

University City

...more than a neighborhood

UCCA'S 12th Annual Holiday Tree Lighting

by UCCA

University City Community Association will be hosting its 12th annual Holiday Tree Lighting on December 13th at 6:30 p.m. Darlene Ventimiglia, Judy Bethel, and Barbara Henshaw have been devoted and dedicated to this family event for the last 12 years. They have organized many elves who will decorate the holiday tree. It will be a night of wonder for the little ones and the big ones with Santa Claus making a visit and hearing the wish list of the children. Standley Middle School's marching band,

Continued on page 11.

December 2013 & January 2014 Calendar

- **Standley Recreation Council Meeting**
Thursday, December 5th
& Thursday, January 23rd
7:00 pm, Standley Park
- **UCPG Meeting**
Tuesday, January 14th
6:00 pm, Forum Hall/UTC
- **UC Celebration Meeting**
Wednesday, December 18th
& Wednesday, January 15th
6:30 pm, Standley Park
- **UCCA Meeting**
Wednesday, December 11th
& Wednesday, January 8th
6:00 to 8:00 pm, UC Library
- **Community Tree Lighting**
Friday, December 13th, 6:00 pm
Standley Recreation Center
- **1st Day of Winter**
Saturday, December 21st
- **Christmas Day**
Wednesday, December 25th
- **New Year's Day**
Wednesday, January 1st
- **Martin Luther King Day**
Monday, January 20th



University City Community Newsletter

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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 or pasted inside the email. Be as brief and concise as possible. Editing may result in errors. Type in **plain text format**. **Please do not send pdf formats.**
- **If changes to an already submitted article need to be made, please do not send the entire article again.** Please send an email explaining the change(s) or highlight the change(s) in the new article. Some changes cannot be made due to deadlines.
- **Name the file appropriately** so it can be identified.
- The Editor reserves the right to edit articles as needed.
- Attach photos separately in a picture format at **high resolution** or straight from camera in a **jpeg or png format**.
- Send to: editorucca@gmail.com
- Please no **pre-designed** flyers or announcements.
- Email any questions.

Deadline for the February 2014 Issue of Newsletter Publication is January 15th

Please send your submission as early as possible. The deadline is the 15th of the preceding month, but **the newsletter can fill up before the deadline**. Articles reviewed on a first come basis with priority given to time sensitive material. Articles may also be edited down for allowed space. **For advertising**, please contact uccaADS@hotmail.com. The UCCA does not discriminate against nor endorse all information in the monthly newsletter.

Message from the President

Barry Bernstein

With this year's traditional Thanksgiving/family time just a recent memory, the Balderdash competition completed, and probably just a few days of Hanukkah remaining, we can now look forward to a most wonderful Christmas season. University City families will have the opportunity to enjoy the first ever combined UCCA/Standley Park Rec Center Tree Lighting event. For some that will mean starting with the traditional Standley Park Recreation Center's Dinner with Santa (see Tree Lighting information starting on the front page). While for most, it will provide the opportunity to enjoy wonderful local entertainment, activities for the children, and delicious cookies and cocoa. Of course, for the very young crowd, a chance to see and help with the count down for our Christmas Tree lighting and to sit on Santa's knee. We hope everyone can join us at Standley Park on the evening of Friday, December 13th.



I want to thank those UCCA members who gave of their valuable time to vote at our November 13th election meeting. I am very appreciative of your continued support. I and the other elected officers, (see photo on back page), are committed to serving the needs of our community. We hope that each of you who, like ourselves, are proud and concerned about our community and will join UCCA and support our efforts in assisting our many worthwhile endeavors. JOIN UCCA! We're hoping to grow our organization's membership to better represent the over 5,000 residents who receive our free monthly newsletter. As many of you know, there was an error on our 2014 membership envelope address, and some of you may have had your membership envelope returned. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. The correct address is on our membership page. Thank you for your understanding.

A special thank you to Carl's Jr. restaurant for adopting the Governor Drive landscaped median in front of their location. Look for their special coupon in the advertiser's section of this newsletter. Also, a shout-out for the Angelucci Family for the work done on the Genesee medians just north of Governor Drive. Remember, we all need to take care of the sidewalks and parkways by our homes to be sure they're safe and accessible to pedestrians.

In another matter that I feel needs mentioning and is related to our quality of life here in south University City, is the ever increasing congestion on Genesee Ave. Having had the opportunity to listen to presentations made by CalTrans, SANDAG, UCSD, Mid-Coast Trolley, and UTC that related to major on-going and future road and building improvements in and around the Golden Triangle during the next 4-6 years, it will probably mean that each of us will need to be informed of how these major improvements will affect travel in and out of south UC. What complicates the matter in a most important way is how the probability of increased traffic on Genesee will impact first responders to emergency situations in our entire community, PARTICULARLY SINCE AN ELEVATED TROLLEY RAIL LINE WILL BE BUILT DOWN THE MIDDLE OF GENESSEE FROM EXECUTIVE DRIVE TO NOBEL. How will we, and most importantly our fire and police protection, be impacted? All south UC residents need to be aware of this increased predictable traffic condition and be willing to explore ways to work together to find answers that will best serve our entire community.

