New Joint-Use Pool and Pavilion at Standley Park
Grand Opening

Information provided by San Diego Unified School District

Please join us! The Grand Opening Celebration is scheduled for Thursday, April 7 from 12:30 - 1:00pm. The public dedication for the Standley Middle School joint-use aquatics facility will include a performance from the University City High School (UCHS) cheer team and drumline, followed by brief comments from Board of Education Vice President Sabrina Bazzo, Former Board of Education Trustee Dr. John Lee Evans, City of San Diego Councilmember Joe LaCava, both the Standley Middle and UCHS principals, and a UCHS swimmer. To end the ceremony, speakers will join students for a ribbon-cutting countdown and a group of UCHS swim team members will dive into the pool for a celebratory lap.

A highly anticipated project for the University City community and nearby schools, the expanded aquatic center includes a new pool, and a pool amenities building with outdoor showers, changing rooms, and restrooms. The project is part of the Play All Day partnership between the San Diego Unified School District and the City of San Diego.

The use of the joint-use pool will be shared with times that are exclusive school district use and other times that the pool will be open for public use. The tentative public opening of the Standley Aquatic Center joint-use pool will be at the end of April.

For more info about the Grand Opening Celebration, contact San Diego Unified School District's Jamie Ries at jries@sandi.net. For more info about the public opening of the joint-use pool, contact Standley Parks and Recreation Pool Manager Saunia Kammerer at SKammerer@sandiego.gov. And to read about the history of the project, read John Lee Evans article on page 7: Imagine2020: A Dream Become a Reality.
UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Published by University City Community Association
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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 when.
- Be as brief and concise as possible. Editing may result in errors.
- DO NOT send articles in a pdf format.
- 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 jpg or png.
- Send to UCCAEditor@gmail.com or jemmasamala@gmail.com.

Deadline for the May 2022 issue: APRIL 14, 2022
Please send your submission as early as possible. The deadline for the May issue is April 22, 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.

2022 UCCA Board Members

Executive Board
President: Diane Ahern, ahern.diane@gmail.com
Vice President: Mack Langston, langstonmack@gmail.com
Secretary: Jim Beshears, jwbblaw@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer: Jemma Samala, jemmasamala@gmail.com

Appointed Positions
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CAS Liaison/Publicity & Promotion/ Webmaster: Diane Ahern, ahern.diane@gmail.com
*Christmas Tree/Menorah Lighting Coordinator: Darlene Ventimiglia, darleneven2@gmail.com
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Past-President: Barry Bernstein, apdrfn@aol.com
*Special Events: Barbara Hershaw, barbaraenglish@gmail.com
*UCPG CUPS Liaison: Katie Rodolico, knelson@yahoo.com
*Non-Voting Member

SUMMARY OF MARCH 9, 2022
UCCA ZOOM MEETING

by Jim Beshears, UCCA Secretary

President Diane Ahern reported (partial): The outdoor basketball court at Standley Park will be repainted for pickleball. Off-leash dogs will be ticketed at Standley Park and other properties. Pure Water utility construction continues at night on Genesee. The Aquatic Center at Standley will have its grand opening on 4/17/22. The grass playing fields may not be ready until after Day 4th. Councilmember Joe LaCava is hosting a public safety briefing with MCSA Miramar CO Colonel Bedell at the March 22 UCCA meeting. UC east coast of S-5 will be in UC Council District 6. The League of Women Voters and UCCA are hosting a District 6 City Council Candidate Forum on 4/26/22. Valerie Upham is organizing post office and community events on September 21/22, to acknowledge the tie-in to 9/11 zip code.

Officer M. Bognuda and Lt. Dan Brinkerhoff of the SDPD, reported there has been rising crime and more home invasions since the trolley. City wide violent crimes are up 10.8% and property crimes are up 3.6%. Calls for service in the N. Division increased in past year. SDPD is monitoring car clubs and impounding cars that are involved in illegal activities.

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON AND COMMUNITY REPORTS

Kaitlyn Willoughby, aide to Councilmember Joe LaCava, reported LaCava will be at the April 7 opening of the new pool at Standley. LaCava will review the traffic for Governor Dr. Installation of the light for the intersection at Lakewood and Governor will start in mid-April. The councilmember will be attending the April 13 UCCA meeting to discuss safety issues at MCSA with Colonel Bedell.

Matt Griffith, aide to Mayor Gloria, reported there is a backlog on repairing streetlights. Best to report lights that are out on the City’s website, “Get it Done.” The ordinance to restrict street vendors was approved by the City Council. The initiative, “Build Better San Diego”, was implemented for prioritizing projects.

Sabrina Basso, a San Diego City school board trustee reported: Dr. Lamont Jackson was selected as the new Superintendent. Masks become optional on April 4.

Cody Reed, aide to Sen. Toni Atkins, reported SB1041 passed to provide relief to military non-profit organizations providing direct grants and educational loans to military families. Three bills were passed as follows: SB 113 ($61 million for relief to small businesses); SB 114 (extends supplemental paid sick leave for Covid-19 to businesses less than 25 employees); SB 115 (part of budget bill that expands funding of hospital construction and vaccine distribution).

Chris Nielsen, UCPG, reported: Linda Bernstein and Andrew Weise were elected to the UCPG. Alexandria Dev. will continue with the Costa Verde redevelopment using the same permits already issued. It plans a pedestrian friendly project with a new market such as the Jimbo’s. Demolition will start in June.

Andrew Wiese, CPUS, reported: The Committee Engagement Survey went out to 22,000 households and 2,500 responded. The existing plan does not mandate growth but provides options and opportunities for growth that has not been updated since the 1980’s. Most new development will be in the “North Torrey Pines Employment Center” north of La Jolla Village Dr. Most growth will be around UTC and areas within a 10-minute walk to the Trolley and bus routes. A change in zoning Governor Dr., including the shopping centers at Vons and Sprouts to allow residential above commercial space is proposed. There could be 62,000 to 83,000 new units of housing in the UC area depending on which plan is adopted.

Jeff Stevens, a member of the Mira Mesa Planning Group and Town Council reported the City Planning Dept. has a plan to double the population of Mira Mesa (MM) but many issues such as public facilities for fire, schools, libraries, etc. must be resolved. Its community plan has not been updated since 1992. West MM must be industrial because of MCSA overloads.

REQUESTS FOR FUNDING

Curie Elementary request of $500 for their Jog-A-Thon was approved. Educate request of $1,500 for “Taste of the Triangle” event was approved. UC High request of $2,000 for the annual senior grad party was approved.

