


NEWS

University Heights Community Association
March 2024

UH Residents Aim to Replace SDG&E with Power San Diego

BY STUART MCGRAW

The upcoming March 7th UH Community Association meeting will feature Bill Powers and Larry Carr, longtime UH residents, who are leading a grassroots initiative that proposes a ballot measure to replace San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) with a nonprofit locally controlled electric utility. As a public utility, Power San Diego promises to reduce energy rates, safeguard rooftop solar installations, and focus on local energy generation and storage.

SDG&E faces widespread criticism for having the highest electricity rates in the nation—three times the national average and twice that of neighboring Los Angeles.

Customer satisfaction, according to JD Powers 2022, ranks among the lowest in the US utility sector. As a for-profit, investor-owned monopoly, SDGE reported nearly \$1 billion in profit in 2022, with the CEO earning over \$10 million in 2020. Meanwhile, a quarter of San Diegans are struggling with overdue bills exceeding \$600. SDGE's proposed 10% annual electricity rate increases until 2027, coupled with investments in costly remote projects, indicate a potential escalation in profits and electricity rates. Additionally, policies like "fixed rates" discourage alternatives such as rooftop and parking lot solar arrays.

A viable alternative lies in not-for-profit electric utilities, exemplified by successful models like Los Angeles Water & Power, Seattle City Light, and others. These utilities prioritize low costs and high reliability rather than profits, achieved through local control and rate-payer-driven priorities.

Power San Diego, a grassroots group without deep-pocket donors, advocates for change and proposes a November 2024 ballot measure. This measure would allow San Diegans to decide whether to retain or replace SDGE. To qualify, 80,000 registered City of SD voter signatures are needed, and signature gathering has commenced. Supporting this initiative could replace SDGE with a locally-controlled electric utility aligned with community interests. For more info, visit: WeArePowerSanDiego.com

Former Bowlero to Become Home Depot

BY PAUL FARRIS



For half a century, it's been hard to miss the strikingly Modernist Scottish Rite Temple in Mission Valley. Now, as the building prepares for demolition, with a Home Depot slated to take over the space, San Diegans prepare to say goodbye to this Mission Valley modern icon. With its monumental, angular futuristic entry canopy, the building is a classic example of Googie midcentury architecture. Opened in 1957 as Bowlero, at the time, the largest fully automated bowling alley in the country, the 64,000-foot space initially had 56 bowling lanes, plus a cocktail bar, restaurants, billiard rooms, lounges, and a beauty parlor. The bowling alley only lasted until 1964, when the building was sold to the San Diego Scottish Rite, which has occupied the space ever since.

The Googie aesthetic was a short-lived architectural style defined by bright colors, oversized signage, and exaggerated or abstract shapes typical of the dawning space age. Intended to catch the eye of passing motorists, Googie elements were most prominent in roadside establishments like drive-in restaurants, gas stations, motels, and coffee shops. The name references the 1949 Los Angeles coffee shop *Googies*.

See page 7

Preserving Our Neighborhood Charm: Addressing Vacant Businesses and Development Concerns

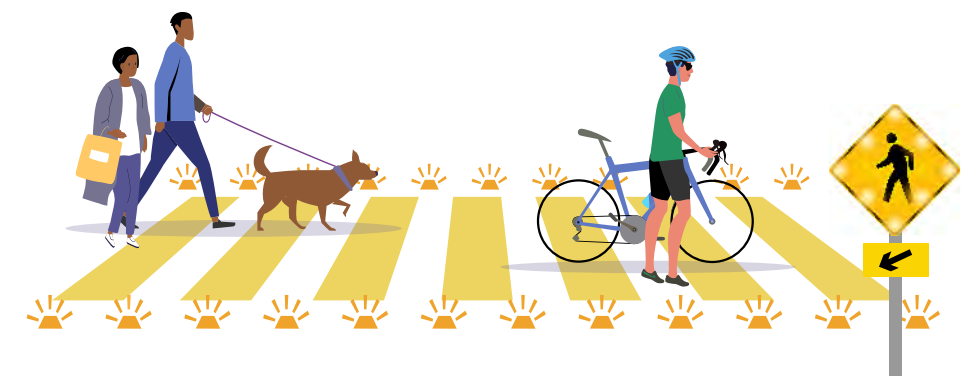
BY LISA GETZ



The sight of vacant businesses can be concerning for any neighborhood, raising questions about its vitality and future. While the presence of empty storefronts may signal economic challenges or shifts in consumer behavior, it also presents an opportunity for community reflection and action. As we witness these vacancies, it's natural to wonder about the intentions of developers eyeing our streets.

Preserving the historic charm and character of our neighborhood is paramount. We must engage in proactive discussions and collaborate with local authorities to ensure that any development aligns with the collective vision of the community. This includes safeguarding our historic landmarks, preserving architectural integrity, and fostering a vibrant local economy.

By championing initiatives that prioritize community input and sustainable development practices, we can navigate the changing landscape while preserving the essence of our beloved neighborhood. Together, we can uphold its unique identity and resist the tide of unchecked development that threatens to erode our historic charm. Let's unite to shape a future that honors our past and embraces the spirit of our community.



NEXT UHCA MEETING

MAR 7

6:45 pm 4345 Campus Ave

Power San Diego will present their plan to replace SDGE with a nonprofit public power utility focusing on lower rates, protecting rooftop solar, and prioritizing local energy generation and storage. wearepowersandiego.com



Uptown Planners' Election

The Uptown Planners serve in an advisory role to the City of San Diego on land use and development issues in Bankers Hill, Hillcrest, Medical Center Complex, Middletown, Mission Hills, and University Heights.

When and where can you vote?
Saturday, March 2, 12 – 2 pm
Mission Hills/Hillcrest Library
Tuesday, March 5, 4 – 7 pm
Joyce Beers
Community Center

Find everything you need to know at:
UptownPlannersSD.org



North Park Planning Committee Election

The North Park Planning Committee serves in an advisory role to the City of San Diego on land use and development issues within the North Park Community Planning Area.

Register to vote online for new board members at: www.northparkplanning.org
Voter registration deadline is Mar 7, 2024.

There will also be in-person voting, details are in the voter guide online.

To learn more about what the NPPC does, visit their website: northparkplanning.org

LOOKING AHEAD APRIL 4 TRAFFIC SAFETY

Join the discussion with city traffic engineers about the need for flashing crosswalks, blank-out signs, and additional pedestrian safety measures.



Much action on both sides of El Cajon Blvd at Mississippi with many people crossing, especially at night when it's dark could be an accident waiting to happen. Perhaps with enough push, we can get a flashing light crosswalk there. Please submit a request to: sandiego.gov/tsw/servicerequests/trafficrequest

OUR VISION

UH is a rare community, a village within the larger city of San Diego. We take pride in our historic past. And for the future envision a new library, a secure and pedestrian-friendly community, considerate growth accompanied by well-planned infrastructure to sustain that development. Additionally, we foresee a remarkable transformation of the Board of Education property, featuring a substantial park to accommodate assured future growth. Our village aims to be renowned for its amicable and unique character, distinctive business community, commitment to canyon preservation, and active citizen participation.

