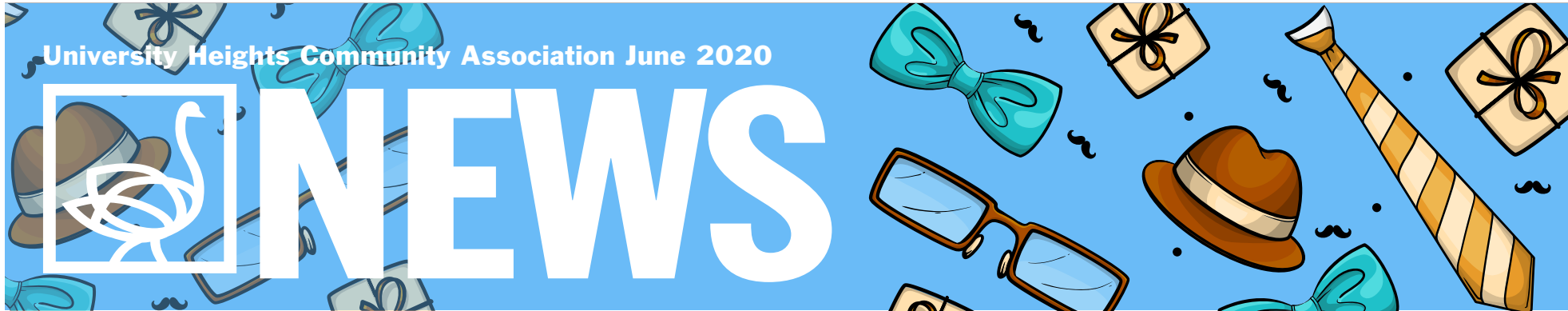


NEXT UHCA MEETING

THE JUNE 4, 2020, MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELED BECAUSE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



EVIL WEEVIL ATTACKS CANARY ISLAND PALMS

Have you noticed the droopy umbrella shape some palms in University Heights have taken on? A South American palm weevil is the culprit. This button-sized insect lays its eggs in the crown of the tree, and once hatched, the weevil larvae feast on the palm's soft tissue, crippling growth and eventually killing the tree. The weevils, which can fly for miles, were first detected in the US in San Ysidro in 2011. The infestation has spread north to UH and beyond.

By the time you see a droopy tree, it is too late. The tree is already dead.

Mark Hoddle, an entomologist and Director of the UC Riverside Center for Invasive Species Research (CISR), says their recent survey of approximately 500 palms in Urban San Diego "puts palm mortality in and around infested areas at approximately 35%." Losing our gorgeous ornamental palms in UH is a definite blow to the grace and beauty of our neighborhood.

Even more devastating, according to CISR, will be the weevil's effects on the Coachella Valley date industry and the ornamental palm nurseries in Imperial Valley. So far the weevil has not reached these areas, but it is only a matter of time unless effective eradication measures are taken.

Systemic pesticide trials conducted by CISR are ongoing and have recently been expanded to include palms at Balboa Park. Hoddle says they are zeroing in on effective treatments, but that any such treatment will require repeat applications each year going forward to minimize the risk to showpiece palms. Hoddle can't provide details on which specific pesticide products seem promising until the research is concluded and results analyzed, which, unfortunately, will take two more years. "These

are long trials with multiple treatments, lots of palms, and a long-lived insect."

Ed Upchurch, a local tree expert, recommends being proactive. He says trees can be systemically treated with a root drench of insecticide. Quarterly treatments can provide extra insurance against the beetle, as will palm drenching at the crown.

Hoddle recommends hiring a professional to treat palms with insecticides and to remove dead/dying palms. "The risks of do-it-yourself treatment include accidental poisoning, incorrect application rates and techniques, and accidental exposures to kids, pets, and wildlife. Palms are big trees and difficult to treat because of their size and height." The neonicotinoid pesticides used to treat infestations are particularly dangerous to bees, birds, and to "a wide range of free-living organisms," according to the US National Institutes of Health, so working with knowledgeable, skilled professionals is vital.

Rates of palm mortality are likely to continue increasing, according to Hoddle, and it's possible that mortality of other palm species, in addition to the Canary Islands Date Palm, will occur. CISR has "credible, documented reports of Brahea Edulis (*Guadalupe Fan Palms*) being killed by the weevil at Balboa Park."

Our warming climate will continue to affect our environment in ways we may not realize until it's too late. In this case, to keep trees healthy and to keep human and non-human residents of the

neighborhood safe, homeowners with Canary Island Date Palms should consider reaching out to local nurseries. Mission Hills (619-295-2808) and Walter Anderson (619-224-8271), for example, can recommend arborists and tree service professionals, such as Ed Upchurch, who might be able to help.

To help CISR monitor spread of the weevil, please report infested and dead palms via the CISR website: <https://cizr.ucr.edu/invasive-species/palmarum-survey>. — *Judith Annicchiarico and Nan McGraw*



A healthy Canary Island palm



One of many Canary Island Palms infested with the evil weevil

ALTHOUGH OUR LIVES HAVE BEEN INTERRUPTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, UHCA CONTINUES TO CARRY ON, AS IT HAS FOR MORE THAN 35 YEARS.

WE ARE CONCERNED FOR ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS. WE HOPE YOU ARE COPING WELL

We realize events and meetings have been canceled and our lives have been upturned. But UHCA continues to support our residents. We would like to know your creative ways of coping with this stay-at-home mandate. How are parents and caregivers coping? How do you remain positive? What have you been doing to keep busy? Have your neighbors reached out to you? Have you reached out to them? Have promised government or private financial resources been accessible to help if you lost your job? Let us know at: uhsd.org.

VOLUNTEER BLOCKWALKERS TO DISTRIBUTE UHCA NEWS!

Q: What is a blockwalker?

A: Those special volunteers who deliver the *UHCA NEWS* ten times a year to 5000 homes and businesses in University Heights (exceptions: January and August). We need blockwalkers to cover several blocks or to be available as backups when regular blockwalkers are on vacation.

Q: Why would you want to do this?

A: Because...
It's fun!
It's an opportunity for painless exercise!
It's a chance to meet your neighbors!
And it's a way to actively serve your community.

The following routes are open if you wish to join this esteemed team of 65 volunteers:

4300-4400 Louisiana St.
El Cajon Blvd. from Texas St. to Park Blvd.

Do consider this opportunity to volunteer to help your community. Please contact Nan McGraw at 619-260-0668 or nmcgsan@aol.com.

LOOKING AHEAD

AS USUAL, THERE WILL BE NO UHCA MEETING IN JULY OR AUGUST.

IT IS UNCLEAR AS WE GO TO PRESS WHETHER WE WILL HAVE A MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 3.

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE AT UHSD.ORG FOR UPDATED INFORMATION. OUR SEPTEMBER ISSUE (OUT ON 8-26) WILL ALSO HAVE UPDATES.

