Opening Day in University City – Time to Play Ball!

Saturday, February 26, marked Opening Day for the spring season for both University City Little League – Baseball (ucll.org), and of UC Del Sol - Fastpitch Softball (ucdelosol.com). Hundreds of players and family members came out to support the ball players as they start a full spring schedule.

The UC Del Sol Girls’ Softball League’s Opening Day was filled with softball games, banner parades, races, arcade games, raffles and much more. Their players will have a full slate of games almost every Saturday morning and afternoon until May 7 at Standley Middle School. UC Del Sol President Perry Peters “invites the community to come out and watch their girls play America’s greatest sport and develop into our next generation of softball athletes – along with having a lot of fun!”

UC Little League had their Opening Day ceremonies at McElroy Field this year, and all was welcomed by new President Ryan Purdy. The players and coaches did the traditional arch run. Due to park improvements at Standley Park, some games have been shifted to Dino Park and Nobel Fields. Fort Field and McElroy Field continue to remain open for games. UCLL also continues to run the Challenger Division for boys and girls with disabilities for ages 4 to 18, and ages 15 and above in the Senior Challenger Division.
SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 9, 2022
UCCA ZOOM MEETING

by Jim Beshears, UCCA Secretary

President's Announcements: Diane Ahern reported (1) UCCA and The League of Woman Voters were hosting a primary debate on April 26, 2022, for City Council Dist. 6 (UC). (2) On 2/15/22, the results of the Community Plan Update will be released. (3) Pre-preparation work for the Pure Water project is commencing. (4) The area east of 805 from Rose Canyon is MCAS Miramar property and those on the property are trespassing. (5) Standley Park Pool will have a “soft opening” in late March and an official opening in April. (6) The July 4th Committee will have its first meeting at the Rec. Center on 2/16/22 at 7:00 pm.

Officer M. Bognuda, of the SDPD, reported that there have been two stabbings in UC: One in UTC Mall where an employee at the GNC store tried to stop a shop lifter. Police are still trying to ID the suspect. The other was in Marlon Bear Park where a man stabbed an employee. The man was arrested and in jail.

LEGISLATIVE LIASON AND COMMUNITY REPORTS
Kaitlyn Willoughby, aide to Joe LaCava, reported (1) Design for new construction at Marcy Park was underway. (2) Repairs of streetlights was expanding. (3) New council districts will not affect funding this year or fiscal year 2023. (4) UC, west of Regents Road, will have pick up of trash on 2/28/22. Flyers with details will be distributed in the area. (5) The City is still studying a plan for “Traffic Calming” on Governor. (6) Development on Gulstrand is at getting a grading permit, resolving the tree requirements, and covering stockpiles of dirt and materials. (7) The stop light at Lakewood and Governor is funded but waiting for supplies.

Spencer Katz, aide to Terra Lawson-Remer, reported the County was looking at ways to help the homeless, and investing in local food resources to provide meals to low-income people.

Rachel Granardino, aide to Chris Ward, reported he was working on legislation to prohibit the sale of “ghost guns” at the fairgrounds, and providing sick leave of two weeks to those with covid. He has been named to the housing committee and assistant majority leader. The single payer health care bill is not going to vote due to lack of support.

Chris Nielsen, Chair of the UCPG, reported: (1) Elections for positions on the UCPG are 3/28/22 and ballots can be picked up and submitted at UC Library (2) All businesses at Costa Verde will close by 3/28/22, except McDonalds and the car wash.

Andrew Wiese, a member of the UCPG, reported the results from the Community Engagement Survey will be released today. This will contain community responses to the City’s land use plan for the UC area.

Further disclosure will be at the meeting on March 15 at 6:00pm.

Kendra Cole, Vice President of Educate requested $1,500 to assist in funding “Taste of the Triangle” event to be held on 5/6/22. The Board will review and vote at the next meeting.

Kevin Lourens reported that UCSD was planning triple housing on campus for fall 2022 since 3,200 students could not find housing this year. Around 2,750 off campus housing is also needed.

Helen Liebowitz requested the community send notices to the City Council for funding for libraries to maintain service hours.

Tom Hekman and Andrew Wiess, candidates for positions on the UCPG, requested support. Election is 3/8/22. Ballots on UCPG website.

Angela Weather said that many walked their dogs on and off leash on Standley Middle School property and Standley Park. Dog waste was a problem for kids using the fields because people do not clean up.

Tommy Hough, running for City Council District 6, provided his positions and will be at the candidate’s forum on 4/26/22.

A motion to support the League of Woman Voters forum on 4/26/22 by donating $75.00 was approved.

Bill Beck, North UC Rep. reported that HOA’s were not responding to requests to link the UCCA Newsletter to the HOA’s emails. He suggested contacting school PTA’s and try to get connections to their email lists.

Merle Langston, Beautification Comm., reported difficulty finding a contractor to clean up the medians for around $1,000. Future bids will be more. Barbara Gellman, also of Beautification Comm., reported that money is needed to have more power boxes decorated and painted.

Barbara Gellman, of Neighborhood Watch, reported it needs to have community meetings but has been unable due to Covid.

The next meeting will be held on March 9, 2022, via zoom at 6:00pm.
UCCA President
Diane Ahern

Hello University City 92122, it's March already! Wow, March always seems to bring so much change and this year is no different.

We're changing our clocks (the evening of March 12/13) for Daylight Saving Time, changing seasons from Winter to Spring on March 20, COVID restrictions seem to have eased, and we get to celebrate one of my favorite days - National Corned Beef and Cabbage Day on March 17.

