

**NEXT UHCA MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 6**

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

**HOUSING IN SAN DIEGO**

Featured speaker: Stephen Russell, Executive Director of the San Diego Housing Federation  
Deadline for nominations for UHCA officers is September 6 for elections at our October meeting



**University Heights Community Association September 2018**



# NEWS

## OP-ED

### BOND MEASURE BY SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PROMISES MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS TO UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY

The Board of the San Diego Unified School District (School Board) has placed on the November ballot a bond measure known as the “Neighborhood School Safety and Repair Measure” to finance improvements to San Diego city schools and to the property located at 4100 Normal Street in University Heights.

University Heights neighbors stand to receive multiple benefits from the new bond measure, including the preservation of historic buildings and major improvements to our quality of life. The bond measure is primarily designed to provide \$3.5 billion to schools such as our own Alice Birney Elementary. However, University Heights also stands to gain from added green space, increased parking, and the protection of historic landmarks should the measure be approved by voters in the fall. That is thanks to collaboration among the Board of Education, the University Heights Community Association (UHCA), the UH Community Coalition, and the Library Task Force.

On July 24, the School Board unanimously approved a resolution to partner with University Heights in planning for the future of the property at 4100 Normal Street that currently houses the School Board’s district headquarters. The resolution included the following possibilities:

- Added green space for community use
- A library or another facility to educate neighborhood families

- A parking structure with electric vehicle charging stations
- A training facility for future teachers

San Diego Unified School Superintendent Cindy Marten will establish a task force made up of school district and community representatives to plan and carry out actions necessary to complete the projects listed above.

As we work together to design a better future for our community, this is also a good time to stop and reflect on what we have already accomplished. After nearly two decades of neighborhood struggle to make the Education Center property on Normal Street into the jewel of our community, we now have a clear path to victory. We have a bond measure on the ballot for November and a clear commitment from the school district to transform the Normal Street headquarters into a benefit for the whole community should that measure pass.

Strong community collaboration created the gains approved by the School Board. Representatives of UHCA, the UH Community Coalition, and the Library Task Force testified multiple times before the Board of Education on the importance of preserving and protecting the historic properties at the Normal Street site, including the 1910 historically designated Teachers Training Annex, the 1935 WPA Annex 2, and the 1953 Eugene Brucker Education Center building. They also advocated for other community benefits, including green space and parking, consistent with the City of San Diego

Uptown Community Plan, the California Education Code, and the California Government Code.

In 1897, the State of California built the San Diego Normal School (now San Diego State University) at 4100 Normal Street in University Heights as a training facility for elementary school teachers. In 1910, the State of California built the Teachers Training Annex 1 building adjacent to the San Diego Normal School as a training laboratory for student teachers who were observed as they provided instruction to school-age children. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) built Annex 2 in 1935, and the Eugene Brucker Education Center building followed in 1953.

University Heights neighbors have long viewed the historic buildings on the Normal Street site as worthy of protection. The Teachers Training Annex 1 was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1999 through the efforts of the University Heights Historical Society. The Board of Education resolution commits the school district to consider restoring and installing the original University Heights Library mural inside Annex 1 to the extent possible.

It behooves all of us as University Heights residents to learn about this bond measure that will benefit not only San Diego schools but also the unique School Board property that functions as a critical gateway to University Heights. — *Richard Barrera, San Diego Unified School District Trustee, District D, which includes University Heights*

### LOOKING AHEAD:

#### THE NEXT UHCA MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2018

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

**TOPIC: ELECTIONS**

Come join us at our October 4 meeting which is all about elections. Do you typically look with dread at that election booklet with pages and pages of turgid language about all the ballot propositions? Here is your answer to becoming a well-informed voter! Professor Ron Shaheen, ably assisted by attorney Kurt Hermansen, will provide a thorough, understandable, and objective overview and analysis of the propositions on the November election ballot. Attend this informative presentation and you can enter that voting booth with confidence that you understand what you are being asked to vote on.

UHCA will also hold its annual election of officers at the October meeting. Deadline for nominations is our September 6 meeting.

### SAVE THE DATE

MOVIE IN  
TROLLEY BARN PARK

**SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 13**

SUNSET (APPROX.. 6:15 PM)

**TOY STORY  
TERROR  
&  
THE PRINCESS  
BRIDE**

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN SAN DIEGO



Stephen Russell, Executive Director of the San Diego Housing Federation, will be our featured speaker at the September 6 meeting. Whether you are a supporter or a skeptic when it comes to affordable housing, don’t miss this opportunity to hear from and ask questions of perhaps the most knowledgeable, articulate, and persuasive advocate of affordable housing in San Diego, Stephen Russell. Whatever the fate of the \$900 million housing bond measure proposed for the November ballot, the affordable housing problem

will not go away anytime soon. Stephen Russell is that rare speaker who will address your concerns calmly and intelligently with straightforward answers and will send you away with much food for thought.

The San Diego Housing Federation (SDHF) has been the collective voice of those who support, build, and finance affordable housing in the San Diego region. SDHF creates affordable housing opportunities for low-income people by expanding the knowledge,

capacity, and influence of the affordable housing development community. They not only advocate for those with very low incomes who are most severely impacted by the absence of an adequate supply of affordable housing in San Diego. They also inform the public, media, and decision makers about the need for more safe, healthy, and affordable housing in our community.

Please join us for this lively and informative discussion with Stephen Russell.



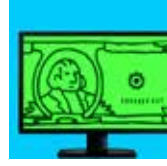
## MEMBERSHIP

**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**  
Jim Lybarger, Lari Sheehan,  
MaryBeth Chruden & Bill Smith



**BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS**  
Ryan Wilson: UPS Store at Park & Polk

### HOUSEHOLD

Grant Wilson, Marcos Sanchez & Rachel Lares, John LaRaia, Joshua Eckels, Elaine Davis, Tom Dowdy Family, Jeffrey Johnston, Sharon Ritchie, Isabel & Scott Schechter, Lynn Russo, Joshua Wilson, Lynne & Jim Manner, Russell Sperling, Tina McGlathery, Susan Virgilio, Rebecca Estrada, Pamela Isaacs, Bill & Patricia Wild, Dick King, John & Jean Earl, Emmi & Meredith Harward

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



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

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.