MEMBERSHIP

Yearly Membership

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

Donor

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

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

NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS

GOLDEN OSTRICH

Lee & Tonia Bates, Patricia & Michael Rudd, Louisa Campagna, Monica Lanctot & Adam Graham, Liz Bernal & Suzanne LaTour, Steve Winchell & Michele Morgan, Nicole Lemaire, Joseph Caperna & Pat Conway, Rene Cortes & Sereana Zaiser, Joshua Eckels, Steven Kolbert.

HOUSEHOLD

Mark & Kitty Brlej, Monica Garcia, Kathryn A. Tench, Frank Santana, Mark Bertone, Scott & Melanie Levy, Nancy & Rod Girvin, William Thomsen, William Pierce & Renee Carnett, Paul Sandbo, George & Beverley Skinner, Blair Alexander & Dan Belair, Curtis Brauer & Rahim Panjwani, Ron Widmer & Pat Kelly, Ned Totah, Lynne Russo, Susan Wellersdieck & Shirley Pereira, Daniel & Tami Mannix, Don Ashley & Steven Nugent.

FEATHER

Jim Seagrim



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

**OR BY MAIL:
 UHCA PO BOX 33032
 SAN DIEGO, CA 92163**

Volunteer Your Time on a UHCA Committee!

- Beautification & Planning
- Blockwalker/Deliver Papers on your Block
- Marketing / Merchandising
- UHCA News
- Program & Events
- Neighborhood/Zone Watch
- Membership
- More info @uhsd.org/volunteer

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.

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

UHCA NEWS

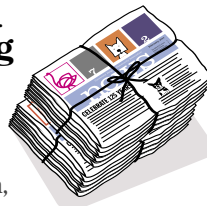
Published 10 times per year by the University Heights Community Association. We welcome articles, letters, and announcements about issues and events relating to University Heights. Submission deadline is the first of the month. Send submission of articles, announcements etc. to: news@uhsd.org See www.uhsd.org/submissions for details.

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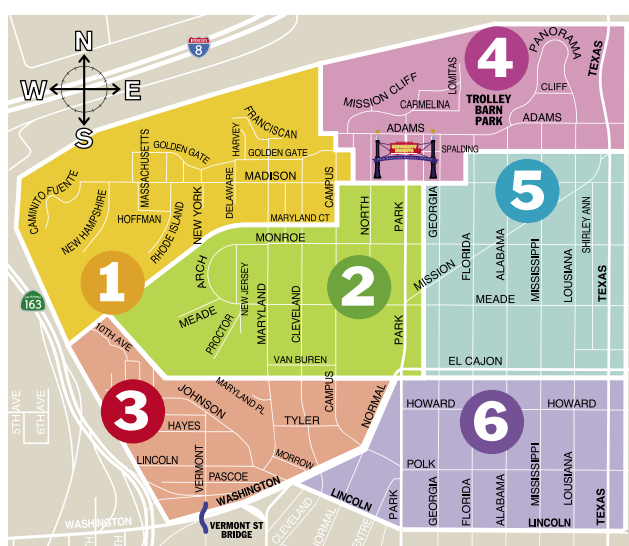


WEBSITE uhsd.org

FACEBOOK @universityheightscommunityassociation

INSTAGRAM @universityheights_sdcommunity

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BOUNDARIES AND ZONE WATCH



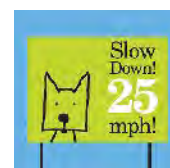
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Zone Watch Coordinators manage email lists of participants wishing to receive University Heights crime watch information and updates. Download more on the UH Zone Watch program at uhsd.org or contact your zone's coordinator or Nan McGraw.



CRIME WATCH SIGNS
 There are 60 signs in UH. If you know of a location that could use a sign, or one needing replacing please email signs@uhsd.org.



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



FILE A POLICE REPORT ONLINE WITH SDPD
tinycurl.com/SDPD-Online-Report

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 Emergency & Non-Emergency 619-527-7500
 Street lights, pot holes, etc.
 Online: www.sandiego.gov/city-hall/departments
Alert San Diego ready.sandiego.org/alertsandiego/
 Reverse 911 mobile phone evacuation emergency notifications
2-1-1 San Diego 211 or 858-300-1211
 Free Resources: CalFresh, Medi-Cal, Covered California, etc.
Alice Birney Elementary Office 619-497-3500
Brush and Weed Abatement 619-533-4444
Code Violations 619-236-5500
County Dept of Environmental Health Public Health / Rats / Rodents 858-694-2888
Crime Stoppers Tip Line 888-580-TIPS (8477)
Downed Power Lines / SDG&E 800-411-7343
Domestic Violence Hotline 24/7 888-385-4657
Emergency Water / Sewer Repair / Sink Holes 619-515-3525
Get-It-Done sandiego.gov/get-it-done
 Download this City of San Diego app for reporting all non-emergency problems: abandoned vehicles, code violations, graffiti, over watering, potholes, and dangerous sidewalk issues.
Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) 5am - 3pm M - F 619-446-1010

Narcotics Suspicious drug house / anonymous 619-531-2468
People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) path@epath.org 619-810-8600
Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) 619-692-4945
 Vacation home / welfare of home-bound check / Homeland Security support
National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline 988
SDPD Community Relations Officers:
 Officer Michael Hayes mfhayes@pd.sandiego.gov
 Officer David Surwilo dsurwilo@pd.sandiego.gov
SDPD Western Division 5215 Gaines Street 619-692-4800
Shopping Cart Pick-Up Service 800-252-4613
UHCDC University Heights Community Development Corporation 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: sandiego.gov/get-it-done Graffiti Hotline: 619-527-7500
SD Vector Control mosquitoes / ticks / rats 858-694-2888
 Online: vector@sdcountry.ca.gov

If all else fails, email Malik Thornton
 ThorntonM@sandiego.gov with Councilmember Stephen Whitburn's office.



DISASTER CONTACTS
 In a major disaster, have two out-of-area contacts handy. Landlines may not work in power outages. Keep cell phones charged. Call 211 for updated info.

Happening in the Heights

Fitness, music, and adventure without leaving your zip code.

Madison Live Jazz

Tuesday Nite Jazz Series
Every Tuesday nite 6:45 pm

Sunday Nite Latin Jazz
with Irving Flores & Kaylee Daugherty
6-8 pm 4622 Park Blvd.
madisononpark.com



Hsifang Temple

Meditation Retreat
Sat, Mar 2, 10 am-4 pm
Martial Arts for Kids
Sat, Mar 23, 3-4 pm
619 298 2800
4536 Park Blvd
hsifangtemple.org

Serpentine Cider

2311 El Cajon Blvd
Trivia Tuesday
6:30-8:30 pm
Paint Your Pet!
Thu, March 14,
6-9 pm \$67 per person. Includes a glass of ciderall supplies, and instruction.
Sign up & info: lovejoycreations.com.



Flavors of East Africa

Open Mic Night.
Music. Stand-up. Poetry.
First and Third Mondays, 7pm
2322 El Cajon Blvd
flavorsofeastafrica.com
@flavorsofeastafrica



St Patrick's Pub Crawl

Sat, Mar 16, 5 pm-9 pm
Starts at Cheers Bar
1839 Adams Ave, SD 92116
eventbrite.com
/e/university-heights-st-patricks-day-pub-crawl-tickets-

Good Omen Coffee Co.