(continued on page 13)

The next meeting will be held on April 13, 2022, via zoom at 6:00 pm, meeting #85615463361.
Hello University City, it's April, and time to celebrate Earth Day with this year's theme "Invest in our Planet". You can help by participating in a community cleanup. Whether it's a big group event or a solo cleanup, you can invest in our planet by removing pieces of trash from neighborhoods, beaches, rivers, lakes, trails, and parks thereby reducing waste and plastic pollution, improving habitats, and preventing harm to wildlife and humans. You'll find several suggestions in this issue of our April University City News.

April also brings Spring events at our local recreation centers, baseball and softball games at our parks, community events at our local libraries, and the long-awaited Grand Opening Ceremony of the joint-use Standley Aquatic Center at Standley Park, April 7.

Congrats to the Fire Safe Council which hosted a successful Smoke Detector give-away in March. Summer plans are under-way for the return of the UC Celebration on the 4th of July and the Summer Concerts at Standley Park.

Top-of-mind for many University City residents is the Community Plan Update. I think it's safe to say we were all surprised by the City Planning Department's option for multi-family residential housing along Governor Drive. More about the Community Plan Update is in the center section of this newsletter.

UCCA will host our community meeting on Wednesday, April 13, via Zoom, at which our featured guests will be Councillor Joe LaCava and Commanding Officer Colonel Badell from MCAS Miramar. Later in the month, UCCA will partner with the League of Women Voters to provide a City Council District 6 candidate forum on April 26 in preparation for the June 7 primary election.

On a public safety note, I was fortunate to attend the March police department Northern Division advisory board meeting hosted by Captain Scott Wahl. He mentioned that our area has experienced a high number of serious injury traffic and motor vehicle accidents and that the SDPD Traffic Division will be stepping up enforcement in our area. Slow down out there and watch out for cyclists, pedestrians, and other vehicles.

Captain Wahl also mentioned that those who want to help homeless individuals or those in encampments can contact the Homeless Outreach / Encampment team through the Get-it-Done app or online at sandiego.gov/get-it-done.

It looks like most meetings in April will be by Zoom. So let's exchange greetings in the chat as we meet online for the UC PG Planning Group meeting on April 12, at UCCA's meeting on April 13, at the CPU Community Plan Update meeting on April 19, and at the League of Women's City Council candidate forum on April 26. And, of course, I hope to see you outdoors at the Grand Opening Ceremony for the Standley Aquatic Center on April 7.

The April issue of University City News is full of local news and information that you won't find anywhere else. UCCA thanks the many community contributors, advertisers, UCCA members, and volunteers who make our print newsletter possible. If you haven't renewed your UCCA membership for 2022, you'll find the membership coupon in this issue.

Have a great month; thanks to all who help to make University City more than a neighborhood.

Diane

VIRTUAL UCCA MEETING
Wednesday, April 13, 6:00 – 7:30pm
Zoom.us – meeting ID: 85615463361
Join at: us02web.zoom.us/j/85615463361

DON'T FORGET!
TIME TO JOIN OR RENEW YOUR UCCA MEMBERSHIP
GO TO UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG OR SUBMIT MEMBERSHIP FORM ON PAGE 13
THANK YOU SDPD CAMPAIGN

by Barbara Gellman

Many residents of University City met at Standley Park to video our thanks to our San Diego Police Department as they continue to strive to calm the unrest and try to keep our communities safe. About 20 residents gathered at the park with letters held high as Karl Crawford and his drone captured our “thanks”. The idea is to lift the spirits of our men and women in blue, to counter the negative narrative about policing that overshadows the positive difference they make in San Diegans’ lives daily.

This all came together per the request of the San Diego Police Foundation who will submit all videos and letters of appreciation to all police departments and their social media. Anyone who wishes to send words of encouragement can do so to: cathy@sdpolicefoundation.org.

UC NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

by Sandy Lippe

Neighborhood Watch Captain Annette Lau organized an orange tree picking party for a neighbor’s three orange trees since the neighbors were not able to do the job themselves. Pictured above from left to right are neighbors: Linda, Mel, Amy, Maggie, Richard and Annette. Yes, University City is more than a neighborhood!

Terra Lawson-Remer
San Diego County Supervisor, District 3

SD County District 3 Awards Grant to UCCA; will Host a Grant Workshop in April

Grant Award: UCCA is proud to announce that we have received a Community Enhancement Program grant award which will enable us to bring back the UC Talks podcasts hosted by Jemima Samala. These podcast interviews feature local leaders and residents who are making significant contributions to the University City community. UCCA thanks Supervisor Lawson-Remer and the County Board of Supervisors for this grant award. If you have a podcast topic to suggest, please contact podcast host Jemima Samala at jemmasamala@gmail.com.

Grant Workshop: The office of County Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer will host a Grant Workshop for non-profits and small businesses on Thursday, April 7, at 1:00pm. County staff will go over the process for the Community Enhancement Program, Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant, and the Small Stimulus Grant. Staff from the Office of Financial Planning will go over the eligibility requirements and reporting requirements. For more information and to register, visit tinyurl.com/D3GrantWorkshop.

Development Services Releases New Cannabis Mapping Tool

The City of San Diego’s Development Services Department (DSD) has released a new Cannabis Mapping Tool to assist business owners, customers and the public locate current and prospective cannabis businesses within the City of San Diego. Features of the New Cannabis Mapping Tool include:

- Maps all currently permitted Cannabis Outlet (CO) and Cannabis Production Facility (CPF) locations.
- Shows allowed zones for each business type.
- Allows users to enter an address and see how close that address is to churches, parks, residential care facilities, child care centers, libraries and playgrounds, displaying uses that Cannabis businesses must be separated from per San Diego Municipal Code sections 141.0504 and 141.1004.

For more information and to access the map, visit sandiego.gov/cannabis.

SOCKS FOR SAFETY
A FUNDRAISER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Sometimes it’s as simple as noticing a pair of socks to start a conversation so be prepared. They can bring a smile to someone’s face or instill a “special feeling or memory” for the day; whether it is the soccer or cupcake socks for kids, ladysbugs, chickens or penguins for women or football, burger & fries or taco time for men or labradoodle, border collie or any other dog socks, they all “say” something.

Go to www.universitycitynews.org/neighborhoodwatch to see all the great options, or send me an email at bgellman@yahoo.com and I will email you the flyer. Suggested donation is $12.00 for 3 pairs or $5.00 each. The funds are in a special bucket to promote safety and crime prevention such as curb painting, Ring doorbells and a possible class dealing with trauma. Stay tuned.
Councilmember Joe LaCava

**District 1 Update**

**Street Sweeping Increase**
Based on extensive data-driven analysis certain residential neighborhoods in University City will see an increase in street sweeping frequency beginning June 2022. These specific areas, highlighted on the map below, were found to have a large amount of debris, warranting more frequent cleanings.