MEMBERSHIP

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



NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS DONATIONS
Christine Hernandez, Joan Foster



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

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



Yearly Membership

- *\$25 Household
- *\$75 Business Membership
- *\$100 Golden Ostrich
- *\$20 Add UHCA News Delivered Via USPS to your Membership

Name _____
 Business Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____
 Referred by _____
 NEW RENEWAL

Donor

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

HOUSEHOLD

Michael Galarneau, Eva Lee, Layla & Rolf Hains, Chadd Moore, Ruth & Wally Matranga, Barbara Noyer, Milton & Judy Gross

GOLDEN OSTRICH

Susanne LaTour & Liz Bernal

OUR MISSION

The University Heights Community Association (UHCA), founded in 1983, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, member-supported community association dedicated to improving the quality of life and the sense of community in San Diego's University Heights.

Volunteer Your Time on a UHCA Committee!

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

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



UHCA NEWS

EDITORIAL BOARD Maureen Markey, Nan McGraw, Judith Annicchiarico
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Maureen Markey, Nan McGraw, Judith Annicchiarico, Carol Neidenberg, Peter Rose, Erin MacKinnon, Jennifer Ayala, Elaine Sinsuan, Rod Girvin, Karen Kojane, Andres Tistoj Delado, Ernie Bonn, Marcia Sorini, Jennifer Bishop, Steven Kolbert
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ADVERTISING DIRECTOR Susan Holts susan@susanholts.com

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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SECRETARY William Smith & Peter Rose
TREASURER Stuart McGraw



WEBSITE uhsd.org



FACEBOOK /universityheightscommunityassociation



INSTAGRAM /uheightscommunitysd

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 Zyhlyj** tamara@tamarazrealestate.com
- 6 Nan McGraw** nmcsan@aol.com



CRIME WATCH SIGNS

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



SLOW DOWN SIGNS

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

UH PHONE BOOK

Emergency • Police • Fire • Medical	911	Narcotics Suspicious drug house / anonymous	619-531-2468
Non-Emergency Suspicious Activity, Homeless Outreach Team, etc. Online: non-emergency problems: www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done	619-531-2000	Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) Vacation home security check, welfare of home-bound, patrolling business districts, homeland security support	619-692-4945
SD City Services non-emergency: street lights, pot holes, etc. Online: www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments	619-527-7500	SDPD Community Relations Officers: David Surwilo (dsurwilo@pd.sandiego.gov)	619-692-4858
SD City Services emergency Online: www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments	619-527-7500	SDPD Western Division 5215 Gaines Street	619-692-4800
Alert San Diego Reverse 911 notification to mobile phones for emergencies requiring evacuations www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego/		Shopping Cart Pick-Up Service	800-252-4613
2-1-1 San Diego Free Resources: COVID-19, CalFresh, Medi-Cal, Covered California, etc.	211 or 858-300-1211	Stonewall Citizens Patrol	sredmond@stonewallcitizens.org
Abandoned Vehicles	858-495-7856	Suicide Prevention	888-724-7240
Alice Birney Elementary Office	619-497-3500	UHDCD University Heights Community Development Corporation	619-297-3166
Animals / Non-Emergency	619-767-2675	University Heights Public Library 4193 Park Blvd	619-692-4912
Brush and Weed Abatement	619-533-4444	UH Zone Watch Coordinator Nan McGraw nmcsan@aol.com	619-260-0668
Code Violations	619-236-5500	Graffiti: In Progress Emergency: Report Online: apps.sandiego.gov/streetdiv/ email photos: Graffiti Hotline:	911 cericson@pd.sandiego.gov 619-527-7500
COVID-19 City of San Diego Daily Updates	www.sandiego.gov/coronavirus	SD Vector Control mosquitoes / ticks / rats Online: vector@sdcounty.ca.gov	858-694-2888
COVID-19 California Daily Updates	www.cdph.ca.gov	https://getitdone.force.com Download this app for reporting non-emergency problems in the city like potholes, graffiti, etc.	
COVID-19 County of San Diego Daily Updates	www.sandiegocounty.gov/coronavirus	If all else fails, email TRenner@sandiego.gov at Councilmember Chris Ward's office.	
COVID-19 National Daily Updates	www.cdc.gov		
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		



DISASTER CONTACTS

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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CAROL NEIDENBERG

It's a strange time. Being at home for weeks that have somehow turned to months. At first, it was strange being confined and not seeing my work colleagues and neighbors. Doing less in the neighborhood, and having to cancel our fun spring activities – the Party on Park, the annual Tag Sale, and the first movie of the season – was disappointing and somewhat sad.

Like you, I hope this stay-at-home order doesn't last through the summer. If it does, however, I'm willing to adhere to the guidelines if it keeps me healthy and helps my neighbors and friends stay healthy. I agree to wear face protection and keep my distance from others.

One good thing has come from being at home since mid-March. I now walk every day. What a pleasure that has become! I've seen beautiful gardens, house projects, birds, and even insects

(my least favorite) that I've never noticed before. My walks also allow me to easily patronize our local businesses by buying gift cards and take-out food and drinks.

Best of all, however, has been watching the young kids learning to ride their bikes and navigating the almost empty streets, and greeting neighbors as we shuttle between the streets and sidewalks. With fewer cars on the streets, I find it easy to walk while still keeping my distance from others. In the meantime, I exchange hellos with neighbors I don't know by name, but I now know what their faces look like with a mask on! Most people try to adhere to the guidelines knowing that right now is the time to come together, listen to the medical experts, and stay healthy.

We'll do this together, University Heights!

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS TREE INITIATIVE

In February 2020, the University Heights Beautification committee formed a sub-group called the Tree Initiative, whose goal is to take advantage of the free tree program offered by the City of San Diego. To determine community interest in receiving a free tree, we posted a poll on Nextdoor, asking residents whether they would like a free tree planted in front of their home. As this issue of the newspaper goes to press, 166 residents have responded, with 83 percent stating they would like a tree.

Because the City's free tree program is understaffed and currently has a year-long wait list, the Tree Initiative is looking for ways to obtain trees through the program without creating an additional burden on program staff. One idea is to plant strips of trees all at once along sections of University Heights where the desire for trees has been identified. Another is to have residents plant trees themselves with appropriate guidance

so that they are not potentially interfering with water or underground power lines.

If you received a free tree over the last year, please make sure you water your tree weekly to ensure it becomes established and remove any debris from the aerator cap located near the trunk of your tree. Once your tree is established, it's important to remove the supports so the tree can continue to grow.

Because of the COVID-19 crisis, the Tree Initiative has not been able to move forward during March and April but hopes to restart in the May/June timeframe. When it does restart, committee members will resume identifying areas in University Heights where trees can be planted and updating the tree map accordingly. In the meantime, residents who would like to volunteer with this program can reach out to me directly at jenniferlisabishop@gmail.com.
—Jennifer Bishop

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

The May 7th UHCA meeting was hosted by City Councilmember Chris Ward's office via Zoom, with approximately 35 attendees listening in, with the option of submitting questions in the chat room. Councilmember Ward, Bill Smith of UHCA, and Tyler Renner of Councilmember Ward's office conducted the meeting. Bill presented previously submitted questions to Councilmember Ward, who then answered them, and Tyler presented the questions that were submitted during the meeting via the chat room. A sample of the questions and answers follows.

