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UNIVERSITY CITY...more than just a neighborhood!

University City











Parade of Lights in University City by Sandy Lippe

Covid-19 can't stop the new festive holiday lighting event, the Parade of Lights, on December 11 and 12 from 5:00 to 7:00pm. It is a "drive through" holiday adventure in the Standley Park Rec Center parking lot. Santa himself and his elves will pass out "goody bags" to all the children in cars. All ages will enjoy the new Parade of Lights which includes our beautifully decorated Christmas tree and new Hanukkah Menorah. Families are encouraged to choose one of the two nights: Friday, December 11 or Saturday, December 12. Families are encouraged to decorate their cars. Whether you are 9-months or 90-years-old, you will love this holiday event. UCCA, Standley Park Rec, and the new Parks Council have teamed up to present Parade of Lights to the community. Chairperson Darlene Ventimiglia, artistic designer Judy Bethel, Parks Council's Carol Parham and their volunteer team are hard at work preparing for a night to remember. Circle your calendar for either December 11 or 12, and join in with your neighbors for this night to remember...

Holiday Celebration plans as described above are subject to change. If any changes are required because of COVID-19 please check on our UCCA website - universitycitynews.org, e-blasts, UCCA Facebook page, and NextDoor.com. Thank you for your understanding. The Holiday Celebration Committee.

Have a Healthy Winter and Happy New Year

DECEMBER 2020 /

JANUARY 2021

Let's Stay in Touch

None of us know exactly what the next few months will bring and we urge all to follow our City, County and State health guidelines. UCCA does not host a community meeting in December. We will continue to update our news and social media sites with news and features. We also plan to send out periodic emails to our UCCA member email list. We look forward to seeing you at our January 13 Zoom meeting. Meanwhile, here are several ways to stay in touch with the volunteers that make up University City Community Association.

- · Visit our website: UniversityCityNews.org
- Follow us on Twitter: @UCCA SD
- · Like us on Facebook: @universitycitycommunityassociati
- Leave a voice mail: 858.412.0786
- Email us at: universitycitynews@gmail.com



UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Published by University City Community Association 3298 Governor Drive #22574 San Diego, CA 92122 www.universitycitynews.org

40.0700 university city news.org

858.412.0786 universitycitynews@gmail.com

Distribution is 6,000 copies, 10 issues per year, hand delivered to South University City residents, schools, libraries, parks and businesses.

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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 or jemmasamala@gmail.com.

Deadline for the FEBRUARY issue: JANUARY 14, 2021

Please send your submission as early as possible. The deadline for the February issue is January 14, 2021, 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.

2021 UCCA Board Members

Executive Board

President: Barry Bernstein, apdrfn@aol.com, 858.453.3713 Vice-President: Mack Langston, langstonmack@gmail.com Secretary: Jim Beshears, jwblaw@sbcglobal.net Treasurer: Don Hotz, don.hotz@yahoo.com

Appointed Positions

Beautification Chair/UCCF Liaison: Merle Langston, merlelangston1@gmail.com, and Barbara Gellman, Co-Chair, bggellman@yahoo.com

CASA Liaison/Publicity & Promotion/Webmaster: Diane Ahern, ahern.diane@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary & Historian: OPEN

*Christmas Tree/Menorah Lighting Coordinator: Darlene

Ventimiglia, darleneven2@gmail.com

Membership: Hallie Burch, UCCAmembership@gmail.com Neighborhood Watch: Barbara Gellman, bggellman@yahoo.com Newsletter Chair/Distributor: Don Hotz, don.hotz@yahoo.com

*Newsletter Ads: Terri Day, uccaADS@hotmail.com

*Newsletter Editor: Jemma Samala, UCCAEditor@gmail.com Parliamentarian/SD Network of Town Coalitions: Mack Langston, langstonmack@gmail.com

Special Events: Barbara Henshaw, barbarahenshaw@gmail.com *UCPG CPUS Liaison: Katie Rodolico, ktnelson@yahoo.com

*UCSD Liaison: Deanna Ratnikova, deanna.ratnikova@gmail.com

*Non-Voting Member

UCCA Meeting Synopsis November 11, via Zoom



by Jim Beshears, Secretary

SCHEDULED GUESTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Amber Ter-Vrugt of Scripps Hospital thanked the UCCA for its \$1,000 donation to the HOPE Fund, an employee's benefits fund.

Barbara Bry, the outgoing City Council Member for District 1 thanked the UCCA for it donations to Scripps Employees and said it was an honor representing our district on the City Council.

Officer M. Bognuda of the SDPD reported that a juvenile male was arrested on Oct. 16th for battery and a hate crime for the attack on Rabbi Halevy. The District Attorney was now handling the matter. She also reported an increase in "crimes of opportunity" such as car break-ins and theft of packages on porches. She suggested cameras covering the front porch and obtaining delivery information. She also reported an increase in neighborhood disputes.

Don Hotz gave the Treasurers report that was approved by the Board. The membership report prepared by Hallie Burch said there were 125 families with 183 members.

OPEN FORUM

Ruth DeSantis reported on the status of the Pure Water Project and the settlement with the City. Construction is expected to start in Spring 2021. Traffic on Genesee will be one lane in each direction during construction. She stated commitments for maintenance and water after two years is still uncertain.

Darlene Ventimiglia announced there would be a Christmas Tree and Menorah lighting ceremony on December 11 at Standley Park Rec Center. Santa and Elves will be passing out goodies from 5:00-7:00pm on December 11 and 12.

Diane Ahern announced the Fire Safe Council of UC was working on an education and outreach program on how to reduce fire danger and how to react. A Community Wildfire Safety Plan was still being worked on and a Zoom meeting to share knowledge was set for Nov. 16th.

Ryan Ahearn announced the is office would be giving out pumpkin and apple pies on Nov. 24 starting at 3:00 pm until the pies ran out. Pick up is in front of Standley Park Rec Center.

Lindsey King of Spreckels Elementary School requested \$500 to assist in their Jog-a-Thon fundraiser to be held virtually on November 30 to December 4. The donation request was unanimously approved.

Ron Belanger of Citizens Advocating for Safe Aviation (CASA) advised the Marines taking off from Miramar have new routes going over UC. The base commander showed no interest in complying with FAA regulations that require planes to follow 805 northwest and go to the ocean at Sorrento Valley. CASA will submit a request to Scott Peters to see if compliance can be required.