### 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

**EDITORIAL BOARD** Maureen Markey, Phyllis Kessel, Nan McGraw

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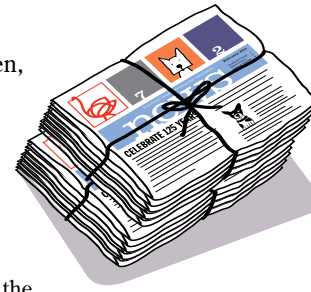
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Published 10 times per year by the University Heights Community Association. We welcome articles, letters, and announcements about issues and events relating to University Heights. The deadline for submission is the 5th of the month. Email submissions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



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**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 Zyhlij** 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  
**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  
**UHCDC** 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: 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  
**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 WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?

CAROL NEIDENBERG

Like many of you, I went to the movies this summer in part to escape the heat. I looked for something that wasn't terribly violent, although entertaining and yet with some meaning. I was pleasantly surprised that it turned out that I really enjoyed the film at the Landmark about, of all people, Fred Rogers.

Personally, I never was enamored of Mr. Rogers. I used to think he was too soft, too nice, and yes, too bland. Putting on the same cardigan every day, feeding the same fish (with a few exceptions), and changing into the same sneakers in every show. Yet there was much more to him than I remembered. In the documentary, I saw for the first time his subtle commentary on racial discrimination and the quietness of how he addressed the war in Vietnam. He also gave permission for kids to acknowledge the range of their feelings

including anger and fear. Not all emotions are "pleasant," and Mr. Rogers allowed kids to be okay about having feelings. Plus trusting the adults with whom they share these feelings.

I now look back on that show and see it through the eyes of today. I no longer see the show as sappy, but instead think how wonderful it is that in Mr. Rogers' make-believe world, people actually listened and recognized others' opinions. He embodied kindness and believed in the specialness of everyone.

I'd like to believe that the human race is not doomed and that there is a way for people to respect each other. Although University Heights isn't exactly a small midcentury American town, I like to think that Mr. Rogers would be proud to say of our neighborhood, "Let's make the most of this beautiful day."

# PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT SUICIDE PREVENTION

Already an enormous public health problem, suicide is increasing. UHCA has added suicide crisis line and other resources to the UH Phone Book on page 2. First, if you or a loved one is experiencing an immediate behavioral health emergency, call 911. Second, we encourage anyone who is concerned about a loved one or who is suffering from depression to use the following lifelines: 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.

You don't have to be suicidal to call. 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or Lifeline Chat at [suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/). Suicide is preventable.

You can learn how to be #BeThe1To at [www.bethe1to.com](http://www.bethe1to.com). Website: [up2sd.org](http://up2sd.org), or call their local hotline at 888-724-7240 for a live chat feature from 4-10 pm on weekdays.

# BE A RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER

If your dog poops when you are out walking, please do all of us a favor: Take it home with you and do not leave it for your neighbor even if you put it in a plastic bag. Aren't you tired of finding dog poop in your emptied garbage containers on Thursdays? These containers, which

are provided by the city, are numbered and registered to your name and address and are not for public disposal of others' garbage. Please be a good neighbor and don't leave your dog's poop for your neighbors to dispose of. As a responsible pet owner, that is your job.

## ON THE BOULEVARDS

# GROWING INTEREST IN EL CAJON BOULEVARD MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT AT PARK AND MEADE

When it comes to the development and redevelopment of El Cajon Blvd., there's plenty more to come. Including, perhaps, controversy.

That point was driven home as UHCA News was going to press with news that Lennar Multifamily Communities (LMC) has submitted preliminary plans for an eight-story, mixed-use apartment building on a 2.34-acre site directly across from the Birney Joint Use Playing Field (bounded by El Cajon Blvd. on the south, Park Blvd. on the west, and Meade Ave. on the north). Eight stories is roughly the same height as the new Park and Polk apartment/commercial building on Park Blvd.

The site is now occupied by the New Vision Church, which sold in January 2018, along with several adjacent parcels, for a rumored \$35 million. The current proposal calls for 375 apartments, 486 parking spaces, and a raised courtyard at the corner of El Cajon and Park Blvd., according to Bill Ellig, who posted the information on a community website. The plans include 144 studios, 145 one-bedroom, and 86 two-bedroom apartments.

Because the zoning for the site was approved as part of the 2016 North Park Community Plan Update, the proposed project may require only ministerial re-

view. That means that city staff can approve the project without public input as long as it meets all zoning requirements. At this time, there is no timeline for the permit approval process or possible construction.

What is happening in University Heights (UH) at the west end of the boulevard is not unique, however, as interest builds for development along the entire length of the miles-long El Cajon Corridor, which passes through many distinct communities on its way to San Diego State University in the College Area. Interest in El Cajon Blvd. as a location for new housing has been growing for almost two decades, explains Mary Lydon, executive director of Housing You Matters, a nonprofit that advocates for more housing at all price points in the San Diego's urban communities. ([www.housingyoumatters.org](http://www.housingyoumatters.org)).

"People have been talking about [the revitalization of El Cajon] for 20 years, and it's finally happening," says Lydon. "When you have that much transportation infrastructure, it becomes a good place to put housing." The infrastructure Lydon refers to includes the boulevard's rapid bus lines and the transportation center at El Cajon Blvd. and the 805. It has become all the more important because of the state and city climate action plans, which mandate greenhouse gas reductions.