- Overview of the pandemic crisis? It feels like it has been going on for a long time but it's been only eight weeks. Statewide shutdown in effect. Local businesses are closed. Only 800 \$10,000 small business grants have been awarded thus far of 10,000 applications received.
- Homeless situation? Convention Center has become emergency shelter. No conventions in near future. Unshel-

tered homeless present a risk of virus transmission. Access to nurses, housing, and other help available. Additional 500 individuals off the streets. 1000 have been tested, with 3 testing positive although asymptomatic. 200 hotel rooms made available. Thus, much progress regarding homeless situation.

- Budget situation? Hotel tax reduction dramatic: \$100 million hole in budget for this year. Next year's budget may lack \$200 million. Proposal re libraries: close Sunday and Monday. Park & Rec. reduced to 45 hours. Pools closed in winter for 14 weeks. Graffiti abatement reduced.
- Ed Center redevelopment? On hold for now. Focused on immediate direct services for students.
- Meeting ended at 5:56 pm. UHCA still working to support community with new website at uhsd.org, social media, and UHCA News. Complete meeting posted on YouTube at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAJTu5CvpXA
—Submitted by Peter Rose, UHCA Secretary



TEACHER APPRECIATION DURING A PANDEMIC

Thank you to all those who help develop young minds. We gratefully offer a classroom full of plumes to those dedicated teachers who daily overcome obstacles to ensure our children and young adults don't miss out on valuable education time while our nation observes stay-at-home orders.

By the time you read this, Teacher Appreciation Week, the first week in May, will have come and gone. When I was still a classroom teacher, Teacher Appreciation Week could mean anything from the staff lounge laden with goodies every day, to thank you notes written by your students and then framed, or the occasional bottle of wine from an especially thankful parent.

Teaching into, through, and beyond a pandemic has proven to be challenging, but teachers have persevered. I asked my teaching friends what it has been like and how they are doing. One colleague shared being emotionally exhausted and unable to sleep because of the stress of worrying about students, writing and teaching curriculum in a totally new way, and trying to develop ways to engage the disengaged students and those who have completely dropped out of "virtual school." Understanding and appreciation from parents is heartening. During the time they can't be together in person, video conferencing is important for some students who are lonely. She also stressed

how important it is to be with your students and colleagues in order to teach with joy and how much she misses that.

A former principal shared that parents in his neighborhood, acting as surrogate teachers, have all expressed a deep respect for the difficult job teachers do, as they supervise their children's studies at home. They are humbled by the task and can't wait for their children to return to school.

We all have that one special teacher we remember, and now I think ALL teachers are special. So if you, like me, would like to take a moment to thank a teacher, you can fill out a certificate on Instagram using #NationalTeacherDay. You can fill out a certificate, using #PeanutsOthmarAward, which is named after Linus' beloved Miss Othmar (from the Peanuts comic strip), whom he considered "a gem among gems!"

The memes and the words of appreciation during Teacher Appreciation Week are all great. But in the months ahead, public school teachers in this country are going to need your help in real, concrete ways. If you want to show your appreciation and respect for them, hold onto those thoughts and feelings, and when the time comes, stand up for public education and the people who work there.
— Marcia Sorini

Cecilia's
FINE JEWELRY

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD JEWELER

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Mon-Fri 10-6 Sat 10-4
Sunday by Appointment Only

J. A. COOLEY MUSEUM GRAND REOPENING JUNE 1 BE COOL AND GO TO COOLEY

Located just west of Park and El Cajon Boulevards is the 10,000 square foot Cooley Museum. It houses Frank the Trainman's model train collections in addition to J. A. Cooley's treasures: his vast collections of antique cars in mint condition and other antiques including toys dating from 1870. Look forward to more history of the Cooley Museum and Frank the Trainman in next month's UHCA News.

New temporary hours are Monday and Friday, 12 noon to 4 pm; and Saturday and Sunday, 12 noon to 6 pm.

First responders, nurses, and essential workers are free on Mondays with an ID badge. The Jim Cooley Historic Foundation will donate \$1 of every ticket sold to local charities in June. Frank the Trainman will also donate and offer discounts.

Admission to the Museum is \$5 for adults and \$2 for kids. Memberships are available starting at \$20 a year. Because of COVID-19, reservations are suggested but not required. Call 619-296-3112.

—Nan McGraw

SUMMER IN THE PARK CONCERT SERIES CANCELED

The University Heights Community Development Corp. (UHCDC) must cancel its annual concert series this year because of the COVID-19 Pandemic. It is not clear at this time whether the restrictions on social gatherings will be lifted anytime this year. We depend on the San Diego City Parks & Recreation Department to permit the concerts in the Old Trolley Barn Park, and it is uncertain

when the City will reopen parks for these types of events.

Many thanks to all our co-sponsors and individual donors who have been so great over the past 23 years, not only in making our concerts so successful, but also in supporting us in showcasing University Heights as a great community in which to live!

—Ernie Bonn

PET OF THE MONTH

DAISY

Hi, I'm Daisy. I'm a ten-year-old German Shepherd/Husky mix. I have a pretty great life with my family on Maryland Street, but my story didn't start out that way. When I was a puppy, my first owners were not nice people. They didn't feed me much or take care of me. Then, when I was three or four months old, they tossed me out of a car in Mission Valley and drove away!

I was scared, but a nice lady picked me up and took me home. She wanted to keep me (I was pretty cute), but her two cats did not agree. While she was still figuring out what to do with me, she took me to breakfast at Big City Bagels, where I met a very nice family who happened to be there. It was love at first sight! Even though they weren't looking for a puppy, they adopted me a few days later and none of us have ever regretted it.

Although I love Ed and Karen, I have to admit their son, Owen, is my favorite. He was four years old when we met, so we have grown up together. He is the best at playing and cuddling, although not as good about walking me or feeding me. That job falls mostly to Karen. We spend a lot of time together. She walks me a few times a day, although I'm not as good a walker as I used to be. I have some bone spurs on my spine, and I get tired more easily. But I still love to get out to sniff everything and bark at all the other dogs!

As you can tell, I have a lot of hair and shed all the time. I can't help it! I sleep in a crate in Owen's room, which we both find comforting. My favorite daily routine is walking over to our friends' house on Lincoln, where I get treats. If they aren't home, I just lie on their porch and stare longingly at their door for a while. Fortunately, they are usually waiting for me. Then I go visit my best friend, Sheila, a few doors down.

I love people—especially my UH neighbors—so stop and give me a pat if you see me walking by!

