

UNIVERSITY CITY...*more than just a neighborhood!*

# University City NEWS

UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG

FEBRUARY 2020

## University City...2020 and Beyond

by Barry Bernstein

Residents in University City know and appreciate how fortunate it is to live in such a beautiful and vibrant community. There are excellent K-12 public and private schools, an internationally renowned University, exceptional medical facilities, and regional and local retail shopping centers which incorporate excellent eateries and entertainment opportunities. There are private and government scientific and technology research companies emerging every year that add to the prestige of University City. And of course, the anticipated addition of the Mid-coast trolley line.

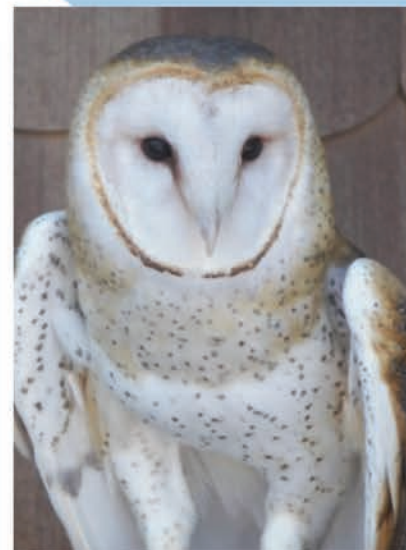
Many churches and synagogues reflect the diverse religious denominations, and the three City Park/Recreation Centers, along with two public libraries support the personal and family opportunities for "growth".

Surrounded and shielded by natural canyons throughout the greater University City boundaries, and the proximity to beaches and major freeways, are some additional important reasons that add to living in University City.

With the projected growth of University City, the recognition of current and future concerns and questions related to the maintaining and improving the quality of life for UC families, remain unanswered.

How will Miramar address errant departure flights and the noisier F-35 aircraft, and will the City Landfill odors become worse before a remedy is provided. There's traffic congestion, a growing "homeless" population, need for safe bicycle lanes, the construction of the raw sewage pipeline, and preparing for what has been described as a 12-month fire season.

The UCCA Board will continue to do its best to represent what it believes to be the viewpoint of the majority of University City residents and needs your support. UCCF, (University City Community Foundation), will continue to focus on special interest events and activities, and UCPG's, (University Community Planning Group), Community Plan Update sub-committee will be wrestling with these same issues as it develops a blueprint for the San Diego City Council to consider. This is an election year and candidates running to represent University City on the San Diego City Council should be well informed and prepared to support the safety and welfare of this community. Let your voices be heard...and please remember to VOTE!



### Owls Hooting it Up in UC

Have you been hearing more owls in UC lately? It could be barn owls like the one pictured above. Read more about how barn owls, great horned owls, and other owls are being attracted to our local parks through a project by the University City Community Foundation. Bonus is that more owls, means a natural way to get rid of rats, mice, and gophers. Go to page 9 and read more.

Next UCCA Meeting is Wednesday, February 12, 6:00pm  
UC Library, 4155 Governor Drive



## UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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**Editor** Jemma Samala, [UCCAeditor@gmail.com](mailto:UCCAeditor@gmail.com)

**Advertising** Terri Day, [uccaADS@hotmail.com](mailto:uccaADS@hotmail.com)

**Be the Eyes and Ears of UC:** The University City Community Association 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 and story suggestions that pertain to community and residents.

### Guidelines:

- Your article should be approximately 250 words or less, sent in a Word document and attached to an email.
- Include who, what, why, where, and how.
- Be as brief and concise as possible. Editing may result in errors.
- DO NOT send articles in a pdf formats.
- UCCA does not guarantee publication.
- Submitted materials may be published on the Internet.
- The Editor reserves the right to edit articles as needed.
- Articles or ads considered to be political will not be accepted.
- Attach photos separately in a picture format at high resolution or straight from camera as a jpeg or png.
- Send to [UCCAeditor@gmail.com](mailto:UCCAeditor@gmail.com) or [jemmasamala@gmail.com](mailto:jemmasamala@gmail.com).

### Deadline for the March issue: FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Please send your submission as early as possible. The deadline for the March issue is February 13, but the newsletter can fill up before the deadline. Articles and news items are reviewed as they are received. Priority may be given to UCCA members and time sensitive material. Articles may also be edited for allowed space. UCCA does not discriminate against nor endorse all information in the monthly newsletter. The UCCA Newsletter receives information and advertising from a variety of sources. UCCA cannot and does not guarantee the accuracy of the information or the complete absence of errors and/or omissions, nor does UCCA assume responsibility for the same. Publication does not constitute an endorsement.

### 2020 UCCA Board Members

#### Executive Board

President: Barry Bernstein, [apdrfn@aol.com](mailto:apdrfn@aol.com), 858.453.3713

Vice-President: Mack Langston, [langstonmack@gmail.com](mailto:langstonmack@gmail.com)

Secretary: Jim Beshears, [jwblaw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwblaw@sbcglobal.net)

Treasurer: Don Hotz, [don.hotz@yahoo.com](mailto:don.hotz@yahoo.com)

#### Appointed Positions

Beautification: Merle Langston, Chair, [merlelangston1@gmail.com](mailto:merlelangston1@gmail.com), and Barbara Gellman, Co-Chair, [bggellman@yahoo.com](mailto:bggellman@yahoo.com)  
CASA Liaison/Publicity & Promotion/Webmaster: Diane Ahern, [ahern.diane@gmail.com](mailto:ahern.diane@gmail.com)

Corresponding Secretary & Historian: OPEN

\*Holiday Tree/Menorah Lighting Coordinator: Darlene Ventimiglia, [darleneven2@gmail.com](mailto:darleneven2@gmail.com)

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\*UCPG CPUS Liaison: Katie Rodolico, [ktnelson@yahoo.com](mailto:ktnelson@yahoo.com)

\*UCSD Liaison: Deanna Ratnikova, [deanna.ratnikova@gmail.com](mailto:deanna.ratnikova@gmail.com)