March is also a time for Spring Cleaning and a focus on home fire prevention and safety. On March 12, don't miss Coldwell-Banker's Shred-Fest and the Fire Safe Council smoke detector alarm give-away.

We're also in the process of updating the Community Plan for University City with potential changes to Zoning and Land-Use Options, and Senate Bill 9 (SB9) implementation with the potential for lot splits and townhouses on Governor Drive.

On March 15, 2022, the Community Plan Update Subcommittee will meet via Zoom from 6:00 to 8:00pm. The Subcommittee will discuss the proposed land use scenarios and provide feedback. UCCA urges all to participate in this Zoom webinar. Pre-registration is required and UCCA will post the Zoom registration link on our website and Facebook.

For more information and a recap of the February planning group meetings, refer to the reports from Chris Nielsen and Katie Rodolfo in the print newsletter.

Both University City libraries and all three University City recreation centers are open; so are our parks and open spaces. Please remember that in San Diego, dogs must be kept on a leash not to exceed 8 feet at all times except when at a designated off-leash area or confined to a residence or backyard.

Leash law requirements are also enforced at City parks including canyons and trails. More information regarding the City’s leash law can be found on the “Your Dogs and City Parks” on the City’s website sandiego.gov.

Planning ahead, save the date for the Standley joint-use pool ribbon cutting ceremony (April 7), the Spring Egg Hunt (April 9), the DE Candidate Forum on April 26, and Taste of the Triangle on May 6. You’ll find the details with the March newsletter.

Did you know that we and our local post office will commemorate University City “92122 Date Meets ZIP” on September 21, 2022 when the date aligns with our ZIP Code? For most of us, this is a once-in-a-lifetime event. Please let us know how you’d like to celebrate.

Please read through the March issue for news and features that our contributors hope are of interest to University City residents and workers. You too can be a community contributor. The submission guidelines are available on page 2.

Did you know that UCCA is celebrating 20 years in 2022? If you’d like to read the history of UCCA as told through our print newsletters, please take a look at the newsletter archives page at universitycitynews.org/ucca-newsletter-archives

We'll have more information and community updates at the March 9 UCCA Zoom meeting at 6 PM. I hope you will join us. If you have an information item or concern to share, please let us know by contacting us at UniversityCityNews@gmail.com. Thanks to all for helping to keep University City More than Just a Neighborhood.

Diane

VIRTUAL UCCA MEETING
Wednesday, March 9, 6:00 – 7:30pm
Zoom.us – meeting ID: 88629654086
Join at: us02web.zoom.us/j/88629654086

calendar

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
March 1 – 31
www.womenshistorymonth.gov

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP
Tuesday, March 8
6:00 – 7:30pm
Info: planuniversity.org

UCCA MEETING
Wednesday, March 9
6:00pm
Zoom.us meeting
ID#88629654086

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS STARTS
Sunday, March 13, 2:00pm
“spring forward” clocks one hour

PEOPLE FOR A CLEAN UC
Sunday, March 13
8:30-10:00am
(Note: New time for this month only.)
Cleanup volunteers meet at Starbucks
3202 Governor Drive, supplies provided

COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, March 15
Info: planuniversity.org

ST. PATRICK'S DAY
Thursday, March 17

FIRST DAY OF SPRING
Sunday, March 20

UNIVERSITY CITY PARKS COUNCIL
STANDELEY PARK COMMUNITY REC GROUP
Thursday, March 24
Contact Rec Center for meeting info:
858.552.1652

CESAR CHAVEZ DAY
Thursday, March 31

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DON'T FORGET!
TIME TO JOIN OR RENEW
YOUR UCCA MEMBERSHIP
GO TO UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG
OR SUBMIT MEMBERSHIP
FORM ON PAGE 13
SAFETY TIP ADDITIONS AND REMINDERS

by Barbara Gellman

Tenting for Termites? Do it during the week instead of the weekend, less chance of strangers sneaking in. Let neighbors know when this will take place and ask if they have working security cameras; call police at 911 if they see anyone other than the termite company employees trying to get into the house.

Protect your catalytic converter by painting it a heat resistant fluorescent orange, stamping your vehicle identification number on it and having a mechanic add a special protector cap. These suggestions can slow the removal process since those removing want it to be easy and quiet and with paint and identification, scrap yards hopefully, will be less likely to purchase.

Casing and package stealing is up so, be alert to strangers walking the street or following a delivery truck; ask delivery people to ring your doorbell when delivery is made, ask a neighbor to take it in if you will not be home or have it delivered to a store with Amazon delivery lockers. Track your package so you will know when it is due to arrive.

Reporting suspicious activity or crimes. Due to a shortage of dispatchers, it will take longer to speak with someone. Call volume has gone up both in the inland communities and the coastal communities, patience is needed. Call 911 for crimes in progress, those are a priority. 619.531.2000 for non-emergencies are still answered in the order in which they are received. If the dispatch person feels it is more critical, they will direct the call to the proper authority. Press the “star key to speak with a dispatcher more quickly. If you hang up, you lose your place in the queue but, if you do hang up, call back a little later so they have the information in their data base and can contact you if necessary.

The “get it done” app is still the best method to report homeless or the non-emergency number will work also.

Some tips from Steve Diamond, who has been in the security field for the past 30 years with the company Direct Measures and ACTCert. He has taught security skills and tactics to security guards, religious institutions, university/high school/middle school/grade school students, staff and teachers and to all levels of law enforcement and specialized security skills to military personnel.