—Karen Kojane



Daisy, photo taken by her 'mom' Karen Kojane

JUNE 2020

DUE TO COVID-19 RELATED SCHEDULE CHANGES AFTER WE HAVE GONE TO PRESS, PLEASE CHECK WEBSITES OR CALL ORGANIZATIONS TO SEE IF EVENTS HAVE BEEN CANCELED OR POSTPONED.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	1 Cooley Museum Grand Reopening	2 Uptown Planners Meeting (uptownplanner.org) Board of Education Meeting Eugene Brucker Auditorium 4100 Normal St.	3 UH CDC Meeting 4452 Park Blvd., Suite 104, TBA	4 UH Rec Advisory Group Meeting--CANCELED UHCA Meeting Alice Birney Auditorium CANCELED Curbside Recycling & Yard Waste Collection	5 UHCA News Articles Due	6 D-Day TBP Canyon Restoration Event, Trolley Barn Park (volunteers appreciated)
7 Hillcrest Farmers Market	8	9 Hillcrest Town Council Joyce Beers Center Uptown Complex	10 Beautification Team Meeting Hope Lounge, Lafayette Hotel, TBA	11	12	13
14 FLAG DAY Hillcrest Farmers Market	15	16 North Park Planning Committee North Park Christian Fellowship, 2901 North Park Way (northparkplanning.org) Board of Education Meeting Eugene Brucker Auditorium 4100 Normal St.	17 UH Library Task Force Meeting UH Branch Library, TBA	18 Curbside Recycling & Yard Waste Collection	19	20 First Day of Summer Hello SUMMER
21 Hillcrest Farmers Market Fathers' Day	22	23 UHCA News Out Board of Ed Meeting Eugene Brucker Auditorium 4100 Normal St.	24 UH Book Club & Salon TBA	25	26	27
28 Hillcrest Farmers Market	29	30	PLEASE FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES ON STAYING WELL AND, IF YOU DECIDE TO ORDER OUT OR SHOP, PLEASE FREQUENT THE UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BUSINESSES THAT REMAIN OPEN.			4

LIBRARY NEWS

THE UH BRANCH LIBRARY BETWEEN THE COVERS

We hope that everyone in the community is well and safe, and we wanted you to know that we miss you very much here at the University Heights Library. If you would like to communicate with us, the San Diego Public Library's phone lines for all locations are open from 9 am to 5 pm on weekdays. You may also submit your question via the Library's website or email directly at weblibrary@sandiego.gov with inquiries or questions about services or your account.

As of mid-May, the UH Library branch remains closed to the public until further notice. Updated information regarding the status of city services may be obtained at <https://www.sandiego.gov/status>, which includes information about the libraries, parks, and other departments.

Programs & Resources:

The library provides online resources such as digital magazines, tutoring services, and databases, as well as programs that can be accessed at www.sandiegolibrary.org. Many programs

are hosted by our very own librarians, including Online Book Clubs and a Virtual Storytime Collection that includes read-along presentations, book discussions, title recommendations, and much more available to all ages. A variety of online arts and crafts have been created utilizing materials that can be easily accessed from home.

This year's Summer Reading Program for all ages, Dig Deeper: Read, Investigate, Discover, will take place from June 1st to August 31st. Register through the library's website and earn reading incentives for reading either 10 books or for 10 hours, or by participating in activities. Incentives include a library tote bag, museum passes, and food coupons, depending on the age group.

Please check our Facebook page, or give us a call for any further questions. Thank you from everyone at the University Heights Library.
—*Elaine Sinsuan, Branch Manager, University Heights Library, 619-692-4912, www.sandiego.gov.*

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

DINING IN UH

American Market	4395 Cleveland Ave.	296-8333
Bahia Mexican & Seafood	1985 El Cajon Blvd.	542-0540
Bahn Thai	4646 Park Blvd.	299-6363
bfd (big front door)	4075 Park Blvd.	255-4100
Cueva Bar	2123 Adams Ave.	269-6612
El Zarape	4642 Park Blvd.	692-1652
Flavors of East Africa	2322 El Cajon Blvd.	955-8778
Grains	2201 Adams Ave.	269-5999
Great Maple	1451 Washington St.	296-8268
Hope at Lafayette	2223 El Cajon Blvd.	780-0358
Kairoa Brewing Company	4601 Park Blvd.	295-1355
Lestat's on Park	4496 Park Blvd.	501-6638
Loving Hut	1905 El Cajon Blvd.	683-9490
Madison	4622 Park Blvd.	296-6566
Mama's Bakery & Lebanese Deli	4237 Alabama St.	688-0717
Meraki Café	1735 Adams Ave.	269-9618
Muzita Abyssinian Bistro	4651 Park Blvd.	546-7900
Mystic Mocha	2105 Mission Ave.	688-0858
The Original Pickle Store	4075 Park Blvd., # 101-B	841-1108
Park Boulevard Deli	4504 Park Blvd.	295-1362
Park House Eatery	4574 Park Blvd.	295-7275
Pizzeria Bruno Napoletano	4207 Park Blvd.	260-1311
Pizzeria Luigi	2121 El Cajon Blvd.	294-9417
Plumeria Vegetarian Cuisine	4661 Park Blvd.	269-9989
Pomegranate Restaurant	2312 El Cajon Blvd.	297-4007
Pop Pie Co.	4404 Park Blvd.	501-4440
Rare Society	4130 Park Blvd	501-6404
Red Fox Steak House	2223 El Cajon Blvd.	297-1313
Red House Pizza	4615 Park Blvd.	546-7430
Small Bar	4628 Park Blvd.	795-7998
Soichi	2121 Adams Ave.	677-2220
Sprouts Market & Deli	4175 Park Blvd.	291-8287
Stella Jean's Ice Cream	4404 Park Blvd.	501-8252
Summer's Market	4602 Park Blvd.	296-0504
Twiggs	4590 Park Blvd.	296-0616
Twisted Taps (brews & chews)	2302 El Cajon Blvd.	542-9927
Wing Stop	1901 El Cajon Blvd.	297-9464

FRIENDS OF THE UH LIBRARY SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY DURING THESE TOUGH TIMES

By now you have probably heard that the Mayor's proposed budget, which was recently released, includes drastic cuts in library funding and services for the next fiscal year; the full extent of these is not yet clear. Sign up to receive advocacy alerts from LibrariesTransformSD at <https://www.friendsofsdpl.org>. The Friends of the San Diego Public Library (FSDPL) is the umbrella organization of which all the branch Friends groups, including the Friends of the University Heights Library, are a part.

Updates will provide specific suggestions of ways that you can help advocate for our libraries during these challenging times. Please share this information with anybody and everybody you know who cares about the library. And please support your Friends chap-

ter during these very difficult times.

The FSDPL office, located in the downstairs area of the UH Library at 4193 Park Blvd., is temporarily closed until further notice because of the COVID-19 public health emergency, which has also necessitated the cancellation until further notice of the monthly book sales held at the UH branch and the closure of the book donation boxes outside the UH branch library. Please check the Friends' website, www.friendsofsdpl.org, for updated information about future book sales and other information.