The many and varied communities along the El Cajon Corridor—it encompasses 17 separate Business Improvement Districts (BIDs)—are working together to develop a common community-oriented plan to address housing, transportation, and other issues. Among the BIDs involved are the El Cajon Boulevard Business Improvement Association ([theboulevard.org](http://theboulevard.org)).

That plan, called Vision 20/20, is already gathering input from communities along the corridor through a series of open forums at The Rock Church at 4001 El Cajon Blvd. The meetings are open to all interested parties. Held in early June, the first meeting discussing housing was attended by community members, housing experts, political leaders (including District 3 Councilmember Chris Ward, a UH resident), and others. The second meeting, still in the planning stage, will

address transportation along the corridor. It will likely happen in mid-September, with the final forum probably taking place in mid-November. The final report is slated for early 2019. — Philip J. Gill with additional information provided by Bill Ellig

*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 whatever, email me at [philipjgill@gmail.com](mailto:philipjgill@gmail.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.*

*Bill Ellig is a University Heights resident and a board member of Uptown Planners.*



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UH BEAUTIFICATION

# UHCA BEAUTIFICATION TEAM REPORT BEAUTIFICATION AND SAFETY IN UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

### Camelot Canyon

It has been five months since the March 27 fire under the Vermont Street Bridge. As of this writing, brush abatement in the city's eastern portion of the canyon has not been completed. The CalTrans-owned western portion was thoroughly cleared months ago and looks great. Many residents, along with the UHCA Beautification Team and Board members, have written letters

to Councilmember Chris Ward's office and, more recently, to Mayor Faulconer's office, expressing our grave concern that this remains a high fire danger area. The Mayor's office assured us the brush abatement will be scheduled "early this fiscal year." We hope by the time you read this the abatement will have been completed, although it has not even been scheduled. We will provide any news on this topic via our Face-



Andy Lange and Robert Dowell

book page, Nextdoor, and our website. We will remain vigilant until the abatement is accomplished!

### More Trees in UH

Free trees are still available for the strip of land between your sidewalk and the curb area. Fall is a great time to plant, and we need more shade for these hotter summers. Volunteers from our Urban Forest Team are canvassing UH to encourage you to beautify both your yard and UH by getting one or more street trees. Installation is free; you just need to water. For info, contact Michelle Fenwick at fenwick@miamioh.edu

### Vermont Street Bridge/Washington St. and 163 Entrance

On July 18, the Vermont Street Bridge was swept and power washed by Andy, Robert, Dawn, and Rod. Gum and graffiti were also removed. Several weeks pri-

or, Rod, MaryBeth, and T. scrubbed red graffiti off the cement deck of the bridge. If you notice any problems on the bridge, please message us on our Facebook page and we will attend to it.

Why do Washington and the 163 entrance always look so good? Every week, Andy, Robert, and Dawn pick up trash, trim, and sweep. Each week Kristie carries buckets of water to the small median on Lincoln and the rock garden at Pascoe and Washington St. We can't thank them enough, but you can, whenever you see them working!

To help with a small project or be part of our UHCA Beautification Team, contact Rod Girvin at rgirvin@cox.net. Short on time? Join UHCA at our website: uhsd.org. Click on "Become a Member" on the right side of the home page.

— MaryBeth Chruden

## KEEP THOSE FLAGS FLYING ON PARK BOULEVARD

Do you like seeing the flags on Park Boulevard on important days such as Presidents Day, Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Patriots Day, and Veterans Day? Those flags are one of the many fundraisers conducted by the Hillcrest-Mission Valley Lions Club to support blind and visually and hearing-impaired individuals.

The fee for this service is \$50 annually, but several of our Park Boulevard businesses have not signed up for their flag this year. Some University Heights residents are willing to sponsor a business for \$50 to keep the flags flying. Checks can be made payable to Hillcrest-Mission Valley Lions Club; see the website HillcrestLions.com for address or mail to P.O. Box 3365, San Diego, CA 92163. Thank you for your consideration.

— Nan McGraw

# SEPTEMBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b> <b>The Point Clean Up</b> 1:30 - 3:30 pm Golden Gate btwn RI & Del.
<b>2</b> <b>Hillcrest Farmers Market</b> 9 am - 2 pm	<b>3</b> <b>HAPPY LABOR DAY</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Uptown Planners Meeting</b> Joyce Beers Center Uptown Complex, 6 pm <b>Board of Ed Meeting</b> Eugene Brucker Auditorium 5 pm	<b>5</b> <b>UHCDC Meeting</b> 4452 Park Blvd. Suite 104, 6:30 pm <b>UHCA News Deadline for October issue</b>	<b>6</b> <b>UH Rec Council Meeting</b> Alice Birney Library, 5:30 pm <b>UHCA Meeting</b> Alice Birney Auditorium, 6:45 pm		
<b>9</b> <b>Hillcrest Farmers Market</b> 9 am - 2 pm <b>Grandparents Day</b> <b>Rosh Hashanah begins</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Patriot Day</b>  <b>Hillcrest Town Council</b> Joyce Beers Center, 6 pm <b>Friends of the Library, UH Chapter</b> UH Branch Library, 6 pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  <b>Curbside Recycling &amp; Yard Waste Collection</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> <b>Hillcrest Farmers Market</b> 9 am - 2 pm	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Yom Kippur begins at sundown</b> <b>NP Planning Committee</b> North Park Christian Fellowship, 2901 North Park Way 6:30 pm <b>Board of Ed Meeting</b> Eugene Brucker Auditorium 5 pm	<b>19</b> <b>UH Library Task Force Meeting</b> UH Branch Library, 6:30 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Preview Book Sale (Friends members only)</b> UH Library, 3 - 6 pm 	<b>22</b> <b>Autumn begins</b>  <b>Book Sale (open to the public),</b> UH Library, 8 - 3 pm
<b>23</b> <b>Hillcrest Farmers Market</b> 9 am - 2 pm <b>Bag O' Books sale (open to the public)</b> UH Library, 12 noon - 4 pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>October UHCA News out</b>	<b>26</b> <b>UH Book Club &amp; Salon</b> UH Library, 6:30 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> <b>Hillcrest Farmers Market</b> 9 am - 2 pm				<b>31</b>  <b>Curbside Recycling &amp; Yard Waste Collection</b>		



STREET SEEN

# PERFECT COMPANIONS SCHOOL, BOOKS, ICE CREAM

In my youth, the exciting first day of school always was in September and meant a new plaid dress and hair ribbons on my pigtails, a shiny new metal lunch box, and waiting beside the country road for the old yellow school bus. The bus driver usually was a local dairyman, just finished with the morning milking. This month still means fresh smelling books and pencils, new paper tablets, and an eraser to me.

