

University City

... more than a neighborhood

Community Association Newsletter • Volume 12/Issue 2 • March 2012

Happy 10th Birthday!

by Sandy Lippe

Happy Birthday, University City Community Association. You are ten now, and the decade went by fast. We weren't sure you would make it a couple of times, but you did, thanks to our community and some volunteers. Bob Vilven, Mr. University City and longtime president of the first community association, University City Community Council, handed off a lot of papers so that we could "file your rebirth certificate" as a non-profit with Sacramento in 2002. From there, we moved on to trying to build pride in U.C. and getting Governor to look better with street banners that promoted our theme: "more than a neighborhood."

For the first two years, you only had "mothers." All the officers were women: Dayna Hydrick created your website and co-chaired the garden club with Linda Canada. Darlene Ventimiglia took the role of historian, while Mary Ann Guerra became secretary. Sandy Lippe joined them in starting the holiday tree lighting, while serving as president. Mary Kay Hewitt brought her EdUCate! and Grad Night experience and was the liaison to all the schools in U.C. Carole Pietras put together the newsletters and volunteer distributors, and attended UCPG meetings, while wearing the vice president's hat. Sandy Finch served as membership and corresponding secretary. Melodie Hallett, an accounting educator, was the treasurer.

Once the banners flew, thanks to International City Bank CEO Jane Netherton's \$10,000 donation and Standley Rec Council's \$2,000, the newsletters became the communication center. In 2003 UCCA applied for and won a grant for \$5,000 from San Diego Foundation. The money went to the newsletter. Memberships helped with costs for various activities.

U.C. Cleanup Days occurred in May each year. UCCA helped with summer concerts, U.C. Celebration, and even had an Octoberfest one year called The Wurst Party. More volunteers came on board. UCCA, with the help of Scott Peters' office, received free trees that are in full bloom on Governor Drive. Our monthly meetings

featured candidate forums, traffic issues, and making U.C. a cohesive community. Supporting our library saw a couple of successful rallies.

Over the years we've known the ecstasy of victory and the agony of defeat. The newsletter is a winner, thanks to our past editors and our distribution chair. Governor Drive may finally move to the winning side this year when we have professional landscapers undertake improvements with new plants and new irrigation. Hopefully, Genesee and Regents will get a facelift too.

Thank you to everyone who has helped out in some way this past decade. UCCA will have a big celebration on its 10th birthday at U.C. Celebration on July 4th. However, the official birthday is in March, and yes, there will be cake at the UCCA board meeting on March 14th.

Photos on pages 10 - 11

University City Planning Group

by Barry Bernstein

Every second Tuesday of the month, UCPG meets in the UTC Wells Fargo Bank Forum room to review various city, state, UCSD and other private enterprises' proposed plans for building permits, transportation impact, and other factors associated with protecting and preserving the quality of life in University City.



Above photo: UTC resident Mark Powell conversing with UCPG President, Janay Kruger regarding traffic concern at Lakewood and Governor Drive.

Continued on page 6...

March Calendar 2012

Daylight Savings Resumes

March 11

UCPG Meeting

Tuesday, March 13

6:00 p.m. Forum Hall/UTC
Public invited

UCCA Meeting

Wednesday, March 14

5:30 p.m. UC Library
Public invited

St. Patrick' Day

March 17

UC Garden Club

Tuesday, March 20

6:30 p.m.

UC Library

UC Celebration Meeting

Wednesday

March 21, 6:30 p.m.

Standley Recreation Center

Standley Recreation Council

Thursday

March 22, 7:00 p.m.

Standley Recreation Center

Taste of the Triangle
see page 4.

See 2012 Membership Application page 8 & New Members page 9.

University City Community Newsletter

Published by:

University City Community Association

3268 Governor Dr., Box 121

San Diego, CA 92122

www.universitycitynews.org

(858) 480-1822

email – universitycitysd@gmail.com

Distribution: 6,000 copies per issue

10 issues printed each year

Hand Delivered to UC Residents, Schools, Libraries,
Parks & Businesses

Design, Edit, Layout & Graphics:

editorucca@gmail.com

Advertising:

uccaADS@hotmail.com

Printer:

Master Print Communications

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University City Community Association Website

www.universitycitynews.org

Designed & Maintained by Tanya Howe-Aeria
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Be the Eyes and Ears of UC

The University City Community Newsletter is comprised of information sent to the editor. The association does not have reporters, photographers or staff. You are welcome to write and submit articles that pertain to the community and residents.

Guidelines:

- Your article should be approximately **250 words** typed in a document and attached to email. Be as brief and concise as possible. Editing may result in errors. Type in **plain paragraph form. No formatting**, no section breaks, no columns, no header or footer, no symbols, no extra hard returns, etc. All of these must be removed before the article can be used.
- **Name the file appropriately** so it can be identified.
- The Editor reserves the right to edit out opinions, conjecture and editorial comments.
- Attach photos separately in a picture format at **high resolution** or straight from camera.
- Send to: editorucca@gmail.com
- Please no **full page** flyers or announcements.
- The Editor acknowledges every submission. Email any questions.