In the meantime, please stay well, stay home, and read books. We appreciate your patience and support.
—*Maureen Markey, President, Friends of the UH Library*

BOOK CLUB MEETING VIA ZOOM

Along with six other women, I belong to a book club that meets monthly. In person in normal times, we have nice, leisurely meetings at alternating homes, always with lots of good conversation as well as good food and generous wine! But things are different in the coronavirus era. Last month, we met via Zoom for the first time, but probably not for the last. I asked each of the members their opinion of the book club meeting via Zoom. Responses were mixed, as I expected.

On the positive side, everyone was grateful for the technology that allowed us to meet at all. One member said she thinks technology is grand, especially when it can keep a busy bunch of women connected. Another enjoyed seeing everyone's faces and hearing the comments, much as we would in our usual in person meetings. All agreed that with the limited amount of time on Zoom, we had to be more organized in terms of taking turns and more efficient (that is, more concise and less wordy than we normally would be), but the discussion was still somewhat fluid and definitely worth having, and the virtual discussion was a better alternative than putting the book club on hold. Several observed that the fact we are a small group of just seven people made it easier to have a meaningful discussion on Zoom.

On the negative side, the 40-minute Zoom time limit was a problem for everyone, at least partly because we

didn't have enough time to chat and catch up and then discuss the book, which is our typical process. Several members suggested that scheduling at least two back-to-back, 40-minute Zoom sessions might better accommodate our style. Although people interrupt each other in an in-person social meeting, as that is the nature of a casual conversation, people occasionally talking over each other is more obvious and awkward in a remote session. Of course, everyone missed sharing the food and wine, which is much better in person than remotely! We all admired the member who, apparently attempting to replicate our usual situation as nearly as possible, was prepared with snacks and a drink!

One summed up the universal feeling, "Being together wasn't the same as actually being together," but everyone seemed to prefer a remote meeting to none at all, so we plan to meet via Zoom for our next meeting and, presumably, for all of them until this pandemic has subsided. One member is busily loading more fun and interesting backgrounds to entertain us while we are on Zoom! We all intend to keep reading good books and then talking about them, however we need to accomplish that. And we hope to soon resume our typical style of first catching up with each other, all of it while enjoying good food and wine. Something to look forward to in the near future!

—*Maureen Markey*



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Our UH History

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS IDENTITY

Creating a Sense of Place

In 1983, UH residents Eric and Janice DuVall mobilized neighbors to lobby the city for a park, which eventually became our beloved Trolley Barn Park.

More than 200 people attended numerous meetings to make that happen. Needing a name, those original organizers created the University Heights Community Association.

At the time there was no actual sense or feeling among the residents of a community in University Heights. In fact, many people in University Heights actually thought they lived in North Park, Hillcrest, or Normal Heights. However, when University Heights was first established by the city on the 1888 parcel or plot map, our boundaries went all the way east to Boundary St. in North Park, south as far as the City Park, north to where it is now, and west to Cabrillo Parkway (now 163). Thus when UH was first created as a community, there was no Hillcrest, North Park, or Normal Heights! In the 1980s, although the property deeds for the UH area had for more than 100 years legally described the area as University Heights, any sense of community identification by the residents of UH was simply lacking. Therefore, in the mid-1980s, we, the newly formed University Heights Community Association, began the long struggle to establish that community identification—that sense of place in the minds and hearts of the residents of UH.

Chris Huddy, our beloved second UHCA president, was instrumental in early efforts to establish awareness of University Heights as a community



Top: Community activists Eric and Janice DuVall at the 25th anniversary of the Trolley Barn Park in 2016.
Above: After the Adams Ave Trolley Barn was demolished in 1979 the land remained undeveloped for over 10 years.
Below: Park anniversary sack race in 2016.



UHCA founding officers, Michelle Muscat, vice president; J.D. Abercrombie, treasurer; Chris Huddy, president; and Nan McGraw, secretary.

in its own right. She literally put us on the map, by persuading the Thomas Brothers publications to include University Heights in their maps as a separate and distinct community, for the first time distinguishing us from our neighbors. This inclusion was crucial in that pre-GPS era when the comprehensive Thomas Brothers maps were the premier resource that nearly all residents of San Diego County relied on to find their way around.

Chris' persistence also resulted in several signs at various locations indicating entry into the community of University Heights: at the Texas Street Bridge, at Washington Street at Lincoln, at El Cajon Boulevard at Texas, and at Park Boulevard at Lincoln. A few years later came the monument signs, those rock and concrete pillars similar to the old rock walls that define the entry to Mission Cliff Gardens.



University Heights included in Thomas Guides beginning in the mid 1980s.



UH ostriches Kathy Brockman, Steve Frates, Nan McGraw & Stu McGraw (on trolley), North Park Toyland Parade, 1985.



One of four river rock column monuments designed by Eric Naslund, with die-cut internally illuminated signage marking UH gateways.



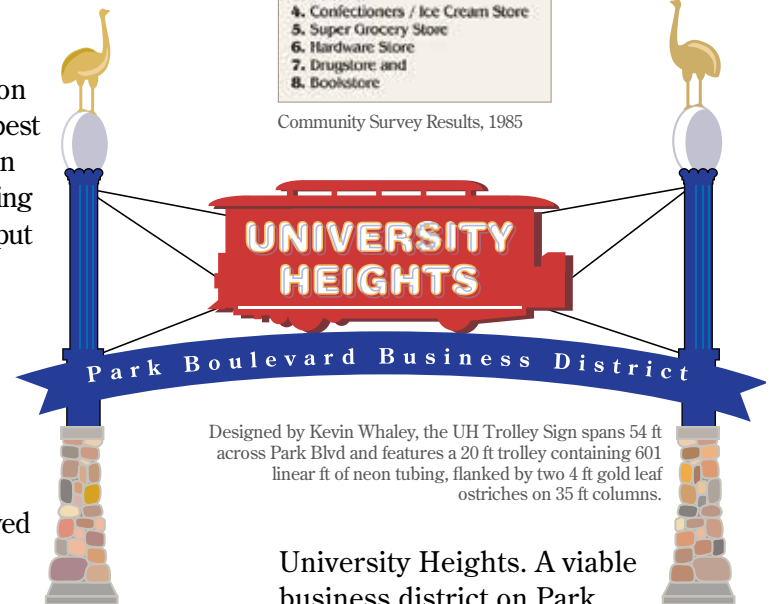
Eric Naslund and Kathy Brockman with "Best Neighborhood Entry" Toyland Parade trophy, 1985.



Community Survey Results, 1985

Ten years later, on April 3, 1997, the best sign of all, the neon trolley sign spanning Park at Madison, put us on the map definitively and permanently! We continue to fight to maintain our hard-earned identity and to improve our beloved community.

The visuals with this article, which come from our archives, demonstrate some of those early efforts to establish a distinct identity for the community of



Designed by Kevin Whaley, the UH Trolley Sign spans 54 ft across Park Blvd and features a 20 ft trolley containing 601 linear ft of neon tubing, flanked by two 4 ft gold leaf ostriches on 35 ft columns.