Chris Nielsen, chair of UC Planning Group stated there is a meeting on December 14 for choosing the design for the new Torrey Pines Fire Station, members of the UCPG were going to meet with City officials regarding improvements to the Coastal Rail Trail on Gilman Dr., and a biomed center was in planning stage to add 1 million sq. ft. of buildings at the end of Town Center Dr. located next to a canyon.

LEGISLATIVE REPORTS:

- Justine Murray, aide to Councilmember Barbara Bry, reported (1)
 Bry's office was working on the Complete Communities Plan
 including housing and mobility issues before turning over to Joe
 LaCava.; (2) They were securing funds to start construction in
 Summer 2021 on a stop light at Governor and Lakewood; (3)They
 were reviewing aspects of the Costa Verde redevelopment plan;
 (4) They were looking at whether Pavlov Street needed to be
 resurfaced or have a slurry seal treatment; (5) She had still not
 heard back from Willmark on fire safety violations on its property
 on Gullstrand; (6) She had been in contact with the La Jolla Town
 council regarding their community plan and the effect of the pass
 or fail of recent propositions;
- Jessica Brown, aide to Congressman Scott Peters, reported (1) Service Academy applications must be submitted virtually; (2) two bills were passed to help vets with mental health issues and with less than honorable discharges receive housing and counseling.

The next meeting will be held on January 13, 2021 via zoom at 6:00pm. Meeting ID# 817 0584 1972



UCCA President Barry Bernstein

Hi Everyone,

It's December, Thanksgiving "zoomed" by has University City families are preparing for Christmas. and Hanukkah Kwanzaa celebrations. UCCA, University City Parks Council, and Standley Park staff have joined together to provide a special COVID approved early evening activity, (See front page for details).

Please grab the kids and get them safely into your cars and head towards Standley Park. Wearing masks will be appreciated...as there may be interactions between Santa and his elves while driving through the Holiday of Lights Parade area. There will be two nights, from 5:00-7:00pm on both Friday December 11 and Saturday, December 12. Pick the one evening most convenient for you.

I hope by the time you're reading my column San Diego County has moved from the COVID purple tier to a less stringent category...AND the anticipated official transition of our Country's elected officials and government agencies is progressing. Council member Barbara Bry participated in our November UCCA meeting and she graciously expressed her gratitude to the University City community for the support they gave her these past four years. Barbara's liaison to University City, Justine Murray, will be missed greatly too. She was always there, with her sleeves rolled up, to advocate for us. We wish both of these very capable and hard working women the very best in whatever their future endeavors may be.

Joe LaCava won the election for the District 1 City Council position over former UC resident, Will Moore. Mark Powell, longtime University City resident, was not re-elected to his position to the County School Board. Mark had gotten a lot done and should be proud of his accomplishments.

This edition of the UCCA newsletter is a December/January issue. One of the best ways to keep informed on current happenings in UC the first part of 2021 is to participate in our January 13 ZOOM meeting and/or open the link to our web site: universitycitynews.org. Don't forget it's your membership dues that allows us to support all the very important activities, schools, organizations in University City....so if you haven't already joined, please put that on your New Year's resolutions list of things to do. Remember, University City is "more than just a neighborhood" ... And to all those that may celebrate, "Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a Festive Kwanzaa".

~Barry

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

* Special thanks to Charles and Molly Brazell for their very generous UCCA 2021 membership donation.

VIRTUAL UCCA MEETING – JANUARY 13

The next UCCA meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, January 13, starting at 6:00pm – the regular monthly meeting time. There will be no UCCA meeting in December.

Since libraries are still closed, the meeting will be held virtually via Zoom. To participate, join at us02web.zoom.us/j/81705841972

You may also go to zoom.com, and join meeting ID: 817 0584 1972

And you can also call in at: 408.638.0968, 81705841972#

calendar

PEOPLE FOR A CLEAN UC

Sunday, December 13 & January 10 7:30-9:00am Cleanup volunteers meet at Starbucks 3202 Governor Drive, supplies provided

HANUKKAH

Thursday, December 10 (sunset) to Friday, December 18 (sunest)

UC PARADE OF LIGHTS

Saturday, December 11
Sunday, December 12
5:00-7:00pm
Standley Park Rec Center Parking Lot

CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday, December 25

KWANZAA

Saturday, December 26 to Friday, January 1

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Friday, January 1

UCCA MEETING

Wednesday, January 13, 6:00pm Zoom.us, meeting ID#817 0584 1972 (No meeting in December)

UC COMMUNITY PLAN COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 8
5:30 – 7:30pm
Agendas and meeting information posted on planuniversity.org

UNIVERSITY CITY PARKS COUNCIL STANDLEY PARK COMMUNITY REC GROUP

Thursday, January 28
Contact Rec Center for meeting info:
858.552.1652

MRTIN LUTHER KING DAY

Monday, January 18

UC PLANNING GROUP

Agendas and meeting information posted on planuniversity.org

UNIVERSITY CITY NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH WE REPORT ALL SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES TO OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Heartfelt Thanks

by Barbara Gellman

To all Neighborhood Watch Captains and Cocaptains who have stood steadfast in their mission to share crime prevention measures and promote safety with their neighbors using education, observation and reporting. They have helped to instill a feeling of responsibility in each of us to look out for one another and are

the "go to" person on the street when there are questions or concerns.

In partnership with our police, we have been fortunate to have had great Community Relations Officers (CRO's) such as Officer Melanie Bognuda, who takes her position seriously in the pursuit of a solution. Along with continued, excellent leadership in our Northern Division, we have forged a supportive and proactive relationship. We are the extra eyes and ears of the community, the police depend on us to report what they cannot see. Our reporting can lead to a resolution of a crime.

Eight years ago, under the direction of our University City Community Association(UCCA), we rebooted the Neighborhood Watch program and secured volunteers to be captains or leaders of each street. They in turn have reached out to their neighbors to share crime prevention suggestions and alerts. This program includes both South University City and North University City where many complexes have embraced this program under the leadership of Cathy Colclasure, my North UC Coordinator.

Again, many thanks to all who hold this responsible position and all the residents who are supporting the goals of Neighborhood Watch, you hold the key to safety. If you do not know who your street captain is, or don't actually have one, please contact me at bggellman@yahoo.com; there is a solution.