We all need greater awareness around us; be observant of people and interactions. Don’t hide your face in a cell phone or laptop, you will not see what is going on by doing that. Be aware of “red flags”, does the person seem a bit out of place or acting strangely, if so, you should probably leave the area as quickly as possible, but calmly and don’t be afraid to report your suspicions to a manager or security person in the facility.

When you go thru a door, be sure it closes behind you whether your home, car, business, school; it is part of being aware of those around you.

These tips complement Neighborhood Watch: educate, observe, report, get to know your neighbors so you know who the strangers are. Lock up, lights on stay alert and feel in control.

The San Diego Police Department Northern Division Recognizes the Employee of the Shift

Each police division submits a name from their command staff and Officer Melanie Bognda, received this award from Northern Division. This award covers a previous time of 4 months, so between June-September 2021 she was in charge of community relations for the full division while maintaining an excellent rapport with the business community, religious groups and community leaders within the division, according to Capt. Scott Wahl.

Officer Bognda demonstrated her dedication to the division by working long hours when needed and fielding calls and Emails from the community on or off duty. She ensured to respond quickly to sensitive situations and used her strong interpersonal and organizational skills to respond with a functional solution to achieve the desired outcome for the involved parties, as stated by Capt. Wahl.

Quote “Officer Bognda is a pleasure to work with and is an indispensable asset to Northern Division. She is commended specifically for her high level of job knowledge, attention to detail, customer service and the faithful and diligent performance of her duties.” Heart Congratulations!

SOCKS FOR SAFETY A FUNDRAISER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Take a peek at all the choices you have to create conversations and become a sock flasher. Easy to order and fast delivery so you can gift these to yourself or others quickly. Still 3 pair for $12.00 or $5.00 for one pair, way below regular retail pricing for these great designer socks for kids, women and men.

Check out the new styles such as; St. Patrick’s Day, Peacocks, Chicken’s and Penguins and Ladybugs are back along with Cat/Dog Stargazing, Golf for Men, Football, Donuts and Pizza for kids and many more.

Go to www.universitycitynews.org/neighborhood-watch/ and follow directions or email me direct at bgellman@yahoo.com and I will email you the latest flyer.
Councilmember Joe LaCava

District 1 Update

**Budget**

In January, City Councilmembers submitted their initial Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priority Memorandum (Memo) to the Independent Budget Analyst (IBA), formally signaling the start of budget season. My complete memo is available at: www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/fy23_budget_memo_d1_jan_2022.pdf

Passing a balanced budget that equitably reflects the needs of the district and city is one of my most important responsibilities as your councilmember.

A few highlights from my FY23 priorities memo include:

- Investing in City Staff to improve recruitment and retention leading to increased and improved services for San Diegans;
- Adding 15 new full-time lifeguard positions;
- Funding Climate Action and Resilient SD that is aligned with our Climate Action Plan 2.0 and is focused on environmental justice;
- Prioritizing efforts to prevent and address homelessness, including seed funding for the Affordable Housing Preservation Fund and a pilot program to keep our seniors housed;
- Adopting a Citywide feminine health products pilot program, which would provide free menstrual products in 92 public facilities such as libraries, recreation centers, and comfort stations.

For University City, I am seeking funding specifically for:

- Marcy Neighborhood Park (CIP B19188);
- South University City Library Expansion building on the seed funding that I procured in the FY2022 budget cycle;
- Three streetlights in the Vista La Jolla Subdivision;
- Coastal Rail Trail (CIP S00951).

All funding approved in last year’s budget and the budget to be approved this June for University City projects will remain with University City irrespective of redistricting changes. As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to my University City Council Representative, Kaitlyn Willoughby at kwilloughby@sandiego.gov.

**Upcoming Public Forum with MCAS Miramar**

I am hosting a public forum with the new MCAS Commander, Colonel Bedell, at the April 13 UCCA meeting. The conversation will focus on safety. I thank the Colonel for making time to meet with the UC Community and look forward to the conversation.

**District 1 Budget Townhalls**

On May 2 and May 21, I am hosting District 1 budget town halls. This is an opportunity to learn about the budget cycle, ask questions on its annual adoption process, and voice specific budget requests and priorities. Keep an eye out for my social media and in the April UCCA newsletter for registration details.

**Governor and Lakewood Traffic Signal**

The long-awaited traffic signal on Lakewood and Governor begins construction in April. Signal layouts began on February 8, 2022, and soon the contractor will begin undergrounding work. This is a much-needed safety improvement for University City community, and I am proud to bring it to fruition. Any questions or concerns can be directed to my University City Council Representative, Kaitlyn Willoughby at kwilloughby@sandiego.gov.

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**UC Changes Its State Senator**

Due to a state redistricting change change, including UC’s State Senate District, UC will now be part of the new State Senate District 40, currently represented by State Senator Brian Jones.

Meet and Greet with State Senator Brian Jones and find out how redistricting is going to affect our neighborhood. This is your opportunity to ask Senator Jones any questions you would like regarding zoning, transportation, crime, or any issue that impacts the quality of life in our community. The event will be held at the home of Frank and Krissey Powell on Friday, March 4 from 5:30 – 7:30pm. The address is 5817 Dirac Street, San Diego, 92122. Food and refreshments will be served.