University Heights. A viable business district on Park Boulevard as the heart of UH was key, and we worked hard on that revitalization. Our efforts continue to this day. —Nan McGraw

PARK BOULEVARD THEN & NOW

Photos from the UHCA archives and Dave Holts.



4404 Park Blvd circa 1996



4496 Park Blvd circa 1985



4588 Park Blvd circa 1985



Park & Madison circa 1985



4615 Park Blvd circa 1985



4622 Park Blvd circa 1985



POP Pie Co & Stella Jean's Ice Cream



Lestat's on Park



Twiggs Bakery & Coffeehouse



Park & Madison



Red House Pizza



Madison



1986 Letter from Chris Huddy to the North Park Community Association (NPCA), regarding a request that NPCA amend its bylaws to reflect the correct boundaries of University Heights, an early effort to establish a separate and distinct community identity for University Heights.

"IN AND AROUND UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS"



UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS PUT ON MAP

Noticing a slight (to some) omission, I wrote to Thomas Brothers last December asking that University Heights be included on their maps of San Diego County. Receiving a favorable response to my request, I began to think it was just a matter of time before I would see University Heights right up there with the "big guys"—Normal Heights, North Park and Hillcrest.

While browsing in local office supply store recently, I saw for sale the new 1987 updated Thomas Brothers Atlas. My fingers rushed to page 60, my excitement building. **Would it be there?**

Lo and behold, there it was—**University Heights**—for all the world to see! We had made it to the big time! Now as I travel around page 60 running errands, shopping and taking care of business, a quick glance will show me that I am never too far from home.

Chris Huddy

Article from 1987 by Chris Huddy, regarding the first time University Heights appeared as a separate, named community on the Thomas Brothers Maps of San Diego County. This was a crucial first step in the long process of establishing a distinct community identification for University Heights.

WHERE IN THE WORLD OF UH IS OUR CHALK ANGEL? WHO ARE YOU?

If you even glanced through the May issue of UHCA News, you surely saw two wonderful collections of photos of sidewalk chalk drawings and uplifting messages that were done on sidewalks all over UH by a talented, clever, and kind-hearted individual(s). But, alas, our artist was anonymous, so we designated her (or him or them) the "Chalk Angel" of UH.

We would like to identify our Chalk Angel so we can show our appreciation! Please contact us if you know the identity of the Chalk Angel, or if you have any clues, or if you indeed are the Chalk Angel yourself. In our local version of *Where's Waldo?* or *Where in the World Is Carmen Sandiego?*, or any other relevant puzzle, we need your help! Thanks.

Contact us on Instagram @ uheightscommunitysd or Facebook @ UniversityHeightsCommunityAssociation.

If you aren't on social media, contact us at uhsd.org or Nan McGraw at 619 260-0668.



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

WONDER WEAVERS

Congratulations to Wonder Weavers, which celebrated 74 years in business in University Heights on May 7th! Stan Stafford, owner and weaver, learned this lost art from his mother who was a master at French weaving, a process of weaving threads horizontally and vertically to make flaws invisible by at least 90 percent. If you have a favorite sweater, suit, or upholstered piece that has a moth hole, tear, or burn hole, Wonder Weavers can make it look brand new.

Wonder Weavers is currently located on the corner of Meade Avenue and Texas Street (4394 Texas), but for years this family business was at 2222 El Cajon Boulevard. If you look carefully, you can still see the Wonder Weavers neon sign, one of the last of the original neons that defined El Cajon Boulevard back in the day. Who else remembers those days of cruising ECB in the 1950s to catch a glimpse of the Hoover High School boys! Sorry, I digress.

I recently took a sweater to Stan for an estimate and discovered it was full of moth holes and just

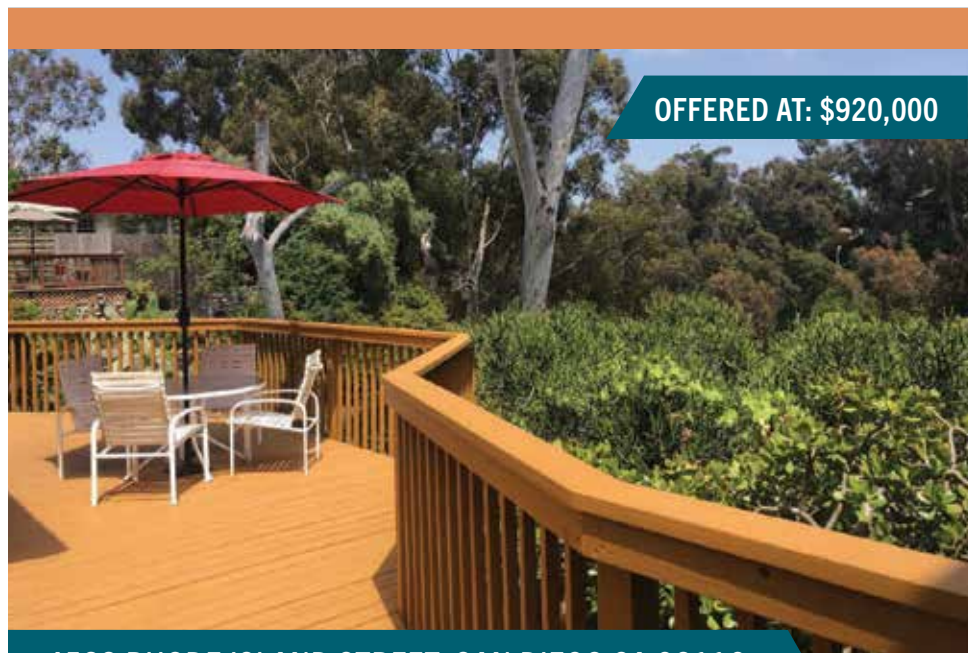
not worth repairing. Those moths really had a field day, and the finer the fabric, the more they like it. I really loved that sweater, and I learned that I needed to protect my good clothes with plastic to prevent moth damage.

Stan is open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 am to 5 pm. He may be able to give you an estimate over the phone, (619) 298-5000. If you do go to his shop, you may well get a dose of nostalgia along with a close up of his meticulous work.

— Nan McGraw



Wonder Weaver owner Stan Stafford



4533 RHODE ISLAND STREET, SAN DIEGO CA 92116

Two bedrooms, two baths + an upstairs loft on a captivating canyon in one of the most sought-after areas in University Heights. This custom canyon home was built in 1981 and has gorgeous views.

The large deck is perfect for additional outdoor living. There are floor to ceiling custom windows, cathedral ceilings, tiled floors throughout, and bedrooms on opposite sides of the home providing privacy. Other features include outdoor storage/laundry room, upgraded air conditioning and heat.



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SCHOOL NEWS

ROO NEWS

NEWS FROM ROOSEVELT INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL



This month, we bring you updates on distance learning as well as an article written by one of Roosevelt's very own 8th graders months before distance learning began.