"Smoke Alarms for Seniors" Program Undergoes Changes



Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Burn Institute has adopted additional safety and social distancing protocols to ensure that the Free Smoke Alarms for Seniors service can continue. The Burn Institute offers free smoke alarm installations for seniors 62 years+ who own their own home in San Diego or Imperial County through their Fire-Safe Seniors program. If you meet these qualifications, fill out the application form and someone will contact you to complete the sign-up process. Once registered, Burn Institute volunteers will set-up an appointment time to install alarms up to California State Fire Code in your home free of charge. Get more information and fill out the application form at burninstitute.org/applications/smoke-alarm-application/



Holiday Assistance Needed? Help is a Phone Call Away

During the holiday season, community partners across San Diego offer programs that help make the holidays possible for individuals and families that would otherwise not be able to celebrate. 2-1-1 San Diego can help connect people with holiday assistance programs in their area. 2-1-1 is a free, 24-hour confidential phone service and searchable online database which provides access to community, health, social, and disaster services. Call 2-1-1 or visit their website for more information at 211sandiego.org/.

A Front Door Sign Can Save You Hundreds of Dollars

by Mark Powell

As we struggle through COVID-19 and physical distancing restriction more people are choosing to shop online. With Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa around the corner you can bet that there



is going to be an even bigger increase in online buying which also means a bigger increase in package theft. Porch pirates have become so brazen that they are even following UPS, FedEx and Amazon drivers around our neighborhoods, stealing deliveries within minutes of being dropped off. So the sooner you know that there's a package on your doorstep, the less likely it will be stolen.

You can help prevent your deliveries from being stolen by installing a front door security system, such as Ring, and placing a sign at your front door asking all delivery drivers to "Ring The Doorbell" when they deliver a package. If you're home then all you need to do is open your front door and retrieve your package. If you're away, your doorbell system will notify you that there is a delivery so you can return home to recover your package or ask a neighbor to pick it up for you. Remember, time is of the essence when it comes to getting your packages off your door step.



Subscribe to Email Updates from Development Services and Planning Departments

You can now sign up to receive email courtesy notifications on all noticed public and private development projects and planning updates within the City of San Diego. This new email service replaces the paper-based public notifications currently mailed as a courtesy to stakeholders upon request for such projects; courtesy paper notices will no longer be mailed beginning December 1, 2020. Legally-required public notices will continue to be posted online and sent by U.S. mail. To subscribe to any of more than 50 subscription lists for news and public notices by community planning areas, public meeting agendas, the Development Services' seasonal Construction Insider newsletter and more, visit sandiego.gov/e-notices.



Protect Yourself: Your Actions Save Lives

A message from the California Department of Public Health: There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. The virus spreads mainly from person-to-person between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet). This occurs by respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Every person has a role to play. So much of protecting yourself and your family comes down to common sense:

- Stay home except for essential needs/activities.
- Practice physical distancing stay 6 feet away from people.
- Wear a cloth face mask if you leave home.
- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 For more ways to protect yourself, visit www.cdph.ca.gov/.



Message from Councilperson Barbara Bry

Dear University City,

It has been my pleasure to serve as your City Councilmember for the past four years. We made a great team and accomplished a lot!

I loved holding my State of the District speeches at UC High School, an event catered by local restaurants and with the national anthem sung by local students.

You are special, UC. You are home to one of San Diego's largest biotech hubs, an industry that has grown five times faster than the local economy and added 85,000 jobs since 2000. And one of the nation's top public universities, UC San Diego, lies within the your community plan, greatly influencing your culture, economy and legislative issues.

And while you contribute so much to San Diego's reputation and economy, you also are a friendly small town. You all look out for, and take care of one another. In addition, you work together to make your community an incredible place to live, work and play.

Whether it was at my community coffees, your UC Community Association and UC Planning Group meetings, or many other community events, it was always refreshing to see so many residents engaged with their local government.

Of the many historical milestones I was honored to be a part of in the Golden Triangle, my favorites include:

- 1. Taking Imagine UC 2020, your new aquatic center and pavilion, from approval in 2016, to the groundbreaking on 10/7/20.
- Securing full funding for the design and construction of your long-awaited Lakewood Street and Governor Drive traffic signal, which will finally begin construction in the summer.
- 3. Cutting the ribbon in July 2019 on the first new single-family homes in your community in 40 years.
- Securing the funding, and supporting the construction of Fire Station 50, which will soon be open and fully operational.

I will miss you, University City. I will always remember your fantastic Summer Concerts, and I will continue to tell anyone who listens that the best place to celebrate Independence Day in San Diego is at Standley Park during the 4th of July UC Celebration! I look forward to bringing my grandchildren!

I will miss you as your Councilmember. As a private citizen, I'll be seeing you in a different capacity as the next chapter of my life begins to take shape. Thank you for the wonderful memories.

Sincerely, Barbara Bry



John Lee Evans (center) at UC fundraiser in 2015 with principals and Superintendent.

A Time for Change at San Diego Unified

John Lee Evans San Diego Unified Board President

After serving University City on the San Diego Unified School Board for twelve years my third and final term is coming to an end on December 8, 2020. Congratulations to Sabrina Bazzo who will be sworn in on that date as the Board Trustee representing District A. Her children graduated from San Diego Unified and she has been a highly involved volunteer in the schools. She also has a Master's in Public Health, a valuable asset at this time. It is also worth noting that the first and only Student Trustee on the Board is Zachary Patterson from University City High School.

When I came onto the School Board in 2008 the Class of 2020 was in the first grade. We faced immediate cuts to our budget in the middle of the year. We weathered financial crises arising from the Great Recession of 2008, but kept class size smaller than other districts, implemented educational technology across the district, expanded music and arts programs and made their graduation requirements more rigorous and more meaningful.

Little did we know the other bookend of their school careers would be another crisis, the Coronavirus pandemic. They had to spend the last months of their senior year at home, did not get to experience a traditional graduation ceremony and have experienced an unusual entry into college. Nevertheless, I have been inspired by the resilience, flexibility and determination of this group of students to move forward. I look forward to the very positive impact that they will have on the world in the coming decades.

We continue to face the challenge of reopening our schools safely. The current situation is extremely difficult for students, teachers and the community at large. In Phase 1 of reopening we have a limited number of the highest needs students receiving in-person help on our campuses. Our goal is to reopen with a hybrid model (half online/half in person) in January. We have made an agreement with UCSD for a state of the art testing program. We will be ready, but there is only one thing that can stop us: a surge of the spread of the virus in our county. Our UCSD guidelines and our county regulations can both indicate that it is not safe to reopen. We can all do our part by wearing masks, social distancing and avoiding gatherings to speed the return of our students to school. Our students, our staff and our community are resilient. Together we will overcome the damage wrought by Covid-19.