With uncanny synchronicity, news of this sort has been popping up regularly as we sat down to write. For decades I have satisfied the urge for distinctive school and office supplies, file folders, notepads, you name it, at **Warwick's**, an old (check out their history) family-owned bookstore in La Jolla. Find the basics there, but also aisles of colorful useful stuff you didn't know existed — and of course a great stock of books.

Recently **Adams Avenue Book Store** closed its doors after 53 years in business. I was saddened again about the state of bookstores in general as on-line sales and e-books eat into the indie store market.

On the other hand, I'm cheered and relieved by the opening almost a year ago at 30th and Juniper in South Park of **The Book Catapult**, a real, new bookshop. Wow! With an inspired mix of fiction and non-fiction, children's books, and a packed schedule of author book-signing appearances and related events, it's everything a healthy bookstore can do for a community.

Owner Seth Marko had a blog about books for years and worked in the venerable old bookstores of La Jolla and elsewhere. Now, with wife Jennifer Powell, he restores our faith in what seems to be a book renaissance. Check out *Coffee at the Catapult*, when Seth leads Sunday morning discussions about new books. This month it's September 16 at 11:30 am.

Word also comes in that Marianne Reiner is opening up **Run for Cover Bookstore & Cafe** on Newport Avenue in Ocean Beach. Check to see if she's open yet and then run out there to welcome her and surf the shelves. Perfectly in tune, just noticed the recent movie, *The Bookshop*, based on favorite writer Penelope Fitzgerald's novel. Look it up and even watch it online.



Celine Theano with students

Finally, the French pre-school, **La Petite Étoile 360°**, has found a home in the 4500 block of Park Boulevard. Owner Celine Theano previously operated out of her home, also in University Heights. According to Celine, "it is a fun yet extensive bi-lingual program to help children engage in all functional aspects of developmental milestones." It encourages each child "through creative imagery, fun art projects, sensory music, freestyle dance activities, and our bi-lingual curriculum" in what is learning through playtime.

Andrew and Ludy Robinson, also UH residents, helped with much of the interior. Their **Handy Andy/Tools & Tattoos** business added color and whimsy.

With perfect timing, the news alert is that the owners of **Pop Pies**, at Park Boulevard and Meade, have created **Stella Jean's Ice Cream** next door. Watch for a review coming up next month.

— *The Unknown Shopper*



Above Photos: The Book Catapult



La Petite Étoile 360°  
All photos: David Holts

## VOLUNTEER BLOCKWALKERS NEEDED

Blockwalkers are the people who deliver the UHCA News every month within University Heights. We need blockwalkers to cover several blocks of Texas Street. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Nan McGraw at nmcsan@aol.com or 619-260 0668.





FOOD AND BEVERAGES

# THE COFFEE STOP HESSIAN GLOBAL GOODS

On a recent bus ride from El Cajon Boulevard, I wanted to walk at least 20 minutes before arriving home, so I got off at an earlier spot, 11670, on the corner of Polk Avenue and Park Boulevard. After one block I saw the Hessian Global Goods store, a red two-story building with a nice 1979 red coffee cart parked outside.

Hessian is both a coffee and a tea retailer, a place where you can find stuff from around the world like folk art, textiles, artisan goods, jewelry, and globes of the earth and the moon. With the same global approach, owners Vivian and Verena choose their coffee and tea inventory by offering not only beans and leaves from different continents, but also with unusual origins.

Arabicas from Cameroon, Yemen, Burundi, Bali, China, and Saint Hele-

na, and a robusta from Madagascar are some of the 24 different single origins plus 20 blends you will find, all roasted on-site in one to two pound batches to keep them fresh. Even their list from well-known coffee producing countries like Kenya, Tanzania, Honduras, Dominican Republic, Indonesia, and Papua New Guinea grow on small farms or family estates making the crops unique. The same goes for teas.

Hessian has a different way of doing things. It is not a cafe, but they brew every day according to the alphabet, rather than the region. Their stuff is organized by its colors: for example, you will find a cup or a pot in the green section and another in the blue, the white, the red, or on stainless steel shelves.

The purpose is to surprise you when you enter, to venture into the space, to



travel the floor, to climb the stairs, to spin a map with borders that no longer exist, or to discover the shape of the dark side of the moon.

Maybe soon the three-wheeled coffee cart will ride but for now, stop by for a still espresso beverage or cross the gate for a beautiful blooming tea.

— Felipe Gonzalez

**HESSIAN GLOBAL GOODS**  
4034 Park Boulevard  
San Diego, CA 92103  
619-239 7891

Hours:  
Every day except Wednesday, 10 am-6 pm  
Closed Wednesday

# RESTAURANT REVIEW ANTHEM VEGAN

Anthem Vegan, a farmer's market regular for several years, has recently added a restaurant in University Heights at 2611 El Cajon Blvd. The restaurant is bright and has the feel of a traditional diner. The tables are not on top of each other, and there are good partitions between the booths.