4590 Park Blvd
Now Open!
7 days a week, 6:30 am - 5 pm
Looking forward to serving you and creating a great space to meet up, share stories, and fuel the good times.
See you soon!



Park and Rec

Happy Hour Mon - Fri, 4-6 pm
Live DJs and nightly events

Movies in the Park
Join us for a movie!
Every Wed at 7pm!
4612 Park Blvd
@parkandrecsd



Diversionsary Theatre

On Stage:
Icon Ball Dance Party
Celebrating LGBTQIA+ legends and icons past, present, and future.
San Diego Natural History Museum
Sat, March 23. 6 pm - midnight
Tickets: diversionsary.org/gala-2024
Diversionsary Theatre Clark Cabaret
Drinks and mostly free live entertainment.
Wed - Sat 5pm to close, Sun 1 - 9 pm.
Live Music: Wed, 7 pm

RuPaul's Drag Race Season 16

Viewing Party: Fri, 8pm

Art Date with Derrol
Sun, Mar 3, 1pm



Bike Lane Spring Clean Up

March 10th from 9 am to 11 am
4416 Park Blvd
Cyclists and neighbors unite to clean up bike pathways. More info: universityheightssd@gmail.com.



Further Afield

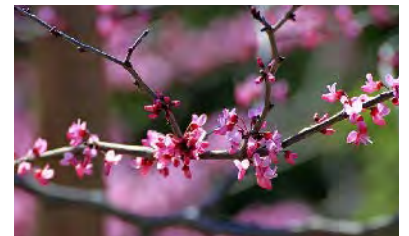
Flower Fields

5704 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad, CA 92010
Mar 1 - May 12 9 am-6 pm
www.theflowerfields.com



Cherry Blossom Festival

Japanese Friendship Garden Balboa Park
Mar 7 - Mar 10, 10 am-7 pm
2215 Pan American E Rd, San Diego
balboapark.org/event/cherry-blossom-festival



MJ The Michael Jackson Musical

San Diego
Civic Theatre
Mar 5 - Mar 10
1100 Third Ave
San Diego, CA 92101
civictheatresandiego.com

Send submissions for your event to: news@uhsd.org

March 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 EASTER SUNDAY Hillcrest Farmers Market 9am - 2pm		SAN DIEGO Restaurant Week MARCH 3-10 sandiegorestaurantweek.com				
3 Hillcrest Farmers Market 9am - 2pm	4	5 VOTE Primary Election Day Uptown Planners 6pm Joyce Beers Center	6 UHCA Beautification 6pm beautification@uhsd.org for location UHCDC Meeting 6pm uhcdc.org Baby & Toddler Storytime 10am UH Branch Library	7 UH Rec Council Meeting 5:30pm Alice Birney Library UHCA Meeting 6:45pm 4345 Campus Ave Curbside Recycling Curbside Organic Waste Recycling	8	9 Children's Storytime & Craft with Miss Helene 10:30am UH Branch Library
10 Farmers Market 9am - 2pm 96th Academy Awards 4pm	11 Daylight Saving Time Begins Sun 2am	12 Friends of UH Library 6pm Via Zoom friendsofuhlibrary.org Kamishibia Family Storytelling Performance with Walter Ritter 6pm UH Branch Library	13 Children's ASL Pajama Signing Storytime with Miss Jennifer UH Branch Library 5pm	14	15	16 Friends of the Library Book Sale 9am-3pm UH Branch Library
17 St Patrick's Day Farmers Market 9am - 2pm Friends of the Library Book Sale 12-3pm UH Library	18 ADHD/Attention & Focus Adult Program Presented by Brain Balance 6pm UH Branch Library	19 First Day of Spring North Park Planning Committee 6:30pm NP Christian Fellowship, 2901 North Park Way	20 Children's After School Storytime & Craft with Miss Helene 2pm UH Branch Library	21	22	23 PURIM STARTS (Sunset) Children's Storytime & Craft with Miss Helene 10:30am UH Branch Library
24 PALM SUNDAY Hillcrest Farmers Market 9am - 2pm	25 PURIM ENDS Children's ASL Signing Storytime with Miss Jennifer UH Branch Library 12:30pm	26 UHCA News Out	28 Holy Thursday	29 GOOD FRIDAY VIETNAM VETERANS DAY	30	

In Case You Missed It. UHCA NATIVE PLANT INITIATIVE.

BY FRANK SANTANA

What would University Heights look like, if a hundred years ago, community leaders set aside a square block for a nature preserve? Examining a map of our community we know that reality never came to be. However, looking again at our map, undeveloped urban canyons border the north and west with evergreen patches of life. On foot, those urban canyons are visible from Golden Gate Drive or Maryland Street. So why do urban canyons matter? Urban canyons provide a stronghold for native plants and animals in built environments and are adapted to our unique mediterranean climate, contributing to local biodiversity.

San Diego County is a biodiversity hotspot partly due to highly variable ecosystems including forests, beaches, and deserts. In University Heights, we occasionally observe biodiversity venture into human dominated landscapes when coyotes and foxes scamper down the street. Smaller insects and birds also travel into ornamental landscapes and lawns seeking food and shelter. Unfortunately most landscapes in our community focus on maximizing aesthetic beauty, rather than biodiversity. A recent scientific research study titled "Native and non-native plants attract diverse bees to urban gardens in California" found that planting natives increased biodiversity by 33% in urban environments. In an effort to support rare, endemic, and beautiful biodiversity, UHCA Native Plants Initiative is a new part of the existing Beautification Team.



From left: Alysha, Bennett, Max Christensen, and Dani Llamas.



From left: MaryBeth Chruden, Josh Eckels, Bill Graham, Dani Llamas, Rustam Kasad, Paul Sandbo, Frank Santana, and Pam Isaacs.

The goal of the UHCA Native Plants Initiative is to build a community that fosters curiosity and an interest in nature through action, workshops, outreach, and advocacy. If you are interested in joining our email list please email nativeplants@uhso.org and feel free to join us in person every second Saturday of the month from 8 to 11 am at Park and Meade to plant and maintain our first community native garden.

Support the UHCA Native Plants project!

Help raise funds for the purchase of additional nursery plants. Each native plant costs \$15 and any donation amount is appreciated. Scan the QR code or email us to donate today. Thanks!



BLOOMS FOR BIRNEY SCHOOL

BY LISA GETZ



Love was in the air, and flowers were in full bloom this Valentine's Day thanks to the tremendous success of the Birney Elementary Valentine's Day Flower Bazaar Fundraiser. Sponsored by MyPoint Credit Union and held in collaboration with Original Skin and Body Care, the event blossomed into an unforgettable celebration of community spirit and generosity.

On February 13th, the festivities kicked off at Original Skin and Body Care, where the fragrance of fresh flowers filled the air, setting the stage for a delightful evening. The sweet scent of fresh flowers greeted everyone who walked by.