\*Non-Voting Member

## UCCA Meeting Synopsis

**January 8**

*by Jemma Samala*



- Lane Woolery, representative from the San Diego Fire Department reported that the new Fire Station #50, located off of Nobel Drive, is scheduled to be open in October/November of this year.
- Community Officer Melanie Bognuda with San Diego Police Department reported that graffiti investigations are still under way; reports of the green truck driver have been looked into, but the driver must be caught in the act; and they will check into unlawful behavior at Marian Bear park.
- James Rudolph, City Council District 1 candidate, introduced himself and spoke about his campaign issues.
- Cory Briggs, San Diego City Attorney candidate, introduced himself and spoke about his campaign issues.
- Todd Lane, CEO of California Coast Credit Union, introduced himself, and other members of the new branch opening in the Sprouts Marketplace, in the former AlphaGraphics location. The branch is already open from Mondays through Saturdays, and the public is invited to attend the official Grand Opening on February 29 (Leap Day). Mr. Lane also mentioned that he had grown up in UC and wants to be involved with the UC community, especially in the areas of our youth and education.
- Janay Kruger, founder of Trees 1000 Foundation, discussed the goals of the foundation and its background.
- Justine Murray, Council Rep. for Councilmember Barbara Bry, invited everyone to her State of the District address on January 29 at UCHS; stated that Councilmember Bry will be sending a letter to Miramar to urge the following of flight patterns; they are finding out more info about the height changes at the Miramar Landfill; and they are also looking into the destruction of the UC Golf Course by Willmark, and if proper permits had been obtained.
- Diane Ahern discussed the upcoming Aviation 2020 meeting on January 29 at the UC Library. She also informed everyone that the new prefix for phone numbers at Miramar has been changed to "307".
- Jemma Samala discussed that the Fire Safe Council UC South will be focusing on fire safety education for their first year.
- Jessica Brown, representative for Congressman Scott Peters, introduced herself and discussed the vote to limit presidential war power; Service Academy nominees are being taken; and to contact their office for any case work to be done with federal agencies.
- Barbara Gellman, Neighborhood Watch Chair, discussed the added security at VONS with regards to shoplifting; there will be a Coffee with the Cops at Sprouts the morning of January 28; Senior Walkers are continuing on Wednesdays for 9:00-10:00am. Barbara also discussed some concerns with the electrical box beautification project at the library. Further discussion will be taken to resolve the problem.
- UCCA heard a funding request from the Doyle Elementary PTA for \$500 to support their Jog-a-Thon in March. Proceeds help support a school librarian, field trips, supplies, and a reading program.
- The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 12, 6:00pm at the UC Library.





## UCCA President Barry Bernstein

Happy 2020 University City!

With January already behind us, and so much going on in the next few months, I'm hoping you have remembered to join UCCA. Your support and input is needed, and will be appreciated, as the community issues I mention on our front page will affect us all. (See our membership form on page 13).

This is an important election year...very soon sample primary election ballots will have been delivered to our homes.

The election of candidates to qualify for the November "run-off" for our District 1 Councilperson position and for Mayor will be extremely important. UCCA, in coordination with the League of Women Voters will be sponsoring a candidate's forum later this year. 2020 is also the year for the United States Census to be taken...watch your U.S. mail for the official census card. Locally, election of our representatives to UCPG, (University Community Planning Group) will take place in March.

A special welcome to Mr. Todd Lane, President and CEO of California Coast Credit Union...they will be having their grand opening February 29 in what was the former location of AlphaGraphics in the Sprouts MarketPlace shopping location. Mr. Lane grew up in University City and is looking forward to having his bank become an active and involved part of the University City community. Governor Dental Group, has expanded their office, (taking over Steve Lyons, State Farm, office space) next to Vons. Congratulations to C.A.S.A., and particularly to Diane Ahern, for hosting the first and successful Aviation Update Forum which was held on January 29 at our Community Branch Library. Also at our library, on January 28, the second general meeting of the newly formed Fire Safe Council of University City South was held. Kudos to our own Gemma Samala for taking on the leadership role.

We have been notified by Ruth DeSantis, UCCF president, that San Diego City Council is in the process of reviewing a possible settlement related to the City's Pure Water Sewer Pipeline project. Our newsletter will provide all details in our next edition.

The F-35s are flying out of Miramar...these single engine jet stealth fighter aircraft will be seen and HEARD for many years. UCCA's efforts to work with the Marine Command at Miramar to address their anticipated impact has been supported recently by a second letter sent by Barbara Bry to encourage the Marines to stay within their own approved take-off departure lanes, so as to minimize the noise/jet fuel and possible aircraft emergencies over the civilian population. The Miramar Landfill requirement to add height to the garbage pile is under scrutiny. What will that added height mean to our residents who already have to wake up the morning with unpleasant odors emanating from the landfill? The City has an obligation to ensure residents that they are doing everything possible to mitigate this "smelly" problem.

On behalf of the UCCA Board, I want to wish you and yours a most wonderful 2020 "Leap Year"...stay informed and be sure to fill out your U.S. census card...and certainly don't forget to VOTE! See you at our February 12 meeting...Special invited guests include: Sam Nejabat, (District 1 City Council candidate), Ryan Cunningham, (52 Congressional candidate), and Sabrina Bazzo, (candidate for Board of Education). Remember, University City is "more than just a neighborhood". JOIN UCCA and be part of the future of our community. ~Barry

### FEBRUARY UCCA MEETING

Special guests at our February meeting will be candidates: Sam Nejabat, (District 1 City Council candidate), Ryan Cunningham, (52 Congressional candidate), and Sabrina Bazzo, (candidate for Board of Education).

The meeting begins at 6:00pm, at the UC Library, 4155 Governor Drive.

# calendar

## PEOPLE FOR A CLEAN UC

Sunday, February 9

7:30-9:00am

Cleanup volunteers meet at Starbucks  
3202 Governor Drive, supplies provided

## UC PLANNING GROUP

Tuesday, February 11, 6:00pm

10300 Campus Point Drive

## UCCA MEETING

Wednesday, February 12, 6:00pm

UC Library, 4155 Governor Drive

Special Guests:

Sam Nejabat, Ryan Cunningham and  
Sabrina Bazzo

## VALENTINE'S DAY

Friday, February 14

## PRESIDENTS'S DAY

Monday, February 17

Schools closed February 14 and 17

## UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY PLAN COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 18, 6:00pm

University City High School

6949 Genesee Ave.

## UC CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

4<sup>th</sup> of July Event

Wednesday, February 19, 7:00pm

Standley Park Rec Center

## UC PARKS COUNCIL

Thursday, February 27

Recreation Advisory Group – 6:00pm

Parks Council – 7:00pm

Standley Park Rec Center

## DON'T FORGET!

IT'S TIME TO JOIN OR RENEW YOUR  
UCCA MEMBERSHIP

GO TO PAGE 13 AND SEND IN YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP FORM TODAY, OR GO TO  
[UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG](http://UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG)





## Don't Abbreviate 2020 It's for your own good

A "thank you" to Annette Lau, one of our Neighborhood Watch Captains who brought the following to our attention, originally reported by Harmeet Kaur, CNN. (Condensed)

2020 is finally here, and it's coming with its own set of challenges. Not only do we have to break the habit of writing 2019, when we really mean 2020, but the dawn of a new decade also creates a unique opportunity for scammers, says Ira Rheingold, executive director for the National Association of Consumer Advocates.