**Capital Improvements Projects Update**

by Roger Cavnaugh

UCPG CIP Subcommittee Chair

Every other year (next in ’23) the UCPG solicits suggestions to rank from 1 to 5 what are the community’s priorities for infrastructure capital improvements. These are evaluated by the City and folded into a 5 year funding cycle if they met a needs assessment review. Recently the City, in District presentations, revealed a survey designed to incorporate suggestions into revising the scoring system detailed in cpd_800-14.pdf. The new evaluation criteria includes the concept of “equity” which means that funds will be allocated to CIP projects to bring needed infrastructure in underserved communities. At this time it is not clear what equity means and who decides on what projects are funded; however, Build Better SD (https://www.sandiego.gov/buildbettersd), the City’s “initiative to enable the faster delivery of public spaces and buildings equitably and sustainably across San Diego” replaces current community funding models with a City wide process that will allow disparities to be addressed. While the deadline for the survey was 2/28/22 and has passed, I suggest you review the survey and send comments onto Joe LaCava. See: www.sandiego.gov/PrioritizingCIPSurvey.

What does all this mean for the South UC CIP priorities: the Library, Marcy Park, a safe crossing on Governor and Genesee, and a Regents Road linear park to the Rose Canyon rim? There are important financial questions that need to be answered, so we don’t know yet. We will be making a transition to District 6 and UCPG Chair Chris Nielsen is engaged in outreach to District 6 candidates. We intend to make our existing CIP projects a priority in those discussions. This is a political process that you are invited to participate in by also contacting the candidates as well as by reviewing the survey and sending your comments to the City. Upcoming UCPG and CPU meetings will continue the discussion. Now is the time for you to become involved.

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Please note:
The community plan update is a document that recommends changes to existing land-use and zoning. Any redevelopment is at the discretion of the property owner, commercial or residential, and not required by the city or the plan update.

In case you missed it, a link to the February 15 Community Plan Update Subcommittee meeting Presentation Recording video is available on UCCA’s website.
What’s Happening at the Libraries?

North University Community Library:
In-person programs may be cancelled or modified on short notice, due to current events, so we highly encourage registration for one-time programs. At press time, masks are required indoors; for the most current policies, check the City/Library websites or call the library for more information.

The North University Library is planning to host the following in-person activities in March:
- Fiction Fanatics Book Club meets on March 12 at 10:00 am. Title to be discussed: Cry No More by Linda Howard
- Cookbook Book Club meets on March 12 at 2:00 pm. Title to be sampled and discussed: Everyday Dorie: the Way I Cook by Dorie Greenspan
- Page Turners Book Club meets on March 19 at 1:00 pm. Title to be discussed: The Lost City of the Monkey God by Preston Douglas
- Spanish language Book Club Amantes de la Literatura meets on March 26 at 10:00 am. Title to be discussed: Tiempos Recios by Mario Vargas Llosa

UC Library (Governor Drive):
In-person programs may be cancelled or modified on short notice, due to current events, so we highly encourage registration for one-time programs. Most craft programs may have a take-away kit option, while supplies last. At press time, masks are required indoors; for the most current policies, check the City/Library websites or call the library for more information. University Community Library is planning to host the following in-person activities in March:
- Toddler Storytime on Wednesdays at 10:30 am.
- Qi Gong on Thursdays at 9:30 am (may be held outside, depending upon multiple factors; call for more info).
- Pajama Storytime on the 2nd Monday at 6:30 pm.
- Book Club on the 4th Wednesday 2:00 pm (in-person or virtual TBD).
- UC Dance Pants (Saturday, March 12 from 10:30 to 11:00 am). Saturday morning dancing, recommended for toddlers, preschoolers and kindergartners. Kids will twist, shout and make their own dance moves to musical favorites like "Baby Shark" and more!
- Book Buzz (Saturday, March 26 at 12 noon - 1:00 pm). Get together with fellow teens and talk about what you're reading! There is no assigned book; you can read any book, old or new, in any genre, but prepared to talk about it.
- Steam Box & Games (Wednesdays at 12:30 - 1:30 pm). Get together with your friends after school in the community room with a big box of different STEAM projects and games. Play, learn, hang out!
- Teens, Talks, and Things (Thursdays at 3:30 - 4:30 pm). A place for teens to get together to talk about current events such as movies, tv series, books, etc. There will also be a random project for the teens to do while talking.

A Very Special Storytime: Meet a Miniature Therapy Horse on Thursday, March 24 at 11:00 am. Join us for a special storytime focusing on inclusion and belonging. We'll start inside for stories with Mr. Larry and afterwards we'll head out to the West lawn to meet Hershey Kiss, a miniature therapy horse who helps people in the San Diego region. You'll have a chance to take pictures with him and meet him up close. Call the UC Library at 858.552.1655 to register; or visit: sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/spring-steam-branch-out-academy

Spring into STEAM: Branch Out Academy on Saturday, March 19 at 12:00 noon. The Branch Out Academy program introduces youth tree stewards to the benefits of trees. These one-hour trainings teach students how to plant and care for trees in our urban environment. Finish a training and take home a tree sapling of your own! Presented by Tree San Diego. To register, visit: sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/spring-steam-branch-out-academy

AARP Tax Preparation Help:
AARP Tax Prep Help continues every Thursday through April 14. Appointments only, no walk-ins. Appointments can be made in person on Thursdays only.
Taste of the Triangle Returns
by Kendra Cole

EdUCate! Taste of the Triangle is back! May 6 from 7:00-10:00pm. Come enjoy tastings from our local restaurants at the beautifully renovated, outdoor courtyard at Torrey Pines Church in the scenic La Jolla hills. In addition to great food, we are also featuring entertainment, music, dancing and drinks.