Although we are vegetarians, we went to Anthem with two friends who eat meat. The menu offers a huge selection focusing on many types of vegan meat alternatives. Pages and pages of options is rare for a vegan restaurant. We started with mozzarella sticks, which were a hit at our table. Often, vegan cheese is overly greasy, but this cheese was soft and melty, and the sticks were more lightly breaded than most mozzarella sticks.

Next, we tried the ceviche. The marinated king trumpet mushrooms duplicate the proper look and texture of traditional ceviche. Combined with

mango, citrus, cucumber, and spices, it made a colorful presentation and a delicious appetizer. We were all satisfied and impressed.

We also enjoyed the Potrizo Tacos made with garlic potatoes and soyriso. Chipotle aioli provided a complementary spice to these satisfying tacos. The Pulled Porque Sandwich, made with jackfruit,



had a sweet flavor, not the smoky or spicy barbeque flavor you might expect. It was soft, with a little firmness. It was good, but we preferred other entrees.

The Smokehouse Burger may be the best veggie burger we've ever had. The Beyond Patty is the gold standard in vegan burgers, and the smoky flavor Anthem adds really makes it taste like a charred burger. Add the gouda bacon on top and you have an excellent flavor blend. We rated it as our favorite.

Our last item was the This Is Freakin' Ridiculous The Sandwich. It had turkey,

ham, chicken, steak, cheddar, mozzarella, and gouda. This excellent sandwich gave us a great opportunity to try all the meat and cheese alternatives. Opinions were mixed on the ham which was thick cut and flakey. The steak was the highlight; it is like carne asada and is the staple of their farmer's market menu. The cheeses were all excellent.

Finally for dessert we tried the Mexican Chocolate and Churro Bundt Cakes. Both had some flavor, but were very dry. We also had the Chocolate Fudge Brownie which was excellent, with a good brownie crust and a soft interior.

Overall, both the meat eaters and the vegetarians in our group highly recommend Anthem and look forward to eating there again. — Scott Schechter



**ANTHEM VEGAN**  
2611 El Cajon Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92104  
619-268 4367

Hours:  
Tuesday-Thursday 8 am-10 pm  
Friday & Saturday 8 am-12 am  
Sunday 9 am-10 pm  
Monday—Closed

# EATING OUT IN UH

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

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



LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK CLUB & SALON

**THE BOYS IN THE BOAT**

**NINE AMERICANS AND THEIR EPIC QUEST FOR GOLD AT THE 1936 BERLIN OLYMPICS**

**BY DANIEL JAMES BROWN**

The author vividly relates how in 1936, nine working-class rowers from the University of Washington captured gold at the Berlin Olympics. Although most Americans know the story of Jesse Owens, who defied Hitler's notion of white supremacy by winning gold in four events, few have heard of the amazing underdog victory of a group of mostly impoverished farm boys who overcame many obstacles to take the gold in rowing over favored Italy, Britain, and Germany.

These athletes, mentored not just by their varsity coach, Al Ulbrickson, but by master boat-builder, George Pocock, overcame the hopelessness common during the Great Depression by learning to trust themselves and one another. The team's camaraderie and unmatched precision surpassed expectations, surprising

the sporting world. Brown captures how and why this team rowed in perfect harmony. His thoroughness comes from his interviews with crewmates' friends and family and their archives. This is a true story about setting high goals, working hard, and beating insurmountable odds, combined with a view of the rise of Nazi Germany at that time.

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

**UH Book Club & Salon**  
 Wednesday, September 26, at 6:30 pm  
 San Diego Public Library  
 University Heights Branch  
 4193 Park Boulevard (at Howard Avenue)  
 619-692-4912

**THE FRIENDS OF THE UH LIBRARY ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS**

Summer has ended and fall is beginning, but the work never stops at the University Heights Library. We hope you have taken advantage of the many programs available at the library over the summer, and that you will continue to take advantage of everything the library offers this fall. You can find out about everything going on at our branch by following the University Heights Library on Facebook @universityheightslibrary.

Later this fall, we will also be electing new officers, and members are entitled to vote on our new leadership. Come out and make your voice heard! Details about elections will be included in the September Friends of UH newsletter. If you would like to know more, please contact us at friendsoftheuhlibrary@gmail.com.

As always, thank you for your continuing support of our branch library.

Thank you to everyone who shopped at the August book sale to benefit the UH branch. Your support allows us to help fund programs and activities at our branch. In addition, we depend on volunteers to help us make our library a great resource for everyone in the community. We will need volunteers to help us with all the new projects we have in mind for our library. If you've wanted to get involved but don't know where to start, please join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, September 11, at 6:00 pm to learn more about all that we do for the UH library.



**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



**PLUME**

**HERE'S TO THE RECYCLING AND DUMPSTER DAY CREW**

The UHCA Recycling/Dumpster Day on June 30 was a huge success. Thank you to Councilmember Chris Ward's representative, Tyler Renner, for facilitating this with the Department of Education, EDCO, and Secure E Waste Solutions (SES). SES collected electronics from more than 100 people, and more than 70 people took advantage of their shredding service. EDCO's dumpster was also full to the brim.

Thank you Plumes go to Sol Schumer, Rod Girvin, MaryBeth Chrudden, Kristie Edgmond, Nan McGraw, Maureen Markey, and Peter Rose. Thanks also go to Paul Farris, for his wonderful graphics and posters. Thank you to all of you for your participation.

UHCA will certainly RECYCLE this event next year!

**GET IT DONE APP EXPANDS**

The tipster app for Smartphones that allows San Diego residents to report potholes, graffiti, and abandoned vehicles is in the process of expanding service to include illegal parking, hoarders, missed trash pickups, and scavenging in recycling cans. Other new categories include illegal garage conversions, fence violations, mold, substandard housing, illegal construction, and abandoned properties.

a passport. The app allows reporting of dead animals, malfunctioning traffic signals, clogged storm drains, illegal signs, and damaged sidewalks and streetlights. This expansion will not only increase the number of nuisances reported, especially code violations, but it will also give city officials a better picture of the number of problems are out there. This upgrade will actually save money by making city workers more efficient as they can solve problems more quickly.