The following day, on February 14th, the Birney Elementary campus transformed into a floral paradise, welcoming students, parents, and neighbors alike to partake in the celebration of love and giving. The sight of colorful bouquets and the sounds of laughter and camaraderie echoed throughout the school grounds, making it a truly heartwarming experience.

This remarkable achievement wouldn't have been possible without the dedication and hard work of individuals like Alex Webber, Lisa Getz, and Paul Farris. Their tireless efforts and unwavering commitment ensured the smooth organization and execution of the event, leaving an indelible mark on the Birney Elementary community.

The support from MyPoint Credit Union served as a cornerstone for the success of the fundraiser, exemplifying their dedication to fostering community engagement and making a positive impact in the lives of others. Their generosity and partnership are deeply appreciated and have contributed immensely to the flourishing of our school community.

UH YOUNGEST BLOCKWALKERS

BY JOHN JORGENSEN

One day a month, these 2 take to the streets of University Heights, usually with their mom and dog in tow, to deliver their batch of UHCA papers. Bennett (9) and Max (7) have been volunteering as block walkers for almost 2 years.

It's a great thing to do as a family. They know they are serving their community in a fun and active way. We feel this is so important for us to experience this simple form of volunteering together.

When we first started, I made it fun by printing our route, laminating it, and they'd cross off each delivery with a dry erase marker. They felt like they were on a bit of a scavenger hunt. By now, they (and even their dog, Charlie) have the route memorized and know how many papers to leave at each address. We squeeze the monthly commitment into our normal schedule by delivering before or after school since it's right around the corner from Birney Elementary. We've invited friends to join sometimes, and they all seem to really enjoy it!

If you're considering being a block walker, I strongly recommend it!

Join this fab team.
Contact Nan at:
nmcsan@aol.com.





Our Community Unites for Bike Lane Cleanup Event on March 10th

University Heights residents are gearing up for a transformative event on March 10th from 9 am to 11 am. Spearheaded by Lisa Getz and sponsored by:

- Adams Avenue Bikes
- Hillcrest Ace Hardware
- Summers Liquor
- Kairoa Brewing Co.
- Yipao Coffee
- Bike SD
- Nice N Easy SD
- Original Skin & Body Care
- Dusty Evens Real Estate

The Bike Lane Cleanup Event aims to revitalize the neighborhood's bike lanes. Residents and local businesses are joining forces to address debris accumulation and ensure safe pathways for cyclists. Participants are encouraged to bring gloves, brooms, and trash pickers to assist in the cleanup efforts. The event promises to foster connections and camaraderie among neighbors while making University Heights cleaner and safer. For more information, email universityheightssd@gmail.com. Let's unite on March 10th to create a more vibrant community together!

SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Spring Cleaning.

BY JUDITH ANNICCHIARICO



It's that time of year, the season for decluttering and streamlining our lives. After cleaning out the closet, cupboard, or garage, many of us head over to the alley behind the Goodwill Store (1219 University Ave.) in Hillcrest to donate useful items that no longer "spark joy." Some of those items get sold in the store, making donating them a great way to recycle. Of course, many donated items eventually end up in a dumpster when there's no room for them in the store or when they're not right for the store's clientele. Happily, many other venues will accept and rehome our unwanted goods. It's worth seeking out the places that really want what we're getting rid of.

For example, that sewing or crochet project we never quite got around to finishing (or starting) doesn't have to remain in the back of a closet or wind up in the trash. Material Happiness on Poplar Street in City Heights specializes in fabric, yarn, and other fiber craft supplies donated by people with extra materials or who purchased materials for a project that never came to fruition.

For used blankets, towels, and other bedding that we no longer need or have room for, the Humane Society on Gaines Street is a great place to donate. They're always seeking soft, warm bedding for the animals in their care.

Getting rid of clothes and shoes in good condition that no longer fit you or your closet? Out of the Closet Thrift Store on Fifth Ave. in Hillcrest is happy to have donations of clothes and other items. Proceeds from whatever they can sell go to HIV-related healthcare support for local community members, regardless of their ability to pay.

For other useful items that no longer fit in well at home, you can always try the University Heights 'Buy Nothing' Facebook group. Sometimes items that people think will be snapped up don't find a home via the site, but it's certainly worth a try. Additionally, I Love A Clean San Diego and other groups occasionally sponsor fashion swap events where clothes, shoes, and accessories change hands, no money involved. Check the ILCSD website for event times and locations.

And, of course, books can be donated to our local UH library or dropped off in one of our many "little library" boxes in the neighborhood.

For anything we're no longer using, WasteFreeSD.org provides excellent guidance regarding repairing, upcycling, and recycling instead of sending to the landfill. On the other hand, those beat up old appliances, electronics, and hazardous materials (old paint, batteries, pesticides and herbicides, motor oil, etc.) must be disposed of properly. Check the city's Household Hazardous Waste disposal website for drop-off sites and one-day collection event details. If you plan to drop off any of these materials, let your neighbors know, and find out if they want to join you!

Hazardous Waste:
www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/ep

UH 'Buy Nothing':
www.facebook.com/groups/756712751139733/

Humane Society Wish List:
www.sdhumane.org/support-us/ways-to-give/wish-list.html

I Love A Clean San Diego Events:
www.cleansd.org/events/

INCLUDES:
Private Consultation & Exam
Spinal Adjustment
Hydrotherapy Massage

Offer is valid at the NuSpine Chiropractic Hillcrest location and for only the first visit. This offer cannot be redeemed for cash or combined with any other offer.

(619) 393-1515

NuSpine.com/Hillcrest | Hillcrest@NuSpine.com
1262 University Ave., San Diego, CA 92103

- Beautification & Planning
 - Blockwalker/Deliver Papers
 - Marketing / Merchandising
 - UHCA News
 - Neighborhood/Zone Watch
 - Program & Events
 - Membership
- Volunteer@uhsd.org**