Deadline for the April 2012 newsletter publication is March 15

Please send your submission as early as possible. Articles printed on a first come basis with priority given to time sensitive material. The UCCA does not discriminate against nor endorse all information in the monthly newsletter.



Message from the President

Peter Burch
President UCCA

I have just arrived back home from an extended trip to Europe. Barry Bernstein and Sandy Lippe have been keeping me posted on what's been happening in UC while I've been away.

Now I can focus on doing the things that make University City such a great place to live and work. One way you can support us is to join the UCCA using the membership form in this newsletter. Choose an activity on the form and get involved. We are always looking for new people with new ideas and backgrounds and we have had a great response so far. Have a look at page 9 for a list of your friends, neighbors and businesses that have contributed since our membership drive started in February,

Thanks to all who make this newsletter possible by volunteering their time or supporting us with ads. Special thanks to the Ekeroth Family and staff at Master Print Productions for their continued support.

Please check out our new look website. It's still a work in progress but our Webmaster, Tanya Aeria, has done a superb job updating its look and feel and content. Along with the newsletter, the website is an important part of our strategy of doing a better job of letting everyone know what's going on in the community.

By the way, while I was in Europe I did the Cresta Run in Switzerland – tobogganing downhill head first on an ice track at 70 mph. Scary but fun when it was over!



Focus on Our Streets

by Sherri Lightner

Children and parents alike have been waiting a long time for a playground at the University Village Park, located at Cather Street and Florey Street.

The long-planned revamp would install play equipment, a drinking fountain, benches, and a picnic table.

Because this playground has long been high on the community's wish list, I hope to see it funded in the upcoming budget, which the City Council will consider in late spring.

Once funding is in place, engineers can begin designing the playground. Please let me know if you are interested in participating in the design process.

In January, the Standley Recreation Council voiced its support for the playground.

Now I'd like to hear what you think about this and other possible neighborhood projects. Contact me at: sherrilightner@sandiego.gov.

Second, I've noticed, and you probably have too, that the parking lot at the University Community Library has turned to gravel over the past several years.

I'm using savings from my office budget to pay for the resurfacing of the parking lot. By the time you read this or shortly thereafter, this work should be complete.

Finally, I'm pleased to announce that in February we completed another round of managed competition at the City, and we will be saving over a half-million dollars per year in street sweeping costs.

More Volunteers Needed!

by George Odera

Dear Community Members,

I am compelled to write this letter instead of a monthly article to appeal to volunteers to support services and duties that will make our 24th Community Independence Day (July 4th) Celebration a reality. In the past articles, I have asked for your help for the same course. Although I have received responses from some caring community neighbors who I highly commend, I must admit that the response has not met our goal for volunteers to make this year's event successful. Like all other community members and families who have joined and enjoyed this significant national and community celebration, I feel proud to be part of this activity by sacrificing my time to volunteer to make it a success. Granted that we are all busy and our time is filled with critical activities in our lives, I still feel it is not too much to sacrifice a few hours out of the year to volunteer and make this significant event happen. It is you, community volunteers, who will dictate the destiny of this event this year as you have in the past 23 years.

We need volunteers to assist in the following areas:

Event donations solicitation, pre event set up, post event clean up, event draw ticket sales, collecting books for sale at event, parking lot attendants, Beer Barn attendants and security (must meet age requirements and attend mandatory two-hour training), bike and pet parade support, field games support, rental equipment set up and take down, children's games support, Pancake Breakfast support, 5K run, and other, (floaters) for relief and rotation (two-hour rotation recommended).

The good news is that we have a few dedicated community members who have always been there to support the event. The bad news is *without more community volunteer support, 2012 July 4, UC celebration may not happen.* We still need over 100 volunteers to make the event happen. I am appealing to everyone to pitch in. Call or send e-mail to me stating your willingness to participate. Community members are also encouraged to join us at our monthly meeting held every 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Craft Room at Standley Recreation Center. Please join us at our next meeting which will be on Wednesday March 21, 2012. The meetings are from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Your ideas are appreciated and your support is highly welcome.

Contact me at:
goderog@oreadusa.org
619-987-1377

CALIFORNIA COAST CREDIT UNION ATM A DONE DEAL!!!

by Bonnie Hornbeck

Per Rob Miller, VP, California Coast Credit Union, the CA Coast Credit Union ATM will remain in the same location across from Sprouts. The contract has been finalized between the credit union and Cushman & Wakefield, the shopping center management. Sometime in late March or early April, the kiosk will be closed so that an upgraded ATM can be installed and modifications to the kiosk can be made to meet ADA mandated specifications. The ATM should be out of service for approximately 2-3 weeks, then will be opened featuring the new ATM and kiosk.

I would like to thank Rob Miller and Kam Walton for their efforts in keeping this ATM at its present location. The ATM is used heavily by UC residents and our large senior population, and its removal would have caused a hardship to many of our residents. Thankfully, I was able to get UCCA and community input that resulted in both C&W as well as the CA Credit Union going back to the table. Their negotiations resulted in a satisfactory contract for both parties, greatly benefiting the UC community as a whole. Additionally, I would like to thank Shelley Plumb and UCCA for their support in accomplishing the task.