Purchase your tickets today at ucedeucate.org/taste-of-the-triangle, $65 ($75 after April 15). Have you donated $500 or more this school year? If so, you are eligible to attend the VIP Reception, 6:00 - 7:00pm.

Funds raised support all 5 public schools in University City. Your charitable donation can make a difference while having fun with your friends and neighbors. Funds support principal grants for school-wide needs, teacher grants for classroom needs, and multi-school programs like the EdUCate! Math Academy and Homework Club, and Jr. Achievement BizTown financial literacy program.

$40,000 in principal grants this year funded: mental health program (UCHS), student planners for all students (Standley), school-wide subscriptions for online programs for reading comprehension & vocabulary, and social/emotional learning and leadership skills (Curie), English Language Arts program for at-risk students (Doyle), and Descubra en Espanol Spanish enrichment program (Spreckels).

Business sponsorships are still available. For more details about sponsorships, go to ucedeucate.org/taste-sponsorships/.

UCHS Seniors Need Your Shoes
by Maria Cook

UCHS Senior Grad Party Committee is conducting a shoe drive fundraiser on Saturday, March 5 at University City High School from 9:00am-3:00pm to raise funds for our end-of-year party. UCHS PTSA will earn funds based on the total weight of the pairs of gently worn, used and new shoes collected, as Funds2Orgs will issue a check for the collected shoes. Those dollars will benefit our senior grad party.

Anyone can help by donating gently worn, used and new shoes at our drive by, drop off event in front of UCHS. (6949 Genesee Avenue). We’ll be located near the flagpole. You can also drop off shoes any day or time at either of these UC home locations: 5054 Via Papel or 4535 Benhurst Avenue.

All donated shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of micro-enterprise (small business) partners. Funds2Orgs works with micro-entrepreneurs in helping them create, maintain and grow small businesses in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited. Proceeds from the sales of the shoes collected in shoe drive fundraisers are used to feed, clothe and house their families. If you have any questions, please contact Audrey Patterson- uchssgp@gmail.com

Utility Box Art at Standley Middle School
by Barbara Gellman

There was a naked utility box next to the Rubic’s Cube box in front of Standley Middle School and Principal Pearson suggested the school logo design that includes a Seahawk. As you can see by the pictures, it is another professionally completed box by Haley Shildgen, who has designed and painted several others in our community. This is just one of the many projects that your donations to UCCA cover; beautification, whether box art or landscaping, it makes our community special. Pictured below, we thank Standley Middle School Principal Bill Pearson for his suggestion, and artist Haley Shildgen for her wonderful talent.
COMMUNITY SHORTS

Children’s Craft: Leprechaun Trap
Wednesday, March 9 at 1:30pm
University Community Library
4155 Governor Drive

Make a trap to capture a leprechaun and find a pot of gold! You also have the option of taking home the supplies and completing the craft at home (while supplies last). Call 658-552-1655 or check the online calendar to register.

UCUC Bloodmobile Blood Drive

The next UCUC Blood Drive will be on Saturday, March 12 from 8:00am to 1:30pm, in front of Round Table Pizza in the Sprouts Marketplace on Governor Drive. Sign up in advance at: mysdbb.org or 619.400.8251. Remaining blood drives scheduled in 2022 are for: May 7, July 9, September 10, and November 5.

Senior Walkers Wanted

Join our friendly senior walking group! Free. Stay fit! Meet your neighbors and make new friends. Gentle walks last about one hour. Meet in front of Swanson Pool at 9:30am every Wednesday. Everybody is welcome. Note: We cancel if it rains. Contact Marie for any questions at: seekgene@cox.com.

Parks and Rec Introduces Nature Exploration Videos

by Diane Ahern

Just in time for the longer days to come, the City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department offers a variety of videos to introduce you to nature, unique programming and useful activities and ideas to help make your visit to city parks more enjoyable.

Meet the Park Rangers and nature experts, learn what cool stuff they do in our parks and have fun exploring and enjoying nature.

Let’s G.O.- Get Outside and enjoy San Diego’s Parks.

- Learn About Chollas Lake: Take a trip to the wonderful oasis that is Chollas Lake in the Oak Park Community. Learn about its history, habitat, available programs and of course, fishing.
- Discover Manzanita Canyon: Explore one of the City’s neighborhood canyons and learn ways to protect this amazing oasis of nature nestled in an urban environment.
- Discover Otay Valley Regional Park: Meet our knowledgeable and friendly park rangers and learn about the amazing things you can discover one of San Diego’s most unique open spaces.
- Trail Safety in Tecolote Park: Ranger Erika takes you on a journey through Tecolote Park and provides useful tips on how to make your hike safe, educational and fun.
- Check Out Nature Backpack Program: Learn how you can explore nature with all of the tools you’ll need by checking out a backpack from the San Diego Library.

The attached photo is from Tecolote Canyon. For more information, visit sandiego.gov/parks-and-recreation/videos

Recreationally Speaking

by Barry Bernstein

At the February 25 Standley Park Community Recreation Group (CRG) meeting, Director Roger Hughes indicated that new “outdoor lines” will be drawn for two pickleball courts on the new existing outdoor basketball court.

The off-leash dog problem was a major point of discussion as it not only causes a safety and nuisance concern (Dog defecation), but some dog owners are not abiding the city’s posted dog-leash ordinance.

The 4th of July Celebration will be scaled down due to space limitations, volunteers are needed. During the 4th, both pools will be open for free swimming, and the tennis courts will be hosting special activities.