It has been my pleasure to serve our schools and community these past twelve years. We all have a stake in our public schools as the key to a strong community. University City has been a strong supporter of our public schools. We will come out even stronger as we emerge from this crisis.

San Diego Public Library News and Events from University Community Branch Library Manager Melissa Martin. To find out the most current information about these programs and other events at the San Diego Public Library, follow us on Facebook or check our website: www.sandiego.gov/public-library.

We are so glad to finally see our neighbors face-to-face at the 12 libraries that have opened for limited in-person services. If you want to try it out, the nearest libraries are the La Jolla/Riford Library, Carmel Valley Library and Mira Mesa Library. At the University Community Library, 4155 Governor Drive, we continue to provide contactless pickup service, but look forward to the day when we can open for basic services. In the meantime, check out the programs highlighted below.



The big highlights for this update are the OASIS programs, storytime with Mr. Larry, and the Library Holiday Shopping pop-up. Note that we are on the waiting list to have the timer for the parking lot lights reset and bulbs replaced. If this does not get done before December 15, we will adjust the hours of the Shopping Event to end before it gets dark.

- For the most up-to-date information about programs, library hours and other services, call 858.552.1655 or go to sandiego.gov/public-library
- Don't forget to follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/universitycommunitylibrary
- Visit SDPL Virtual Branch Online Calendar at sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/month/2020/12 (select SDPL Virtual Branch).

We hope you are enjoying the library programming for patrons of all ages. We are working behind the scenes to put together new programs all the time and welcome your suggestions on future programming.

Holiday Shopping: The Library Shop is "popping up" in UC! Stop by the library at 4155 Governor Dr. from 2:00-6:00pm** on Tuesday, December 15 to do some fun holiday shopping at the Library Shop pop-up. The Library Shop offers a carefully curated selection of literary-themed books, jewelry, children's merchandise, gifts and art. All proceeds benefit the San Diego Public Library system. The Shop supports local vendors and artisans whenever possible. The Library Shop is a partnership between the San Diego Public Library Foundation and the Friends of the Library.**Closing time is subject to change.

OASIS San Diego: Classes are geared toward adults 55+ (although all are welcome) and will be held live on Zoom on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00pm. There is no fee for the class but registration is required through the OASIS San Diego website (san-diego.oasisnet.org/). The next class is scheduled for December 16: The Great Influenza and COVID-19: Parallels and Predictions by Philip J. Goscienski, M.D.

Storytime with Mr. Larry: The UC Library is now offering storytimes every Thursday morning at 10:30am on our Facebook page! Because we can't be together for storytime in the library, libraries have been given permission by several publishers to read popular titles and share them with you online. The storytimes are pre-recorded so you can watch them at any time. Follow the UC Library page on Facebook so you can see them all!

Craft kits for kids: Prepackaged supplies in bags with directions on how to make fun crafts – we have new selections every month.

UC Book Bundles: We have added current popular adult and children's magazines and holiday books to the Book Bundles! Materials in the bundles are pre-selected and bagged for quick check-out. Each bundle is numbered, so you can keep track of the bags you've already borrowed. New juvenile titles will arrive after the new year. Check out the display board at the library to make your selection!



Virtual Library NExT Courses: Register for fun online programs which are being held through December 19th with live instruction via Zoom. If supplies are needed for a course you will receive an email directing you to a Contactless Pickup Service or In-Person Library Service location to pick up your supplies. Zoom links will be emailed out with a reminder email. Library NExT (Network of Education x Training) is a series of workshops for elementary, middle and high school students on topics including robotics, circuits and 64 + other STEAM subjects. Please note: class sizes are limited and fill up quickly. This San Diego Public Library program is a collaboration with UC San Diego Extension and Sally Ride Science.

Virtual Homework Help: The Do Your Homework @ the Library Virtual Homework Help is available 6 days a week to serve K-8th grade students. Homework help is available to students and their families for free. Math, English and science help will be available Monday-Thursday from 10:00am to 1:00pm and 2:30 to 5:30pm. Additional help in Spanish and weekend hours are available. Email registration is required to connect with the DYH@L Virtual Homework Help program. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering as a homework coach, contact the Do Your Homework @ the Library program at 619.238.6687. For more information and the full Virtual Homework Help schedule, go to: sandiego.gov/public-library/kidsandteens/homework.

How to get a library card: You can apply for a library card online and be assigned a digital library card number that will expire after 30 days. Apply at: sandiego.gov/blog/digital-library-card. Customers may convert their digital library card into a physical library card by contacting any of our In-Person or Contactless Pickup Service locations. You can use the temporary digital card right away to place holds and download materials (such as ebooks, eaudiobooks and digital magazines), use electronic databases, take online classes, and much more.

The San Diego Public Library Virtual Hub is a Facebook group where Library Staff and partnering organizations offer daily virtual programs for all ages including: read-alouds, crafts & DIY, book talks, and more! You might be surprised to recognize some of the faces. For more information, go to sandiego.gov/public-library/sdplvirtual#undefined



Run, Walk and Play All Day

New Play Field Now Underway at Curie Elementary

by Diane Ahern

The Marie Curie Elementary School students and neighbors will soon have a new grass field for walking, running, and playing. San Diego Unified School District is constructing a new play field in University City that is shared with the City of San Diego. This project is part of the school district's capital improvement program funded by Measure YY, approved by voters in 2018.

Along with the grass play field, the project includes a walking/running path, a drinking fountain, newly planted trees, secure perimeter fencing, parking lot improvements, and accessibility upgrades on the main campus outside the joint-use area. As part of the Play all Day partnership with the City of San Diego, the joint-use field will be accessible to the community as a local park after school hours and during school breaks. For school project details, please visit https://fpcprojects.sandi.net/

on 60 Years of Research, innovation and Triton Spirit



Over the span of six decades, what began as a brand-new University of California campus in the University City area has evolved into one of the top 20 research universities in the world. In November, UC San Diego kicked off a yearlong celebration of its 60-year anniversary milestone.

Throughout the 2020-2021 academic year, UC San Diego will commemorate its founding through virtual events that celebrate the campus' remarkable legacy. Anniversary programming includes the upcoming virtual event series "Evenings of Nonconventional Wisdom" launching in January 2021. For more information, visit the UCSD news site at ucsdnews.ucsd.edu.