If your neighborhood is affected by the change in street sweeping frequency, the Stormwater Department staff will be reaching out to you directly to explain this change and provide additional details. If you have any questions, please contact my University City representative, Kaitlyn Willoughby, at kwiloughby@sandiego.gov.

**Coming Up**
University City has many exciting events on the horizon. Please see an overview below. We hope to see or hear from you at some or all these events!

**April 7: Standley Pool Opening**
On April 7, Standley Pool opens its doors for the official grand opening! After many months of planning and construction, UC can enjoy the pool and all its offerings.

**Late-April: Instillation of Lakewood and Governor Light**
Following supply delays, the long-awaited traffic signal on Lakewood and Governor will begin construction in April. This is a much-needed safety improvement for University City and I am proud to play a role in bringing it to fruition.

**April 13: MCAS Miramar Townhall**
Join me as I host the new Marine Corp Air Station (MCAS) Miramar Commanding Officer, Colonel Bedell, at the April 13 UCCA meeting to facilitate a conversation between MCAS Miramar and University City residents. The conversation will focus on local safety and will include both a presentation and Q&A period. We appreciate the Colonel’s time and participation and UCCA hosting this important meeting.

**May 2 and May 21: Budget Town Halls**
Join me at one or both of my two District 1 Budget Town Halls where you have the opportunity to learn more about the budget cycle, ask clarifying questions, and voice your budget priorities directly to me. I will be hosting both a digital (May 2) and in-person (May 21) event, please register at https://bit.ly/D1FY23BTH.

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**CA State Assemblymember Chris Ward**

**78th District**

Update by District Rep Rachel Granadino

The Assembly and Senate are back in session and working on legislation for this upcoming year. On February 18, Assemblymember Ward finalized his legislative package, and all the bills including a short summary of what they do will be posted on our website very soon. An important piece of legislation that was signed by the governor a few weeks ago, is the Covid-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave. This bill is retroactive to January 1, 2022 and will require employers to provide two weeks of paid sick leave through to September 30, 2022 to all employees. It would help employees who were affected by the recent omicron wave, still get paid for the period of time where they needed to either care for themselves or their family members and were unable to work.

Additionally, Assemblymember Ward has a few new roles in the State Assembly. He has now been added to the Assembly Housing Committee and holds a new role as the Assistant Majority Leader. Two weeks ago Speaker Rendon also named him to the Coastal Conservancy and he looks forward as to how he can bring the San Diego perspective and advocate for Assembly District 78 in this new role. As always, if you are having any issues with any state related agencies, EDD, DMV, ABC etc, please feel free to reach out. Our office is always happy to help.

**Make Contact**

Want to make contact with University City’s State, County, and Local representatives? Here is a partial list of current elected representatives and their local staff representative (if applicable). Please email UCCA at UniversityCityNews@gmail.com if you have suggestions for additional contacts.

- State Senator Toni Atkins – Cole Reed at cole.reed@sen.ca.gov
- State Assembly Chris Ward – Rachel Granadino, rachael.granadino@asm.ca.gov
- County Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer – Spencer Katz at Spencer.Katz@sdcouynty.ca.gov
- Mayor Todd Gloria – Matthew Griffith at GriffithM@sandiego.gov
- City Council District 1 – Joe LaCava, JoeLaCava@sandiego.gov – Kaitlyn Willoughby, kwiloughby@sandiego.gov
- City Council District 2 – Jennifer Campbell, jenniferCampbell@sandiego.gov
- City Council District 3 – Stephen Whitburn, StephenWhitburn@sandiego.gov
- City Council District 4 – Monica Montgomery Steppe, mmontgomerysteppe@sandiego.gov
- City Council District 5 – Marni von Wilpert, MarnivonWilpert@sandiego.gov
- City Council District 6 – Chris Cate, ChrisCate@sandiego.gov
- City Council District 7 – Raul Campillo, RaulCampillo@sandiego.gov
- City Council District 8 – Vivian Moreno, vivianmoreno@sandiego.gov
- City Council District 9 – Sean Elo-Rivera, SeanEloRivera@sandiego.gov
- City Planning Department – planning@sandiego.gov, Katie Witherspoon at KateW@sandiego.gov, Suchi Lukes at SLukes@sandiego.gov
- City Officials and Independent Offices: visit www.sandiego.gov
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.

- North University Chess Club is scheduled to resume in April. Mondays 6:00 - 7:30pm
- Baby Sign Storytime returns on Thursdays at 10:00am, beginning on April 21
- Amantes de la Literatura, Novelas Hispánicas Latinas meets on Saturday, April 2 at 10:00am. Title to be discussed: Tiempos Recios by Mario Vargas Llosa.
- Fiction Fanatics Book Club meets on Saturday, April 9 at 10:00am. Title to be discussed: The Paris Apartment by Michelle Gable
- Page Turners Book Club meets on Saturday, April 23 at 1:00pm. Title to be discussed: Turtles All the Way Down by John Green
- DIY Seed Bundles for Earth Day! Come make one or more wildflower seed bundles. Saturday, April 23 at 2:00pm.
-Hopscotch San Diego returns with Tiny Tots: songs and activities for young kids. Tuesday, April 26 at 6:30pm.

Special Interest Clubs:
San Diego Coiners Coin Club every second Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm.
Modern Quilt Guild will meet Saturday, April 16 from 2:00–5:30pm.

Spring into STEAM: Let’s Grow!
Set off on an adventure to explore botany, agriculture, and forestry in the San Diego Public Library’s science-focused program series for 9-12-year-old students. Programs include: Trash Into Treasure, DIY Mini-Garden, Farming Robots Force and Branch Out Academy (all about trees). The San Diego Public Library is partnering with local science experts and organizations to create a truly unique educational experience. Workshops take place both in person and virtually during the months of March, April and May.
https://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/spring-into-steam
Use the QR code for program descriptions, registration (required) and more.