My best wishes to everyone for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Barry

Public Meetings Held to Discuss Community Stage at Standley Park

by Greg Zinser

On Tuesday, November 5th, the Standley Park Recreation Council held a public meeting at the Recreation Center to discuss the possibility of constructing a community stage at Standley Park. This project is being proposed by the University City Community Foundation ("Improve UC") and is currently in the due diligence phase. John Schindell presided on behalf of the Rec Council, asked Greg Zinser, President of Improve UC, to present conceptual drawings, along with the architect who drafted them. Two design alternatives and three possible locations for the stage were presented and discussed by about 15 members of the community who provided comment and suggestions. Overall, the response was positive, although concerns were raised regarding noise levels in the canyon that could be generated with one of the locations and design alternatives. Various options to mitigate noise levels were discussed, and Improve UC agreed to follow up on them and report back at the next public meeting on this issue. It will be held on Thursday, December 5th at 7:00 pm at the Rec Center. At this meeting, the Recreation Council will vote to either support or reject this project. If it is supported, the approval process goes to the next level within the City of San Diego Park & Recreation Department. All are welcome to attend the meeting on December 5th or can provide comment by emailing to info@improveuc.org.

IMPROVE UC Logo Contest Extended

Last month, we invited the community to help us design a logo for our new organization that we will use on our website, business cards and materials we distribute throughout the community. The logo must be legible in both a large and small scale and be consistent with the mission of IMPROVE UC (see www.improveuc.org). A cash award of \$100 will be made for an entry selected, and all entries become the property of the University City Community Foundation (IMPROVE UC) who also reserves the right to reject all entries, or to modify the entries as they deem appropriate. We originally reported that the contest would remain open through November 15th, but are hereby extending that deadline to December 15th. Entries and questions should be submitted to info@improveuc.org.

Cutting Back Weeds & Overgrowth of Pickleweed on Sidewalks in UC

by Sandy Lippe

Have you read the municipal code 54.0208 about property maintenance? Probably you haven't, but if you live on streets like Stadium Court, Tulane, Fisk, and Carnegie, read on under section B: "It is unlawful for a responsible person whose premises abut any portion of a public street or parking strip to fail to maintain any public walking thereon in a condition free from waste, weeds, and other plant growth." In other words, homeowners on Stadium and Tulane should be keeping the sidewalk free of pickleweed on Governor between Stadium and Scripps. Stadium homeowners are doing the deed. Folks on Fisk should be keeping the west side of Genesee north of Governor free of weeds. A certain water company should keep weeds from growing along the north side of Governor between Greenwich Drive and Governor Gardens Park because this water company owns that undeveloped land. Finally, this municipal code applies to homeowners on Carnegie overlooking Regents responsible for clear sidewalks on Regents and Carnegie homes abutting Governor should tend to those.

• Holiday Cheer •

by Jemma Samala

Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock and a good thing you can't actually hear me singing that with my voice! Yes, my favorite time of year is upon us. Boxes of decorations that take up half the garage storage can come down, cookie recipes can be baked and shopping lists can be checked off.

Holiday shopping really can take up a lot of time, unless you're a gift card gifter, then a quick trip to our local Vons or Rite Aid will suffice. I'm hoping most of our UC neighbors didn't go shopping on Thanksgiving (or Thanksgivingukkah) and spent time with family and friends. I do understand getting deals on Black Friday, even if you do have to line-up at 5:00 am or earlier (I've done that before, probably for some sort of gaming device.)

While thinking about your gift lists, why not help out our local school community too? University City High School will be continuing their Adopt-A-Family program by helping students and families in need during the holidays. You can make a donation via the PTSA website, www.uchspts.org, or contact me at jemmasamala@gmail.com to donate requested items.

Books are always good gifts. EdUcate! partners with the Barnes & Noble/Bookstar in the Costa Verde Center to promote literacy by putting together wish lists for all the five local public schools. The goal is to have 1,000 donated books. And, of course, while you're there, shop for those on your lists. You can also shop for books and other gift items at Spreckels Elementary's Book Fair, being held in their library from December 9th through 13th. Shop with your kids, and have them pick out a book to donate to a homeless child. (www.sdrescuemission.org)

You want to wrap more than books? The UCHS Centurion Foundation offers a number of ways to shop. First, there's www.donornation.org. You can purchase a range of items from La Jolla Playhouse and Aztec tickets to autographed sports memorabilia. A portion is donated back to the UCHS Centurion Foundation (or any of the other local schools). Some items are 100% donated. Also, for customized UCHS spirit wear, go to www.MyLocker.net. Enter locker number AB764, use promo code FL13ML, and get \$10 off your order before Dec. 15th. If there are golfers on your list, UCHS sports groups are selling tickets to the Farmers Insurance Open held at Torrey Pines Golf Course on January 22nd to 26th, 2014. Tickets are \$30 each. See Norma Smith at the UCHS front office.