Spread Some Holiday Cheer

Help spread some UCHS holiday cheer by helping the UCHS Adopt-a-Family program. The program helps benefit UCHS students and families in need of a little extra something this year. Your tax-deductible donation will help purchase grocery and store gift cards, and wish list items.

Donations will be accepted until December 18, go to uchsptsa.org, click the "donate" button on the left sidebar, and select "Adopt-a-Family." To sponsor an entire family (size ranges from two to six members) or to purchase items on the wish list, contact jemmasamala@gmail.com



Spreckels Students Get Moving

The Annual Spreckels Jog-A-Thon Fundraiser had to adapt this year, as with most fundraisers. Instead, they are having a virtual Get Moving fundraiser, where students log their moving minutes – walking, jogging, running – any type of movements. The Spreckels mascot KitKat is shown above riding a bike. The event takes place from November 30 to December 4. Funds raised goes toward sthe general Spreckels PTA fund, and helps provide classroom funds, learning platforms (RazKids, Lexia, Mystery Science, Achieve3000), Red Ribbon Week, and Visual and Performing Arts programs. UCCA supported their efforts by approving a \$500 donation.

Funding the UC Five

by Mark Salata, EdUCate! President

In University City, we are blessed with volunteers in many community organizations.



People in those organizations help beautify UC; communicate news and events and connect people in UC; help bring into reality our collective vision of improvements to UC; and much more. One organization that I am involved with in particular is unique in UC-EdUCate! EdUCate! is an all-volunteer, non-profit that provides supplemental funds to all five UC public schools to support the whole child academically, socially and emotionally.

I cannot think of many things that are more foundational than highquality education to democracy, civic engagement, and for individual and community development. Having an organization whose funding spans K-12 and partners with the leadership for all five schools to identify gaps truly makes UC more than just a We weren't able to have Oktoberfest this Fall due to the pandemic, but we are very pleased that many of you have continued to support EdUCate! in its mission.

Our online auction was successful, but we are continuing to raise funds to catch up funding for the needs for this Fall and coming Spring. Please consider donating any amount at our website (www.uceducate.org); in particular, I encourage you to join the Dollar-A-Day club at \$365, then that would help fund a whole classroom (1 teacher: 30 students). We are also actively seeking local business sponsors who wish to support excellence in education. Go to: uc-educate.org



UC Del Sol Girls Softball

Registration for the UC Del Sol Girls Softball is now open for the upcoming Spring season! Turnout is expected to be high as several teams are anticipated in each division (6U, 8U, 10U and 12U). Spring Ball starts in mid-January and lasts until the end of April. Please visit the league website at *ucdelsol.com* for information on registration.

Since we are still under COVID-19 restrictions and are only allowed to practice, the fee will only be \$50 to start. If and when the green light is given to play games, the participation fee will be revised (but not to exceed \$150 for 8U, 10U and 12U - \$65 for 6U)

And for girls ages 5 through 10 who are new to softball, UC Del Sol will be conducting its annual softball clinic on December 13th at 12:00 noon at Standley Middle School's field. This will give your daughters a chance to throw, catch, field and bat – to learn about softball and see what the fun is all about. Equipment (glove, helmets, bats) will be available if needed.

Check out *ucdelsol.com* for more information. Practices and home games are played at the Standley Middle School fields – road games are played at local leagues in the area. If you have any questions about UC del Sol and/or softball in general, please email them to pr@ucdelsol.com.



UCUC Blood Donor Drive

Saturday, January 9, is the next UCUC San Diego Blood Bank Bloodmobile Blood Drive at the Sprouts/Starbucks/Hunt Financial Marketplace on Governor Drive from 8:00am - 1:30pm. Bring your Driver's License and mask, and you'll find the Bloodmobile in the center of the parking lot. If you know you're coming, you can sign up at: www.mysdbb.org. The SD Blood Bank is particularly asking for type O blood. The 2021 Blood Drives are scheduled for: January 9, March 6, May 8, July 20, September 11, and November 6. Thank you - Always give 100%, except when giving blood. - Ray the Blood Man

UC Little League Spring Registration

We know the recent news of the County of San Diego going into the purple tier was not a step in the right direction when it comes to getting back to normal, but our league is full steam ahead in our planning and preparation for the 2021



season. With what we have seen in little leagues and travel ball in other parts of the country that are playing baseball safely and successfully, we are optimistic that we will be playing baseball games in San Diego in the spring. With that said, we are excited to announce we are going to open 2021 spring registration on December 1, 2020. We pushed back the normal November 1 registration opening to gather more information on safe play guidelines and seeing what little leagues across San Diego and outside of CA were doing over this past summer and into fall. We are going to move forward with registration, player assessments, player announcements, and a very scaled down opening day unless the current situation takes a turn for the worse. We are also happy to announce we are going to keep the registration fees the same as spring 2020.

In addition, because of the 2020 Standley Pool renovation project, we are in the process of moving the T Ball, MAPS and Minor fields to McElroy Field/Dino Park and Fort Field. This will allow us to play baseball in our neighborhood until the project is over and we are back to our other fields in 2022. There are a lot of exciting things going on in the league behind the scenes to make this a fun and safe season!

We are taking extra precautions heading into our season to ensure the safety of our players, coaches, umpires and families. We want to assure you that safety is our #1 concern. The league has already loaded up on supplies and will be purchasing sanitizer and PPE for each team that will be readily available for each player (masks, hand sanitizer, sanitizer wipes), in addition to adhering to safety procedures put out by the State, County and Little League International. If for some reason, we are not able to play actual games throughout the 2021 spring season, we will offer a \$100 refund to those who make a request by the designated date provided, if the season is cancelled.

We are really excited to play baseball again in UC and know the kids really want to get back out there too. Below is a schedule of upcoming dates you should be aware of. We will be sending more information out over the coming weeks/months as reminders for upcoming events. If you have any questions about registration you can reach out to Ryan Preston at president@ucll.org. Looking forward to seeing everyone again at the ball field!

To register for the spring 2021 season on or after December 1st, go to the league website www.ucll.org and click the registration link.

