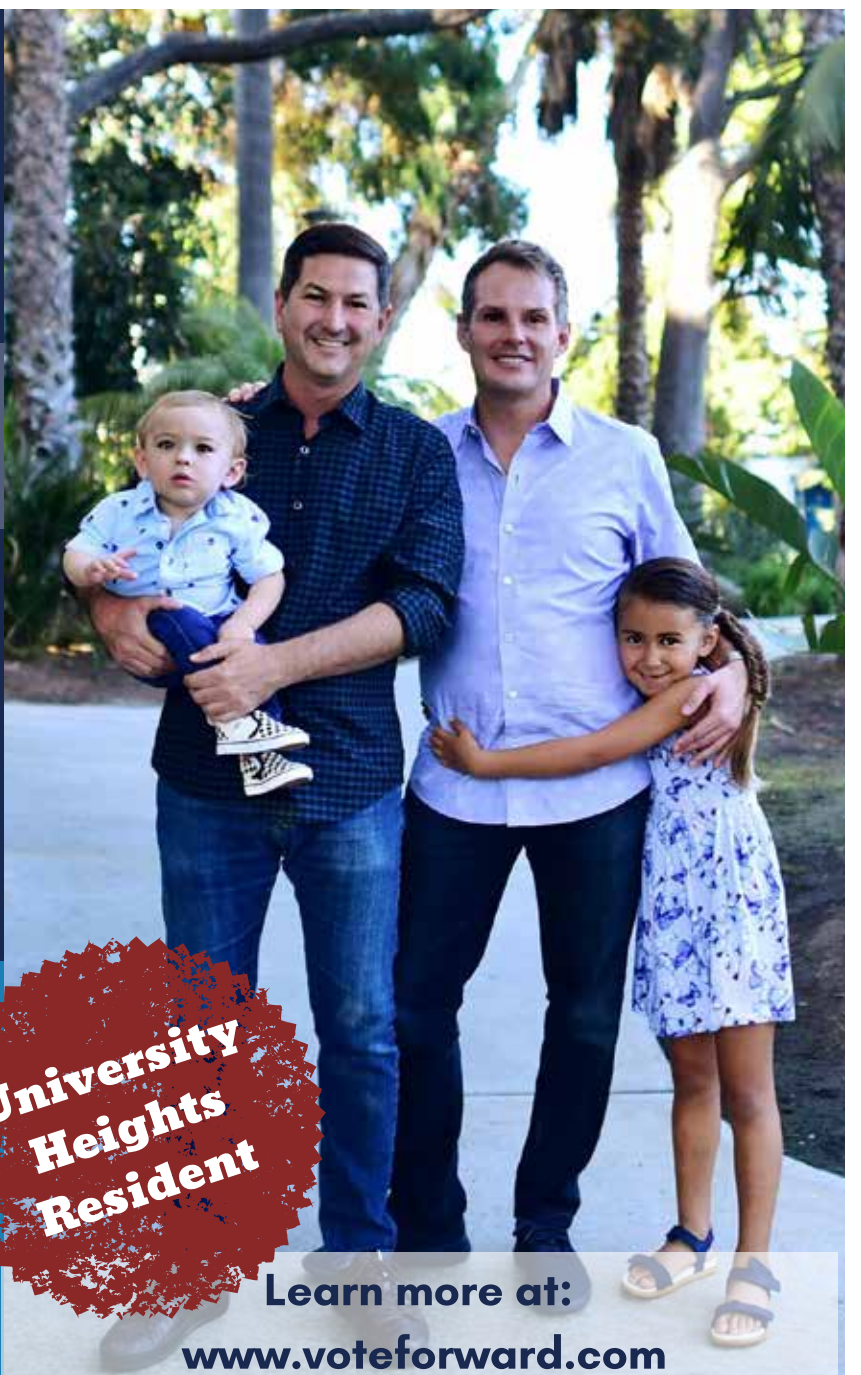
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UH BEAUTIFICATION TEAM REPORT

VERMONT STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE INADEQUATE LIGHTING CREATES SAFETY HAZARD

The ten street lights along the east side of the Vermont Street Pedestrian Bridge use low-pressure, sodium, yellow-color lamps. These lamps are less than half the brightness of other acorn-style street lights in the city, such as those just south of the bridge. This creates a safety issue in crossing the bridge during early winter mornings and at night. Many University Heights residents have requested that the City of San Diego replace that lighting with a better alternative.

The desired solution is to change the lighting to a brighter, white-color light, with down-oriented fixtures, which focus the light where it's needed and avoid night sky pollution. Examples in the city of better acorn-style, brighter-white lighting exist: in Balboa Park along the east end of the Prado and the street next to the Natural History Museum; along the west end of El Cajon Blvd.; and at the County Center/Little Italy trolley station.

The University Heights Community Association is advocating with city repre-

sentatives to improve the lighting on the bridge. Although the city has said it will investigate the situation, it has not yet been willing to set a date when that will occur. In addition, it has, without justification, quoted costs at five times that paid by other cities that have done this same task.

Safety concerns should be taken seriously by the city, to prevent unnecessary injury and to avoid the associated costs of resulting lawsuits.