How exactly, you ask? When the year 2020 is abbreviated on official forms and documents, those looking to exploit unsuspecting people can easily manipulate those numbers and leave people potentially vulnerable to fraud. For example, a document dated 1/4/20 can easily be changed to 1/4/2021 by adding two numbers at the end. There are several ways that could pose a problem. Rheingold cited the example of a stale check, or one that was written more than six months or so ago. If you have an old check lying around that's dated 1/4/20 and someone finds it, they could add "21" to the end of that date, and voila, the check is no longer stale.

We can go on and on, but we'll just leave you with a PSA that consumer advocates, auditors and police departments around the country have been issuing: When you write a date on a document, don't shorthand the year 2020 to just "20." "It's just another precaution, another chance to warn people that there are folks out there who will take advantage of you," Rheingold said.

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH REMINDERS

by Barbara Gellman

**Spot a Phone Scam** Any phone sales pitch that tells you to act now or lose out is a red flag. "you must decide today" is a scammer's line. Hang up. If you have phone ID and don't know the caller, don't answer, wait for the person to talk and then pick up if you know them.

**Help First Responders Find Your Home (Police & Fire)** Please paint a reflective address on your curb and install readable house numbers on the front of your home.

**Install motion detector lights** or dusk to dawn lights in the front of your house and any dark areas; it acts as a crime deterrent.

**Locking your side gates** can help deter strangers from entering the backyard; don't give them the opportunity to break into your home.

**Report any suspicious activity** to 619.531.2000, a crime in progress dial 911.

**Ladies** - always keep your purse connected to you at all times, do not leave on a table, counter, grocery cart or the car; it doesn't take long for someone to swipe it and chances of recovery are very low.

**Community Assisted Party Program (CAPP)** Contact the non-emergency number and it will be directed to our CRO, Melanie Bognuda at Northern or email her at [mbognuda@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:mbognuda@pd.sandiego.gov)



## Fire Facts

by Bill Beck, Ret. Fire Chief

Fire can be very scary and potential deadly. According to the National Fire Protection Association a fire department responds to a fire every 20 seconds. In 2017 there were 1,319,500 fires, 362,500 were home structure fires. Yearly fires claim the lives of approximately 3,400 people and injures another 14,500. On average, 9.9 people died in home fires every day. Half of home fire deaths resulted from fires between 10:00pm - 6:00am. Smoke is responsible for 3 out of 4 deaths.

While fire doesn't discriminate by age, it is a sad statistic that fire is the third leading cause of death for children ages 1-14. Children under the age of five make up about 9% of our population, however they accounted for 17% of fire deaths. Adults 65 and over face the highest risk of fire death since they tend to move slower or have trouble hearing the smoke alarm. If a person has a hearing issue consider a smoke alarm with a strobe light or a bed shaker smoke alarm.

Fires caused nearly seven billion in property damage. Cooking and heating are the leading causes of home fires and fire injuries. Winter months are the peak time for fire-related deaths. Other top causes of fire include smoking, electrical problems and candles.

If there is a fire, you may have as little as **two minutes** to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm and/or carbon monoxide detector sounds! That is not a lot of time especially in the middle of the night when everyone is asleep. Add in smoke, heat, confusion, fear, multiple floors and several people, every second counts!

Families must therefore have an escape plan and that plan must be practiced by all. Every family member must know what to do when the smoke or carbon monoxide alarm sounds and practice ensures that everyone can escape quickly and safely. Because children can sleep through the alarm, be sure to wake them and stay with them until you are outside. If there is an actual fire, remember to stay low to the floor where the air is best. Be sure that everyone knows the designated outdoor meeting space and once you are safely outside - stay out! Then call the fire department. Never go back into the building for anything!

The best way to survive a fire is obviously not to have one. However, it is too late to start planning when the smoke alarm sounds in a real fire.

(More more info on fire prevention and the Fire Safe Council - University City South, please go to page 12.)





## District 1 Updates from Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry

### Budget Season is Here!

Each January, I create a budget memo outlining my priorities for the upcoming financial year (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021.) In this annual memo, I request funding to help meet the needs of the community. This year, I requested funding for two capital improvement projects (CIPs) on behalf of the

University City community.

One priority outlined in my memo is full funding of the first phase of construction of Marcy Park improvements. Previously, my office identified funding for the design costs and I will ensure funding for construction.

My other UC budgetary priority is to secure funding to begin the design of the South University City Library improvements and expansion. Built over 40 years ago, I recognize that this library is in need of large-scale upgrades. I have asked for funding to provide the community with features like:

- conference rooms
- computer space for both youth and adult users
- separate sections for teens and children
- a complete renovation and sound absorbing treatment for the common room
- bathroom renovation
- ample space for books and AV materials
- addition of a small STEAM lab

Over the next months, my budget priorities will be evaluated and incorporated into a Council resolution for the Mayor to review. The Mayor will then release the proposed budget in the Spring. After public hearings and council review, the budget will be formally adopted in June, before the new fiscal year official begins.

You can access my memorandum on my council page at: <https://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd1/policymemos>

### MCAS Miramar Letter

I am cognizant of the tragedy that has and continues to affect the UC community and I am committed to doing everything in my power to prevent another aircraft disaster. Part of that commitment is holding the federal administration accountable to existing FAA and DoD flight procedures.

On January 13, 2020, my office sent a second letter to Colonel Dockery and Congressman Peters to request that MCAS Miramar Air Traffic Controllers and pilots follow existing procedures. These measures were intentionally designed to avoid direct overhead flights of most residences and schools in University City.

Thank you to those who have contacted my office to report violations. Please know that I will continue to convey your concerns to both MCAS and our congressional representative.

To obtain a full copy of the letter, contact my UC representative, Justine Murray, at [JRMurray@sandiego.gov](mailto:JRMurray@sandiego.gov), if you would like a digital copy of the letter.