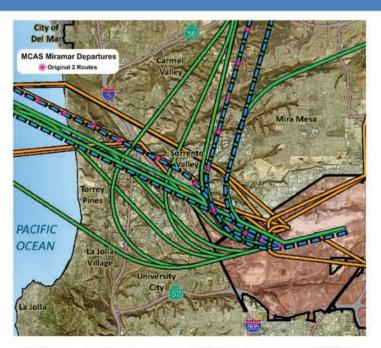
Important Dates:

December 1, 2020 - 2021 Spring Registration Starts (T-Ball Free, MAPS Free, Challenger FREE, Minors \$140, Intermediate \$140) December 5, 2020 - FREE Speed and Baseball Clinic at McElroy Field/Dino Park

January 15, 2021 - Registration Closes

January 23, 2021 - Player Assessments (Location TBD)

January 31, 2021 - Make Up Assessments (Location TBD)



Miramar Releases AICUZ Update 2020

by Ron Belanger, University City CASA (Citizens Advocating Safe Aviation)

MCAS Miramar airfield averages about 80,000 takeoffs and landings per year / 320 per weekday. The base recently published an update to their AICUZ (Air Installations Compatible Use Zones) document. The AICUZ is a Department of Defense (DoD) requirement for all military airfields which specifies Accident Potential Zones (APZ) and noise areas caused by their airfield operations.

The AICUZ also shows all approach and departure routes used at the airport. This information is used by local authorities for land use plans. The Miramar AICUZ required an update because of Miramar's transition from the twin-engine F-18 aircraft to its replacement single engine F-35 aircraft.

The most significant change in the AICUZ update is the addition of 11 (eleven) new fixed wing departure routes to the original 2 (two). The accompanying diagram from the new AICUZ shows the 13 (thirteen) fixed wing departure paths in green or blue where previously there were only 2 (two). Red dots are superimposed over the original two departure paths. Helicopter departure/arrival paths (shown in tan) have not changed significantly.

FAA / DoD regulations mandate the use of the two fixed wing departure routes marked with red dots. However, the 11 new departure routes can be used by FAA flight controllers at their discretion. But, the new AICUZ has failed to update Accident Potential Zones and noise areas to include these 11 (eleven) new routes.

The original Accident Potential Zone (APZ) covers only a small sliver of University City near the 5/805 split. So, the APZ and noise hazard areas must now be updated to incorporate the huge new areas of UC placed at risk of crashes and noise hazard under these 11 new routes.

The AICUZ Update 2020 can be found on Miramar's website at miramar.marines.mil/Resources/Encroachment/AICUZ/. Questions about the 2020 AICUZ update should be directed to the MCAS Miramar Community Plans and Liaison Office at 858-307-6603.

UNIVERSITY CITY'S HOLIDAY DRIVEWAY CONCERTS



See the Skylarks in a performance of "Girl Group" hits from the 50s and beyond – and share some holiday cheer, on Saturday, December 19, 3:00pm, in the cul-de-sac at Travers Way and Brannick Place. Be prepared to sing-a-long!

* * *

Greg Zinser, who collaborated with Tom Ventimiglia on the UC songs "more than just a neighborhood" and "happy days are here again" will continue performing with guests band members on Sundays, December 6 and December 20, starting at 2:00pm. Their driveway concerts are located at the corner of Hurd Ct. and Willard Street.

* * :

Front Porch Pandemic Jazz Band's (Greg Pardue, Jack Hoffman, Roy Jenkins, Phil Marcus, and Bob Horne) abbreviated Thursday schedule for the remainder of the year (subject to weather):

December 3 – Jack shows off his drum chops and Chris joins them on keys. Jazzed up holiday music is added to the mix.

December 10 – Full band and SD Humane Society will be here. The Humane Society will have a couple of representatives and a doggy ambassador in attendance and donations will gladly be accepted. Please be generous and bring your dog (on leash) if you have one. The additional jazzed up holiday music continues.

December 17 – Roy won't be here; guest bassist TBA. The additional jazzed up holiday music continues.

January 7, 2021 – Back at full strength and continuing every Thursday for who knows how long.

The band starts at 4:00pm, and is located at 5626 Bloch St.

* * *

Family groups are asked to stay socially distant and to wear masks. Bring lawn chairs, picnics, and your favorite beverage. Wear warm clothing. Enjoy our UC holiday driveway concerts!



Construction Continues at Standley Park

above and below are from a recent bird's eye view video of the use pool next to the existing Swanson Pool and will provide site updates to both Standley Middle and Spreckels Elementary Schools. Construction office trailers are currently located in the Standley Middle School parking lot on Governor Drive. Video from November 2020.



Community Drives Up for Pies

Two days before Thanksgiving, the Ahearn Team Real Estate, tradition. As you can see in the photo below, cars lined up along receive either a pumpkin or apple pie. And if you arrived 31 minutes after they started, you missed out – all their 200 pies had already been given away! Thanks to Ryan Ahearn and his





Flag Raising Boy Scouts

by Toby Geisting

cornflower blue sky, the perfect temperature and breeze, to unfurl a brand new flag at Our Mother of Confidence Church. The day began with a blessing by OMC's new pastor Father Steen Larion. The flag raising was executed by Lcpl Isaiah Waltertrammel and Lcpl Anorovia James, both stationed at Camp Pendleton. Attending was the Patriot Guard Riders.

This day was the culmination of many long months of work and fundraising by Eagle Scout candidate Kiefer Black of BSA Troop 506 and the Venture Crew, John Ohle and the Knights of Columbus (OMC) and the OMC parishioners, particularly the Mystical Rose Guild. Kiefer's parents, Cyndi and Phil Black, have been long time members of OMC parish, as have Charles and Jacob Norton who arranged for the Marines to participate. It turns out Kiefer and Father Steven have a connection that was only recently discovered: Father Steven baptized Kiefer back in 2005 when he was serving at St. Brigid's in Pacific Beach.

Kiefer, a sophomore at La Jolla High School, began this project in February 2020, then COVID hit and everything beginning the physical work in October. He told the enlightened audience that it took him three weekends: first, to dig the hole and prepare the base; second, to pour the cement; and third, to physically secure the flagpole to its base, while observing COVID restrictions. That meant only six fellow troop members could help raise the flagpole, but they showed up and using teamwork and grit, accomplished their mission.

Kiefer was quick with praise and thanks for those who were there to help – his fellow troop members and parishioners who donated equipment such as shovels, wheelbarrows, cement, time and money. The Patriot Guard Riders then presented Kiefer with and American Eagle sculpture to thank him for taking on such a noble project as an Eagle Scout candidate. I will be able to come back here and show my kids and grandkids my Eagle Scout project from when I was a teenager."