If you want the city to expedite this process, please contact Chris Ward's office at 619 236-6633, or Tyler Renner at trenner@sandiego.gov, and ask that the city make this a high priority. Every additional request will make a difference. Thank you for helping to improve University Heights.

- Sol Schumer, UHCA Beautification Team Member. *The next Beautification Team Meeting will be held at Hope Lounge, Lafayette Hotel, 6:30 pm, March 10, 2020.*

THE UH RECREATION COUNCIL

UH REC COUNCIL OPPOSES RESTROOMS IN TROLLEY BARN PARK

The University Heights Recreation Council is requesting that the comfort station being proposed for Old Trolley Barn Park (TBP) be put on hold and that the city consider community input, from both the property owners who abut the park and the University Heights neighborhood that the park serves.

Hundreds of thousands of scarce dollars have been allocated for a study of the idea (not including actual building/maintenance) while a long list of already prioritized capital improvement projects goes unfunded. A restroom was removed from the list several times previously, and going back to the creation of TPB, the neighborhood was solidly in agreement that there would be no permanent bathrooms in the park if and when a park was established.

Because TPB is a small neighborhood park that services the residents within one-quarter of a mile, as opposed to a larger community park, UH residents made clear that any addition of a permanent public restroom in the park would be unacceptable. At several public meetings, a number of residents reiterated their concerns and provided photos of four poorly maintained park restrooms in the city: North Park Community Park, Mission Hills Pioneer Park, Ward Canyon Park, and Presidio Park.

Councilmember Chris Ward's representative confirmed that strong opposition to the comfort station proposal would result in the City abandoning the project so that funding could be reallocated to other projects.

—Stu McGraw (stumcgraw@gmail.com)

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POLITICAL NEWS

FROM YOUR COUNTY SUPERVISOR

BUILDING A BETTER WAY FOR COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Our County is once again making history by forging partnerships to build a better way for behavioral health services in San Diego. Tackling our County's behavioral health challenges by investing in an integrated, coordinated, regional system of care is our single highest priority. To this end, we

are working to ensure that care providers communicate with one another so that the clients' best interests are at the forefront of our service delivery system.

Last year, we announced that the dilapidated county-owned property at 4307 Third Avenue in Hillcrest would be transformed into a Central Region Behavioral Health Hub, a world-class facility dedicated to providing clinical and psychosocial care services.

We are now making strides to make this vision a reality. In January, we formalized a historic

partnership with UCSD Health to operate jointly at the Hub, ensuring an informed and client-centered approach to meeting each individual's clinical and psychosocial needs.

We are also developing an Accelerated Connections to Treatment (ACT) for Homeless program, which will connect hundreds of unsheltered individuals struggling with Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) directly with the resources they need. The ACT program will help over 450 homeless people who cycle in and out of our County Psychiatric Hospitals get off the streets and connected to long-term treatment.

To keep up with the latest developments on our behavioral health initiatives, visit www.SupervisorNathanFletcher.com/BetterWayBHS, or check out #BetterWayBHS on social media.

You can also email Nathan.Fletcher@sdcounty.ca.gov or give us a call at (619) 531-5544.

County Supervisor Nathan Fletcher represents University Heights as part of his Fourth Supervisorial District.



Nathan Fletcher and team. Photo: Nick Zinter



FROM YOUR COUNCILMEMBER

HOUSING BOND PROPOSAL MOVES FORWARD

Every San Diegan has been touched by our housing and homelessness crisis, with unsheltered and low-income San Diegans suffering the most. As a guiding tool to address this issue, the city's recently-adopted Community Action Plan on Homelessness lays out a long-term strategy, identifies the specific housing needs of our current homeless population, and calls for the construction of thousands of affordable and permanent supportive housing units.

The next step is to get that desperately needed housing funded and built. Therefore, I'm moving forward with a proposal for a Housing Bond that would provide the funding to get the needed housing built and serving those who need it.

On January 14, 2020, the City Council voted (6-3) to adopt a resolution of necessity to pursue a housing bond, an initial step in placing a measure on the November 2020 ballot. This would allow voters the opportunity to approve funding for the development of thousands of homes. Passage of the eventual bond measure will allow the city to tap into hundreds of millions of dollars of state and federal funding available for housing production.

We have made strides to address homelessness, including our interim shelters that provide beds and services to more than 900 individuals every night, expanded outreach, investment in rapid re-housing programs, and workforce development programs. However, we do not have the necessary housing pipeline to permanently house clients. To do that we need homes that San Die-

gans at all income levels can afford.

A Housing Bond would be a major investment in affordable housing in San Diego, as well as an investment in good jobs and a stronger economy for local workers, assuring that we are reducing the future need for affordable housing as well.

When we have the affordable homes we need, available to all income levels, in all communities, we can house all San Diegans and meet the goals of the Community Action Plan on Homelessness.

As always, I value the input of all residents and encourage you to reach out to my office at 619-236-6633 or through email at christopherward@sandiego.gov.

- Councilmember Chris Ward, San Diego City Council, District 3, which includes University Heights



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