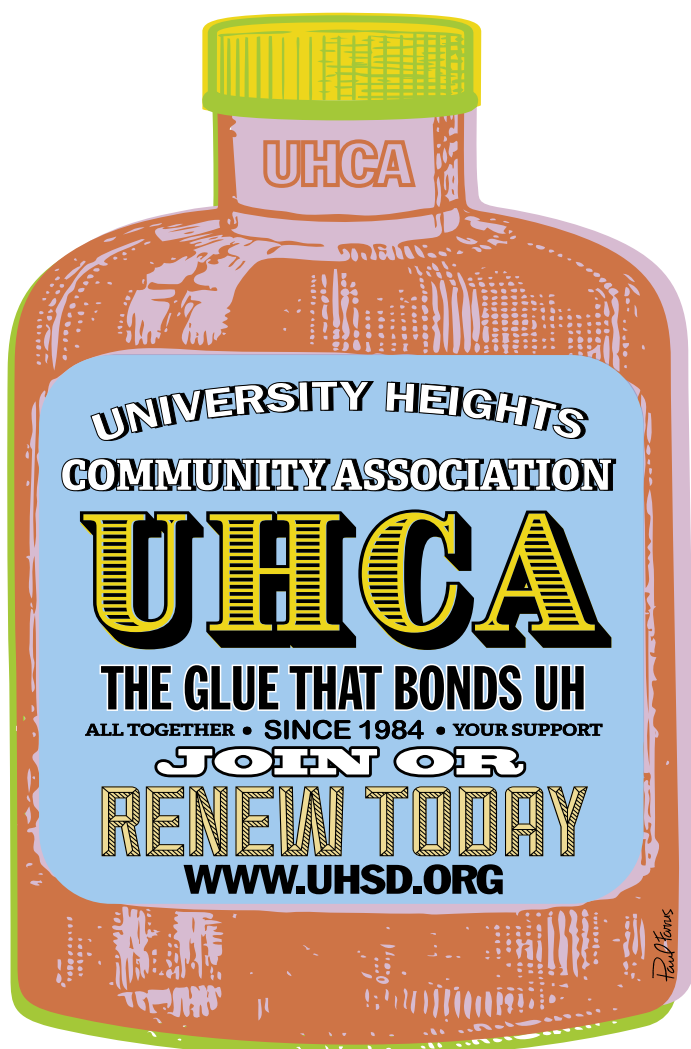
KRISTIE EDGMOND

If you have ever walked around University Heights, you have probably run into Kristie Edgmond, our Plume recipient for this month. "Avid walker" does not do justice to Kristie, a woman who measures her daily accomplishment in miles, not steps! For many years, every month for a few days, she has combined her love of walking with an extremely ambitious blockwalking route, delivering the UH News to more than 300 residential and business locations!

This woman does not do anything by halves. When she saw an ad in the UH paper looking for blockwalkers, she volunteered. For at least the last ten years, she has delivered 300 plus papers a month, except when she is on vacation—and then, they need three people to cover her territory! Kristie loves walking, seeing houses and gardens, and watching the creative changes that happen when people buy and sell. And she has found such a great way to be productive on her walks.

When Kristie learned at one of the UH community meetings many years ago about the recently formed UH Beautification Committee and its ambitious agenda, she joined up. As might be expected, she was a loyal and hardworking member of the Beautification Team, never missing a meeting or a clean-up event when she was in town. She loved working to make our neighborhood more attractive, and she often took photos of the events to post on social media. She helped with the original UH Library garden installation and the refurbishment and replant several years later. She also watered the plants in the Lincoln Avenue median for seven years. For the first few years, that meant walking buckets of water from her home to the median, until the apartment at the corner of Lincoln and Washington let her use their water. When the Beautification Committee refurbished the Lincoln median, Kristie donated plant cuttings from her own yard and helped plant them. She also donated cuttings when UH cleaned up and replanted the Pascoe/ Lincoln/ Washington 163 on-ramp entrance. Kristie said she always loves seeing "my plants" bloom when she walks or drives by.

For anyone looking to meet people in the neighborhood or get involved in the community, Kristie suggests that both beautification and block walking are great opportunities. It certainly worked for her. Over the years, she has met so many great people, many of whom are now dear friends and travel companions. And she has performed wonderful service to her community, for which she deserves our heartfelt thanks and a huge bouquet of Plumes!



DIVERSIONARY THEATRE

THE ICON BALL

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CLICK ON QR CODE TO VIEW PARTICIPATING BARS, REGISTER, & OBTAIN MORE DETAILS

Cont'd from page 1

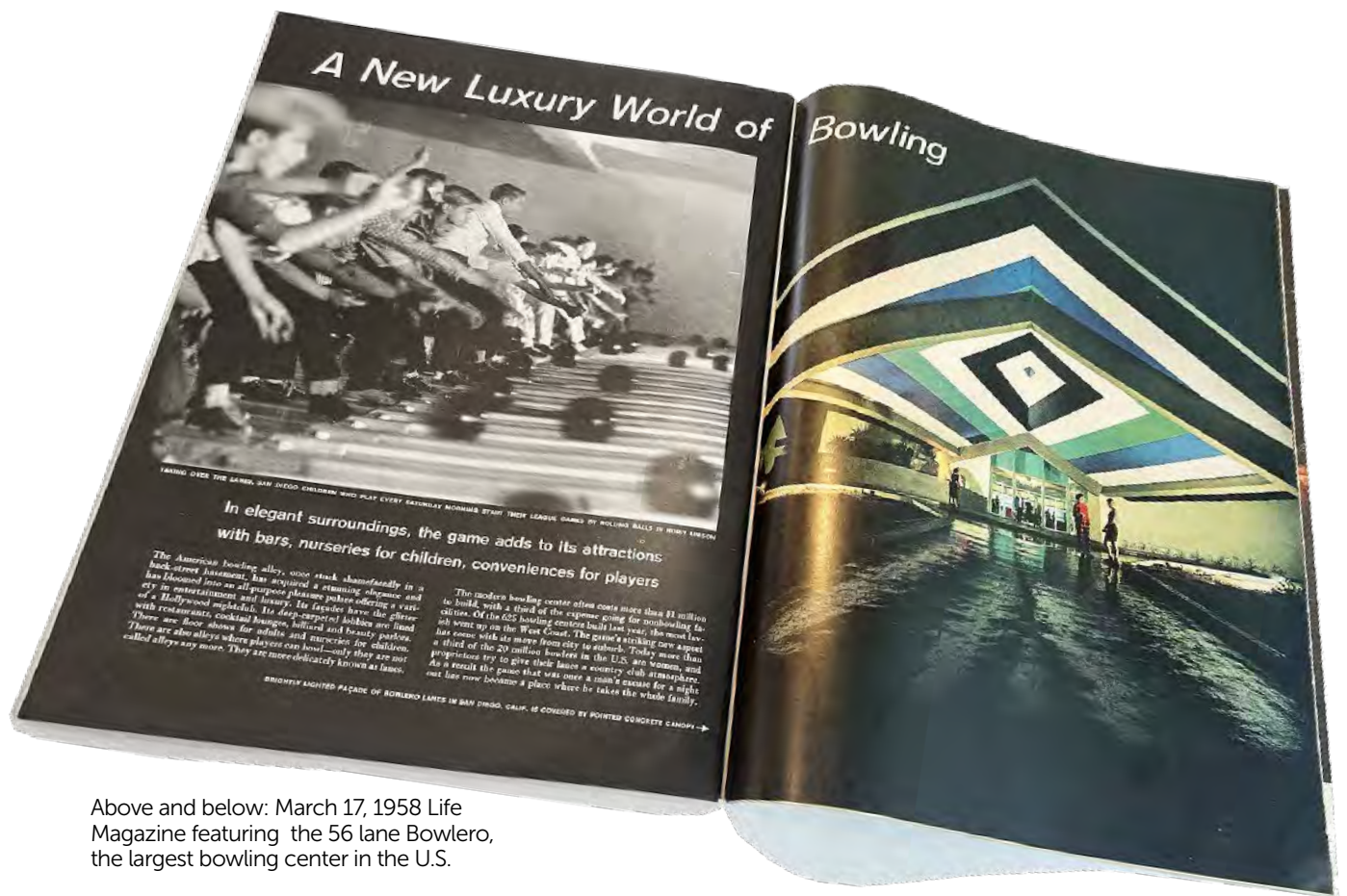
Other notable Googie-style buildings include Seattle's iconic Space Needle, and the "Theme building" in the center of LAX Airport featuring a UFO-like restaurant suspended from the center of two massive, crossed arches of stucco-covered steel.