Pictured top: Members of BSA Troop 506, the Venture Crew and their leaders at the flag raising. Pictured above: John Ohle of the Knights



What a Beautiful Day for an Antique Car Parade

The San Diego Model A Ford Club held their annual Turkey Trot in November and toured through parts of University City. Julie Halter and family were in the lead car, pictured above, as they cruised on Governor Drive. For more pictures and information about the Model A Ford Club, visit their website at sandiegomodelaclub.com

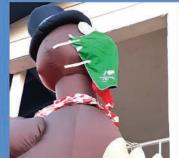
Photo courtesy Irene Carter



Treat and Go Halloween Ride

Local children and their families were able to grab a treat and go at our UC recreation centers – Doyle, Nobel and Standley, for Halloween. Families were able to drive up to the rec centers and receive a free bag of candy and a scary surprise. The event was provided by the City of San Diego.





UCCA President Barry Bernstein's Turkey practicing safe mask wearing.



Fire Station 50 Now Open to Serve UC Area Neighborhoods

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on November 24, led by Mayor Kevin Faulconer, Fire-Rescue Chief Colin Stowell, and Councilperson Barbara Bry, as seen above. Fire Station 50 is located at 7177 Shoreline Drive, alongside Nobel Drive.

Mayor Faulconer stated that "There's no bigger priority than public safety and the record investments we're making right now to protect the quality of life inour neighborhoods will last for generations. This new fire station will ensure that University City has the public safety facilities it needs as this neighborhood continues to grow and evolve with new businesses near a thriving research university."

The new 12,000 square foot, three-story fire station includes three apparatus bays, sleeping quarters for 10 personnel, a kitchen, a day room, watch room, exercise room and training room. Go to universitycitynews.org to see a video of the new fire station



Pictured above is Fire Safe Council member and retired New York Fire Chief Bill Beck and Councilmember Barbara Bry.

In keeping with their long-standing tradition, SD Fire-Rescue fire stations are accepting toys for the USMC Reserves Toys for Tots Program. All SDFD stations, including the new UC Fire Station 50, are drop-off points for new, unwrapped toys. COVID-19 protocols are in place, so they cannot greet you inside, but will accept your toys at the front door. You may also visit toysfortots.org to make a donation, or use the virtual toybox. Children all across the US will appreciate your kindness. Be sure to show Fire Station 50 that UC is more than a neighborhood.



Holiday Fire Safety Tips

by Bill Beck, retired New York Fire Chief and Fire Safe Council of UC Member

It's a fact that around the winter holiday season period, feelings of joy and excitement reach an all-time high. Sadly, the chances of a fire happening also increases with the festive abundance of electricals and open flames. To help you keep your celebratory time free of fire risks, here are some simple steps you should take:

- When preparing holiday meals, be mindful that you're working with heat and fire. Do not leave the stove unattended.
- Avoid placing decorations near candles, fireplaces and heaters and minimize decorations in the kitchen.
- Use ornaments that won't catch fire easily.
- Check the wires each year you are using the same lights.
- Use LED lights lower in voltage and generate less heat.
- Be careful not to overload outlets or extension cords.
- Use rated lights and extension cords for outdoor use.
- Turn off/unplug indoor and outdoor lights when not around.
- Be careful when lighting and burning candles. Make sure to fully extinguish matches and place candles in areas where they won't get knocked over and cause a fire and never leave them unattended.
- Keep your tree hydrated.
- Consider an electric menorah and avoid real candles.
- If you're using a fireplace, use a fire screen to keep embers and logs from escaping.
- Lastly, make sure all embers are fully extinguished before you turn in for the night.

As long as you are sensible during the holidays, there's no reason why your holiday celebrations shouldn't be fire-proof. Safety measures don't have to put a damper on the holiday, but some precautionary steps will give you peace of mind and a holiday season that's unforgettable for all the right reasons.

Tips to Prevent Garage Fires

from the U.S. Fire Administration

Whether you're using your garage for parking, storage, as a workout or laundry room, a game room, workshop, or all of the above, it goes without saying that our garages are an integral part of our homes and lives. But did you know that garage fires can cause more injuries, spread farther, and cause more financial damage than fires starting in other areas of a house? To help prevent a garage fire, follow these safety tips:

- Keep garage organized and free from clutter. Clean up spills.
- Install a heat alarm that will sound if the temperature rises too high.
- Plug only one device or charging appliance into an outlet.
 Avoid using extension cords.
- Avoid running appliances or vehicles continuously inside the garage.
- Keep items that can burn on shelves away from appliances.
- Clean out the dryer vent.
- Don't use cooking devices such as barbeques, smokers, and turkey fryers inside the garage.

If the unspeakable was to occur and your home or garage catches on fire, your primary objective is to get everyone out of the house and call 9-1-1 immediately; don't delay.



A Homeowner's Guide to Fireplace Safety

by Bill Beck

Fireplaces can create a wonderful atmosphere in the home, but is it safe enough for your family? Families with young children are often concerned about the possibility of accidental burns however, there are other concerns to consider such as chimney fires. Nevertheless, with proper maintenance and safety precautions a fireplace can be a safe feature in your home.

There are several types of fire places. The traditional wood burning fireplace should always have a wire mesh screen to prevent sparks and embers from flying out. A free-standing screen and even glass doors with a mesh screen are acceptable. With glass doors wait 15 to 20 minutes after starting the fire to allow the doors to adjust to the heat before fully closing them. While waiting use the mesh screen. Remember all screens will remain hot after the fire is out.

Before using your wood burning fireplace, fully open the damper which will allow smoke and harmful gases to escape. The damper is usually controlled by a chain. With the damper open, look up the chimney to see how clean the flue is. If you find dark glazed creosote, a byproduct of wood combustion that consists mainly of tar, you should wait to use your fireplace until after it has been professionally serviced. Excess creosote could ignite causing a chimney fire. If you use your fire place frequently, have it cleaned at least once a year and have the flue lining inspected. A chimney cap will keep birds and other animals from entering or building a nest in your chimney.

Fireplace gloves should be worn when opening hot doors or screens and adding or moving logs. Proper fireplace tools should also be used. A non-flammable rug in front of the fireplace will protect your carpet or wood floors from any sparks that could escape. Always store logs or kindling away from the fireplace so that there is no way an ember could escape and ignite them. Other flammable material should also be kept far enough away that they will not catch a random spark.