The information related to projected costs for the anticipated improvements at Marcy Park were revealed, and because of the amount ($2.5 million), a possible way to privately fund the project will be explored.
"Park Patrol" to Enforce Off-Leash Dog Rules

Information from KPBS:
At the request of the City of San Diego, the Humane Society has established a “park patrol” enforcement program to address a pandemic-era problem. While the nonprofit has always ticketed people for off-leash dogs, the number of scofflaw dog owners mushroomed after the COVID-19 lock downs were lifted in late 2020.

The Humane Society runs animal control for the city of San Diego and 13 other cities, but so far only San Diego has requested these all-day park patrols. According to the Humane Society, part of the problem is the pandemic pet phenomenon that emerged in 2020. People stuck at home with less to do began rescuing animals in record numbers. As a result, there are now more dog owners, and leash laws may be new to them.

School fields are another trouble spot, according to the Humane Society. While schools were closed due to COVID-19, people got used to bringing their dogs to run free. This has led parents and school officials to complain that dogs and their owners have taken over places that were once the domain of school children.

Joint-use fields, such as those at Standley Park, are another source of concern. “The children, during school hours and after school hours, use those fields. And with increased dogs off leash, there’s going to be increased stool that’s not picked up. There’s going to be increased holes being dug that children might fall in. And then, of course, with off leash dogs, there’s always that risk of someone being attacked,” according to Humane Society Law Enforcement.

In the City of San Diego, dogs are required to be leashed in public for the safety of both animals and people. Report concerns about off-leash dogs to San Diego Humane Society’s Humane Law Enforcement; call 619.299.7012, and press 1.


For a list of approved leash free locations in the City of San Diego, visit sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/parks/dogs/leashfree

2022 Update from UC Celebration Chair Randall Tonini
Hello University City. I’m the event chair for the UC 4th of July Celebration. I’ve had the privilege of serving on this committee for the past seven years. As many of you know, the Celebration is an annual event that our neighborhood looks forward to each year, but because of the current pandemic, we’ve had to cancel the past two years.

For 2022, I’m excited to announce that we are planning and preparing to re-launch this large-scale event and we’d love to have you involved. We need your volunteer time and energy to make this event a success. If you would like to help in the planning, please join us at our next meeting at Standley Recreation Center at 7:00pm on Wednesday, March 16.

If you have any questions or would like to join our planning and design committee email list, please contact me at randaltonini@icloud.com. You can also visit our website at uccelebration.com.

Volunteers & Artists Needed!

Save the Date!
UC Zip Code Day
9 21 22

This year in University City, the date will meet the ZIP Code on September 21. To celebrate this confluence of time and location the US Postal Office (USPS) will make a customized hand stamp to cancel mail that is brought into the counter at the US Postal Office on Governor Drive on that day. Local artists are needed to design the cancellation stamp. If you are interested in entering, call USPS at 858-674-0500 and let them know you’re calling about the "Date Meets Zip Event." Leave your contact information and you will receive a callback with the submission specifications and deadlines.
Spring is Time to Visit Open Spaces

Maps of Open Space Parks and Canyon Parklands

Looking for a new weekend adventure this Spring? The City of San Diego provides links to maps for nearly 30 Open Space and Canyon Parklands including 32nd Street Canyon, 47th Street Canyon, Black Mountain Open Space Park, Carmel Mountain Preserve, Chollas Parkway, Crest Canyon, Del Mar Mesa Preserve, Emerald Hills Canyon, Gonzales Canyon, Juniper Canyon, Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, Manzanita Canyon, Maple Canyon, Marian Bear Memorial Park, Mission Trails Regional Park, Mission Valley Preserve, Mt. Woodson, Navajo Canyon, Otay Valley Open Park, Pottery Canyon, Rancho Mission Canyon, Rose Canyon Open Space Park, Ruffin Canyon & Sandrock Canyon, Sabre Springs, San Pasqual/Cleveger Canyon, Swan Canyon, Switzer Canyon, Tecolote Canyon Natural Park, and West Sycamore. Take a look at sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/parks/oscp/maps

No Trespassing East of the I-805

From Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar:

The base is experiencing a high volume of individuals trespassing east of the I-805 near the VA Cemetery. While there is a small section of City of San Diego open space east of the I-805, MCAS Miramar’s federal property boundary is located a short distance away (see map above). Mountain bikers and hikers recreating in Rose Canyon are not authorized to continue eastbound onto federal property, which includes the VA Cemetery northwest of the railroad tracks and the area southeast of the tracks.

Additional “U.S. Government Property – No Trespassing” signs have been installed and the base is asking local residents to be aware of and comply with these signs located at the federal property boundary. The Provost Marshal’s Office and MCAS Miramar military police officers will be stepping up enforcement of federal trespassing laws in that area. Unlike the Stowe Trail areas east of MCAS Miramar, there are no current or future plans for community or civilian access to these areas.

A federal trespassing citation requires an appearance in federal court and is considered a federal misdemeanor crime. Bicycles or other equipment may be seized and held until court cases are adjudicated by a federal judge. For more information, contact the Provost Marshal’s Office at 858.307.4068 or email miramarcomrel@usmc.mil.
New Food & Yard Waste Recycling Rules for 2022

From Environmental Services: California State Senate Bill 1383 requires the reduction of organic waste disposed of in landfills. Organic waste is comprised of food scraps and food-soiled paper from kitchens and food operations and yard waste such as garden and landscape waste, organic textiles and carpets and wood waste. The City of San Diego is currently working out the details about curbside food waste collection for single family homes.