Next time you think your voice doesn't matter, think of how all of us were able to make something happen that benefits the whole community! Thanks to you all.

(Editor's note: The power of one person making a difference is seen in UC resident, Bonnie Hornbeck. Thank you, Bonnie.)



An Appetite for Education will be held on Friday, April 20th, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Guests will sample cuisine from a fabulous restaurant lineup. Your ticket purchase and participation at "Taste" will benefit our neighborhood public schools, so please plan to attend to see old friends and make new ones. You might even find yourself bidding against your child's principal for a fabulous auction item!

*More than 20 top
restaurants will provide
samples of gourmet cuisine.*

Taste moves to a new venue, the beautiful Cecil and Ida Green Faculty Club on UCSD John Muir Campus (near the Sun God). We're thrilled to show our guests and student volunteers the premier university campus in their own backyard, and UCSD is excited to support future Tritons.

Brian Barnhorst and Andrea Harrison will co-chair the festivities and Clint Bell will be our Master of Ceremonies. More than 20 top restaurants will provide samples of gourmet cuisine. Guests can chat with San Diego's finest chefs, including Stefano Ceresoli of Caffe Bella Italia, Paul McCabe of Delicias, Chad White of Gabardine, Jason Knibb of Nine-Ten, and Bernard Guillas of The Marine Room,

Taste of the Triangle 2012 will showcase samples of cuisine from restaurants including:

- Bite of Boston**
- Caffe Bella Italia**
- Delicias**
- Fibonacci's Campus Pointe Bistro by Waters**
- Forbidden Yogurt**
- Brian Malarkey's two newest:**
- Gabardine & Herringbone**
- Lorna's Italian Kitchen**
- Nine-Ten**
- Solare Ristorante Italiano Pizzeria Lounge**
- Sushi on the Rock**
- The French Gourmet**
- The Marine Room**
- The 3rd Corner Wine Shop & Bistro**
- And more...**

Please patronize these generous establishments throughout the year! Tell them you appreciate their participation at Taste of the Triangle.

Taste of the Triangle 2012

by Marge Lorang

Get the VIP Treatment

A 6:00 p.m. VIP reception for EdUCate's most generous donors will feature a wine and food pairing demonstration by The Marine Room's Chef Bernard and The 3rd Corner Wine Shop and Bistro owner Ed Moore. If you have donated \$250 or more to EdUCate! since July 1st (or if you do so before the VIP reception doors open), AND you buy a ticket to the main event, you and your guest can be part of the VIP fun.



*An Appetite
for Education*

APRIL 20, 2012, 7PM
UCSD FACULTY CLUB
BROUGHT TO YOU BY EDUCATE!
www.uc-educate.org

A sampling of Taste of the Triangle 2012 auction offerings:

- Beautiful art and jewelry offerings**
- Special items from the Estate of EdUCate! friend Ann Wille**
- A landscaping makeover**
- A new driveway**
- A special dinner with chef's kitchen tour at La Jolla landmark The Marine Room**
- A Breckenridge, CO vacation**
- Dinners, dinners, and more dinners!**
- Limousine rides**
- Local hotel stays including one at Estancia La Jolla**
- Sports camps and activities for the kids**
- Two complete UCHS prom packages**
- VIP tickets to the Curie Play and to all schools' promotions / graduations and much more...**

All items were donated for this auction, and all proceeds go directly to the schools. Check the EdUCate! website for a full description of the auction offerings. A *special early checkout* will be available for items purchased at the *Buy It Now* price – a nice new feature for those with babysitting or bedtime considerations.

Entertainment

The Standley Middle School String Quartet will welcome guests during registration; Standley's own Phillip Marcus and his Classic Jazz Trio will play during dinner; and UCHS's wind quintet will bid guests adieu.

*All items were donated for
this auction,
and all proceeds go
directly to the schools.*

Other details

Tickets to the Taste of the Triangle are \$75 in advance or \$85 at the door. UC teachers and staff pay only \$50 (\$60 at the door). Sponsor a teacher (and maybe even his or her guest) to attend by visiting our website.

All proceeds directly benefit the five public schools of University City: Curie, Doyle and Spreckels Elementary Schools; Standley Middle School; and University City High School.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, go to www.uc-educate.org or call 858-677-0989.

Brian Barnhorst can be reached at taste@uc-educate.org.

**UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY BRANCH LIBRARY
4155 GOVERNOR DR. • (858) 552-1655**

March 2 –3 HUGE Friends of the Library Booksale!

Celebrate the Irish in all of us with Raggle Taggle's Celtic Renaissance Concert! Featuring a mix of traditional & inspired Celtic, Scottish, English, Welsh, & Irish jigs and reels, featuring Irish Step Dancers as popularized by the hit musical "RiverDance".

Tuesday, March 27 at 6:30 p.m.

Our OASIS "Third Thursdays" series continues with "The Peace Corps". A former volunteer's look at "The Best Job You'll Ever Love."

What is it like to serve America in a cross-cultured setting? How does one get involved, and what opportunities exist for retirees?

Presented by Gage Skinner, anthropologist and former Peace Corps volunteer.