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 April:

- Pajama story time, 2nd Monday of every month at 6:30pm. Feel free to bring your blanket and stuffed animal while you listen to stories with Mr. Larry!
- Toddler story time, every Wednesday at 10:30am. A fun story time for the littlest patrons with an emphasis on ABCs, 123’s and rhyming songs followed by a paper craft.
- Kids’ Craft Time, April 20 at 1:30pm. Jump into spring with our frog craft!
- Teen Book Buzz, 4th Saturday at 12:00pm. Come talk with other teens and staff about favorite books, share what you are reading right now and get some recommendations on what to read.
- Teens, Talks and Thursdays, Thursdays at 4:00pm. Hang out in the community room with other teens to talk about what’s going on in the world, do activities and more.
- STEAM Boxes, every Wednesday at 12:30pm. No registration required and no experience necessary. Use your imagination while you create using these STEAM kits. There is Robot Mouse Coding, Q-Ba-Mazed, Snap Circuits, Robotics Cublets, and more.
- LibraryNEXT: Learn about electronics and circuits while creating fun crafts projects! Possible projects include a moving origami swan, light-up LED bracelet or robot bug. This is a virtual workshop. To register: sandiego.librarymarket.com/event/virtual-craftronics

On View: Art and Culture Exhibitions: The Library’s exhibition program allows free access to visual art and cultural exhibitions, while promoting San Diego artists and creative community groups.
If you are an artist and are interested in showing your work at one of our libraries, several branches included the UC Library have small exhibit spaces in their community rooms. For more information on how to apply to exhibit at the library: https://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/virtualartists

Occupy Thirdspace II: Plástica y palabra en T/J/SD (Thru 5/22) explores the relationship between the visual arts and palabra (word). It documents the history of this relationship from the late 1980s to the present, through the work of artists who have lived and worked in Tijuana and San Diego. Palabra as a concept spreaks back to the oppressive function of “Language,” as a tool for colonization, assimilation, and exclusion—rearing repurposing, translating, and changing it. Plástica y Palabra represents a collective force of impulses that cross geopolitical, racial, lingual, social, and economic borders. These practices live, give new life, and assign new meaning to their environment.
Save the Date for an Evening of Music
by Michelle Rumley

Are you a supporter of music in our UC schools? Do you love a good talent show? Then save the date for the 8th Annual Sights and Sounds Showcase hosted by the University City High School Music Boosters. Join us on Saturday, April 23, from 5:30-9:00pm at the University City High School Auditorium. More information is available at www.uchsmusic.com.

This wonderful community event gives our local youth the opportunity to show their talent while raising money to support the high school music program. Enjoy an evening of music, singing, and dancing performed by our talented students and staff. In addition to our musical evening, enjoy appetizers, a dessert buffet, and an amazing silent auction.

If you are a local business or community member that would like to support the UCHS Music Boosters and this event with an item for our silent auction or a sponsorship, please contact Michelle Rumley at uchsshowcase@gmail.com. We hope to see you at the show on April 23!

Doyle Elementary Jog-A-Thon Success

Doyle Elementary PTA ran another successful Jog-a-Thon fundraiser in March, which included a donation of $500 from the University City Community Association (UCCA). Photos above and below are from the day of the event. The PTA fundraiser helps support funding of PE and recess equipment, field trip bus expenses, grade level grants, librarian costs, classroom supplies, assemblies, and much more. Doyle Elementary enrolls about 600 students and 60 staff members in North University City. For more info about Doyle PTA, go to: doylepta.org.

Imagine UC 2020: A dream becomes a reality
by John Lee Evans

The new Standley Aquatic Center ribbon cutting will be on Thursday, April 7 at 12:30pm. It will include dignitaries from the school district and the city for this joint use project. After the turf is established in the coming months the ball fields, the stage/pavilion and the jogging path will also open.

This community project has a long history. The UC High swim and water polo teams have long wanted their own facility for practice and competition. One of the San Diego Unified construction bonds included the possibility of ten swimming pools at San Diego high schools. The school district had funds for construction, but not for operations. This led to the first joint use pool agreement between the school district and the city. It will be available for the schools for PE and sports events and open to the public at other hours, including weekends and summers.

Community member Greg Zinser had a vision for a permanent stage/pavilion for summer concerts and big community events, but fundraising was difficult. The school district was able to build this as a benefit to the schools and the community. Also added in the plan were a jogging path and an added grass field next to Spreckels.

In 2014 a series of community meetings were held to solicit ideas for joint use projects to enhance the schools and the parks. The project was dubbed Imagine UC 2020. A steering committee was formed consisting of Greg Zinser, Sandy Lippe, Barry Bernstein, and John Lee Evans (as pictured left to right, taken in May 2021 during a construction walkthrough).

There were many daunting bureaucratic challenges, including approval by Parks and Recreation, City Council and the school board, but most importantly the negotiation of the joint use agreement between the attorneys for the school district and the city. The project was also moved forward by Councilmember Barbara Bry. This joint use project for a pool was the first of its kind and will serve as a template for other areas in the city. The target date for this project was 2020 and the groundbreaking took place in the final months of 2020. Spreckels Elementary is in the process of being modernized to be followed by Standley Middle School.

This is an example of what a hard working community working together can accomplish. The ball fields will be in better condition. The permanent stage/pavilion includes the necessary electrical outlets for booths at events like Oktoberfest and the Fourth of July. It also includes a Wi-Fi hotspot. It will have more parking nearby at Standley Middle School and a larger gathering area for the public and booths. The jogging path will be open for family walks around the park throughout the year.

All of these enhancements will make the public area from Standley Middle School to Spreckels Elementary the type of public space that brings communities together and will make University City...more than just a neighborhood.
COMMUNITY SHORTS

“HELP SAVE UC” CREATES PETITION TO RESPONSE TO PLAN UPDATE
by Jennifer Martin-Roff

The University Community Plan is undergoing an extensive update process. Many residents are concerned about the city’s proposals for the Community Plan Update, especially the proposed rezoning of residential streets from single-family housing to medium-density townhomes. A group of residents, unofficially named “Help Save UC”, has created a petition that: 1) asks the Mayor and Planning Department to withdraw the proposal to rezone single-family-housing streets in south UC; and 2) asks the Mayor and Planning Department to schedule in-person public hearings so that people can better understand an drrespond to all of the significant changes proposed to both North and South UC. If you have questions about the petition, or if you want to get involved by collecting signatures or joining the effort to respond to the proposals in the Community Plan Update, please visit: www.change.org/SaveUniversityCity or email helpsaveuc@gmail.com.