As a result of this enormous planning effort, changes to organic and yard waste collection for City of San Diego serviced residences will not begin until the summer of 2022. This timing includes those City serviced residents with existing green bins. You may find updates by visiting the City’s recycling page at sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling.

People for a Clean UC

As shared on Nextdoor by Vince Reardon: Our next neighborhood cleanup is on Sunday, March 13, at 8:15 am. This is Daylight Saving Time weekend. We meet at Starbucks, 3202 Governor Dr. All supplies are provided. Please come or tell a friend or neighbor.

Thanks to all our fantastic volunteers who came out on a cool and foggy morning at our February neighborhood cleanup. We cleaned up portions of Stanley Park, Regents Rd., Governor Dr., Genesee Ave., the I-805 under-ramp at Governor Dr., and the on- and off-ramps at Regents and I-52.

Keeping University City Clean . . .

Neighborhood Compost Hub

by Paula Matthews

Looking to reduce your carbon footprint, take charge of your food waste and join a people-powered movement? University City resident, Paula Matthews, is allowing you to do all these by hosting a neighborhood drop off hub for food scraps, located at her home in partnership with Food2Soil.

Food2Soil is a decentralized network of community compost hubs comprising residents, businesses and gardeners who are working together to weave the practice of composting back into our culture. Through a network of neighborhood drop off hubs this group is making it easy for families and small businesses to recycle their food scraps while also supporting green jobs in the local economy. The scraps are turned into nutrient rich compost which is used by home gardeners to nourish their soil, while also serving as a highly effective way to sequester carbon.

Want to build a convenient and community-centric habit that reduces waste? Go to: https://www.food2soil.net and create a subscription to compost at the new neighborhood drop off hub in University City!

Shredfest 2022 by Katie Dunahoo

Coldwell Banker University City and Guaranteed Rate Mortgage, Ed Woolery 858.922.3325, are sponsoring our annual “Shredfest” on March 12, 9:00am - 11:30am in the Coldwell Banker Realty parking lot, 3959 Governor Drive, in the VONS Center.

We are hiring a professional document shredding truck so bring your unwanted documents to shred for free. You can even watch your files turn into confetti. We are serving all of University City so please respect the three box or bag limit. Hope to see you there!
Free Smoke Detectors
by Lou Rodolico, UC Fire Safe Council President

Thanks to the support of the San Diego Regional Fire Foundation, your University City Fire Safe Council smoke detectors to give away to University City residents. Smoke detectors are new and have 10-year batteries. This would be a good opportunity to replace detectors that are more than 10 years old. Stop by on Saturday, March 12 between 10:00am and 4:00pm at the First Baptist Church – San Diego, 5055 Governor Drive (up the driveway, east UC prior to the 805). Bring your drivers license, limit: two smoke detectors per household. While supplies last.

How to Prevent Dryer Fires

Every year, firefighters across the country respond to thousands of home fires caused by clothes dryers, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Many of these fires are caused by an accumulation of lint, which means that not cleaning out your dryer vent can set you up for a dangerous situation that's far more serious than the drop in performance caused by constricting a dryer's ductwork. Below, four simple best practices from the NFPA to ensure fire safety in the laundry room:

1. Clean the Lint Filter: Clean the lint from the dryer's lint screen after every load. This helps prevent a fire, and it also helps your laundry dry faster.

2. Replace Accordion-Style Ducts: If your dryer is a plastic or foil accordion-style duct connecting your appliance to the vent, it's a good idea to replace it. These are risky because they can sag, allowing lint to build up at low points and trapping lint in their ridges. The NFPA recommends a rigid metal duct which help to reduce the buildup of lint.

3. Clean the Dryer Duct Annually (at Least): If you notice that your dryer takes longer to dry laundry than it used to, that's a clue that there may be a blockage in the dryer vent system. Do a visual inspection at the outside vent. If you do not see or feel exhaust air, the vent or exhaust duct may be blocked.

4. Handle Chemical Stains With Care: Clothes stained with gas, cooking oil, cleaning agents, or other flammable chemicals or substances need special care. The Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends washing such stained clothing more than once to minimize volatile chemicals, then hanging to air dry. In the event that a fire starts, keep the dryer door closed to limit its oxygen supply. Get to a safe place and call 9-1-1 to report the fire.

Fire Safety is Everyone's Business

Whether you're an employee or employer, whether you're working from home or outside your home, or are in a hybrid situation, workplace fire safety is everyone's business. Employers should prepare for emergencies by making sure smoke alarms and fire sprinklers are properly installed and working; and that exits are clearly marked and accessible. Workers should plan and practice multiple escape routes in case one is blocked by fire. All should ensure that any obstacles are removed from exits.
THANK YOU TO ALL WHO JOINED UCCA FOR 2022
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Susan Elden
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WikiTiki/Alpha Prints

Visit universitycitynews.org to learn more about the University City Community Association.

University City Community Association 2022 UCCA Membership Application*

2022 Members will receive a 2022 membership card and a special thank-you gift for joining.

___ $20 Individual | ___ $40 Supporter | ___ $60 Angel | ___ $100 Gold | ___ Additional donation enclosed $________

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

___ 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.

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

*This membership is valid for the 2022 calendar year. Thank you for joining UCCA. If you have any questions, please contact our Membership Chairperson Hallie Burch at UCCAmembership@gmail.com.
University City Planning Group (UCPG)
February Meeting Recap

by Chris Nielsen, UCPG Chair

The primary focus of the University Community Planning Group (UCPG) and its University Community Plan Update Subcommittee (UCPUS) were on the community plan update this month. There has been a revision to the timeline of the plan update process and consequent schedule change. I've included the two meetings we've just had plus a tentative schedule through the middle of June.