Thursday, March 15 at 2 p.m.

Signs at Play signing storytime with Jennifer Duncan. Sign language is used to enhance the telling of well-loved children's stories.

Includes a Q & A session for parents.

Every Friday at 10:30 a.m.

Game On! Enjoy family-friendly games on the Nintendo Wii. . Friendly, all-ages competition on a big screen.

Every Friday at 3:00 p.m.

FREE Homework Help for elementary through middle school students, all subjects.

Every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Ayuda con la tarea disponible en Español.

Yoga for Kids: Gentle exercises to help improve flexibility and concentration. Please bring your own yoga mat or towel.

Saturday, March 17 at 10:30 a.m.

Job Search Assistance every **Tuesday at 4:00 p.m.**

Dr. Adolpho Sanchez offers resume reviews and tips on interviewing.

The UC Book Club will discuss the New York Times Bestseller "Summer at Tiffany's," with a special appearance by author Marjorie Hart.

Wednesday, March 28 at 2 p.m.

**BOOK SALE:
UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

4155 GOVERNOR DRIVE (University City)

Friday Mar 2, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. • Saturday Mar 3, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Hundreds of donated books for sale. Fiction, non-fiction, biographies, children & teen books, history, textbooks, psychology/self help, arts and crafts, cookbooks, etc.

Most books priced \$.25 to \$1.00. Special deals announced at the sale.

More info, call 858-552-1655

**FRISBEE
Ultimate Hall of Fame**



Wende (Coates) Pinz is a native San Diegan and a native University City resident. Her mother, Mary, an original UC owner, still lives here. Wende attended Curie and Standley and graduated from Clairemont High School in 1982. She began throwing the frisbee at La Jolla Shores with her brother Steve when she was 10 years old. Wende is married to Greg Pinz a long time Ultimate player too. They met in 1984. Wende has two boys, Kent (13) and Troy (10). Both boys are active in hockey and surfing.

Wende was inducted in December into the Ultimate Hall of Fame Class of 2011. The finalists were chosen from a highly decorated pool of players/contributors by the USA Ultimate Hall of Fame Vetting Committee. This included recommendations from peers and input from the USA Ultimate membership through its annual "Call to Community". The inductees will be honored with a plaque at USA Ultimate headquarters in Boulder and the organization's website, www.usaultimate.org.

**Curie Elementary School
2012 Jog-a-thon**

**Come join us on March 14th for the Annual
Curie Jog-a-thon!**

Event held at:

**Curie Elementary School
4080 Governor Drive
San Diego, CA 92122**

"Laps for Learning"

Please contact Patrica Treund for further information

858-539-5946 or

tiski51@hotmail.com

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UCPG

Each meeting's agenda includes updates from our city, state, and federal government representatives. UCPG is recognized by our City Council, based upon the approved University City charter, as the official body to review and analyze planned growth elements and to make recommendations to City Council. The 18 member committee has percentages of business, UCSD and residents as part of their membership. Every two years, six member positions are open for election. Public comment on any agenda item is encouraged. If you have further questions or interest in being part of UCPG, please contact me for further information. Barry Bernstein, (858) 453-3713



UCPG Committee in Action, February 14, 2012.

FREE TREE PROGRAM BRIGHTENS UP UC STREET

by Merle Berman

A beautiful Magnolia tree was recently planted in our neighborhood. Some of our residents have taken advantage of the Urban Core's FREE tree program that we mentioned in the November newsletter and are delighted to have dressed up their front yards at no cost or effort to them.

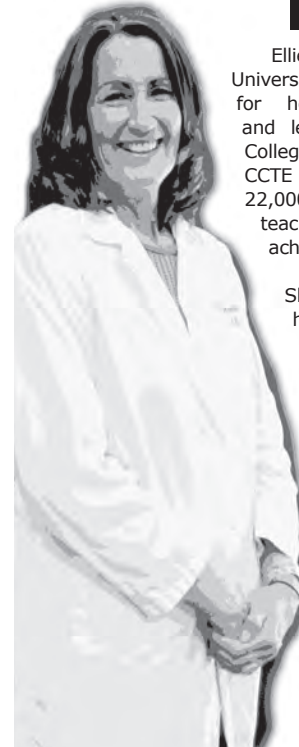
The Urban Corps will provide the trees, dig the holes and plant the trees. There are 8 great trees to choose from. All you have to do is water and maintain them. The trees come in 15 gallon containers and range from 5-7' tall.

Let's all take advantage of this wonderful program while it is still available. Call the Urban Corps at 619-235-5425 for an application and/or log-on to their website at: www.cityofsandiego.gov/trees.

Once they receive your application, they will send someone out to review your site. Please contact Merle Berman at 619-772-1125 to let her know when and where a tree has been planted.



UCHS Teacher Receives Prestigious Award, Seeks Community Support



Ellie Vandiver, Biomedical Sciences teacher at University City High School, has just been honored for her outstanding contribution to teaching and learning in the classroom by the Office of College, Career, and Technical Education (CCTE). CCTE is comprised of 250 instructors who serve over 22,000 students at 67 sites. Each year a division teacher of the year is selected for exemplary achievement.