Garage sales are always fun. The UCHS Grad Nite Committee is having a huge garage sale on Saturday, December 7th. Proceeds benefit the annual Grad Nite, which keeps our graduating seniors off the streets while they get to celebrate their achievements. Donations for the garage sale will be gladly accepted too. For more info, contact Shawn Skillin at skish2@san.rr.com.

Hopefully you get your holiday shopping done early so you can spend some time with the family. Try some of these family fun winter activities:

Dinner with Santa - Friday, December 13th, 5:30 to 7:00 pm, at the Standley Rec. Center. Cost is \$4 adult, \$2 child. The 12th annual UC Tree Lighting will also begin at 6:30 pm on Friday, the 13th, and includes music from Standley Middle School band under the direction of Mr. Marcus, the OMC choir (Our Mother of Confidence), and Tuesday Night Alibi barbershop quartet. There will be hot chocolate and Christmas cookies, face painting, a fire engine from #35 and Santa without his sleigh.

UCHS Winter Concert - Thursday, December 19th, 7:00 to 9:00 pm, UCHS Auditorium

Ice Skating Party - Saturday, January 11th, 8:00 to 11:00 pm, UTC Ice Rink, \$15 each, includes skate rental (for more info contact me at jemmasamala@gmail.com).

Whatever your plans, make sure to spread the holiday joy to your neighbors, especially those who may not have family around. The best gift you can give, is giving of yourself.

• Happy Holidays! •

ALERT! HOLIDAY SHOPPING FOR YOU AND THE CRIMINAL

by Barbara Gellman

This is the time of year to keep your antennae up whether at home or in a mall parking lot.

Be sure to lock up your home and gate when you leave the house, leave lights on at night, even a radio. If you have an alarm, use it.

Lock your car and leave nothing of value visible, whether in your driveway or anywhere. That includes cords to electronic devices.

Post a "Beware of Dog" sign even if you don't have a dog.

Look for well lit places to park at a shopping center. Don't park between 2 vans or trucks. When you get out of your car, look around and lock up. When you return with packages, have your car key ready and lock up purchases in the trunk then leave. Don't sit and make phone calls in the car.

A new scam seeks credit card security codes. A thief who has managed to get your card number and other information such as your address, calls claiming to be doing a fraud investigation for the card issuer. The thief provides your card number and asks you to confirm it. When you do, you are asked to prove that the card is in your possession by providing the security code (the three or four digit code on the back or front of your card), which is all the thief needs to make charges on the card. Never give out the security code to anyone who calls you.

If you park in your garage, drive in, close the door, then get out of the car and remove your packages. Unfortunately, there are criminals who may be on your street watching for any chance to take what is yours.

Call 911 if you see a crime in progress or feel threatened by someone.

Call 619-531-2000 for suspicious activity on your street or shopping mall. Your report will be electronically downloaded into the police database.

On a lighter note, my thanks to all the street captains who have gathered their neighbors and helped empower them to improve the quality of their lives through crime prevention education, problem solving and cooperation with the San Diego Police Department. There is still more to do, so if your street does not have a captain, step up and take the lead. Please email me at HYPERLINK "<mailto:bggellman@yahoo.com>" bggellman@yahoo.com to meet so everyone can be in the loop.

This holiday season; KEEP CALM AND BE MERRY.

University City July 4th Celebration Committee

by George Odero

As most community members will remember, we had a successful 25th, July 4th, community celebration in 2013. As we look forward to another successful event in 2014, we are faced with challenges that I believe we can overcome working together as a community. The University City July 4th Community Celebration Committee needs more volunteers for the following critical positions/areas:

- **An event co-chair to assist chairperson in several responsibilities related to organizing and executing this highly critical community event.**
- **A volunteer coordinator to take the responsibility of recruiting and coordinating event day volunteers.**
- **An event day booth rental coordinator to solicit and recruit vendors to participate in our celebration.**
- **Event support donor solicitors to assist in soliciting donations (money and/or prize donations) from our neighborhood businesses and community.**
- **General volunteers including families, high school students and any community member who can participate are welcome.**

It is understandable that all of us have busy schedules. It is therefore important to recognize those community members who can find a space in their busy schedules to contribute a small part of their time to volunteer to make this all happen. Without these critical volunteers, this community event may not happen in 2014.

If interested in volunteering, contact me via e-mail at: Godero@Goreadusa.org. I would also encourage potential volunteers to join us at our next monthly event planning meeting to be held on December 18th, 2013, at Standley Recreation Center on Governor Drive. Our meetings are from 6:30 – 8:00 pm, every third Wednesday of the month (unless otherwise rescheduled).

Northern Division Police Station Tour



Irv Gellman, Officer Larry Hesselgesser, Barbara Gellman and Diane Ahern

Photograph by Sandy Lippe

On November 6th, four of us participated in the San Diego Police Department Northern Division's Police Station Visitors Week. This event asks the community members to assess the quality of service delivered by the local police department and identify areas of concern. The survey that we all completed after the 1 1/2 hr. tour, led by Officer Larry Hesselgesser, focused on the physical condition of the station, community orientation, transparency, accountability and treatment of the public. Our feedback will be used to applaud programs or identify problems.