Physical school buildings were shut down in mid-March because of safety concerns with COVID-19. Guided by the San Diego Unified School District, Roosevelt International Middle School has migrated to distance learning with great success. According to Principal Bernard Steinberger, Roosevelt is proud of its staff, its students, and their families, with more than ninety percent of students engaged in formal online learning during the first official week.

All Roosevelt teachers provide instruction through Google Classroom, and many have added interactive online classroom sessions and other digital learning platforms to provide the best

experience possible for students. Everyone misses daily in-person contact with students and staff, and Mr. Steinberger acknowledges that everyone looks forward to the day when helping each child achieve their potential can be accomplished in person once again.

While managing Roosevelt's excellent job transitioning to distance learning, Mr. Steinberger and staff are also tackling the challenges of planning for a variety of options for next year with SDUSD's help, even though no one knows when a normal school schedule can resume.

This year, Roosevelt offered electives to 7th and 8th graders while 6th graders had more time in English language arts. Next year, the school day will allow all students to take an elective, so a 6th grader would be able to take an elective like music. Thus through a

variety of experiences, all students can grow as learners. If you have a prospective 6th grader for the 2020-2021 school year, please contact Mr. Steinberger at bsteinberger@sandi.net with any enrollment questions.

Visit RooFriends' website, www.friendsofroosevelt.org, for the latest information on school events and our digital updates or to register for Roosevelt community meetings. Follow Mr. Steinberger's Twitter account for the latest news and opportunities to attend online school meetings: <https://twitter.com/PrincipalRIMS>. Check out our Roosevelt PE Coaches' Instagram feed @rooseveltmiddlepe for exercise inspiration and glimpses of a couple of their cute kiddos assisting!

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

The following article, written by a Roosevelt student during his Journalism elective class, focuses on a Roosevelt International Baccalaureate rite of passage, the 8th grade community project. Typically, 8th graders present their findings in person to their peers, teachers, staff, and the greater community, which will not be possible this year.

Roosevelt Students Act to Help Local and Global Communities

The 8th grade community project at Roosevelt International Middle School encourages students to contribute to society by creating an action plan based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which were set by the UN Member States in 2015. All the various UN Goals focus on the environment and helping local and global communi-

ties. So Roosevelt 8th graders can create a project that both affects our environment positively and makes a strong positive impact on various communities, including the Roosevelt school community, the overall San Diego community, and even international communities. For example, "Life Below Water" focuses on raising awareness and helping underwater animals and plants by cleaning up water environments. "Life on Land" focuses on cleaning up environments of land animals and plants.

The 8th graders' projects focus on different Goals to help different communities. One group focuses on Zero Hunger, which aims to get rid of hunger and poverty and to provide food for those who can't afford it. Martha N's group is "doing a food drive and will collect food from the school to donate to an organization that will then give out the food to others." Although they may not achieve zero hunger worldwide, they will help to reduce hunger in San Diego. Tanya G's group, which focuses on Quality Education, tutors Ms. Allen's and Mr. Moreno's students to provide more educational support to help prevent these students from feeling excluded from their peers and encouraging them in their school work.

Roosevelt teachers help 8th graders with their projects by giving feedback every Tuesday during a special Advisory period. Advisory teacher Coach Sand tells 8th graders that in order to succeed in their community projects, they need to plan their action early and try to keep their plan simple and easy to do. The projects do not need to be overwhelming if they are concise and focused. If a group plans beforehand what they need to do, it will be easier to implement and present the project to community members. *-Andres Tistoj Delad*

BIRNEY BUZZ

THANK YOU (FROM A DISTANCE)



This is teacher appreciation week, and as we round out our eighth week of quarantine and second week of distance learning, it's hard to imagine a time when parents have collectively been more appreciative of teachers! We are grateful for what our teachers do on a typical school day to inspire, challenge, and support our children, and we appreciate how our teachers have taken on the challenge of distance learning with determination and patience. While we can't deliver thank you cards or baked goods, we want to take this opportunity to say Thank You to our incredible team of educators for supporting our students through these challenging times.

distance learning at home. Birney parents are involved, creative, and supportive and have made this unique time a positive family experience. I've seen families doing skits, outdoor art, hands-on STEM experiments, gardening, and exercising together. Student education during this time hasn't just revolved around online programs, but has involved learning and experiencing new things side-by-side with parents and siblings. Our young Birney students have also shown resilience, curiosity, and open-mindedness in adjusting to their new school experience. We are very proud of our Birney Bees!

The abrupt shift to school at home has been a learning experience for teachers, parents, and students. Birney teachers have dedicated several weeks, including some of their spring break vacation, to learn virtual programs, coordinate with families about devices and schedules, and prepare online lesson plans for our new distance learning reality. Most importantly, our teachers have prioritized online safety and the emotional wellbeing of our children during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite social distancing, Birney teachers have made a point to connect with students in a meaningful way and to make their distance learning curriculum comfortable, impactful, and fun.

Unfortunately, just as we've had to make major adjustments to shift classroom learning to online platforms, we've also had to cancel or adjust several annual Birney events. Our spring Birney Night Out fundraiser and Passport to Adventure international festival have been cancelled. Our annual student Run for the Green jog-a-thon will be done from home with families. Students are encouraged to log one hour of walking or running between May 17th and May 22nd. Run for the Green is a fun wellness event that students look forward to each year, so we are glad the students will still be able to finish strong, albeit from a distance.

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

We would also like to recognize Birney parents who are supporting

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HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT: BUNGALOW COURTS IN UH

We know there are a number of Bungalow Courts in University Heights. We would like to feature these in an upcoming issue of the UHCA News. But we need your help in identifying the Bungalow Courts in our neighborhood. We all have seen them, even if we did not know what they were called. Could you please let us know where these hidden gems are located? Keep an eye out for these charming architectural gems when you

are out for your daily exercise on the streets of UH. Contact Nan McGraw at nmcsan@aol.com if you can help us. Please include a street address so we can get photos to accompany our article about Bungalow Courts, as well as any information you have about the particular Court.

So what exactly is a bungalow? Wikipedia notes that a bungalow is a small house or cottage, usually square



Spanish bungalow court complex



Classic example of a bungalow court



Lovely Spanish bungalow court

in shape, that is either single-story or has a second story built into a sloping roof. It may be surrounded by wide verandas, but probably has fewer windows than other home styles. A bungalow's distinction is its low profile. Originating in the Indian province of Bengal, the style and its numerous variations were soon found throughout the world.

Almost inevitably, this economical, practical type of house invaded North America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These small houses, some costing as little as \$900, helped fulfill many Americans' wishes for their own home, equipped with all the latest conveniences. The bungalow was practical, and it symbolized for many the best of the good life. On its own plot of land, with a garden, however small, and a car parked out front, a bungalow provided privacy and independence. To their builders and owners, bungalows meant living close to nature, but also with true style.