Ms. Vandiver is a master instructor at UCHS. She sets high expectations and standards for her students, and she also serves as a mentor teacher for new instructors. Ms. Vandiver is a state representative of Project Lead and a role model to her students. Recently she participated in the UCCA/Del Mar Fair Street Banner program honoring scientists.

One of her pet projects is Quench and Connect. (www.quenchandconnect.org) A fundraising dinner will take place on Tuesday, March 6th, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the North University City Library in the Activity Room, 8820 Judicial Drive.

Ms. Vandiver and her students would like to raise funds for fresh water wells in rural Uganda with H2OPE for Uganda Fundraising Dinner. The cost of the dinner of delicious pasta, fresh salad, and homemade dessert is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children.

Make your tax deductible checks out to Quench and Connect.

**Mail them to:
Ellie Vandiver**

**University City High School
6949 Genesee Avenue
San Diego, CA. 92122**

For information contact Ms. Vandiver at 858-784-1987 or ellievandiver@gmail.com.

PICKLEBALL ANYONE?

Okay, we admit when we first heard it, we didn't believe it either; but this growing sport has taken up residence in San Diego and North San Diego Counties, with a huge following. No matter the age, no matter the skill level, the game with the strange name has become a habit for hundreds of players that they just can't break. It's a fun game, played on a badminton size court with a 34" high net. It is played with a perforated plastic ball and wood or composite paddles. It's easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players.

There are groups playing at Standley Rec Center and Nobel Athletic Center. We are looking into having a demonstration workshop in UC featuring Pat Carroll, pickleball teaching professional and holder of many titles in tournaments throughout the US. For more information about Pickleball at Standley Rec Center, email Leslie Anderson at janders4@san.rr.com. Come see what all the rage is about and get "addicted" to a healthy active habit!



Westfield/UTC Gets a Facelift at Age Thirty-five

by Sandy Lippe

Westfield/UTC is thirty-five years old and is undergoing a facelift. Originally called University Towne Center in 1977, Westfield became the owner in 1998. Recently, Councilwoman Sherri Lightner and several University City community leaders had a hard hat tour of the renovation. Ryan Perry, manager of Westfield/UTC, and Greg Fitchitt, vice president of development, shared the exciting changes. Tony Santo, head of construction, joined the group and answered questions.

Phase 1 of an expansion is fully engaged. Robinson-May was the victim of a wrecking ball, but 24-Hour Fitness will expand by 145,000 square feet, including a pool and a basketball court. Arc Light Theater will be atop this building housing 24-Hour Fitness. Mainstream and art movies will be shown on fourteen screens. A café and bar will be available. Unique among movie theaters, a greeter will talk about the movie and no latecomers will be allowed in.

Dining Terrace will replace the food court adjacent to the skating rink and add new restaurants. Tender Greens, a popular, health conscious restaurant in Liberty Station, will open adjacent to the Dining Terrace in May or June.

The ice skating rink will be enclosed in glass to save on energy and keep the noise down. It will also be solar powered.

The storefronts are being redone to lift the entries in an open, attractive way. The design team promises a parklike setting with the outdoors blended with retail. Fitchitt says "family" is the center of this experience. These areas will have family rest rooms and a children's play area near Macy's. San Diego Botanical Gardens will have docents visit to share ideas about the native garden. Birch Aquarium will also have events.

Right now, a putting green near Nordstrom is attracting business types and families. Soon there will be heated umbrellas and two fire pits in the center courtyard. Former U.S. Open winner Scott Simpson, who grew up in Clairemont, will be putting on golf clinics.

The completion of the renovation undertaking should be in October or November 2012. Those heated umbrellas will come in handy. In the meantime, there is a feeling of excitement as you walk through Westfield/UTC these days. While construction is going on, the stores seem busy. Maneuvering around the building is pretty simple. Take a look for yourself. You won't even need a hard hat.



Above left to right:
Barry Bernstein, UCCA
Vice President;
Councilwoman Sherri Lightner;
Ryan Perry, Westfield/UTC Manager



UC residents on hard hat tour.

Thanks to the Friends of the North University Community Library for sponsoring these free community events. www.friends.northuclibrary.org

Visit the branch or www.SanDiegoLibrary.org to see a full list of our **Events** or find us on **Facebook** under North University Community Branch. **Please call ahead to verify each program.**

ADULTS

AARP Tax Assistance: Every Thursday until April 12 at 10:00 a.m. Walk-ins Welcome.

Appointments made Thursdays and in-person only. For more information call AARP at (888)227-7669

Art Opening: Local Artist, Beeb Salzer, opens an exhibit of his work. Wednesday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Book Club: Second Wednesday, March 14 at 4:30 p.m. March's selection is *Sky of Red Poppies* by Zohreh Ghahremani. Copies available at the circulation desk.

Cardmaking Class: Wednesday, March 21 at 1:00 p.m. Sign up at circulation desk.

Chronic Pain, Natural Solutions Lecture: Dr. David Barold M.D. discusses alternative therapies to address pain and support the body's natural healing abilities. Wednesday, March 8 at 10:00 a.m.