Ash residue stays hot long after the fire is out, so wait until it is cool before gathering it to prevent it from reigniting and starting a fire. When the fireplace is cool, close the damper to prevent any drafts from blowing the ash around.

Free standing gas fireplaces have more automatic features than traditional wood burning fireplaces, but there are still safety precautions you need to take. Be sure you understand how to operate the appliance and what to do in case of an emergency. Always follow the steps described above for the traditional wood burning fireplace. Direct vent and B-vent appliances do not have dampers, but you should still check the flue. The gas shutoff key should be clearly accessible and close at hand. When not in use, the gas key should be removed from the valve so that it cannot be accidentally opened and allow gas to enter the room. Consider installing a switch lock to keep children from accidentally turning on the gas. With all gas fireplaces, if the unit fails to turn on, turn the unit off for 5 minutes and allow the system to dissipate any buildup of combustible gases. Try again, but if no ignition is experienced, stop and seek the help of a qualified professional.

Electric fireplaces are generally very safe and require few precautions as the heating element is usually built within the unit, and the warm air coming from the appliance is not hot enough to cause a burn. Ensure that the unit is connected to a properly grounded outlet and is on a circuit that has the load capacity to support the appliance. Keep liquids away from the unit at all times.

With these safety tips you should be able to enjoy your fireplace this winter and for years to come.



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2021 Spring Baseball Registration

University City Little League

Boys and Girls aged 4-12 years old

We are really excited to play baseball again in UC and know the kids really want to get back out there too. Below is a schedule of upcoming dates you should be aware of. If you have any questions about registration you can reach out to Ryan Preston at president@ucll.org

Important Dates

Dec. 1, 2020 2021 Spring Registration Starts (T-Ball/Free, MAPS/Free,

Challenger/Free, Minors/\$100, Intermediate/\$100

Dec. 5, 2020 Free Speed and Baseball Clinic at McElroy Field/Dino Park

Jan. 15, 2021 Registration closes

Jan. 23, 2021 Player assessment, location to be determined

Jan. 31, 2021 Make up Player assessment, location to be determined

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for up to date info:

1 University City Little League-UCLL

For more Registration info, visit our website: www.ucll.org









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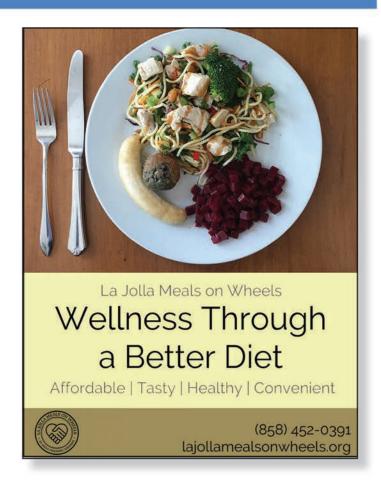
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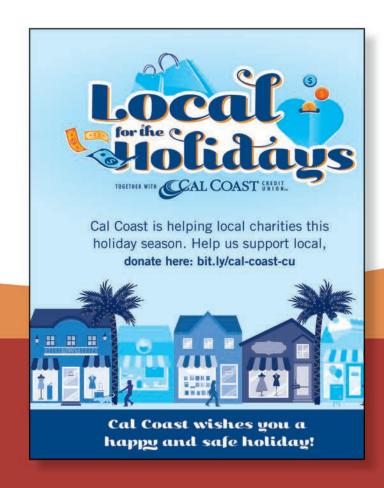
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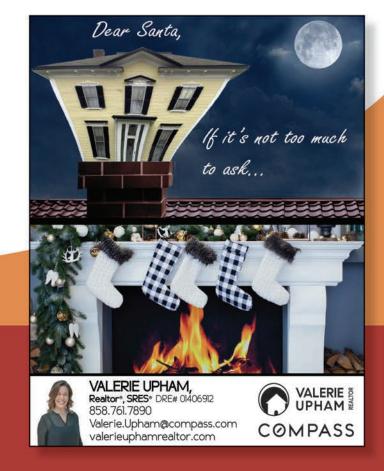
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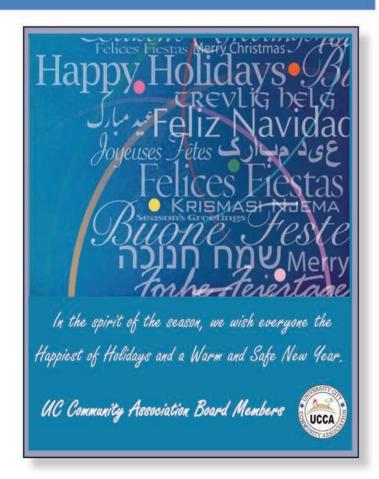




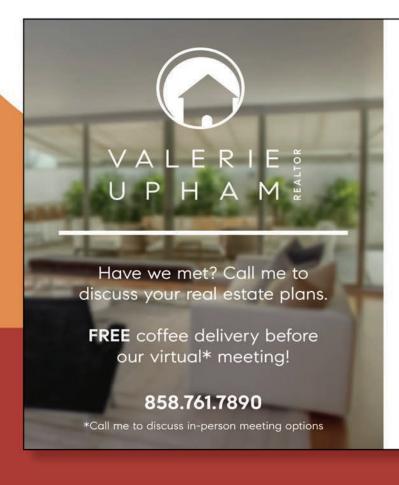








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Worship Sundays starting at 10:30 am

Worship Sundays starting at 10:30 am www.facebook.com/UCUnitedChurch

Advent Reflections Tuesdays 12/1-12/22 6:45 pm on Zoom

Christmas Eve Worship on Facebook All are December 24th at 7:00 pm Welcome

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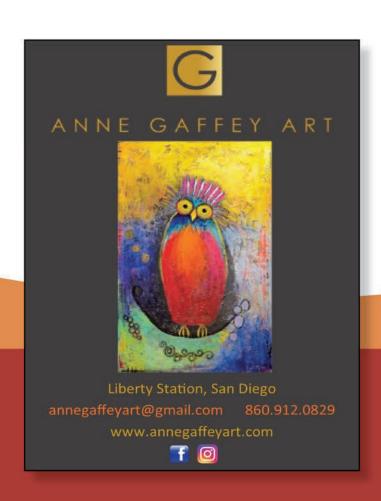
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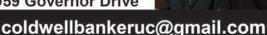
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