Learning about the daily operations of the police/detectives in this station made us realize what a committed force we have and how much is accomplished even though they lack sufficient personnel. Officer Hesselgesser is a prize community officer and guide who deserves our praises for his commitment to University City and its residents.

Fire at UCHS

by Lori Williams

A fire is burning at our University City High School Biomedical Sciences pathway program. Curiosity is first ignited in a freshman elective course, Principles of Biomedical Sciences, when students find a mock crime scene with a dead body sprawled on the floor in a pool of potential evidence. Students learn different elements and related careers in biomedical science as they determine cause of death. Tenth grade Human Body Systems students learn structure, function, disease and medical terminology for the human body. The eleventh grade Medical Interventions course offers students the chance to study biotechnology, learn the power of research and the many cures still needing to be discovered.

In the fourth year of rigorous science-based Career Technical Education courses, seniors in Biomedical Innovations experience intense work-based learning by touring an Emergency Department and hearing from guest speakers in a quest to understand how an ED functions and the problems they face. Students then propose solutions to improve ED efficiency and effectiveness to a panel of health professionals. Ellie Vandiver, hometown hero and Registered Nurse turned teacher, feeds students' ever-growing flame of curiosity by challenging their critical thinking skills to prepare for a clinical work based learning experience, The Internship.

We are calling on our healthcare community to join the workforce development efforts of Scripps Memorial, Scripps Genomics and VA Hospital to open their doors twice a week for 3-4 weeks to our students. Interested in fueling the fire? Contact Lori Williams at The Office of College, Career & Technical Education, San Diego Unified School District. lwilliams7@sandi.net or call 858-503-1836.

Editor's note: (Ellie Vandiver, RN,BSN,MEd, is chair of Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences and 2012 UCHS teacher of the year. Chris Walker is also an instructor of biomedical sciences.)

Data Driven Personalization The Charter School of San Diego

by Veronica Ballman

The Charter School of San Diego is always on the cutting edge of technology and educational trends, carefully balanced between the lines of "trend setter" and "using what works." This unique blend of perspectives becomes meaningful to develop/personalize lessons for the individual students' post high school pathway. The resulting data shows the academic needs to strengthen their areas of weakness and expand upon their strengths. How is this done? It is done through a series of tests called MAP (Measurement of Academic Progress). Each teacher is able to get a detailed view of how their students are not only progressing through core academic knowledge but exactly what parts or strands of those subjects the student may struggle with.

Through the use of data driven instruction, as well as a blend of personalized and traditional instructional techniques, The Charter School of San Diego is committed to student education.

The Charter School of San Diego also offers year-round, open enrollment. If you are interested, act soon to avoid any possible wait list!

For more information on The Charter School of San Diego Clairemont Learning Center, please email <http://www.charterschool-sandiego.net> or call (858) 678-2020.

**You may also join UCCA by
going to our website at
www.universitycitynews.org.**

UCHS Music Department News Bookfair at Costa Verde

by Bonnie MacRitchie

A book fair will be held December 8th-15th at the Barnes & Noble/Bookstar in Costa Verde, 8650 Genesee Avenue, to benefit the UCHS Music Department. Purchases may also be made December 8th-15th at any Barnes & Noble store across the nation or online at www.bn.com/bookfairs. Enter BOOKFAIR ID: 11203254 when checking out.

Please join us for an in-store event on December 14th as student musicians from the high school perform from 1:00-4:00 pm. Gift wrapping will be available. Enjoy performances by the UCHS String Ensemble, Jazz Combo and Drum Line while shopping.

Please mention your participation in the book fair at the register prior to checking out. Educator and B&N member discounts may be used for purchases during the book fair. Purchases may also be used to donate books to the EdUCate! The book drive is for UC schools, benefitting both causes at the same time!

UCHS WINTER CONCERT

You are invited to our annual Winter Concert on Thursday, December 19th, at 7:00 pm, in the UCHS auditorium. The UCHS band, orchestra and choir will be performing. Admission for seniors, students and children is \$3, adults \$5. Tickets sold at the door. Take a break and join us for an evening of festive music.

EdUCate! to Give \$100,000 to University City Public Schools

by Anne St. Louis

EdUCate! will distribute \$100,000 this 2013-2014 school year! Your tax-deductible gift will help us fund the following to University City Public schools:

- \$40,000 Principal Grants
- \$40,000 Teacher Grants
- \$20,000 to EdUCate! Math Academy

**Donate online or by mail at:
EdUCate!**

**3268 Governor Drive, PMB 154
San Diego, California 92122**

www.uc-educate.org

Barnes & Noble/Bookstar Book Drive

Help us promote literacy through the 2013 EdUCate! and Barnes & Noble/Bookstar Annual Book Drive. For the fourth year in a row, we have partnered with Barnes & Noble/Bookstar in the Costa Verde Center. Through December 31st, you can buy books from the list for your favorite UC school. At the end of the book drive, January 1st, 2014, the books will be delivered to the schools for use in the classrooms and libraries. (Over 800 books were delivered last year!)