Feb 8 UCPG meeting. Regular business.
Feb 15 UCPUS meeting. Outreach/survey results. Land use scenarios presented.
Mar 8 UCPG meeting. Elections. Regular business.
Mar 10 Planning Commission Workshop POSTPONED TIL MAY.
Mar 15 UCPUS meeting. Feedback on land use scenarios.
Apr 12 UCPG meeting. New board members, officers. Regular business.
Apr 19 UCPUS meeting. Feedback & vote on land use scenarios and alternatives.
May 5 or 12 Planning Commission Workshop rescheduled (date uncertain).
May 10 UCPG meeting. Regular business.
May 17 UCPUS meeting. Review tentative land use scenarios for analysis.
Jun 14 Plan Update presented by UCPUS to UCPG for vote.

There are several things of note in this schedule. First, the amount of time allocated to discussion and feedback of the land use scenarios has been extended an additional two months with the UCPUS voting on preferred land use scenarios in April. Next, the Planning Commission Workshop has been pushed back until May followed by the presentation of preferred land use scenarios to the UCPG in June for its vote.

The deadline for declaring to be a candidate for the UCPG board and for becoming a member to vote in the UCPG election was the February 8 UCPG meeting. Election info at: san diego.gov/planning/community/profiles/university/agendas.

The final slate of candidates is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seat</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Candidate(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1-C</td>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>Tom Hekman, Andy Wiese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R2-C</td>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>Isabelle Kay, Liane Barkhordar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3-A</td>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>Sasha Treadup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3-C</td>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>Jon Arenz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1-B</td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>Linda Bernstein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1-C</td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2-A</td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>Fay Arvin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2-C</td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>Carey Algaze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3-A</td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>Neil DeRamos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3-C</td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>Steve Pomerenke</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A week after the UCPG meeting the CPUS met to receive a presentation on the community survey and initial land use scenarios. Remember that redevelopment is at the discretion of the property owner; land use scenarios in the plan do not require redevelopment. Below is a summary of the proposed land use in the UC plan area.

The overall land use scenarios for the plan area show housing in a range from the current 27,000 homes to a high end of 83,000 homes. The plan also anticipates jobs in a range from the current 90,000 to a maximum of 150,000.

In the two northern focus areas, North Torrey Pines and Campus Pointe/Executive Dr., most of the proposed land use is for Scientific Research together with the possibility of a modest amount of collocated housing along Genesee and Eastgate Mall.

Focus Area 3, the extended area surrounding UTC, is destined to have the densest commercial and residential development, with an additional 13,000 to 34,000 additional residential units and 30,000 to 40,000 jobs.

Focus Area 4, the area east and west of I-5 along Nobel and Villa La Jolla, is expected to have a mixed use of residential and commercial development, with a primary focus of residential and commercial retail to take advantage of the Nobel Trolley station, adjacent residential, and proximity to UC San Diego. It is expected that between 3,500 and 10,000 residential units will be added to this area along with 4,000 to 14,000 jobs. Much of the actual development proposed will be dependent on whether or not the city's Prop D 30' Coastal Height is retained (this will require a citywide vote).

Focus Area 5, south UC, has a focus on the two shopping centers at Genesee and Governor and Regents and Governor, with fewer than 1000 housing units to be added and 1500 jobs to be added. Looking at the "Presentation PDF" above, the proposed Land Use Scenarios for south University City (adjacent to Governor Drive) begin on page 47. Please take a close look at page 47 where the City Planning Department illustrates "An option for further discussion is to study the implementation of medium density, multi-family residential within areas of SB9 Implementation. This scenario proposes increasing residential densities as depicted to a townhome multi-family use. This is an opportunity to shape how SB9 looks in these SB9 areas within the community." For further information on SB9, see: www.sandiego.gov/planning/programs/housing-action-package

Focus on South UC Planning

by Katie Rodolfo, UCPG CPUS Liaison

The existing zoning for the UC Marketplace shopping center (Sprouts) is Community Commercial. The city is proposing that the land be changed to "Neighborhood Village". Neighborhood Village would allow 15-44 dwelling units per acre in a mixed use development of retail, office, and residential.

The existing zoning for the University Square shopping center (Vons) is Neighborhood Commercial. This also extends along Governor Dr east to Carls Jr, and all four corners of Genesee and Governor where the filling stations are. The city is proposing the land use be changed to "Community Village". Community Village would allow 30-74 dwelling units per acre in a mixed use development of retail, office, and residential. Their proposed plan keeps the library in its existing location.

The existing zoning for Summers Governor Park, at Greenwich and Governor, is currently zoned Office Commercial. The city proposes changing the land use to Urban Employment Village which would allow 0-54 dwelling units per acre.

Additionally the city presented an overlay of land use along Governor Drive and some of the streets off of Governor. To represent what could be envisioned under the state law SB9 that allows splitting of lots, with 2 units per split lot. The city envisions land use that would allow medium density townhomes with a density of 20-36 units per acre.

These proposals will be discussed further at the next meeting on March 15.

Note that redevelopment is at the discretion of the property owner, commercial or residential, and not required by the city or the plan update.
March 12th at Coldwell Banker UC
3959 Governor Dr - VONS Center
9 AM-11:30 PM - 3 bags/boxes per person

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Next issue: April 2022  Deadline: March 20, 2022

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Sunday, March 13th
Daylight Saving Time Begins

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