The Bowlero building was designed by well-known local architect C. J. Paderewski, and featured prominently in the March 17, 1958, Life Magazine. When presented before the Historical Resources Board (HRB) in January of 2020 it was not considered worth designation.

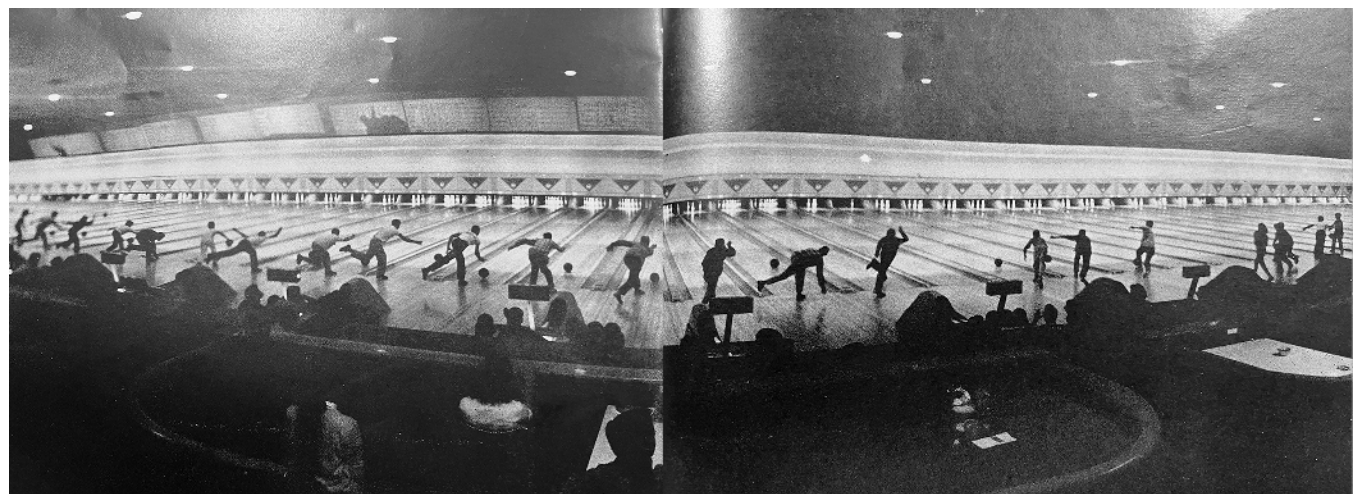
One of the several categories for historic designation is "identified with persons or events significant in local, state or national history". Bowlero was developed by Jack H. Skirball, a film producer, real estate developer, philanthropist, and rabbi. He built two Bowleros, one in Mission Valley and the second in Lemon Grove. In 1963, He developed the Vacation Village Resort in Mission Bay. In 1983, he sold it for \$51 million. Skirball founded the Los Angeles School of Hebrew Union College. By 1972, he founded the Hebrew Union College Skirball Museum. In 1985, Skirball founded the Skirball Institute on American Values. He later donated \$3.5 million to move it to a 15-acre plot of land in Brentwood, off the Sepulveda Pass, where it was renamed the Skirball Cultural Center.

In addition to his many philanthropic charities, Jack Skirball was an accomplished Hollywood film producer. He was associate producer of the 1942 film *Saboteur*, directed by Alfred Hitchcock. A year later, in 1943, he produced *Shadow of a Doubt*, another film directed by Hitchcock, and his personal favorite. How the HRB did not designate Bowlero as associated with such a notable individual, if not a national treasure, is a mystery.

As the Mission Valley site prepares for its next phase, it will retain little from its history. San Diego's City Council approved plans to demolish the original 63,822 sq ft building, including the futuristic entrance canopy, and be replaced by a massive 135,253 sq ft Home Depot store covering the entire 7.92-acre property to the curb of Camino Del Rio South. As part of the plan, a new two-story, 40,000-square-foot Scottish Rite temple has been constructed across the parking lot, giving the Masonic organization much needed, and more manageable space. According to public records, for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program for the project, Home Depot has been required to incorporate a token number of Googie elements onto the facade of the new store, along with a marker describing the Bowlero history of the site. The new design is an awkward jumble of unrelated architectural styles lacking finesse and originality. In contrast, their store at 28-40 West 23rd Street, in New York's Flatiron District beautifully preserved the cast iron and stone facades and interior atrium of the 1878 Stern Brothers fine dry goods store, incorporating a loading dock into the new design. San Diego didn't set the bar very high for Home Depot, which may explain what we will be seeing in Mission Valley later this year.



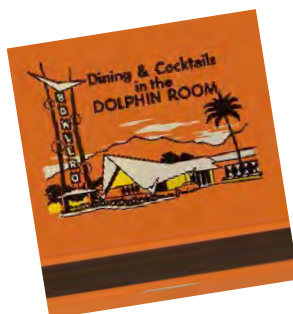
Above and below: March 17, 1958 Life Magazine featuring the 56 lane Bowlero, the largest bowling center in the U.S.



Architect C. J. Paderewski rendering, 1957



March 17, 1958 Life Magazine.



Dolphin Room matchbook, 1959.

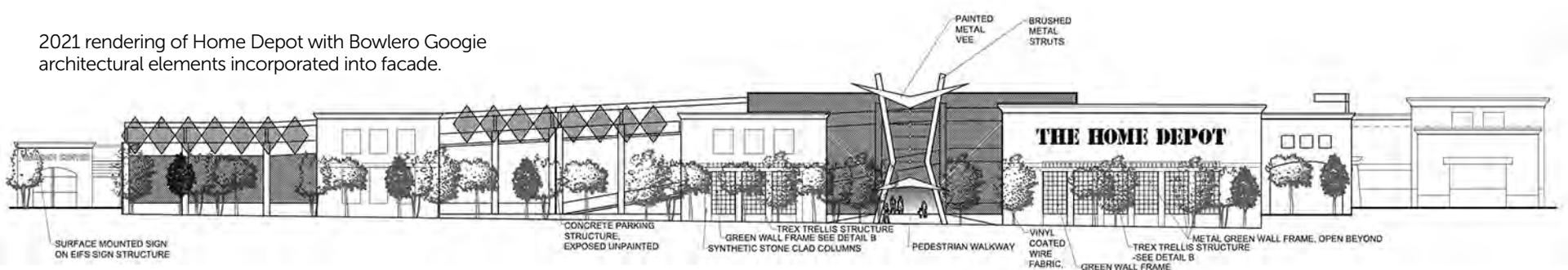


Jack H. Skirball, 1896 – 1985



Vacation Village Resort in Mission Bay, 1963.

2021 rendering of Home Depot with Bowlero Googie architectural elements incorporated into facade.