Amazon Program

Holiday shopping is upon us and we want to remind you of a super-easy way for you to donate to UC public schools. EdUCate! has joined the Amazon affiliates program, which is a mechanism that allows EdUCate! to capture a percentage of the sales of Amazon products you purchase through our unique web link. The amount we earn varies, but is at least 4% of the sale and sometimes as much as 10%. To get started, click on the Amazon link at the bottom left corner of our homepage at www.uc-educate.org.

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2013 UCCA MEMBERSHIPS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

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University City Community Association 2014 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? Hallie Burch, 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

UC Garden Club

by Trish Samora (for the Garden Club)



**Little Free Library on Lipmann near Cather.
UCCA VP Barb Henshaw**

The City of San Diego is offering a rain barrel rebate program to help offset the cost of installing a rain barrel (or barrels) for single meter residences. Rain barrels can be used to collect rainwater from rooftops using your gutters and downspouts. Rainwater is stored in the barrel and can be used later to water your plants, trees and lawns. The City of San Diego will rebate \$1.00 for every gallon of rain barrel storage capacity, up to 400 gallons and \$400.00. The minimum rain barrel size is 50 gallons, but homeowners can install multiple barrels at the same, or different downspout locations.

When you install a rain barrel at your home you can save water and lower your bill while helping to maintain a healthy urban watershed. By collecting rainwater and putting it back into your garden, you are reducing the amount of runoff that flows to the public storm water system, which goes untreated into our creeks and bays. The City of San Diego has an easy-to-use Rainwater Harvesting Guide to help you get started on selecting the rain barrel that is right for you at <http://www.sandiego.gov/water/pdf/conservation/rainwaterguide.pdf>.

For information on the requirements, and how to apply for a rain barrel rebate or other water conservation rebates, call (619) 533-4126 or visit the City of San Diego water conservation page at www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/residentialoutdoor.

Little Mermaid Performance

by Mark Powell

University City students Kayla Swartzberg, Robyn Wilkinson, Nathan Conlan, Danya Greenberg, Madison Leone and Arielle Powell are starring in J* Company's Youth Theater musical version of the Little Mermaid. Based on the Hans Christian Anderson classic and adapted from Disney's 1989 film. The performance runs from December 6th-15th. It is being held at the David and Dorthea Garfield Theatre, Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, located at 4126 Executive Drive. The Little Mermaid is a show for the entire family! For more info, please call 858-362-1348 or visit www.sdcjc.org/jcompany.



UCCA supporting Spreckels School

2013-2014 UCCA Board Members



Does UC Want these recycling bins in Swanson Pool parking lot?

Photos by Sandy Lippe

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* Non-board Members

The newsletter can fill-up early.

Please submit as soon as possible.

Thank you. The Editor

NORTH UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Schools for Chiapas with Peter Brown: National Education Association Human & Civil Rights Award winner Peter Brown will discuss the current state of Chiapas, the Zapatista Movement and the efforts to push education in Chiapas over the past several decades. Tuesday, December 10th, at 6:30 pm

Music! Neave Piano Trio! Celebrate the holidays with this famed violin, piano and cello trio!
Wednesday, December 4th, 6:30 pm

The Golliards play Early Medieval European Music!
Wednesday, December 18th, 6:30 pm

Job Search Assistance: Get job coaching, resume and interview help! Please call ahead to make an appointment.
Mondays, 3:00-5:00 pm

Art Adventures with Janene Farmer: Brought to you by the Picerne Foundation. Artist Janene Farmer begins free art classes at the library for children in grades 1-8. Please call the branch for times and further details.

Knitter's Circle: Now on a new day of the week! Please join this informal knitting club and learning how to knit, crochet and make new friends while making great new creations.
1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, 1:00 pm

8820 Judicial Drive, San Diego, CA 92122 • 858-581-9637

*Please call the library to confirm any given program. Cancellations are rare, but may occur.
Many thanks to the Friends of the UC Library for their generous sponsorship.*

Wheeling Around

by Sharon L. Goodis

Want to ride with us?

www.knickerbikers.com or • info@cyclequestsd.com

Bicycle Friendly San Diego

There may be some days where you want to go much farther than you want to pedal, yet you still would like to go by bicycle: maybe a festival in Balboa Park, a baseball game at Petco Park or Mission Bay on July 4! Traveling by bicycle is enjoyable. Not having to deal with car parking issues could make the event even more pleasant.

San Diego Metropolitan Transit System is there for you! Bicycles are allowed on MTS vehicles free of charge. Bicycles are not allowed inside buses, so most buses have a folding bicycle rack outside at the front that can hold up to two bicycles. Advise the driver before you load your bike. You can load or unload your bicycle at any stop where it is feasible and safe.