Central to the bungalow's popularity was the idea that simplicity and artistry could harmonize in one affordable house. The mania for bungalows marked the rare occasion in which serious architecture was

found outside the realm of the rich. Bungalows allowed people of modest means to achieve something they had long sought: respectability. With its special features – style, convenience, simplicity, sound construction, and excellent plumbing – the bungalow filled more than the need for shelter. It provided fulfillment of the American dream. Most bungalows in the United States were constructed between 1880 and 1930. Although the bungalow was originally a relatively inexpensive way to acquire a single-family home, the bungalow is today considered an architectural treasure from another era.

Ironically, the bungalow that had once been the symbol of retreat to the countryside became the architecture of the city and its suburbs. Yet the bungalow did not lose its identification with the rural idyll and a better, golden day. Be it ever so humble, it embodied an ideal for the majority of Americans – the free-standing, single-family dwelling set down in a garden – an ideal that clings to us today. The bungalow, a particularly popular housing style in Southern California, was expressed in the trend for outdoor living, which also helped popularize the Bungalow Court. There was a sense that in the benign climate of Southern California, one would spend much time out of doors.

Bungalow courts in Southern California come in many architectural styles. The most common is Spanish, but there are many Craftsman courts, as well. In San Diego, we have examples of Egyptian, Mission Revival, Pueblo, Moorish Revival, Deco/Moderne, and 1950s modern. In Southern California, the bungalow often took the form of a small collection of miniature Arts & Crafts and Spanish cottages, each with their own small yard, central courtyard, and neighborly orientation. These collections, which became known as Bungalow Courts, are still cherished today. In San Diego and throughout Southern California, the majority of bungalow courts were built along streetcar lines, which may explain why UH has more of these cottages than many other neighborhoods.

—Maureen Markey

(Sources: SOHO website: www.sohosandiego.org/tourbooklets/BungalowCourtTour.pdf) and American Bungalow Magazine Online: www.americanbungalow.com/).

RENTERS CARE

Not all UH residents are homeowners. Many people rent homes and apartments in UH. We appreciate our renters, especially those who treat the properties where they live with pride and care. The before and after pictures on the right, of a rental property on the 1000 block of Madison Ave., demonstrate this admirable attitude. Thank you, Jake and Meigan, for the lovely job you have done with your front yard! We are glad you are a part of the vibrant community life of University Heights, and we welcome your participation in keeping this community clean and beautiful for everyone.

If other renters would like to get more involved in the community, please contact Mary Anne Stevens, our Volunteer Coordinator, at Maryaneshomes@gmail.com or (619) 871-0635. We appreciate all volunteers, and volunteering opportunities are flexible—you can do a little or you can do a lot!



Before photo of home in need of some TLC



New look of well-cared for home

Photos by current renter Jake Kattai

UH BEAUTIFICATION TEAM REPORT

YOU CAN'T STOP UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS VOLUNTEERS!

Sheltering in place has prevented the UHCA Beautification Team and its supporting volunteers from conducting major projects that involve 50 or more people, such as the annual spring cleanup along Washington and the 163 onramp. That does not mean, however, that our volunteers have not been out in the community continuing to keep our neighborhood beautiful.

Examples of recent grass roots initiatives include: weed removal and installation of new plants along Park and Meade at Birney Elementary; weed abatement along the Washington Avenue medians; graffiti removal; continued maintenance of areas such as the median at the intersection of Lincoln and Washington; and weed and trash removal along the 163 onramp. And, of course, the Trash Angels continue to empty the trash receptacle at the Vermont Street Bridge every week.

These neighbors have accomplished this while at all times maintaining social distancing. We are thankful for all of these dedicated volunteers who have continued to keep our neighborhood beautiful during these difficult times.

—Rod Girvin, UHCA Beautification Team Leader



Paul Sandbo and owner of Pop Pie, Steve Torres, beautifying the landscaping



Dan Weiss working near Birney School field

NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO GO SOLAR

Like many other UH residents recently, I have taken to the streets for a daily run or walk, and I have been pleasantly surprised to see how many homes are powered by solar energy systems.

rates for solar, home equity, and other types of loans have reduced the cost of financing a home solar system. 5) The current 26 percent federal residential solar energy investment tax credit will be reduced next year before disappearing altogether in 2022.

This is actually a great time to take the plunge because a confluence of factors right now makes “going solar” very attractive: 1) The cost of materials continues to fall, and efficiency of the panels and other components has improved. 2) The economic side effects of the pandemic have caused some to postpone their projects, which, in turn, has shortened installation timeframes and has led to more competitive pricing for the fewer remaining projects. 3) New power company pricing schemes and rising costs per kilowatt-hour have increased energy costs and will likely continue to do so. 4) Very low interest

Although the prospect of switching to solar may seem daunting at first, many online resources are available to educate homeowners regarding all aspects of residential solar energy systems prior to seeking project proposals. Your fellow UH homeowners with solar systems are also great sources of lessons learned, advice, and referrals. Embarking on a solar energy project now will help minimize costs, maximize long-term savings, and help you contribute to meeting overall renewable energy goals. —Steven Kolbert



A very cheerful and colorful garden

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POLITICAL NEWS

FROM YOUR CITY ATTORNEY

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY ONLINE

As families across San Diego shelter in place to protect against coronavirus, children are spending more time online. As a mother of school-age children, I recognize the role of the Internet in providing entertainment and interaction. As your City Attorney, I want to protect all kids from the potential harm that can result from this unprecedented increase in online engagement.

Here are some tips for protecting your children online:

- 1. Educate yourself. Keep up on current technologies and know how your kids are using the Internet.
2. Educate your children. Explain that people might fake who they are online, and stress the importance of not engaging with strangers.
3. Establish open communication. Encourage children to tell you if someone online is making inappropriate comments or tries to humiliate or threaten them.
4. Set rules. Limit online time and platforms. Let your children know these rules are because you love them and want them to be safe.
5. Discuss risky behavior and unhealthy relationships. Talk about the dangers of online flirting. Contact should end immediately with anyone who pressures your child to keep a relationship secret, or asks questions

that are too personal or sexually suggestive.

6. Talk about sexting and intimate photos. Warn teens to never share pictures or messages that they wouldn't want their family, classmates, teachers, or future employers to see.

7. Monitor Internet use. Approve the apps your children use and know their account passwords. Review their Internet activity, and enable parental controls on all devices.

8. Report online predators. Take a screenshot and report it to the platform where the contact occurred, then block the offender and contact police. Keep calm and don't blame your child. I know how hard it is to juggle work and parenting. We can get through these trying times together.
-San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott



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Native garden on the parkway



Naturalized garden border

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Amazing mountain and evening views! This home is flooded with light and sits on over 1/4 acre at the base of Mt. Helix! Gleaming hardwood floors and plantation shutters throughout, Spacious living room with fplc, Master BR retreat with its own bath and attached office with cork floors. Huge 2nd BR could also serve as a MBR, updated kitchen, plus wonderful outdoor patios and greenery make a lovely serene setting. Circular drive leads to a 2 Car garage, plus room for RV parking and extra cars too. A great place to call home!

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