## Kristin Gaspar SD County Board of Supervisor, District 3

As an elected official entrusted with the stewardship of a \$6 billion dollar County budget, my priority is ensuring that your tax dollars are not wasted on programs that don't produce good results. If something clearly isn't working, throwing additional money into it isn't going to change anything. This is the philosophy I adopted early on in my career and it boils down to common sense. Let's use our homeless problem as an example. Before we can help someone become whole and self-sufficient again, we must address the core issue(s) that led that person to become homeless in the first place. Issues such as mental health, substance abuse, job loss or family breakdown.

In the past 18 months, Supervisor Jim Desmond and I have been working closely with Tri-City Medical Center on a plan that would provide additional psychiatric services in North County. On January 13, we announced that the County of San Diego and Tri-City had reached an agreement to build a 16-bed facility for those experiencing a psychiatric crisis.

This is an important step in enhancing behavioral health services in our region. But our work is not done. We must also work on the entire continuum of care, from prevention and early intervention, to long-term care and recovery. I am committed to this. As a County, we are spending over \$658 million on behavioral health services. Now more than ever, we need to combine ongoing taxpayer investments with a collaborative approach and leverage every dollar for the greatest collective impact.

Expanding housing affordability is also essential to addressing our housing crisis. We must ensure all residents have access to safe, decent and affordable housing. The County has devoted \$50 million to an Innovative Housing Trust Fund for the construction, acquisition and/or rehabilitation of housing for our most vulnerable populations.

It is my honor to serve as District 3 Supervisor. Please feel free to contact me at [Kristin.Gaspar@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Kristin.Gaspar@sdcounty.ca.gov) or 619.531.5533.

## JOIN ME!

### Wednesday Feb 5, 9-11 am

16399 W Bernardo Dr.  
San Diego

.....

**Let's have coffee and learn about County  
Grants and Purchasing/Contracting**

.....

In partnership with:




RSVP here: [kristin.gaspar@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:kristin.gaspar@sdcounty.ca.gov)



**Holiday closure: Monday, February 17 for Presidents' Day; Book Drops are available for returns**

**University Community Branch | February 2020 | 4155 Governor Drive | 858-552-1655**

**Programs for Adults/Seniors**

**Classics Book Club**—join this month as we read *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles. **Monday, Feb. 3 @ 3:30 p.m.**

**Tech Help** - Looking for help with SDPL apps? Have a problem setting up an email account? General computer questions? Look no further than our Thursdays walk-in Tech Help @ 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Introduction to Zentangle.** A fun, meditative drawing class that requires no prior art experience. No supplies cost. Call library to RSVP. **Monday, Feb. 10 @ 12:00 p.m.**

**University City Community Association** - This is a community meeting featuring updates from law enforcement, fire-rescue service, legislative and other community leaders. All are welcome.

**Wednesday, Feb. 12 @ 6:00 p.m.**

**Macrame Class** - Make a small plant holder to take home with you. **FREE. Saturday, Feb. 15 @ 1:00 p.m.**

**OASIS San Diego: The Natural Wonders of Antarctica.** Go on a photographic tour of the Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia Island and the Falkland Islands. **Wednesday, Feb. 19 @ 12:30 p.m.**

**Adult Crafts with Rem:** Glass Jar Etching. Take home a nifty craft with many uses! Space is limited, please call library to RSVP. **Monday, Feb. 24 @ 12:00 p.m.**

**OASIS San Diego: Shingles: a better vaccine is here** - Learn how shingles starts, who is at risk and how to avoid it. Find out about a more effective shingles vaccine that was released in December 2017. **Tuesday, Feb. 25 @ 12:30 p.m.**

**UC Book Club** will discuss *The Happiness Project* by Gretchen Rubin. **Wednesday, Feb. 26 @ 2:00 p.m.**

**North University Community | February 2020 | 8820 Judicial Drive | 858-581-9637**

**Events for Adults/Seniors**

**Chess Club,** Mondays at 3:00 p.m. Casual public chess meet open to all ages and skill levels.

**Knitters' Circle,** Thursday, Feb. 6 & 20 at 1:00 p.m. All yarn enthusiasts are welcome.

**Free Tax Prep Help provided by AARP,** Thursday, Feb. 6 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Free Tax Prep Help provided by AARP volunteers. Walk-in only for same-day help. Every Thursday through April 9.

**Guided Meditation,** Sunday, Feb. 9 & 23 at 12:30 p.m. Guided meditation followed by tea.

**Free Health Workshop presented by Sharp HealthCare: Senior Resources in San Diego,** Tuesday, Feb. 4 at 5:30 p.m. Learn about resources that can help seniors remain independent at home for as long as possible. Call 1-800-82-SHARP (1-800-827-4277) or visit [sharp.com/citywellness](http://sharp.com/citywellness).

**Fiction Fanatics Book Club,** Saturday, Feb. 8 at 10:00 a.m. Title is *Turtles All the Way Down* by John Green.

**A Cup of Creation: Art Classes for Adults,** Sunday, Feb. 16 at 1:00 p.m. Participants are asked to bring a small sketchbook to class; all other supplies provided.

**Aloha Ukulele Strummers,** Friday, Feb. 21 at 11:30 a.m. Enjoy a fun strum-along with fellow ukulele players! Music provided. Familiar songs, Hawaiian songs, oldies all played.

**Page Turners Book Club,** Saturday, Feb. 22 at 1:00 p.m. Title is *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

**Qi Gong** (chi gong), a simple preventative method of relaxing and harmonizing the body. **Fridays @ 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Accordion Club** meets on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. **Saturday, Feb. 8 & 22 @ 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

**Programs for Children**

**Preschool Storytime for Kids;** stories, crafts, finger plays and songs. **Every Thursday @ 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Live! Homework Help** - A volunteer will help student.

**Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Library NExT - Your Amazing Brain.** Students will explore the anatomy of our brains and experience first-hand how our brains communicate with our senses. **Space is limited, RSVP on the SDPL website. Tuesday, Feb. 4 @ 4:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.**

**Kid's Craft** - Kids will make two cute bears. Space is limited, please call (858) 552-1655 to RSVP and for craft information. **Wednesday, Feb. 5 @ 2:00 p.m.**

**Artist Spotlight** - Monthly program where we enjoy the work of an artist and create a piece of art inspired by the work. Designed for ages 7 and up. Space is limited, please call (858) 552-1655 to RSVP. **Friday, Feb. 28 @ 2:30 p.m.**

**Programs for Tweens/Teens**

**Video Game Fridays** - Play video games on the Nintendo Switch with friends. **Friday, Feb. 7, 14, 21 & 28 @ 3:00 p.m.**

**NEW!! Teen Time** - Activities and crafts in the community room just for teens. **Thursday, Feb. 13 @ 3:00 p.m.**

**Events for Children/Families**

**Babies and Books,** Mondays at 10:00 a.m. This lap-sit storytime will introduce a love for books by using song, movement, rhythm and rhyme. Birth – 2 years.