ROO NEWS



BY ALEXANDRA WEBBER

CONSTRUCTION

After many years in the making, new construction will break ground at Roosevelt in March. The construction phases include: demolition of the garden adjacent to Upas Street, including the plaza space nearby, where the kick stage is. This happens to be a special space for students to gather during their school day, where they socialize and eat lunch. After demolition, a new administration building will be built and will include two classrooms. The projected time frame for completing the new administration building is one year. Next, the existing administration building will be razed and a new building full of classrooms will be built. Such construction would also take a year to build. Then, the parking lot closest to the zoo will be renovated and is anticipated to be useable all year round, including on rainy days; currently it cannot be used on rainy days.



NEW LOGO

Roosevelt has a new logo created by Ciria I. Brewer. Ms. Brewer is the Vice Principal at Roosevelt. The new logo is being rolled out as Roosevelt is undergoing a physical Roo-naissance.

ROO-FRIENDS

ROO-FRIENDS is a parent organization focused on fundraising money to supplement the educational opportunities for students at Roosevelt, hosts a (hybrid: in-person and remote) meeting every two months. You can find information in the form of slides and an edited video of each meeting on their website - <https://friendsofroosevelt.org/roofriends-meetings/>. The zoom videos are edited by Mr. Finn Mayman, who is a seventh grader at Roosevelt.

ROO-PARK-FUNDRAISER

Roosevelt is able to leverage its parking lot adjacent to the San Diego Zoo to raise large amounts of cash for its students.

Students and parents are encouraged to volunteer at Roo-Park-Fundraisers to help rack in cash to fund their own ASE classes. Parents must accompany their Roosevelt student at Roo-Park Fundraisers. A student who volunteers for three hours may elect from the following volunteer-perks: 1) clear a tardy, 2) earn volunteer hours or 3) \$75 to a specific school club/classroom.

If you can, please volunteer a few hours of time to help the Roosevelt student universe at an upcoming Roo-Park-Fundraiser. Any one interested in joining as a volunteer, please contact me directly via email at awebber@atw-law.com. The next dates for Roo-Park-Fundraising are:

March 9 and 30

April 6

May 25 and 26



ASE (After School Enrichment)

Roosevelt students may apply to take up to 4 after school enrichment classes for FREE. This semester the ASE classes run from January 29 through May 4. ASE classes are 100% organized and paid for by RooFriends. Former Alice Birney Elementary School parent and current Roosevelt parent, Ms. Jody Darr, is coordinating the presentation of ASE classes, instructors, student applications-to-registration.

The current list of ASE classes include: Bicycle Club, Garden Club, Tennis, All Sports, Improv, Theatre, Art Studio, Choir, Girls in Science, Strategic Games, Dance and GSA.

BIRNEY BUZZ

Dance Around the World: Birney's Global Celebration and Water Fundraiser

BY SARAH LAYNE



Bowie B dances alongside other students and families at the International Mother Language celebration. Photo: Erin Brant.

Birney Elementary kicked off 2024 with a Family Friday celebration of International Mother Language Day that focused on dances from around the world. Students practiced the dances in their PE classes and then performed them out on the playground alongside their classmates for their families. This year's dance performances included the Hopak from Ukraine, Japan's Tanko Bushi, Portugal's Indo Eu, Alunelul—a Romanian folk dance, Pata Pata from South Africa, Ethiopia's Eskista, and the Irish Step Dance.

Bowie B, who is in 3rd grade, said that he enjoys Family Fridays "because I get to hang out with my friends and family. And I also get to show my parents what dances we do." Bowie's favorite dance was the Hopak because of "the toe taps and side shuffles, and the music is lit."

Inspired by the novel *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park – a true life story based on Salva Dut's childhood in Africa as a "lost boy" – the Birney 5th Graders are on a mission to raise \$1,000 towards the Iron Giraffe Challenge for Water for South Sudan. Water for South Sudan is an organization founded by Salva Dut to help provide clean, safe water for the people of South Sudan; specifically the Iron Giraffe Challenge helps fund the drilling of wells.

If the students are able to raise \$1,000 they will be entered into a drawing to win the opportunity to have Salva Dut visit them at Birney. The deadline for the fundraiser is April 12th and the students are currently almost halfway to their goal. To donate,

please visit <http://secure.waterforsouthsudan.org/goto/birneybees> or use the QR code below. The Birney 5th Graders thank you for any donation you can make.



Upcoming Birney events to look forward to are Run for the Green on March 15th—with fundraising already underway—and Saturday School on both March 9th and 23rd. To get involved in Birney's parent organizations, the Birney Beekeeper Alliance, please email info@friendsofalicebirney.org.

Sarah Layne, Proud Birney Parent and University Heights Community Member

Birney Hive 5K Run April 20th



Show your love and support for Alice Birney and sign up to run/walk in the April 20th Birney Hive 5K Run! Participation is open to all. The course starts and ends at the Alice Birney Field at Park Blvd and Meade. Register by following the link or QR code: www.friendsofalicebirney.org

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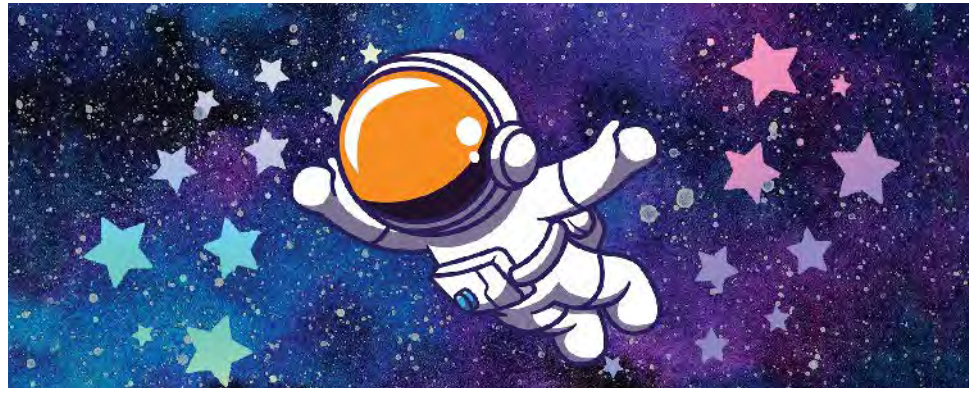
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BETWEEN THE COVERS



FEBRUARY AT THE UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BRANCH LIBRARY

YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN, MISS HELENE

Spring is upon us! At the University Heights Branch Library, we are always excited to share with our University Heights community that we continue to offer ongoing library programs such as children's storytimes and crafts with various seasonal themes. We are also now including American Sign Language signing and pajama signing storytimes!



Last month we mentioned the annual Spring Into STEAM initiative. This year's program theme, Space Out, entails designing a Stellar Star Projector and it is offered to youth from ages 9 through 12. It is an opportunity to discover which stars one was born under. The presenters, ToshWerks, will help the youth capture the constellations and create their very

own custom star projector and will challenge youth to explore space and technology. While this program takes place at several library branch locations from March-May, we will be hosting it one time on Saturday, April 20th. Registration is required and opens on Friday, March 1st. Register at the QR code below or at sandiego.librarymarket.com/event/spring-steam-stellar-star-projector-359479.