FRONT PORCH PANDEMIC
JAZZ JAM RETURNS

Every Thursday starting April 14 and continuing weekly, from 4:00 to 6:30pm, at the 5600 block of Bloch St., University City. Featuring:
Greg Pardue (saxes)
Jack Hoffman (piano and drums)
Roy Jenkins (bass)
Phil Marcus (guitar & vocals)
Ray Consue (drums)
+ occasional guest musicians

The jam plays Jazz, Swing, Funk, Blues, Bossa Novas and more. It’s a FREE event and all ages are welcome. Seating is on the sidewalks and edge of the street, bring your own chairs or listen from your car. Picnics, wine tasting and dancing are very popular. Dogs welcome on leash. It’s outdoors so masks are at the discretion of the audience.

UCUC HOLDS COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE

University City United Church (UCUC) will be holding a food drive to support the Community Christian Service Association (CCSA) on Sunday April 24 from noon to 1:00 in the UCUC parking lot. CCSA supplies emergency food to individuals and families in the local area that are experiencing hardships. Just bring your donated food items to the UCUC parking lot at the church, which is located at 2877 Governor Drive, 92122. Volunteers will unload your car and transport the items to the CCSA site headquarters. CCSA welcomes donations of unopened, non-perishable food items as well as fresh fruits and vegetables. A list of recommended items is on the CCSA website at ccasandiego.org. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

SENIOR WALKERS WEEKLY WALKING GROUP

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@aol.com.

UC is Ready to Celebrate
by Randall Tonini

The UC Celebration is just a few months away and planning is underway! Over the past month we’ve had local businesses as well as community members step up to help with this wonderful event. With that, I’m pleased to announce that we will have our 5k & 1 mile fun run returning thanks to Bruce Stone and the UC Running Club! We will have registrations for the race along with booth applications and volunteer opportunities up on our website in late April.

If you would like to help with the planning, we have our next meeting at Standley Recreation Center at 7:00pm on April 27. If you have any questions or would like to join our committee (current volunteers pictured above), please contact me at randalltonini@icloud.com. You can also visit our website at uccelebration.com! Thank you!

Recreationally Speaking
March 24 Community Recreation Group Meeting Recap
by Barry Bernstein

1. Major announcements provided by Salome Martinez, Area Supervisor, were as follows: 1. The new Aquatic Center will hold a grand opening event on April 7 from 12:30-1:00pm. The public is invited. Staffing concern is still being addressed.

2. Curie’s joint-use field will open the second week in April. Teams/organizations will need to obtain “permits” to utilize the field for weekday after-school sporting activity/and or weekends. Contact Roger Hughes, Standley Park Rec. Center Director, for further information.

3. Standley Middle School is planning an afterschool intramural sports program on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and will share the field with the Mesa Del Softball.

4. New dog/leash city ordinance signage will be posted this month on field areas according to Jay Valenzuela, Park and Rec. director for University City.

5. Pickleball courts are now lined on the outdoor basketball court and indoor gym use MAY be arranged based on availability.

6. New sod in the pool/pavilion area will be useable as early as mid-June.

7. Marcy Park’s safety issue related to maintaining/removing older trees/branches was brought to the CRG’s attention by Ruth DeSantis. No action taken.

8. Spring Egg Hunts will be on 4/13 at Doyle, 4/16 at Nobel, and 4/9 at Standley Parks.

*New monthly meeting dates for the CRG are being considered. Always check with the Rec. Center for current organization meeting dates/times.
People for a Clean UC Celebrates Its 8th Anniversary
by Vince Reardon

Occasionally, I’m asked how People for a Clean UC got started. It was founded in a pique of anger and frustration. I was driving down Regents Road on my way to a meeting when I noticed thousands of sheets of white paper littering the west side of the road from Pennant Way to the on-ramp at I-52. It was a big, fluttering mess! I was incensed.

Returning from my meeting, I noticed the eyesore had spread to the other side of Regents. Somehow, I had magically thought someone would clean up the metastasizing mess. I was wrong. I realized I wanted it cleaned up, I’d have to do it myself. So, I got a big, black trash bag and tidied up both sides of the street in about an hour. Later, I sent an email to neighbors and friends inviting them to our first neighborhood cleanup.

Over the past eight years we’ve held a monthly cleanup, come rain or shine. In July we will hold our 100th cleanup. We’ve recruited hundreds of gracious, community-minded volunteers, adults as well as teens, and removed thousands of pounds of litter and debris. All at no cost to the community.

From time-to-time a well-meaning neighbor has asked me, “Why bother? It never gets any better.” Politely, I disagree. I love UC the way Jimmy Stewart loves Bedford Falls in the classic movie “It’s a Wonderful Life.” If you see a problem, fix it. Our beautiful UC deserves nothing less.

“People for a Clean UC meet the second Sundays in front of Starbucks, 3202 Governor Drive, at 7:30am. Supplies provided.

2022 – University City Community Association Celebrate 20 Years

Norma Smith has supported UC schools throughout those years!

University City High School Congratulates Mrs. Norma Smith for being selected this year’s UCHS Classified Employee of the Year!

by Marie Byrd

Mrs. Smith, a long-time resident of University City, has been with the UCHS family for many years. She got her start at UC working as a substitute in 1985. She stayed on for a few years as a sub, then moved to a couple other schools within the District. She eventually made her way back to UC, and has been an official Centurion since 1995!

Norma has been an actively involved member of the school and community. She has volunteered her time at the various UC schools and served on numerous committees for the benefit of the community. Her past involvement and participation includes:

- PTSA President at Spreckels Elementary, Standley Middle School, and UCHS
- Board member for UC Little League, for several years
- Board member (player agent) for UC Baby Sox (aka UC Del Sol) for several years
- EduCats! Taste of the Triangle “check-in” committee member for several years
- Board member for UC Foundation, aka UC Boosters
- 4th of July committee member
- Rec Council member
- Instrumental in getting approval for a signal in front of UC High School
- Staff Advisor for the Drill Team at UCHS
- Staff Advisor for the Swim Team at UCHS
- Assigned to the Committee (by the Principal) for “Widening Genesee Ave”

It is truly an honor to recognize Mrs. Smith for her ongoing commitment and dedication to UCHS. She holds a special place in many hearts. We thank her for her service and for helping to make UCHS as positive, safe, and healthy place for students, families and staff.

Norma Smith is pictured above with SDUSD Superintendent Lamont Jackson.

SPRING EGG HUNTS ARE HERE

Our three University City Recreation Centers are each hosting Spring Egg Hunts. Please bring your own basket. Annual Spring Egg Hunt activities may include egg hunt, arts and crafts, inflatable jumpers, and much more!