**Music and Movement,** Mondays at 11:00 a.m. at the *Nobel Recreation Center*. Sing, Dance and Play! Children enjoy songs & movement; build motor skill, increase independence.

**LEGO Club,** Thursdays at 3:00 p.m. Make new friends and build amazing creations every week. For grades K-6

**Kids' Art Studio,** Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. A fun art project every week! This program is limited to 20 participants. Signups begin same day when the library opens. Grades K-6.

**Preschool Storytime,** Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Stories and songs in English promote early literacy skills.

**Fun with French,** Thursdays at 11:15 a.m. Explore the French language through song in this bilingual program.

**Sign Language Storytime,** Thursdays at 12 noon. Baby Sign Language Basics author, Monta Z. Briant puts on a super-fun sign language performance for babies through preschoolers. Songs, fingerplays, books, fun toys and props, and bubbles!

**Yoga Storytime,** Friday, Feb. 7 & 21 at 11:00 a.m. Stretch both body and mind in this unique program that combines stories, songs and simple yoga poses. Bring your own mat.







## Save the Date for Music and Fun

by Christine Mailloux

Are you a supporter of music in the schools? Do you love a good show? Then save the date for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Sights and Sounds Showcase hosted by the University City High School Music Boosters. This wonderful community event gives our local youth the opportunity to show their talent while raising money to support the music program at the high school. Music, dance, singing and a (planned) concert by salsa band Rumba Y Sol. Come enjoy music, food, dessert buffet, and an amazing silent auction. Join us on February 21 from 6:00-10:00pm at the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, Jacobs Family Campus. If you are a local business or community member that would like to support the Music Boosters and this event with an item for our silent auction or a sponsorship, please contact Diane Masser-Frye at [ucsshowcase@gmail.com](mailto:ucsshowcase@gmail.com). See you at the show on February 21!

## Doyle Elementary PTA Spring Happenings

by Lisa Smith

We have two fundraisers planned for this Spring, our annual Jogathon (March 11), and an Online Auction (April 13-17). If there are local businesses that would like to discuss sponsorship opportunities for our Jogathon or donations of in-kind items/services for our Online Auction, please contact Doyle PTA President, Lisa Smith at [president@doylepta.org](mailto:president@doylepta.org). We are also looking for prizes to give out as part of our Jogathon, if you have any gift cards that you don't want or with a balance left that you don't think you'll be able to use, we'd appreciate the opportunity to use it as a prize at our event. Please contact Lisa at [president@doylepta.org](mailto:president@doylepta.org) for these items as well and we will arrange to pick them up from you! Anyone, anywhere is welcome to bid on most of our auction items, and we have some great ones, so stay tuned to [www.doylepta.org](http://www.doylepta.org) for more details soon!

## Volunteer Readers Needed at Curie



**Give a child the gift of reading**

The "Everyone a Reader" program is a highly successful and positive way of supporting children in the process of learning to read.

Our tutoring team is looking for volunteer reading tutors to join our dedicated team.

After a 2 hour training, your commitment is only one hour per week to read with students.

**Contact**  
 Valerie O'Neill :  
[voneill95@yahoo.com](mailto:voneill95@yahoo.com) or  
 (858) 452-0548 to learn more.

## DELETED SET IN UNIVERSITY CITY

Local author pens science fiction book set in and around University City

DELETED, by Ruth Mitchell, who has lived in UC since 2005, is a speculative young adult novel set in the near future. In this book touted as Inception meets Wargames, a couple of UCSD students discover how to hack into people's memories. Of course, there is a love story, some adventure, cool science and quite a lot to think about.



Anyone familiar with University City will recognize landmarks and enjoy the prominent role the setting takes in this book. Pursued by the hacker who has erased her from everyone's memory, the main character spends a lot of time hiding in what UC locals would call Rose and Marian Bear Canyon.

Mitchell, a former reporter turned stay-at-home mom, researched her novel by tapping into the talent of our community. She consulted professors from UCSD and computer scientists who worked for the military and Qualcomm.

DELETED described by one Goodreads reviewer as "a fresh story with intense action, sweet romance, super cool science, and great themes" is now available for purchase on Amazon. If your book club is interested in having the author attend your meeting, you can email her at [ruthannmitch@gmail.com](mailto:ruthannmitch@gmail.com).

## CONGRATS TO LOCAL REFLECTIONS ART COMPETITION HONOREES

Congratulations are in order to the following local students for being named as San Diego Unified Council of PTAs 2019 Reflections Art Competition Honorees; with 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners advancing in the competition to the Ninth District.

### Visual Arts

Caeli Willard (UCHS) – 1<sup>st</sup> Place (and Special Recognition Award)  
 Max Ballard (UCHS) – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

### Dance Choreography

Hannah Bauer (UCHS) – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

### Film Production

Junsang Yoo (UCHS) – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

### Literature High School - UCHS

Joanna Lynch (UCHS) – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Bella Rose Schremmer – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

### Middle School - Standley

Allison Martin – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Ellasyn Scuba – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (and Special Recognition Award)

Emily Bai - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Mia Lozada – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Allie Podhorsky – Honorable Mention

Cielo Pastrana – Honorable Mention

Leenoy Barkhordear – Honorable Mention

Natalie Romero – Honorable Mention

Olivia Calevas – Honorable Mention





## Swanson Pool to Reopen

by Diane Ahern

The day we've been waiting for! The Spring Schedule will begin February 9, subject to weather and facility condition. Swanson Pool, located at 3585 Governor Drive in Standley Park, offers both lap and recreational swim, water fitness, youth swim team and youth water polo, swim lessons and more. For program information, call the pool at 858.552.1653 or search "Swanson Pool" on the City's website at [www.sandiego.gov](http://www.sandiego.gov). Swanson Pool is scheduled to reopen on Sunday, February 9.