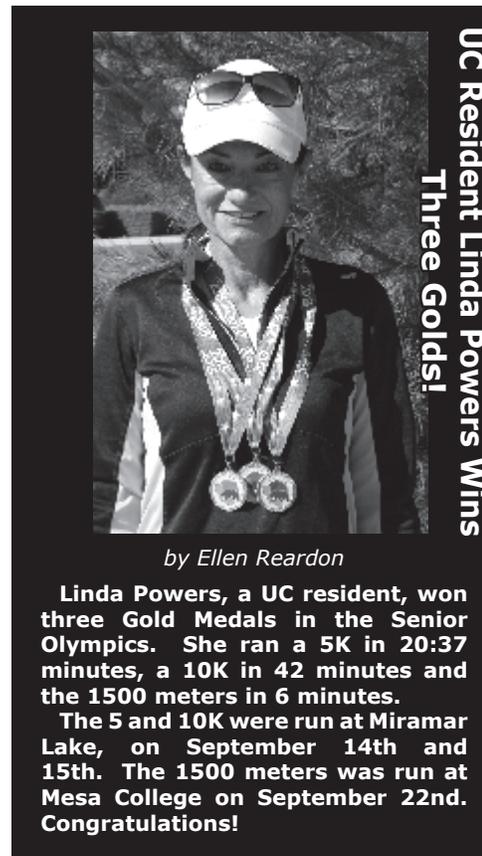
Bicycles are permitted on the Trolley anytime. On the trolley, one bicycle is allowed on during rush hours and two bikes are allowed on at other times. Load your bike through the last door of the car. If the maximum number of bikes is already on board, go to another car or wait for the next Trolley. You should stay with your bicycle.

Each Coaster car is equipped with straps to secure up to four bicycles at any time. Simply roll your bike on, strap it down in the provided space, and find yourself a seat!

Boarding the Sprinter? Enter the train through doors marked with a bicycle emblem. On the Sprinter you must supply your own straps or bungee cords to secure your bicycle.

For more information, call 511 and say iCommute or email HYPERLINK: mailto:biking@sandag.org or biking@sandag.org. Bicycles are also permitted on Amtrak trains (either on a passenger car or in a baggage car.) The Coronado Ferry also welcomes cyclists and their bicycles.

So pedal, travel far and have fun!



Linda Powers, a UC resident, won three Gold Medals in the Senior Olympics. She ran a 5K in 20:37 minutes, a 10K in 42 minutes and the 1500 meters in 6 minutes.

The 5 and 10K were run at Miramar Lake, on September 14th and 15th. The 1500 meters was run at Mesa College on September 22nd. Congratulations!

**You may also join UCCA by
going to our website at
www.universitycitynews.org.**

December 2013 and January 2014 Events

Friends of University Community Library's Huge Book Sale January 30th-February 1st

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 25th THROUGH JANUARY 2nd.

WE ARE OPEN DECEMBER 24th at 9:30-5:30.

WE ARE CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 20th, IN HONOR OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR'S BIRTHDAY.

UNDERSTANDING THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT: CHOOSING THE RIGHT COVERAGE FOR YOU! EXCHANGE RESOURCE CENTER, INC. Dedicated to educating and informing our community about the new Health Reform that will come effective in 2014. Topics covered include: What is the exchange? Who will qualify? What is the penalty if not insured by 2013? Who qualifies for medical, subsidy and non-subsidy? When is open enrollment for California? Which plans will be available in California? Q and A about Covered California **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2nd at 4:00 pm**

DANCING WITH THE BAMBOO BRUSH ART SHOW AND SALE Join Jean Shen and her students for an art sale and celebration of their work. **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd at 5:30- 7:30 pm.**

MOVIES FOR ADULTS Join us as we sleuth through mysteries of the movies. This month's movie takes place in the villages of Midsomer County and features a chief detective and his eager young assistant. **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11th, at 2:00 pm.**

BARBERSHOP QUARTET CONCERT Holiday favorites with our favorite quartet Tuesday Night Alibi. They have been entertaining San Diego audiences since 1993. They performed on national television at the 2010 Poinsettia Bowl. **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18th at 6:30 pm.**

HOLIDAY DEPRESSION IN SENIORS The National Association of Mental Illness (NAMI) presents this sensitive workshop. **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19th, at 2:00 pm.**

THE BENEFITS OF LAUGHTER EXERCISE: AN OASIS PROGRAM Research shows the benefits of laughter range from relieving pain and reducing stress to reducing diabetes medication dependency and increasing cognitive recognition. Instructor Kira Anthofer is a certified Laughter Leader and owner of Centinela Senior Solutions. Come laugh for the health of it! **THURSDAY, JANUARY 16th, 2:00-3:30 pm.**

UC BOOK CLUB *The End of Your Life Book Club* by Will Schwalbe. The inspiring story of a son and his dying mother, who form a "book club" that brings them together as her life comes to a close. **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 2:00-3:00 pm.**

PAWS TO READ Love on a Leash bring their trained gentle assistance dogs to listen to children practice their reading. **THURSDAY, JANUARY 23rd at 4:00 pm.**

ZUMBA GOLD Calling all baby boomers! An exhilarating workout with easy-to-follow moves to Latin music. **MONDAYS, THURSDAYS, 12:00 pm & FRIDAYS, 9:45 am.**

SPECIAL NEEDS ZUMBA Lisbeth Garces leads a safe, fun workout created for persons with special needs. **MONDAYS, 1:00 pm.**