— Nan McGraw

In addition, residents will now be able to make appointments to obtain or renew




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OUR UH HISTORY

# WHO WAS EUGENE BRUCKER?

## SD UNIFIED ED CENTER, AKA THE EUGENE F. BRUCKER BUILDING

Eugene F. Brucker was born on January 24, 1925, the only child of Mildred and Harold Brucker. Although his parents' marriage was short lived, Eugene grew up in the University Heights house on Madison Avenue that his mother built in 1926. From his office on the second floor of the building on the San Diego Unified School District property that now bears his name (known to most as the Ed Center or the Brucker Building), he could see Alice Birney Elementary School, the school both he and his two oldest children attended.

A passionate San Diego educator, Eugene began teaching history and physical education at Woodrow Wilson Junior High in 1947 after his graduation from San Diego State College (now SDSU).

A natural leader, Eugene served as the president of the San Diego Teachers' Association from 1954 to 1956. Many will remember his naturally loud bass voice – a teacher's voice to tell stories and a coach's voice to remind you about what is important and to keep your eye on the ball. On the weekends he worked at the local YMCA, helping kids play fairly, learn the discipline of practice, and build social skills through responsibility to others and teamwork. His ability to articulate these values to many different constituents and in different ways carried him throughout his long career.

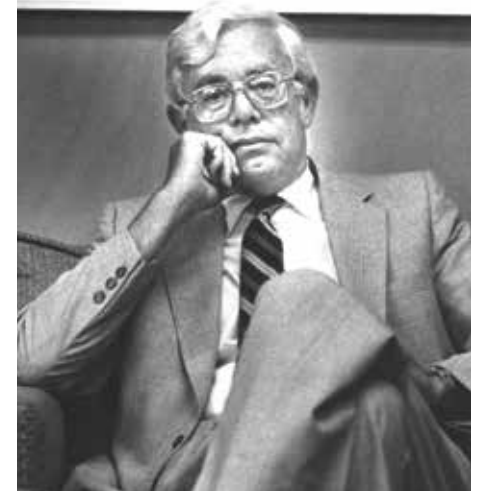
In total Eugene spent 38 years in the San Diego City Schools – first as a teacher, then as a vice principal, and then as a principal – always a mentor to oth-

ers giving advice and encouragement. Later in the district office, he was director of school counseling; director of programs for gifted and special needs students, a post that highlighted his role as an educator and advocate; interim superintendent; and special assistant to the superintendent. As an administrator he used his articulate and clear voice to keep the school district on track – financially, educationally, and ethically. He championed creative ways of giving all children opportunities for unique learning experiences through the introduction of magnet schools, court-ordered integration, and camp experiences. He enjoyed working with numbers, and was responsible for preparing the annual budget for the district when he was interim superintendent between Tom Goodman and Tom Payzant.

After his retirement from San Diego City Schools, Eugene helped other school districts, consulting at the state and national levels. He returned to San Diego State University in 1983 (as a Distinguished Alumnus) to teach public administration. He served in leadership positions with the Regional Center for the Developmentally Disabled, the San Diego Ecumenical Council, and as President of the San Diego Education Fund. He was also involved with Rotary Club International, Social Advocates for Youth, and State-wide Administrators Organization.

His passion for teaching and serving children remained with him always. He noted, "I love this community. My whole career has been in education and I want to find ways to put some of that expertise to work."

In 1998, at the time of his death from cancer, he had been elected to the County School Board during contentious times.



He was a strong voice, even as his health was failing. He supported the Children's Initiative, a collaborative effort by government, private, and non-profit agencies seeking to improve children's lives by promoting health, nutrition, and learning preparedness by providing educational support within families. Along with the county superintendent at the time, Rudy Castruita, Eugene was committed to making sure their efforts resulted in quality programming for San Diego public education.

It is a fitting tribute that the values Eugene believed in continue at the Education Center, at 4100 Normal St., in the building bearing his name, that currently houses the administrators, support departments, staff, and school security needed to operate the 140,000-student district. — *Jane Brucker, with contributions from Jo Liddell*

*Jane Brucker, Eugene Brucker's daughter, is a professor in the Department of Art and Art History at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles. She is an author and artist, whose work will be featured at the Long Beach Museum of Art from September 28, 2018 – January 6, 2019. The original house her grandmother Mildred (Brucker) Hawkins built on Madison Avenue is still in the family. Jo Liddell retired as the Director of Instructional Materials, SDCS.*

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# MILDRED AND HAROLD HAWKINS

## NO, NOT A 70S CULT FILM

More than 40 years ago, Mildred Brucker Hawkins and Harold Hawkins introduced me to the sense of community that so defines University Heights. I grew up in San Diego, but it was not until I moved to University Heights that I really got it: the pride and neighborliness that makes a great community. Mildred and Harold held regular Ice Cream Socials and invited all the surrounding neighbors to participate in their Neighborhood Watch gatherings. Those gatherings were my inspiration to begin Coffee With The Cops, Ice Cream With The Cops, and Cookies With The Cops back in the mid 1980s. Mildred knew everyone. And their business too! She raised her son, Eugene Brucker, in a house she built on Madison Avenue in 1926. Sometime later, Mildred met Harold when she was working as a sec-

retary for Roscoe E. "Pappy" Hazard, one of San Diego's most colorful characters who managed construction jobs, mostly roads, throughout California. Mildred and Harold have been gone now for about 20 years, but their inspiration to create a friendly community remains with me still. Thank you, Mildred and Harold Hawkins. Your legacy continues. — *Nan McGraw*



*Mildred Hawkins with Councilmember Ron Roberts and aide Sandy Smith Harold Hawkins with Ostrich Renee Gregorio (Both photos taken at the April 1991 Grand Opening of the Trolley Barn Park)*

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### NEW ART DIRECTOR

Our Art Director at the UHCA News for the last year, Shawna Armstrong, has resigned her position to enjoy an around the country odyssey with friends. We thank Shawna for her valuable contributions to the News and we wish her bon voyage and best wishes.