ESL Conversation Class: Every Tuesday at 5:45 p.m. Practice intermediate level English conversation. Sign up at class.

Facebook Basics Class: Learn the basics of social networking with this beginner's guide to Facebook class.

Sign up at the Circulation Desk. Friday, March 16 at 9:30 a.m.

Friends of the Library Book Sale: Purchase gently used books. All proceeds go to support the NUC Library. Children's face painting and live music included. Saturday, March 10 at 9:30 a.m.

Friends of the Library Monthly Meeting: Fourth Wednesday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m. Newcomers welcome.

Job Search Resource Assistance: Every Wednesday from 3:00-8:00 p.m., Instructor Dr. Adolpho Sanchez assists with resumes and job searching. Call to sign up.

Job Search Resource Workshop: Second Wednesday, March 14 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Knitters Circle: Second and Fourth Wednesday, March 14 and 28 at 1:00 p.m.

Local Author Talk: Laura Simon, 106, author of *I Am Still Here*, discusses her book and screens a short documentary about herself. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Friday, March 23, 1:00 p.m.

Musical Performance: Classical Concert Series, University of San Diego's Dr. Angela Yeung Cello Ensemble. First Wednesday, March 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Musical Performance: En Fuego, Latin and Irish Fusion Group, Wednesday, March 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Musical Performance: San Diego Women's Chorus, Wednesday, March 21, 6:30 p.m.

Musical Performance: Harpist, Leah Panos, of the SDSU School of Music and Dance, Wed., March 28, 6:30 p.m.

Paper Craft Class: Artist Jan Kregers will teach adults how to create beautiful crafts from books, Second and Fourth Tuesdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

University City Community Association 2012 Membership Application

General Member \$20

Community Supporter \$40

Community Angel \$60

Silver Membership \$50

Gold Membership \$100

Please print:

Name(s) _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Individual and Business members' names will be listed in the newsletter. Please indicate if you do NOT want your name to be listed. Do NOT list my name.

Please make your check payable to UCCA

Payment is also accepted through Paypal on our Website: www.universitycitynews.org

Questions? Beth Crawford, Membership Chair, UCCAmembership@gmail.com

Which UCCA activities are you willing to help us with?

____ UC 4th of July Celebration

____ Newsletter Counting/Sorting or Delivery

____ Beautification/Landscaping

____ UC 4th of July Parade

____ Holiday Tree Lighting

____ Garden Club

Comments or Suggestions: _____

Mailing Address: UCCA, 3268 Governor Drive, Box 121, San Diego, CA 92122

Roots and Shoots

The feat of determination took almost two hours as high school students accomplished what many other people had tried and failed to do. For years, the front of a plastic Big Wheel had stuck out of the ground in Rose Canyon, its back half pinned under concrete. Someone dumped a number of these concrete slabs down the canyon slope at the bottom of Tony Drive, possibly as long ago as when the street was built.

In the same area, non-native thistle plants were crowding some young Coast Live Oak trees. Oaks are native trees that are great for wildlife: they provide shelter, a place for nests and acorns for food. The thistles were shading these young oaks and competing with them for moisture in the soil. With the thistles gone, the oaks should be a lot happier.

The students also planted willow and mulefat stakes. A month ago, they cut branches from willow and mulefat plants and soaked them in water to get them to sprout. As these willow and mulefat grow, they should help reduce the erosion in the area. Runoff from a storm drain outlet at the canyon rim on Tony Drive is causing this erosion. Like many city storm drains, this one collects water in pipes under a number of streets, and then simply dumps the water at the canyon rim, causing erosion on the slopes below.

Roots and Shoots is a global environmental and humanitarian youth program founded by Jane Goodall 21 years ago.

For the past three years, members of UC High's Roots and Shoots Club have been working with Friends of Rose Canyon on projects to improve the habitat in Rose Canyon Open Space Park.

Friends of Rose Canyon received a grant from SDG&E that supports our work with schools and our programs for the general public.



January – February 2012 UCCA Memberships

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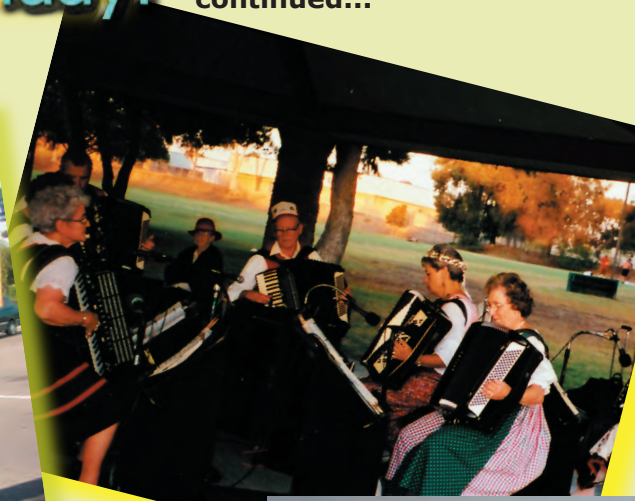
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Happy 10th Birthday! continued...