## Opening Day with UC Little League

by Ryan Preston

Baseball season is around the corner and UC Little League is happy to announce our opening day festivities on Saturday, February 29, starting at 9:00am. We are very excited this season because we have the most amount of players in the T-Ball and MAPS division in over a decade. This year we are taking a note from some of our other fun UC events like the 4th of July and Oktoberfest by making our opening day event for the whole community, not just the players. This year we will have a rock wall, jumpers, fastest pitch in the west, a band playing baseball tunes and best of all a brand new SLUSHY machine for the snack bar. We will be serving up great food all day including carne asada tacos, nachos and other yummy food/snacks.

We want this event to become another staple in the community where people of all ages, with or without kids to come up and partake in this event that has been a part of the UC community for decades. So please come up to the baseball fields next to the Standley pool on Governor Dr, bring your family and check out all the fun stuff going on in UC Little League. We hope to see you there! Info at [ucll.org](http://ucll.org).



## Miramar Matters

by Diane Ahern

University City is located at the crossroads of aviation traffic. Residents experience local flights arriving and departing from San Diego International, Montgomery-Gibbs, and MCAS Miramar airports on a regular basis as well as countless trans-regional, trans-continental flights, and international flights. In January, UCCA hosted "Aviation Update 2020" to provide our community with information about the expansions at San Diego International (Lindbergh Field) and Montgomery-Gibbs Airports; the FAA's NextGen redesign of airspace; and the arrival of F-35 aircraft squadrons at Miramar.

MCAS Miramar and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Aircraft Wing welcomed the first F-35C single-engine aircraft to replace the aging F-18. In January, UCCA representatives attended the F-35C Introduction Brief at Miramar. For a summary and pictures of both events, please visit UCCA's [UniversityCityNews.org](http://UniversityCityNews.org) website and search on the Miramar category.

## Brown Bag Operas for 2020

by Glenn D'Abreo

Our Mother of Confidence continues their popular Brown Bag Opera series for the following year. The Brown Bag Operas are on Sundays and begin at 1:00pm. They are free events, all are welcome and feel free to bring a brown bagged lunch. The operas are viewed on a 25-foot wide screen with surround sound. Our Mother of Confidence is located at: 3131 Governor Drive. For more info go to [omcsandiego.org](http://omcsandiego.org), or contact Glenn D'Abreo at: [gdabreo@omcsandiego.org](mailto:gdabreo@omcsandiego.org). The 2020 Brown Bag Opera schedule is:

January 26 - Magic Flute by Mozart  
 February 22 - Andrea Chenier by Giordano  
 April 26 - Carmen by Bizet  
 May 24 - Marriage of Figaro by Mozart  
 June 28 - I Puritani by Bellini  
 July 26 - Così Fan Tutte by Mozart  
 August 23 - Ernani by Verdi  
 September 27 - Eugene Onegin by Tchaikovsky  
 October 25 - Falstaff by Verdi  
 November 22 - Hansel and Gretel by Humperdinck

### UCUC BLOOD DRIVE DATES FOR 2020

Blood drives are on Saturdays, 8:30am-1:30pm, at the Sprouts Marketplace at Governor Drive/Regents Road.

March 7

May 2

July 11

September 12

November 14

Sign up in advance at [mysdbb.org](http://mysdbb.org)



## Goodbye UC

*The following is a note from  
Beth West, UC Post Office*

"Goodbye! I am retiring on February 28, 2020 from the United States Postal Service, accomplishing 50 years of service. 35 years have been serving the University City community. It's been my privilege serving you through tears, laughs, congratulations, mailing many packages and letters, selling stamps and processing passports. The University City community has become my family and friends. It's bittersweet to have to say goodbye.

With love – Beth West, UCPO Postal Clerk, 92122"

*\*Come by an open house farewell to Beth on Saturday, February 29, 2:00-4:00pm at the UC post office, Sprouts Marketplace. Photo of Beth courtesy Michele Hagstrom.*



## Look Up at Marcy Park, Find the Owl Box

Next time you visit Marcy Park, look up! A fairly large owl breeding box was installed in a eucalyptus tree near the canyon rim. This was a project spearheaded by the University City Community Foundation in partnership with local resident, Robert Wiegand, who built three owl boxes. The other two owl boxes will be installed at University City Gardens Park, and Standley Park. The hope is that the local owl population will increase and the rodent population can be controlled naturally - discouraging poisoning rodents which in turn poisons birds and cats, etc. The City of San Diego assisted by installing the owl boxes. Parents are encouraged to bring their children to the park, look up and try and spot the owl boxes. For more info about UCCF, go to: [uccfsd.org](http://uccfsd.org).



Volunteers plant in Rose Canyon

## "Re-oaking" Rose Canyon

*Friends of Rose Canyon organizes volunteers  
to plant oak trees and other native plants*

Much of Rose Canyon is now a protected nature preserve, but for over a century it was used for ranching. During that time, it lost a lot of the native vegetation, including the Coast Live Oaks. To restore more oak trees to the canyon, we gather acorns from existing trees and plant them. Coast Live Oaks are large trees that stay green year round, and provide habitat and food for birds and other native wildlife. Volunteers of all ages are welcome: we plant other native plants as well. Contact Debby Knight, [rosecanyon@san.rr.com](mailto:rosecanyon@san.rr.com).

*After planting in Rose Canyon, volunteers celebrate*



Photo above: City workers installing owl box at Marcy Park.

Photo left: Robert Wiegand stands next to one of the owl boxes he built for local parks.

Photos courtesy Ruth DeSantis.

## SOUTH UC SENIOR WALKING GROUP

Wednesdays 9:00-10:00am

Meet in front of Swanson Pool on Governor Drive

30 minutes - 1 hour (flat surfaces to start)

Questions: Contact: Geri @ 858.558.1888

No walk'n in the rain





## UC Gets Lit up for the Holidays

by Barry Bernstein

"Friday the 13th", for our University City families was the date for a most wonderful, safe and joyous holiday celebration at Standley Park. Immediately after Standley Park Council's "Dinner with Santa", UCCA's Christmas Tree/Menorah Lighting began. It was a huge success. Behind the scenes, the planning and decorating of the Christmas Tree and other lighting effects was magically done by the following community volunteers under the supervision of event chair Darlene Ventimiglia, and decoration designer Judy Bethel. Jim Simon, chief electrician (who really gets a charge out of this event), and his assistant/protogee Don Hotz. Other "elves" include Betsy Sickels, Bill Breher, Rudy Molina, Sandy Lippe, and Jim Beshears. Greg Hom provided the great photos, and John Schindel was our "sound" engineer. And how could we not forget the most jolliest elf of all, Santa, by the one and only, Andy Freeburn. Thanks to all our great volunteers.