- April 9, Standley Recreation Center, 3585 Governor Drive, from 10:00am – 12:00noon
- April 13, Doyle Recreation Center, 8175 Regents Road, from 12:00noon – 1:30pm
- April 16, Nobel Recreation Center, 8810 Judicial Drive, 10:00am – 12:00pm

For event details and more information, refer to the individual Recreation Center’s Spring Program Guide or visit sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/centers
University Community Planning

Community Plan Update Subcommittee (CPUS) Meeting Recap by Katie Rodolico

Agenda and supporting documents for this meeting, and previous meetings can be found at: https://www.plan.university.org/. Much of the meeting involved discussion of the city’s proposed land use that was presented at the Feb. 2022 meeting, found at https://bf5c854d-f91f- 4d3a-bacd-48151e76d7f5.usrfiles.com/ugd/bf5c85_ 05dcf61e6c4091b2cc54caaf472724.pdf. The current land use is on page 33, and he proposed land use can be found starting at page 49.

Public Comment:

Roger Cavanaugh: Discussed the need for affordable housing. Used Midway plan area as example of development that included higher percentages of affordable housing, showing that developers are willing to include affordable housing.

Robert Schnitzer: Wants less growth because UC already has traffic and crowding issues. Doesn’t understand why “None of the Above” was not included on the survey.

Rebecca Robinson Wood: Pointed out the inconsistency of UCPG’s discussion of the city’s property on Gilman when they voted to not approve, compared to what the City/Sandag described when advocating for the coastal rail trail which will run adjacent.

Cheryl Stigall and Lisa Helkoff: Made a case for going back to in person meetings vs zoom webinars.

Snezana Milutinovic and Lisa Brezina: Very upset about the townhouse proposal for south UC.

Agenda Items:

Katie Witherspoon and Suchi Lukes: Discussed the timeline. No vote tonight. Continued next month before a vote. Perhaps more meetings before the vote. Tentative vote by CPUS board in May, then land use plan would go to the Planning Commission later that month. It would go to UCPG in June for a vote for approval.

Debby Knight: Request for draft of Environmental Study.

Petr Kryšl: Suggested survey wasn’t complete because there was no one to contact with questions about it.

Katie Witherspoon: City is working on transition to in person meetings. Vote on the plan will likely be in May.

Laurie Philips: If analysis is done after the plan is complete, and data shows it’s unacceptable (e.g., traffic), then the plan has to be redone.

Katie Witherspoon: Reviewed existing land use and the city’s proposal. Showed consultant analysis that showed significant demand for more office space and how the city plan provided quite a bit more than that projection.

Andy Weise and several others challenged the need for significantly more commercial/office/research space than the consultants projected.

Laurie Phillips: Pointed out that Life Science often avoids high rise development because of restrictions on chemicals used. More restrictive the higher the floor.

Jason Moorehead: said this is sometimes worked around by putting offices on upper floors, and labs on lower floors.

Katie Witherspoon presented a partial explanation of how the townhouse zoning was arrived at by the city. Fire risk, walkshed to Transit Priority Area (TPA). Several people pointed out that Genesee & Governor no longer qualifies as a TPA since there is no 50 bus.

Katie Rodolico asked for clarification of the yellow townhouse zoning, described in the presentation as SB9 implementation. Asked if it was just SB9, why change underlying zoning, and if SB9 restrictions/protections such as owner occupancy on a lot split applies.

Debby Knight asked if the SB9 requirement that adjacent lots would not be affected would apply.

Katie Witherspoon stated this would likely be a zoning change to increase the density similar to SB9 maximum allowances - but would not have the restrictions/protections provided by SB9.

The remainder were comments from the participants, primarily statements of opposition to the townhouse zoning in south UC.

Andy Weise read a comment into the record from Bill Beck asking about the increased density of the SFRs in Vista La Jolla, changing the zoning from single family homes to high or very high density.

University Community Planning Group (UCPG)

By Chris Nielsen, UCPG Chair

The March 8 UCPG meeting included elections, some information regarding Costa Verde, and a project recommendation for a community plan amendment initiative for the “Gilman Village” housing project. The next UCPG meeting will be on April 12, by zoom. The agenda with meeting instructions will be posted no later than Friday April 8 here: www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/profiles/university/agendas

UCPG election results were held March 8 with drop off balloting available at our two libraries the week prior to the election. Here are the results. Newly elected: Resident 1- Andy Wiese, Resident 2- C Isabelle Kay, Business 1- Linda Bernstein, Business 2- A Fay Arvin, Business 2- C Carey Algaze, Business 3- A Neil DeRamos, Business 3- Steve Pomerene, Resident 3- A Sasha Treidrup, Resident 3- C Jon Arenz. UCPG board officers will be elected at the April meeting.

Thanks to Anu Delorey and Jason Moorhead for verifying the ballots and tabulating the vote. Ballot boxes were available for drop off ballots at both UC libraries. The UCPG would like to thank Melissa Martin, Manager at the University Community Branch, and Michelle Ruiz, Manager at the North University Community Branch, and all library staff members for their help. The following members are leaving the board this month: Nancy Groves, Cary Lees, Michael Leavemworth, Kristie Miller, Ash Nassen. We thank them for their distinguished service. We have 6 new representatives on the UCPG from the UC San Diego student organizations: Andrew Parlier. Andrew is a graduate student at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography. Welcome!

Many UC residents have questions about Costa Verde. I had a conversation with Randy Levinson from the Alexandra Real Estate on March 3 regarding the Costa Verde redevelopment:

• The change to a purchase for 100% of Costa Verde happened at the last minute. Inception was due to a site plan in 2019. The site plan is still pending. The cost of the project is $725 million.

• UCPG intends to develop the property within the permits already obtained. Retail: Yes, Rental: Yes, and R&D: Yes. There may be some changes on the edges. Retail may decrease somewhat, but it will live within the development permits.

• ARE still thinks the gas market is an important component on the site. A market like Albertson’s is not so interesting; they have lots of constraints on how the store sits on a site, parking, and so forth. A specialty market like Jamba is closer to the mark. They want a pedestrian-friendly experience rather than the auto-centric style you get with Albertson’s or Kroeger.

• The plan is that all tenants will be gone by March 15. The site will then be fenced, securing the property. They will secure demo permits and hope to start demo by June.

• McDonald’s and the gas station/car wash will remain in operation.

On March 8, 2022, the UCPG, voted to deny the Gilman Village Community plan amendment initiation, PTS897543, requested by The Robinson Wood Revokable Trust. The parcel is located on the southeast corner of Gilman Drive and Via Alcance, extending along Gilman Drive south to I-5, 31.06 acres. The motion to deny passed by a vote of 10 Yes, 0 No, with 1 Abstention and 1 Recusal. The Robinson Wood Trust has proposed multifamily housing be developed on this site which it acquired in a land swap in 2007 with full knowledge of the open space easement on all 31.06 acres and the 23.5 acres of 100% conserved MSCP. The UCPG finds that proposed development on this parcel is inconsistent with:

• The Open Space Easement on this property.