Above photos top to bottom:
Save the Library, UCCA Octoberfest, banner hanging, UCCA newsletter changes,
3rd anniversary birthday cake, Cathie Lester - Chair of playground group,
Mary Ann and Ed Guerra at 3rd UCCA anniversary.



Above photos, top to bottom: Mary and Bill Weinbrecht, Mary Kay Hewitt - Bike Safety Helmet Fair ('07), Officer Ralph Cummings addressing UCCA general meeting, Barbara Henshaw and Carole Pietras at tree planting ('08), electrical box painting by Deana Ditzler, former City Councilman, Scott Peters and his son, John and Syd Walsh and Peter and Hallie Burch with Barclay.

Medians on Governor Should Be Improved With New Landscaping

by Sandy Lippe



At last UCCA can say that the beautification project on three Governor Drive medians should begin in April, if all goes well. The medians are located near Stresemann Street on the west end, near Radcliffe Drive across from Standley Middle School, and near Agee Street across from Carl's Jr. Trista Silvia, a talented landscape architect student and parent at Spreckels, has a design that should draw all eyes to the medians. Barbara Gellman is in charge of interviewing landscape architects and has narrowed the field to two finalists.

The other medians on Governor Drive are seeing more weeds than normal for this time of the year. The rain has helped the weeds stay healthy. UCCA will be inviting interested residents to help out with weed removal soon.

UCHS Places 3rd in Science Olympiad

by Bonnie MacRitchie

Congratulations to University City High School for winning third place overall in the Science Olympiad Regional Competition for San Diego County on February 18 at Del Norte High School in Poway. Science Olympiad is a nationally organized competition in biology, chemistry, physics, earth sciences and engineering with competitions at national, state and regional levels. Budding scientists and engineers stretch their skills and knowledge as they compete in 23 events across multiple disciplines.

Dr. Sandra Mann, a biology teacher and 15-year veteran of the competition, heads up the entirely volunteer program at UCHS. Sixty students signed up in the fall, forming four teams, to dedicate their spare time, nights and weekends to prepare. Students collaborate in groups of 2 or 3 to compete in each event. Some events emphasize building and testing of devices such as Helicopters, Towers, Sounds of Music and new this year, Gravity Vehicles. Devices must meet specific criteria and perform specific tasks. Lab and written testing events include Chemistry Lab, Anatomy & Physiology, Dynamic Planet, Forensics, Water Quality, and Technical Problem Solving.

Seventy-three teams representing 23 schools competed in the regional tournament. UCHS won 1st place in Experimental Design, 2nd in Thermodynamics, Robot Arm, and Forestry, and 3rd in Astronomy and Disease Detectives. All told, UC teams took home 45 medals for placing 20th or higher in 18 different events. What's next for UC High? It's on to the State competition in April. Go UC!

Is it Dublin or University City?

**The annual St. Patrick's Day Dance is on Saturday,
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Ghost Town

by Sandy Lippe

Swanson Pool is a ghost town. The pool was closed on January 2, 2012 and will reopen on April 8, 2012. Old timers remember the year the City made the decision to save money by closing pools on a rotating basis. Newcomers may wonder why a pool in the community is closed to children, adults, and senior citizens. Several years ago, a concerned

group of citizens fought the good fight against this pool closure and lost. "Sharing fiscal pain" caused a different kind of pain for the swimming community of University City.

If a pool is closed to a dedicated swimmer for over three months, then the swimmer needs to seek another venue. Lots of swimmers have just quit going to Swanson when it is open and find their water exercise or lap swimming at the Jewish Community Center or the La Jolla YMCA. Hence, the numbers go down at Swanson and these statistics justify closing the pool.

At one time, our former City Council representative Scott Peters wanted to have the pool expanded so that our UCHS swimming team and water polo players could practice at home. Granted, the City has suffered a fiscal downturn, but how do you measure the value to regular swimming in a community pool? How many future NCAA swimmers will miss out because Swanson is closed three months of the year? How much money has the City saved? Is community apathy contributing to public policy of closing this pool, as if to say, "If it's January, then the pool closes". What about dedicated staff who are transferred out of the community? Will there be a January in the near future when the city fathers and mothers will decide pools are a priority? Maybe someone in the University City swimming community might want to restart this conversation with the Park and Recreation Department. In the meantime, Swanson Pool is a ghost town. Where have all the people gone?



MOVING OUR SCHOOLS FORWARD IN 2012

by John Lee Evans

University City schools continue to perform very well and are an enhancement to our neighborhood. Spreckels was represented at our All Schools Fair in Balboa Park last month. We are moving forward with our stadium development at UC High and will soon have Friday night lights for football games. This was paid for by Proposition S facilities funds.

The budget crisis in the state of California will have a big effect on the operational budget of our schools next year. We have already eliminated millions in central administration and outside contracts to keep most of the money in the schools. We have also reduced transportation funding to keep more money in the classrooms.

After reviewing every department last fall, it became very clear that we cannot keep cutting staff. The district is already functioning with a skeleton crew in many cases. We have 2,000 fewer employees than just a few years ago.