The Editorial Board would like to welcome our new Art Director, Felicia Crossley, who will be responsible for the design and production of the UHCA News, beginning with this, the September issue. Felicia comes to us with a beautiful portfolio and a wealth of experience. We are delighted to have her on board, and look forward to working with her.



SCHOOL NEWS

# BIRNEY BUZZ

## BACK TO SCHOOL



Birney Elementary is excited to go back to school on August 27. We would like to thank everyone who made the 2017/2018 school year a smashing success and invite you to keep the momentum by participating throughout 2018/2019. We have several fun-filled events planned for this

autumn, including the Playground Playdate and Fall Fundraiser in September and Star Gazing Party in early October. Stay updated for exact dates, opportunities, and other events by going to <http://friendsofalicebirney.org>.

— Ari Honarvar

# ROO NEWS

## WHY ROOSEVELT?



This fall, our daughter will be an eighth grader at Roosevelt International Middle School. She's looking forward to seeing her friends and completing her final year there.

Why Roosevelt, you might ask? We chose Roosevelt because of its acclaimed International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, which forms a progression from Birney Elementary School to San Diego High School of International Studies. We were committed to enrolling our daughters in public school and not driving out of our community; and we have formed strong bonds with other Birney families who are on the same path.

Roosevelt is a melting pot of students coming from eight different elementary schools. It provides an engaging middle school experience with excellent teachers and staff led by a charismatic and positive principal, Dr. Christina Casillas. Our daughter is thriving at Roosevelt. She is empowered by teachers, advocating for herself and her education, and building strong friendships with students from other backgrounds.

Academic opportunities and the prestigious IB program brought us to Roosevelt, but it's the community that keeps us there. Parent volunteering usually drops significantly in middle school, but the Friends of Roosevelt Foundation (RooFriends) grows stronger each year. It consists of parents and empty-nest neighbors who support the IB program (license fees, languages, art, and music) and the "extras" (gardens, clubs, and community events), basically the elements that make a good school great. I joined RooFriends as a board member last year.

Are you looking to get involved and help our students? Join our e-mail list and stay current on the happenings at Roosevelt: [roofriends.org/subscribe/](http://roofriends.org/subscribe/). Sponsor our Peace One Day t-shirt that will be on the backs of every student this year: <http://roofriends.org/events/peace-one-day/>. And attend our next meeting on September 12, at 6 pm in the Roosevelt Library, where you will meet some great people who care about Roosevelt students. — Jennifer Ayala, Parent of students at Roosevelt and Birney and a Board Member of the Friends of Roosevelt Foundation



# AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

## MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST

### CANCER WALK

#### EVENT SET FOR OCTOBER 21, 2018

Celebrating 21 years of saving lives in San Diego, the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk (Making Strides) will be held October 21 at Balboa Park to support the fight against the second leading cause of cancer death in women and to ensure that no one faces breast cancer alone. Registration for this noncompetitive, inspirational event begins at 6:30 a.m. and the walk is set to start at 7:30 a.m.

a diagnosis, may face one in the future, or will avoid it altogether because of education and risk reduction. At the event, communities embrace a bittersweet mix of purpose – celebrating survivorship and paying meaningful tributes to loved ones lost. From research to education, prevention to diagnosis, and treatment to recovery, we provide support to everyone impacted by breast cancer.

Money raised by Making Strides supporters helps the American Cancer Society fund innovative breast cancer research, promote education and risk reduction, and provide comprehensive patient support to those who need it most.

To learn more about the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event and how you can become involved, visit [MakingStridesWalk.org/sandiego](http://MakingStridesWalk.org/sandiego), or contact Jennifer Kalker at 619-682-7422 or [SanDiegoCAStrides@cancer.org](mailto:SanDiegoCAStrides@cancer.org).

Since 1993, more than 13 million supporters have raised more than \$810 million nationwide. Last year, more than 25,000 walkers in San Diego helped to raise over \$693,000.

You may also want to consider attending the UHCA meeting on September 6. Event manager Jennifer Kalker and UHCA member Debbi Pacecca will provide additional information about the event as well as instructions on how to register online as a participant. Breast cancer awareness brochures, promotional flyers, and signage for the event will be available. — Debbi Pacecca, 15-year cancer survivor

Because of the determination of Making Strides supporters, the American Cancer Society is there for people in every community affected by breast cancer, whether they are currently dealing with

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POLITICAL NEWS

FROM YOUR STATE SENATOR

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

As parents in University Heights, across San Diego, and throughout California get ready to send their kids back to school, they are no doubt excited about what their children will learn, the teacher who will be assigned to them, and the new friends the kids are going to make.

The budget that took effect on July 1 reflects the best financial outlook California has experienced in a generation. And as the overall state budget goes, so goes the education budget.

This year, our Proposition 98 funding level for K-12 and community colleges is upwards of \$78 billion, a record high. To put that in perspective: in 2011, that number was roughly \$47 billion, meaning we've seen a \$31 billion increase in education spending in just seven short years.

The budget includes \$1.1 billion statewide in one-time, discretionary funds to school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools, with the encouragement to use those dollars for professional development, new-teacher programs, technology infrastructure, and other investments to help raise student achievement.

Locally, we were able to provide \$250,000 to the San Diego Unified School District to continue a program that provides ser-

vices for homeless students. The district missed out on federal funding due to a clerical error, and the state stepped in to backfill the funding.

When we talk about budgets, the array of numbers thrown around can seem dizzying. But especially when it comes to our children's education, these increases are important. They illustrate that we are moving forward, equipping our hard-working teachers, and better preparing our students for the world ahead.