ADULT YOGA Gentle exercises to aid flexibility and improve concentration. Bring your own yoga mat or towel. **TUESDAYS, 4:30 pm.**

ASIAN BRUSH PAINTING Sumi-e is an Asian art form in which paintings from nature are depicted in black ink on white paper. **TUESDAYS, 12:30-3:30 pm.**

ACCORDION CLUB New members are always welcome! **2ND & 4TH SATURDAYS, JANUARY 11th & 25th, 9:30-11:30 am.**

MUSIC FOR KIDS Let's Make Music School will teach children to play a variety of musical instruments. **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4th, 1:00 pm.**

WILD WONDERS ANIMAL SHOW Kids will love meeting rainforest animals face-to-face and learning about their habitats. **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15th, 1:30 pm.**

GO GAMING Learn the ancient mind game of Go from the president of the San Diego Chapter of the American Go Association. **TUESDAYS, 2:30-3:30 pm.**

GAME ON Teens! Get your game on! Wii gaming with your friends! **FRIDAYS, 3:00- 4:30 pm.**

SIGNING STORYTIME Sign language fun for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers with Jennifer Duncan. **MONDAY, DECEMBER 16th, 3:00-3:30 pm & MONDAY, JANUARY 27th, 3:00-3:30 pm.**

HOLIDAY CRAFTS FOR KIDS Calling all little elves to the library for a special holiday craft workshop for kids. **DECEMBER 18th, 1:30 pm.**

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME Stories, crafts, finger plays and songs with April and Gerri. **THURSDAYS, 10:30 am.**

Please call the library to confirm any given program. Cancellations are rare, but may occur.

Many thanks to the Friends of the UC Library for their generous sponsorship. This information will be made available in alternate formats upon request.

4155 GOVERNOR DR. (858) 552-1655 • San Diego, CA 92122
<http://tinyurl.com/universitycommunitylibrary>

Continued from page 1.



Holiday Tree Lighting
2012



Happy Holidays!

from UCCA

Continued from page 1.

under the direction of Mr. Philip Marcus, will play traditional holiday tunes. Our Mother of Confidence's Children's Choir will also sing carols and contemporary songs. Tuesday Night Alibi, a well known barbershop quartet, is also adding to the musical portion of the evening. Clowns will provide face painting and entertainment. Hot chocolate and cookies will be available at no cost. You may be part of this holiday tradition in UC or you may be new to the community, but you should circle Friday, the 13th, and join your neighbors. Standley Recreation Center staff and the rec council are planning a wonderful dinner at incredible prices the same night at 5:30 pm. For a \$4.00 charge for adults and \$2.00 for each child, you can feast on pasta, salad, and dessert with Santa Claus. Tickets go on sale on November 29th and will sell out quickly. Both events, the paid dinner and the free tree lighting event on Friday, the 13th of December, are for the community. This small town tradition will warm your heart and ease your stress. Be a part of it. Be a kid again!



by Sherri Lightner

SEASON OF POSITIVE CHANGES IN SD

This fall has been an exciting season filled with much positive change and forward momentum for the City of San Diego. I've been working hard alongside my City Council colleagues and Interim Mayor Todd Gloria to keep the city operating smoothly, and we are focused on addressing our citizens' top priorities and concerns.

There's been much good news to report from City Hall in recent months:

- Council adoption of a Five Year Police Plan to put more officers on our streets and better support our brave men and women in uniform.
- Council update of the Workforce Housing Offset program to provide hardworking San Diego families with more dependable and affordable housing.
- Water Policy Implementation Task Force report on how best to implement the City's Comprehensive Water Policy to provide a reliable, affordable, sustainable water supply to residents and businesses.

The New Year promises to bring more big changes to our city with the election of a new mayor, and implementation of a restructuring plan that will streamline the city's government, making it more efficient, accountable and helping the 10,000 employee operation run as efficiently as possible.

In Council District 1, I hope to move ahead on several major projects such as: the Governor/Genesee intersection improvement project and the Mid Coast Trolley Extension to UTC.

Please let me know the important neighborhood projects and community issues that are on your wish list for 2014. My staff and I will work diligently in the year ahead to make progress on the public services and city programs that are important to you and your neighbors.

Enjoy a wonderful holiday season with family, friends and loved ones, and best wishes for a sunny and bright New Year!



by John Lee Evans

VISION 2020 AND SAN DIEGO UNIFIED

Vision 2020 for A Quality School in Every Neighborhood was the theme of the annual State of the District Address. A standing room only crowd filled Kearny High School October 29 as a sign of the new found enthusiasm for public education in San Diego. It started this year by being named one of the top four urban districts in the nation based on student achievement.

Also included at the event was the inauguration of the San Diego Unified Hall of Fame, patterned after a similar one at University City High and other schools in the district. It is intended to honor those who have gone on to succeed after graduating from San Diego Unified schools.

The First Inductee was Interim Mayor Todd Gloria who graduated from Madison High School. Even Superintendent Cindy Marten spent part of her school career in San Diego Unified. All of the members of the Board of Education are products of public schools across the nation.