For further library program details please see this newspaper's calendar listing in addition to the library's Facebook page (@universityheightslibrary) and online calendar of events (sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/month/2024/03). We encourage you to visit the library any time during our open hours. Please note that César Chávez Day will be observed on Monday, April 1st and all San Diego Public Library locations will be closed.

We look forward to continually welcoming our local community members to the library.

*Helene Idels, Youth Services Librarian
University Heights Library
San Diego Public Library
619-692-4912*



Library Hours
Monday - Tuesday 11:30 am - 8 pm
Wednesday - Saturday 9:30 am - 6 pm
Closed Sunday
Select branches now open on Sundays
619-692-4912 / UHStaff@sandiego.gov

FRIENDS OF THE UH LIBRARY

MARCH... ALMOST SPRING!

BY PAM ISAACS

February was Library Lovers' month. And the Friends celebrated at our Open House on February 17 at the UH Library branch. We love these opportunities to meet and greet our local patrons and families.

Coming up in April is the 110th year anniversary of our UH Library. We can't wait to see how our library staff plans to celebrate this milestone!

Have you recently visited the Friends' Green Book Shop Shelves inside the library? We keep them chock full of exciting titles for all ages. You can purchase books, magazines, movies and music at

the main desk. Also, every month on the third weekend, the biggest used book sale of the city libraries takes place downstairs at the University Heights library. You will be amazed at the selection of best sellers, biography, history, humor, juvenile and so many other categories.

The Friends of the University Heights Library are here to support important programs and needs of our UH Library. To join/donate, go to: FriendsOfTheUniversityHeightsLibrary.org and click on Membership. We are a California tax-exempt non-profit corporation.

March Meeting Friends of the UH Library March 12, 6 pm on Zoom.

Go to: www.friendsofuhlibrary.org. The meeting is open to all members of the Friends of University Heights Library.

BETWEEN THE COVERS

RACHEL ESQUERRA, LIBRARIAN UH BRANCH MANAGER



Happy March, University Heights! Can you believe we're already at the end of the first quarter? There's a lot going on in March and we'd love your support! One of many celebrations in March is Will Eisner Week from March 1-7. Will Eisner is considered the father of graphic novels as he was the creator of The Spirit, John Law, Lady Luck, Mr. Mystic, Uncle Sam, Blackhawk, Sheena and countless others. One of the comic industry's most prestigious awards, The Eisner Award, is named after him. Recognized as the 'Oscars' of the American comic book business, the Eisners are presented annually at San Diego's own Comic-Con International.



Another San Diego celebrity, Dr. Seuss, is celebrated on March 2 which kicks off National Read Across America week! Celebrate the magic and inspiration of books

by visiting your friendly neighborhood library. Did you know that with a library card, you can check out up to 100 items? Let us help you get started!



Brain Balance®

Also happening in March, we are partnering with Brain Balance to host ADHD/Attention and Focus: Discover why so many people struggle with ADHD symptoms including attention and focus, impulsiveness, poor executive functioning, and more. Take away tools to address the root causes and accommodation strategies. This program takes place on Monday evening, March 18 at 6 p.m. and is FREE and open to the public - no registration needed!

To learn more about this and other library offerings, please visit www.sandiegolibrary.org

*-Rachel Esquerra, Branch Manager
University Heights Library
San Diego Public Library
619-692-4912, www.sandiego.gov*

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We carry the flame of positivity, that spark that gifts promise, hopefully within my willingness to be of service, that warmth of hope and trust we innately can all light, share if we allow ourselves to be open to restorative ideas.

Feeling the mystic knowledge of ones yet untapped spiritually, such an important ingredient to a healing recipe of any kind, We make our way forward, join those who follow the path of mentors willing to ease those in need; open and free of mind.

*Jon Von Erb
3/2024*

PET OF THE MONTH MAISIE

Maisie is probably one of the newer dogs seen around University Heights. She is a Formosan Mountain Dog, which is a formal way to say she's a Taiwan Dog, a breed of small/medium dog indigenous to Taiwan. Formosan Mountain Dogs, or FMDs, come in a wide variety of colors and markings, but Maisie is one of the few we've seen with a predominantly white coat. And as many who meet her point out, she has a distinctive spot on the top of her head. We've always described it as a diamond, but as we recently learned, Maisie is a Scottish name meaning "pearl", so that is just as good of a description.



Maisie has seen a lot in her now 4 years of life. We learned that she was taken off the streets of Taiwan when she was very young. She was then flown across the Pacific to San Francisco, and we picked her up right from the airport!

She has definitely become a California girl, as she loves to sunbathe, taking any chance she can to get out into the yard to lay in the sun. Maisie lived in an abusive home in Taiwan and can therefore be a little afraid of strangers, especially men. when we're out and about, but she quickly warms up to anyone who talks to her in a gentle voice, offers her a treat, or tries to play with her. She has far too many toys, always scattered around the house and yard, and she'll try to coax us to get up and play with her all day long. Despite her tough early years, she really is a sweetheart. She'll be friends with anyone given some treats and play time!

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BY ANDY LANGE

Yes, twelve tons is the estimated amount of trash a small but dedicated group of your UH neighbors have picked up off the streets, encampments, and canyons of UH over the past 8 years. This doesn't include the many Ralphs or Trader Joe's shopping carts we've rescued and returned.

While not part of the UHCA Beautification Team, Benson Wong, John Ross, Dawn Sassi, and I work to keep Washington Ave. from Campus to 9th, the on and off ramps to 163, as well as the Vermont St. Bridge clear of litter as we patrol every Monday morning with trash bags and grabbers in hand.

Outside of cigarette butts, the most common items we find are plastic and paper cups, lids, straws, bottles, food wrappers and containers. Drug paraphernalia and discarded clothing are also popular, especially around the hangouts and encampments of people experiencing homelessness. Almost every week, though, somebody from one of the encampments in Camelot Canyon leaves a bag or two of their trash out for us to collect. We've also found cash, tools, wallets, unopened mail, and items unsuitable for inclusion in this article.

A few years ago, I'd find four to five small airline or 'nip' tequila bottles

along the 163 on-ramp every week. After a while, those weekly empties were replaced by an equal number of empty pint bottles. I always imagined someone needed a little something before going to work or for the drive home.

In all the years we've been doing this, we've probably found enough automotive nuts, bolts, and large and small bits of body parts to build most of a car. Between the impaired drivers and vehicles on our streets with missing parts, you'd think we'd give up our trash duty, but there we are every week, walking our busy streets and freeway ramps with all this nonsense zipping by us. While our intent is to keep this heavily traveled area of our community looking nicer, our cleanups also help keep trash and debris from washing down to the San Diego River and eventually making its way into our bays and the ocean.

If you happen to see us some Monday morning along the side of the road or walking down the Washington median, give us a quick wave or a tap of the horn. Better yet, join us any Monday at the east end of Pascoe St. around 9 am. We'd be happy to have you join us.



HIVE 5K RUN

Alice Birney, a public elementary school located in the heart of University Heights, offers unique and impactful educational programming for all students – from TK through 5th grade. **Proceeds from the Hive 5K will directly fund Birney's award-winning International Baccalaureate program and 'Specials' classes – Art, Garden, Spanish, and Dance!**

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