Toni G. Atkins, President Pro Tempore & State Senator for California's 39th District, which includes University Heights

FROM YOUR STATE ASSEMBLYMEMBER

GOOD NEWS FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

As another school year begins, I'm excited to share with you that we have worked hard in the Legislature these last few months to provide record funding for our schools and community colleges in this year's state budget. We fully funded our Local Control Funding Formula - the system that calculates how much funding schools receive based upon the unique needs of the students they serve.

This increase of Proposition 98 funds also means the state will be providing more resources for kindergarten programs, after-school education, and career-technical education, as well as our successful California-Grown Fresh School Meals program, which encourages schools to make freshly prepared meals for students using California-grown ingredients.

In addition to all of these tremendous investments, I am working on several education-related bills this session. One in particular centers on our military families. You may know that state law generally requires students to attend the schools near their homes. Unfortunately, it's common for students of military families to have to regularly transfer schools because of a parent's relocation. My bill, AB 2949, would give students the right to stay in the same

school should their military parent be transferred or stationed elsewhere.

This bill as well as the education investments and our incredible classroom superheroes (aka teachers) all work together to help accomplish one common goal: promote student success. And so, for all of our students heading back to class, I offer these words of advice: work hard and dream big.



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

OUR POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVES

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PET OF THE MONTH

SHEILA THE SHEEPADOODLE OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

My name is Sheila. I'm 16 months old. My mom is an old-English sheepdog, my dad a standard poodle. I live with my parents, Chris and Rosalie, and my sister Bella, 15. Bella plays a game with me called Swat. She swats at me. I duck and dodge. She has won a couple of times scratching my nose.

collar and dragged me back to the house. (I sneaked one of the little white balls home in my mouth and played with it in the backyard.)

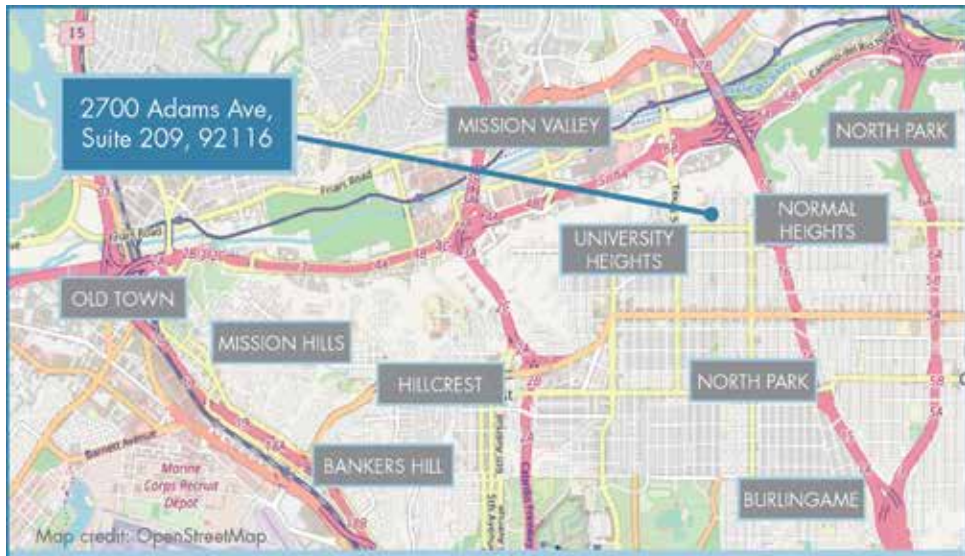
My best friend is Jack. My other good friends are Sybil, Indy, Juno, Quan, and Zany. On our walks when people ask if they can say hello, my mom says, "Yes, Sheila would be so happy." I hope I get to meet you soon! — Rosalie Kramm

I wake up when the sun rises and walk with my mom. I get excited when I meet people and best of all another doggie! My mom let me loose at Birney twice, but because I like playing with everyone, including men who are throwing a ball and don't like to play keep-away, we don't go there anymore. My mom and I are training to be better behaved. We stop at every corner, sit, and then she says "heel." I was getting a little crazy, but life is so exciting I can't help jumping, rolling, and flipping around.

One of the most exciting days in my life was when my parents rented a house on a fancy golf course. Watching from the window I could see little white balls flying around. Finally, my chance came! Someone left the sliding door open. I played keep-away with four golfers who had hit their balls into the middle of beautiful, green grass. But then one of my friends grabbed me by the







## UTILITIES UNDERGROUNDING COMING TO UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS UPDATED MASTER PLAN AND FIVE-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Since 1967, city officials have been committed to removing overhead utility lines and placing them underground, so residents and visitors can better enjoy their communities and benefit from more reliable utilities. On July 23, the San Diego City Council heard an update to the San Diego Utilities Undergrounding Program and approved the Program's Updated Master Plan and Five-Year Implementation Plan. The updates adopted at the Council are projected to increase utility conversions from approximately 10 miles per year to approximately 35 miles per year.

The city has also published the Undergrounding Map online to provide residents with information on proposed and upcoming undergrounding projects. Access this map at the website: <https://www.sandiego.gov/undergrounding/undergroundinginfomap>.

If you have any further questions regarding the Utilities Undergrounding Program or need assistance with city services, please contact my liaison to the community, Tyler Renner, at (619) 236-6633 or [trenner@sandiego.gov](mailto:trenner@sandiego.gov). - *Third District City Councilmember Chris Ward*

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Thanks to the organized advocacy of the University Heights Community Association and robust resident feedback, I was able to successfully negotiate including two major super-block projects in University Heights to the Five-Year Implementation Plan. These medium density sections are targeted to have the widest impact to serve the greatest numbers of residential units in the University Heights community.



The adjacent map shows the included project areas in UH. The funding for these two projects will be allocated in 2018 and 2019 and they will then move through the environmental review, design, and construction phases. The city expects these projects to be completed in the next several years.



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