Volunteers Barbara Gellman and Betsy Sickels get the tree decorated, with the end result on the right.



## It Takes a Village of UC Elves



One early morning, a group of dedicated UC elves decorated the Standley Park Rec Center for the annual Christmas Tree/Menorah Lighting and Dinner with Santa night. Below left: Don Hotz and Mack Langston; Below right: Mack Langston, Judy Bethel and Jim Beshears



The lines went out the door, as families gathered for a family-friendly Dinner with Santa. The pasta dinner was catered by Loma's Italian Kitchen, and cookies from Carl's Jr.



## The UC Album - UC Holiday Lighting Tradition



Hanukkah Candle Lighting by Merle Langston



Arts and Crafts above, while Santa visits with the families below



Singing from girl scouts (above) and Doyle kindergartners (below)



The Standley Marching Band is always a fan favorite

Even our local Fire/Rescue guests enjoyed the evening, especially showing the trucks to the children.



And the best part is seeing the joy in the children's faces



Event photos courtesy Greg Hom; Set up photos courtesy Jemma Samala



## Fire Safe Council of UC South

by *Jemma Samala*

The Fire Safe Council of University City South will be concentrating on education to the UC community about fire safety during the next year. The volunteer organization works under the Fire Safe Council of San Diego County. As part of a year-long series of fire safety articles, the following focuses on defensible space. The information was provided by the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, [sandiego.gov/fire](http://sandiego.gov/fire). Save the info below for future reference.

### CREATE DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Defensible space is the space between a structure and the wildland area that, under normal circumstances, creates a sufficient buffer to slow or halt the spread of fire to a structure. It protects the home from igniting due to direct flame or radiant heat.

#### ZONE 1 – 0-30 ft

This zone, which consists of an area 0-30 feet around the structure, features the most intense modification and treatment. This distance is measured from the outside edge of the home's eaves and any attached structures, such as decks.

Do not plant directly beneath windows or next to foundation vents. Frequently prune and maintain plants to ensure vigorous growth and a low growth habit. Remove dead branches, stems, and leaves. Do not store firewood or other combustible materials in this area. Enclose or screen decks with metal screening. Extend gravel coverage under the decks. Do not use areas under decks for storage.

Prune trees with low-lying branches (ladder fuels that would allow a surface fire to climb into the tree) and any branches that interfere with the roof or are within 10 feet of the chimney.

#### ZONE 2 – 30-100 ft

This zone features fuel reduction efforts and serves as a transitional area between Zones 1 and 2. The size of Zone 2 depends on the slope of the ground where the structure is built. Typically, the defensible space should extend 100 feet from the structure.

Remove stressed, diseased, dead, or dying trees and shrubs. Thin and prune the remaining larger trees and shrubs. Be sure to extend thinning along either side of your driveway all the way to your main access road. In all other areas, prune all branches or trees up to a height of 10 feet above ground (or 1/3 the height, whichever is the least).

These actions help eliminate the continuous fuel surrounding a structure while enhancing home site safety and the aesthetics of the property. Keep grass and wildflowers under 2 inches in height. Regularly remove leaf and needle debris from the yard.



## UC Community Plan Update Committee

### January Meeting Summary

by *Katie Rodolico*

Agenda and supporting documents for this meeting, and previous meetings can be found at the new plan update website: [www.planuniversity.org/](http://www.planuniversity.org/).

#### Public Comment:

Katie Rodolico spoke about the UC Villages Golf course the destruction of habitat, trees, and bulldozing of part of the golf course. She requested that the plan update require this be kept as a golf course or open space and not be allowed to be rezoned for housing.

Diane Ahern invited the community to the Aviation meeting on January 29, 6:00pm at the University library.

Louis Rodolico introduced himself as a candidate for council district 1. He discussed the missing road connections in our community. He talked about the issue of in-lieu fees being too low, discouraging developers from including more affordable housing units.

David Campbell spoke about the bulldozing of hillsides related to the UC golf course.

Allysa Helper of UCSD invited the community to an open house for the Living & Learning project on January 22.

#### Agenda Items:

Laura Black from Development Services introduced Katie Witherspoon who will be replacing Dan Monroe as the project manager for the plan update process.

Katie Witherspoon reviewed the progress to date and upcoming steps. She announced there would be a community plan workshop, in addition to the regular CPU meeting in May. Katie Witherspoon presented the results of the mobility survey. They identified the top ten corridors of concern. The largest number of comments on the survey were regarding the Regents Road bridge corridor. She reiterated that the community plan would not be considering the bridge in the plan update EIR.

Diego Velasco presented an informative discussion of urban design and urban planning. He reviewed types of building and development, human scale design, active, street facing design. He brought up the different architectural styles in the University Community.

The next meeting will be on February 18, 6:00pm at University City High School, 6949 Genesee Ave.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you enjoy walking around our beautiful neighborhood...at least once a month?

UCCA needs you!

Volunteers are needed to distribute the University City newsletter once a month, with January and August off.

If you are interested, please contact Newsletter Chair Don Hotz, [don.hotz@yahoo.com](mailto:don.hotz@yahoo.com)





## THANK YOU TO ALL WHO JOINED UCCA FOR 2020

### December - January Memberships

#### Individual

Louis W. Bookheim  
Iris Clauss  
Ann J. Collette  
Dance Hula Fitness  
Gee Gee Ferrier  
Tim Garfield  
Ann & Phil Gonsalves  
Al & Rebecca Hartunian  
Aili Hiltunen  
Judith Hyde  
Barbara G. Jones  
Elaine L. Koenig  
Margo Laue  
JoAnn Padgett  
Isabelle Telliez  
Katherine Y. Wong  
Leora Zalman

#### Supporter

Roger & Selih Brown  
Netany & Karl Cranford  
Jean Creek  
Christopher DiLeo  
Jeff & Nancy Dosick  
Cheri Farrell & Allan Coats  
Liz Fort

Patti & John Garretson  
David & Lois Gottfredson  
Lois & Jim Gray  
Barbara & Philip Henshaw  
Paul Hewitt  
Joshua Jones  
Mare N. Leverant  
Claudia Lowenstein  
E. R. McDaniel  
William & Barbara Mitchel  
Dave & Linda Ponsford  
Marcia & Jerry Sarnow