But we have a \$124 million dollar shortfall due to reduced funds from the state. The Board cannot vote that shortfall away. The November ballot initiative for taxes will come too late to help us for next school year. We have two choices: increase class size and cut academic programs and student support services (resulting in over 1,000 layoffs) or have concessions from employees. The school police officers' union has already agreed to the concessions, so now there will be no need for layoffs in that department and our kids will be safe.

The Board of Education and the Superintendent have also agreed to the same package of concessions. I have faith that our other employee groups will do the right thing. We really need to return next year with the same level of staffing and programs.

We need to make it clear to our state legislators that we cannot continue to provide quality education without adequate funding. As parents, community members, teachers and staff, we need to work together to protect the education of all children in University City and throughout San Diego.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Jesse Mays, Council Representative for Council member Sherri Lightner, has provided this information for University City residents:

Emergency (police, fire, medical) 911

Graffiti Control Hotline: 619-525-8522

Streets (potholes, lights, drains): 619-527-7500

Neighborhood Code Compliance: 619-236-5500

Police (non-emergency): 619-531-2000

Traffic division: 858-495-7800

Upcoming Events at University City United Church-March 2012

San Diego Humane Society Program

Saturday, March 10 at 10:30 a.m. in Koehler Hall

"A Full Circle Relationship: The Human and Animal Bond" will be the program topic. Ms. Stacey Zeitlin, Director of Education and Community Relations Programs, will speak on the mission/services available to the public through the Humane Society.

All are welcome.

Also on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the San Diego Humane Society and SPCA Mobile Adoptions Unit will be available in the UCUC parking lot. This will be a special time for the University City area of San Diego to meet the Adoption Coordinator, Aimee Hebert and visit the dogs who can be adopted.

Contemporary Worship Gathering

Saturday, March 24 at 5:11 p.m. in Koehler Hall

Topic: "Life is Like a Roller Coaster: Exploring the Emotions of Holy Week" The gathering will include live contemporary music a discussion time. Child care is provided.

Youth Sunday

Sunday, March 25 at 10:30 a.m. in the church sanctuary

Come join us for a special treat! The Youth of the church create, write and perform the entire church service on this Sunday morning. Their creativity, energy and unique perspectives make for an interesting program.

Book Discussion: Mark Twain's "Letters from the Earth"

Wednesday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the church library

Twain offers a rather pithy view of the state of religion through the voice of Satan. This should be a lively discussion! Please read the book before attending the discussion.

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- March 7 @ 6:00 p.m. Lenten Program
- March 10 @ 10:00 a.m. Humane Society Program
- March 20 @ 6:00 p.m. Lenten Program
- March 24 @ 5:11 p.m. Contemporary Gathering
- March 25 @ 10:00 a.m. Youth Sunday
- March 27 @ 7:30 p.m. Book Discussion Group

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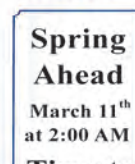
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The UC Garden Club News:

by Tanya Aeira

Don't forget that on March 20th, 6:30 p.m., Stephen Cancun will be discussing Owl Boxes at the UC Library.

On April 17th, we will have Judy Macomber and Pet Friendly Landscaping.

The UC Garden Club meets at the UC Library on Governor Drive at 6:30 p.m., every third Tuesday of the month. To join, simply sign up when you attend one of our monthly meetings. The annual fee is \$20. We are also planning our first UC Spring Garden event. If you or someone you knows has a backyard that you would like to show off, please call 858-598-3171 or send an email to ucgardenclub@gmail.com



<http://UCgardenclub.org>

Rainwater Harvesting Anyone?

The City of San Diego Public Utilities are offering cash back rebates to residential customers who are served by an individual water meter and who purchase and install a rain barrel (connected to home's rain gutter downspout). You may install more containers and receive a rebate of 50 cents per gallon of capacity up to \$200.00 maximum.

See link for guidelines and details on filing an application. This is a great and quick way to conserve water and prevent pollution. It reduces the amount of runoff entering the storm drain system. This is a good thing. Please check it out. Funds are limited (first come, first served).

www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/resrainwaterharvesting.shtml



Standley Recreation Center

Coming Soon:

This spring, Standley Recreation center will be offering a variety of adult and youth programs.

- Youth Programs include: Aikido, Gymnastics, Children's Hula dancing, After school program, Wacky Wednesday program, and Master sports offers a variety of sports classes like soccer, volleyball, basketball and junior sports.
- Adults programs include: Aikido, Hatha Yoga, Qigong/Tai Chi, Stressbusters Fitness class, Hula dancing, Men's basketball leagues, Adult softball leagues, Co-ed Volleyball Leagues, and senior club that includes bridge, pinochle, and other card games.

** Spring class registration will begin March 12th, 2012. So make sure to sign up early and reserve your spot in these excellent programs. For more information, call 858-552-1652.

Upcoming Event:

**Spring Egg Hunt – April 7th, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
(For kids of all ages)**

- Along with the egg hunt there will be arts & crafts, face painting, and inflatable jumpers.
- Please arrive early with a basket and meet in the gym at Standley Recreation Center.
 - Children will be divided into groups and sent out to gather eggs.

It will be a great time for the whole family so make sure to save the date!!