• The University Community Plan.

• The Multiple Species Conservation Program.

• The City of San Diego General Plan.

• The University Community Plan Update (in progress).

The next UCPG meeting will be on April 12 and the next CPUS meeting on April 19, 2022 at 6:00pm. You may register for the meetings at plan.university.org/meetings. Check for updates.
Community Plan Update (CPU) meetings Continue in April

The University Community Plan Update Subcommittee is a subcommittee of the University Community Planning Group (UCPG), which is the City’s recognized citizens' group for the University Community. This subcommittee was created specifically for the Community Plan Update in order to provide feedback to the City regarding the process.

The next meeting of the CPU will take place via Zoom on April 19, 2022, from 6:00 to 8:00pm. The Subcommittee will discuss the proposed land use scenarios and provide feedback. To register and for more information, visit planuniversity.org/meetings.

Images are from the City’s March Community Plan Update presentation.

NORTH UNIVERSITY: PROPOSED SCENARIOS
DRAFT LAND USE OPTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Scenario 1

Scenario 2

SOUTH UNIVERSITY: PROPOSED SCENARIOS
DRAFT LAND USE OPTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

An option for further discussion is to study the implementation of medium-low density multi-family residential within areas of SB9 Implementation.

This scenario proposes increasing residential densities as depicted by a townhome multi-family use. This is an opportunity to shape how SB9 looks in these SB9 areas within the community.

Renderings and graphics are for illustrative purposes only. DRAFT land use scenarios are for discussion purposes only and are subject to change.
Smoke Detector Giveaway a Success

by Lou Rodolico, UC Fire Safe Council President

On March 12, our University City Fire Safe Council gave away 114 smoke detectors to University City residents. The detectors all came with built-in 10 year batteries. We would like to recognize the San Diego Regional Fire Foundation for their generous donation which made this possible. This was a very successful outreach event, thanks to; Diane Ahern, Jemma Samala, Louis Rodolico, Tom Cartier, Bill Beck, Greg Hom, along with UCFA and UCPCG who helped notify the community. A special shout out to Wendy Lee @AlphaPrint who donated the signs.

Free Smoke Detectors for Seniors

by Diane Ahern

Both the Burn institute and the Red Cross provide free smoke alarms to seniors to reduce the chance of a home fire and to reduce its negative impact should one occur at home.

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. A trained, screened, and vaccinated volunteers will set-up an appointment time to install alarms up to California State Fire Code in your home free of charge. Email the Burn Institute at: smokealarm@burninstitute.org.

The American Red Cross Southern California Region is working to Sound the Alarm in local communities by partnering with fire departments and community partners to install free smoke alarms and provide residents with important fire safety education. The Home Fire Campaign helps save lives by installing free smoke alarms in homes that don’t have them, and by educating people about home fire safety. For more information, visit redcross.org/local/california/southern-california/about-us/our-work/home-fire-campaign.html

CM LaCava and CO Colonel Bedell to be UCCA’s Special Guests at April 13 UCCA Meeting

Councilmember Joe LaCava will host a Town Hall with Marine Corp Air Station (MCAS) Miramar Commanding Officer Colonel Bedell at the April 13 UCCA meeting to facilitate a conversation between MCAS Miramar and University City residents. The focus is on local safety and will include both a presentation and Q&A period. Colonel Bedell served as the Director of the Marine Corps Safety Division before taking the command of MCAS Miramar. The Town Hall is scheduled between 6 and 6:30 pm on April 13 during UCCA’s regularly scheduled monthly meeting. This meeting will be via Zoom; information to join the meeting is on page 3.

Are you Ready to Vote in the Primary Election?

Check out Redistricting Maps, Elections and Candidates with the Registrar of Voters. The California Primary Election is June 7, 2022. This election will be the first San Diego countywide election conducted under the Voter’s Choice Act. Additional election info at: sdvote.com/content/rov/en/elections/election_information2.html

Check your voter registration status at registertovote.ca.gov

Due to redistricting in San Diego, many City Council, County, and State district boundaries have changed.

- To verify the district you live in, visit sdvote.com/content/rov/en/elec-rep-info-look-up.html
- To find your new district or purchase a district map, visit sdvote.com/content/rov/en/candidates-campaigns/Maps.html

Progress Report: Costa Verde property on Genesee at Nobel

At the March 2022 UCPCG and UCCA community meetings, the UCPCG planning group chair announced that Alexandría Real Estate (the property owner and developer) intends to build out the property within the scope of the existing permits with a hotel, life-science office space, and retail. All existing tenants were expected to vacate the property by March 15. There is no decision yet on the retail mix of stores; that is yet to be determined. There will be some kind of grocery market but it will not be a large chain. It’s expected to be a smaller grocery neighborhood market that caters to pedestrians rather than to automobiles. The small area with McDonald’s and the gas station will remain as is.
THANK YOU TO ALL WHO JOINED UCCA FOR 2022
FEBRUARY - MARCH Memberships

INDIVIDUAL
Sandy Goldsmith
Joann Nagel
Fran Viertel

SUPPORTER
Tom & Laura Cartier
Jeff & Nancy Dosick
Rodger Greiding
Mina Jam
Kelly Lange & Steven LaFond
Roger Shorack
Stephen Smith
Nils A. & Britta I. Tafvelin
Paulette & Gerald Williams
Karie Wright

ANGEL
Christine & Michael Alston
Bob & Joni Brobst
Megan Bryden
Larry & Barbara Clark
Herbert Greiner
Marsha Harvey
Paul Hewitt
Gene & Barbara Kading
Chris & Karen Landwair
Mimi Lee
John & Anna Lewis
Marj & Tom McDonough
Karen Merker
John & Suzanne Olhust
Claudia Prescott
Mary Fos Vance
Bill & Kathy Wallace

GOLD
Richard & Mary Beth Akemann
David & Abigail Bisson
Clyde Hammond
Marc Leverant
Steve Lyons
Karen & Charlie Nager
Ronxane Roberts
Jemma Samala
Bill & Mary Sexton

Summary of UCCA Meeting
(continued from page 2)
OPEN FORUM / REPORTS
Angela Weathers, who previously reported a problem with dog waste on school/park grounds, said she connected with the San Diego Humane Society which will patrol the areas and cite people with unleashed dogs.