#### Angel

Megan Bryden  
Lynn Daniel  
Bobbie Day & Chuck DiSalvo  
Rinaldo de Jong  
Iris & David Gimbel  
Sheila Goldfarb  
Herbert Greiner  
Chris & Karen Landwair  
Julian & Lee Lichter  
Ralph & Marion Nebiker  
Ann & Tiff Nelson  
Greg & Berry Pardue  
John & Ellen Person

John & Suzanne Ohlfest  
Judy & Barry Petro  
Mel & Marlese Pinney

#### Gold

Richard & Mary Beth Akemann  
Marcio & Claudia K. de Andrade  
James W. Beshears – Attorney at Law  
Brookie Best  
California Coastal Credit Union  
Peter Gorrie  
Daniel Huppert & Alice Gail Theilocker  
Elinor Jett  
Sandy Klipfel  
Steve Lyons  
Robert & Amy Murad  
Karen & Charlie Nager  
Anders & Lisa Nybert  
Judy Porter  
Helga & Sam Strong  
University City Little League

### University City Community Association 2020 UCCA Membership Application\*

2020 Members will receive a 2020 membership card and a special thank-you gift for joining.

\_\_\_ \$20 Individual | \_\_\_ \$40 Supporter | \_\_\_ \$60 Angel | \_\_\_ \$100 Gold | \_\_\_ Additional donation enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please print Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Business name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Would you like to volunteer? We welcome your time, talent, comments and suggestions. Please let us know.**

Individual and/or 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; mail to UCCA, 3298 Governor Drive, #22574, San Diego, CA 92122. Payment is also accepted through PayPal on our website [www.universitycitynews.org](http://www.universitycitynews.org).

Your UCCA membership dues (and additional donation) make a big difference in our community. These funds help support our many worthwhile organizations, (i.e. public schools' fundraising, Standley Park, EdUCate, Neighborhood Watch, ImproveUC/UCCF, Buy Local) as well as many special projects and activities such as median beautification, painted utility boxes and street banners, 4th of July Celebration, Summer Concerts, December holiday tree and menorah lighting, and of course, our monthly newsletter delivered to your home and/or business. (\*UCCA membership dues are not tax deductible.)

\*This membership is valid for the 2020 calendar year. Thank you for joining UCCA.

If you have any questions, please contact our Membership Chairperson  
Hallie Burch at [UCCAmembership@gmail.com](mailto:UCCAmembership@gmail.com).



## Shift Program Construction Update

**Mid-Coast Trolley Construction, SANDAG Project Along Nobel Drive** - Construction continues along the Nobel viaduct, the section of the Trolley bridge between Charmant Drive and the VA Medical Center that crosses the I-5 freeway south of Nobel Drive. A series of lane closures on I-5 are anticipated in late March or early April to remove falsework from the freeway overcrossing. Notices will be posted to [ShiftSanDiego.com](http://ShiftSanDiego.com) in advance of the closures.



### **Parking Structure at La Jolla Village Square**

Construction for the Nobel Drive Trolley Station parking structure began in late January in a section of the La Jolla Village Square parking area. All construction activities will take place within the fenced work area, access to business and shops will be maintained throughout construction. Once complete, the parking structure will provide spaces for transit patrons and retail customers and will include a direct walkway to the Nobel Drive Trolley Station. The structure is anticipated to be completed by November 2020.

### **Southbound I-5 Auxiliary Lane (Managed by Mid-Coast Trolley/MCTC)**

The Southbound I-5/Genesee Avenue Auxiliary Lane Project will construct a new southbound auxiliary lane between Genesee Avenue and La Jolla Village Drive. The new lane will help improve traffic flow and merging patterns on I-5, allowing motorists to remain in one lane from the time they merge onto southbound I-5 from Genesee Avenue to the time they exit onto La Jolla Village Drive. Current work includes paving for the new lane.



Visit [ShiftSanDiego.com](http://ShiftSanDiego.com) or follow @ShiftSanDiego on Twitter for the most up-to-date information on construction impacts in the area. For any questions regarding current or ongoing work, contact Shift at [info@shiftsandiego.com](mailto:info@shiftsandiego.com).

## 2020 5G Update

*by Roger Cavanaugh*

Recently Senator Feinstein wrote an op-ed in support of the "Restoring Local Control Over Public Infrastructure", a Senate bill to restore local rights to control 5G rollout. Citing the opposition of more than 170 local California jurisdictions to recent FCC regulations which she said ignore public safety, seize public assets, avoid financial responsibility for damages, and place an unfair burden on local government to pay more for the approval costs than they receive in compensation; she urges congressional colleagues to join her in restoring the rights of local government. Our public officials who stand up to wireless in the public interest- sadly lacking in San Diego – need to hear from us. A recent paper from Harvard's Safra Center for Ethics notes the FCC is corrupted by those it pretends to regulate, and notes the ability of telecom to choose greed and profits over the public interests depends upon the ignorance and passivity of all of us. The least we can do is to protect our children and the vulnerable. It's election season, so we can have an impact by writing and calling to inform candidates and public officials at all levels of our concerns.

Since neither telecom nor our cities monitor EMF levels, another step we can take locally is to determine what levels of wireless radiation we are exposed to. I am now working with a group of scientists and physicians to do so. My first attempt at measurement yielded results near a school and on a residential street showing EMF levels about 10 times the inadequate and obsolete FCC safety standards in place. Once technical issues related to measurement are resolved, we will be measure EMF in public places.



### **City Waives Some Permit Fees for Sidewalk Repairs**

*by Diane Ahern*

Is your sidewalk in need of repair? Is this the year to get it done? The City hopes so as it offers its first fee holiday for sidewalk repairs with participating homeowners expected to save as much as \$2,000. The sidewalk repair permit fee holiday will remain in place through calendar year 2020.

While the City is responsible for the maintenance of sidewalk damage caused by vehicle accidents, water main breaks, grade subsidence and trees within the right-of-way, homeowners are responsible for the normal wear and tear of the sidewalk.

The City already offers a 50/50 cost sharing program to residents looking to support the City's mission and prioritize the safety and effectiveness of the sidewalk network. This program typically addresses approximately 50 sidewalk locations annually. Although permit fees vary per location, the average permit can be thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket costs for property owners. For more information, visit the City of San Diego website at [sandiego.gov](http://sandiego.gov).





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**University City Branch Grand Opening**

Saturday, February 29, 10 am - 1:30 pm

3202 Governor Drive, Suite 102

San Diego, CA 92122

Located at the Corner of Governor and Regents  
near Starbucks and Great Clips.

<sup>1</sup>No purchase necessary to enter or win. Must be at least 18 years old to enter. Details  
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