We have many future Hall of Famers in our schools. Vision 2020 is an ambitious plan to move towards a world class school system by the year 2020. It was begun in 2009 when the Class of 2020 was in first grade. Those same students started middle school this year.

We have met some of our goals. The Class of 2016 already faces more rigorous high school requirements to prepare them for both college and technical careers. Cluster committees have been formed across the district to promote quality neighborhood schools. We have made incremental gains in student achievement over the past four years. But in the next four years we want to accelerate these gains.

In order to measure progress, all principals in San Diego Unified will lead schools in self-assessments on specific indicators for quality schools, ranging from test scores to school climate to parent involvement to quality teaching. Stay informed about what is happening at your neighborhood school. We all have a stake in great public schools.



by Scott Peters

AN ATTITUDE OF COOPERATION

During my time on the San Diego City Council and as a Commissioner for the Port of San Diego, I was proud to work with members of both parties to address difficult problems facing the region. We worked with the mentality that while we wouldn't always agree on every issue, we would put the interests of constituents above all else to reform our local government. Since taking office in January to represent San Diego in the U.S. House of Representatives, I have worked to bring that same attitude of cooperation to Washington to cut through gridlock, change the culture of dysfunction, and reform Congress.

One major change that needs to be made in Congress is making our representatives live by the same rules as everyone else. That's why one of the first pieces of legislation I supported was 'No Budget No Pay,' a bill that applies the commonsense concept that if members of Congress don't do their job and pass a budget, they don't get paid.

To help fix Congress, I also became a member of the 'No Labels Problem Solvers' coalition made up of more than 80 Republican, Democrat, and Independent members of the House and Senate. I also joined the bipartisan United Solutions Caucus made up of newly elected House members. These groups are working to build the kind of bipartisan coalitions we expect in San Diego and need in Washington.

Scott Peters represents the 52nd District of California in the U.S. House of Representatives. Please visit his district office at 4350 Executive Dr., #105 or call 858-455-5550.

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ads start

One of Santa's Favorite Helpers Lives in UC & Has Served the Community Well

by Sandy Lippe

John Walsh, proud of his Chicago Irish heritage, is the father of five and grandpa of seven. He is also a near recordholding Santa helper, starting way back in 1957 as a young businessman in commercial development. When Clairemont only had 4,000 homes and W.T. Grant store was in the Clairemont Quad, the Salvation Army Santa didn't show up. John donned the Santa suit and began a long career of volunteering to make kids happy at Christmas.

For the newbies in University City who take Standley Park and Swanson pool for granted and enjoy Little League and Bobby Sox, soccer and football games for your kids, just look to John Walsh as your community benefactor. It is no surprise he was called "The Mayor." An empty lot where Carl's Jr. and the library stand was turned into Little League fields and Bobby Sox fields in 1963, and John headed that committee. He moved some teams to Chapparal Field in North U.C. where Costa Verde is.

In 1972 as president of U.C. Civic Association, John was the "go to guy" who rallied the fledging community members to raise \$1-million dollars for a first class Standley Park. The City had promised only \$800,000 to build Standley Park, but John knew U.C. needed racquetball courts, tennis courts, Pop Warner football field, and 7 baseball fields, not just granite fields.

He, Kathy Anderson, and Don Reeves oversaw a tough campaign to get local homeowners to assess each home \$250 to raise that million bucks and also get 66 2/3 vote of approval. John and his team worked with the school board for Standley's joint use and lighted field. Ernie Hahn, developer with vested interest in U.C., supported these ideas.

In 1975 Mayor Pete Wilson proudly opened this park and John was glad to be part of the celebration. Then John told Mayor Wilson, U.C. needed another ball field and McElroy field was built at Governor Gardens.

However, Walsh's work didn't end there. He continued to serve as first chair of University City Planning Group. As chair, he advocated for building UTC and getting Nordstrom to come to UTC. He also supported the idea of Regents Road bridge, From 1985 to 2000 John was chair and advocate for Golden Triangle Chamber. He also served Our Mother of Confidence Church as Past Grand Knight, Color Court, and Honor Guard.

Since 1968 when he bought his home on Charae, John has been a force for good in working for the betterment of our community but has suffered his share of tragedy as well. He credits his wife Syd, who passed away on December 14th, 2012 for inspiration and his grown children Kevin, Tim, Bryan, and Heather. Tragedy struck the Walsh family when their first born Katie accidentally died at age 30 from carbon monoxide poisoning in January 1990 in Laguna Mountains. John Walsh has been an exemplary member of his community and has set an example which should inspire us all.

John Walsh



UCCA Elected Officers for 2014:

From left to right: Ginny Charvat, Treasurer, Barry Bernstein, president, Barbara Henshaw, vice president and Bonnie Hornbeck, secretary, not shown. Group is seated on new bus bench on Governor Drive that UCCA worked for.

MEMBERSHIP ENVELOPE CORRECTION

Please accept our apology for the need to correct our membership envelope. Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

(See President's column on page 2 for info)

UNIVERSITY CITY NEWSLETTER

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