Catherine Douglas, Neighborhood Watch Chair of the La Jolla Town Council, said that the public needs to write letters to the mayor and other officials to add more officers to the SDPD Northern Division to control problems created by the trolley and new development.

Kent Lee, running for City Council District 6, provided his positions and will be at the candidate’s forum on April 26.

The membership report submitted by Hallie Burch, shows 475 members from 321 households. Dues collected since September 2021 has been $19,610.

Bill Beck, North UC Rep, is trying to have PTA groups put the UCCA and Newsletter website in their communications.

Merle Langston, of Beautification, reported the medians on Governor and Genesee need more plants. The expected costs will be around $1,000. Barbara Gellman, of Beautification, reported the 4 utility boxes in the Market Center (Sprouts) that had been painted by artists had been overpainted. She will try to find out who authorized it. The art (rubics cube) on the utility box by Standley Park is completed.

Barbara Gellman, of Neighborhood Watch (NW), reported they hope to have street group meetings starting in May. NW sock will be accepting suggested donations. NW is raising funds to pay for more curb address painting. She will reach out to the maker of “Ring” doorbells for contributions.

Pam Stevens, VP Mira Mesa Town Council, said that people need to submit in advance any questions for the candidate’s forum on April 26. Go to lwvsandiego.org.

The next meeting will be held on April 13, 2022, via zoom at 6:00 pm.

District 6
City Council Candidate Forum
April 26, at 6:00pm

Due to City Council Redistricting, University City east of Interstate 5 has been redistricted to City Council District 6. UCCA is partnering with the League of Women Voters of San Diego to provide a City Council District 6 Candidate Forum on Tuesday, April 26, 2022, from 6:00pm – 7:30pm. The Candidate Forum will be held via Zoom Webinar following the guidelines set by the League of Women Voters of San Diego.

League volunteers will moderate, time and screen questions from the audience. Registration is required to attend the D6 Candidate Forum; the Zoom registration link is available on the Calendar Listing on the LWV home page. Once the registration process is complete, registrants will have the opportunity to submit questions in advance of the Candidate Forum. For more information and to register, visit the LWVSD homepage at lwvsandiego.org

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 $_______

Please print Name(s) ____________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________
Business name _________________________________________________
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Would you like to volunteer? We welcome your time, talent, comments and suggestions. Please let us know.

Individual and/or Business members’ names will be listed in the newsletter. Please indicate if you DO NOT want your name to be listed.

____ Do NOT list my name. Please make your check payable to UCCA; mail to UCCA, 3298 Governor Drive, #22574, San Diego, CA 92122.

Payment is also accepted through PayPal on our website www.universitycitynews.org.

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, EduCails, 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.
Eucalyptus Tree Limb Falls at Marcy Park

by Diane Ahern

Trees have many benefits and are necessary to human life. Trees give off oxygen that we need to breathe. Trees reduce the amount of storm water runoff, which reduces erosion and pollution in our waterways and may reduce the effects of flooding. Many species of wildlife depend on trees for habitat. Trees provide food, protection, and homes for many birds and mammals.

However, when a tree becomes dead or unstable, impairs the visibility of traffic signs or signals, blocks the street or sidewalk, or falls to the ground, it clearly becomes a hazard. To report trees in need of maintenance that are located on City property such as at City parks or adjacent to City streets, use the Trees & Vegetation category on the Get-it-Done app or online at sandiego.gov/get-it-done.

In Honor of Earth Day 2022 – Break the Single Use Habit

According to the folks at EarthDay.org, plastic pollution is one of the most important environmental problems that we face today. It impacts the environment and our health and wellbeing. We have all contributed to this problem – mostly unknowingly – and we must work to reduce and ultimately to end Plastic Pollution. Everyday actions can lessen the problem.

- Bring your own reusable shopping and produce bags to markets, and avoid using single-use plastic bags.
- Bring your own reusable coffee cup when going out to get beverages.
- Like sipping through straws? Get a durable stainless steel, glass, or bamboo one to use instead of wasteful plastic ones.
- Instead of buying water in plastic bottles, invest in a water filter and trusty water bottle(s). Bonus: it’s cheaper in the long run.
- Make your own reusable cloth bags from old t-shirts, using basic sewing skills (or no sewing at all).
- Choose clothing and other personal items made from earth-friendly materials instead of microfibers and other synthetic fibers, which pollute our water.
- Bring a reusable container to a restaurant with you when you expect to have leftovers.

Gardening Tip: Grow Some Clivia

by Mack Langston

Don’t have a green thumb? No Problem. Many University City residents already know that a shade loving plant named Clivia is easy to grow and produces a showy bloom or two each year about this time.

I had never seen (or perhaps never noticed) a plant called Clivia prior to moving to San Diego in the Spring of 1989. Clivia (named for Lady Clive – pronounced with a long ‘i’), evolved in the canopied forests of South Africa and Swaziland. Clivia first came to the attention of botanists in 1815 when British explorers brought them back to Kew Gardens in England. Initially some confused them with Agapanthus, although Clivia leaves are much wider and when not exposed to direct sunlight, are a much deeper green.

What surprised me about Clivia was the great variety and beauty of so many colors and flower structures that have been developed by growers and enthusiasts who crossed the more common orange with yellow, and back again, ranging from very close to red to a very pale yellow, some even green. I’ve been collecting primarily only one of the five species of the plant, Clivia miniata for about twenty years. Merle and I have made a few trips to the Clivia show and sale held each year at the Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens in San Marino near Pasadena. By the way, both communities boast outstanding examples of Craftsmen architecture. Good things about Clivia for the San Diego gardener:
- They do not require much water compared to other plants.
- They are not harmed by a few weeks of little or no water during Southern California winters.
- Strap like leaves are green all year long.
- Blooming can begin in January and last through April.
- Their generous production of a relatively large flower that will last for up to two weeks or so.
- Grow well in the yard or in pots, indoors or out of doors.
- Grow from seed and by offsets.
- Make excellent showy cuttings which will last well over a week.

For a look at a wide variety of colors, sizes and species, go to the website sponsored by an organization I’ve supported for over 15 years, www.northamericancliviasociety.org. To encourage a few more Clivia enthusiasts, I’m offering to gift a one-year membership to the NACS to the first five UCCLA members who email me at langstonmack@gmail.com. Happy gardening to all.

Looking for Garden Enthusiasts

Would you like to help bring back the UC Garden Club? Whether you have an award winning garden (flower, vegetable, rock, etc), or just dream of one, contact merlelangston1@gmail.com or jenmsamala@gmail.com. Beautify UC, one garden at a time.
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