



December 2023/January 2024

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INSIDE

UNIVERSITY CITY...more than just a neighborhood!

University City

NEWS

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University City Celebrates 21 Years of Holiday Lights

by Sandy Lippe

The number 21 is special. Most dads and moms, neighbors and friends remember where they were on their 21st birthday when they were officially adults. The night of Friday, December 8, our University City community is celebrating our 21st Lighting of the Christmas Tree and Menorah. Twenty-one years ago in 2002 no one imagined this tradition would grow from lighting a free Christmas tree donated by the nursery at the east end of Governor Drive to a night to come together as more than just a neighborhood. There are too many people to thank, but one volunteer was there in 2002 to help pick out the tree and she still serves on the tree decorating committee. Special thanks to Darlene Ventimiglia these twenty-one years.

Lighting of the Christmas Tree and Menorah, Friday, December 8
Event sponsored by UCCA, Standley Parks Council, and Standley Rec Center

- 5:15 pm - Dinner with Santa (Boxed dinner from Lorna's Italian Kitchen, \$9 each; followed by arts and crafts.)
- 6:30 pm - Introduction of Community Leaders and Guests, followed by Standley Middle School Marching Band. Other entertainment includes: UC's Susie Elden singing in the KEY OF SHE quartet, Children's Choirs, and other performances. If available, Firetruck #50. Plus cookies and hot chocolate. The evening ends with a visit from Santa Claus! "And to all a good night."

Everyone is welcome to attend. Bring family, friends, neighbors to this highly anticipated annual event.



Recognitions Given to UCCA Outgoing President

UCCA bids outgoing president Diane Ahern a fond farewell. At the November UCCA meeting, she was recognized by Terra Lawson-Remer's office (Diane is pictured above with Lawson-Remer rep Evan Bridgham), and by Mayor Todd Gloria (pictured below with Mayor's aide Fatima Maciel) for her dedication to the University City community during the past two years during her tenure as President. Thanks Diane for your past and continuing service to University City!



UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Published by **University City Community Association**
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Editor Jemma Samala, UCCAeditor@gmail.com

Advertising Terri Day, uccaADS@gmail.com

Be the Eyes and Ears of UC: The University City Community Association Newsletter is comprised of information sent to the editor. The association does not have reporters, photographers or staff. You are welcome to write and submit articles and story suggestions that pertain to community and residents.

Guidelines:

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

Deadline for the FEBRUARY 2024 issue: JANUARY 18, 2024

Please send your submission as early as possible. The deadline for the February issue is **January 18, 2024**, 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.

2024 UCCA Board Members

Executive Board

President: Jemma Samala, jemmasamala@gmail.com
Vice-President: Jim Beshears, jbeshears53@gmail.com
Secretary: Katie Rodolico, ktnelson@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Phil Fowler, philfowler2018@gmail.com

Appointed Positions

Beautification Chair: Merle Langston, merlelangston1@gmail.com
CASA Liaison/Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter Chair/Publicity & Promotion/Webmaster: Diane Ahern, ahern.diane@gmail.com
*Holiday Lighting: Darlene Ventimiglia, darleneven2@gmail.com
Membership: Julie Nydam, jnydam@gmail.com
Neighborhood Watch: Barbara Gellman, bgellman@yahoo.com
*Newsletter Distribution: Don Hotz, don.hotz@yahoo.com
*Newsletter Ads: Terri Day, uccaADS@gmail.com
*Newsletter Editor: Jemma Samala, UCCAeditor@gmail.com
North UC Liaison: Bill Beck, itsaok@aol.com
Parliamentarian/SD Network of Town Councils: Mack Langston, langstonmack@gmail.com
Past-President: Diane Ahern, ahern.diane@gmail.com
*Special Events: Barry Bernstein, apdrfn@aol.com
*UCPG Liaison: Katie Rodolico, ktnelson@yahoo.com
*Non-Voting Member

SUMMARY OF UCCA MEETING

November 8, 2023, in-person at UC Library
by Jim Beshears, UCCA Secretary

San Diego Police Department Officer Brown introduced Lt. Matthew Botkin of SDPD, the new commander of the Northern Division. Lt. Botkin, has worked for the SDPD for 22 years. He said UC has been active in supporting the police and improving the community. With regards to homeless people on the trolley, he said the SDPD is working with trolley officers and reviewing cameras to monitor.

Pure Water Report - Sarah Bowles and Clem Wassenberg reported that 8,762 linear feet of pipelines have been installed. The first section on Towne Centre Dr., south of La Jolla Village Dr. is expected to be finished in December 2023. In the tunnel under San Clemente Creek and Hwy. 52, workers are installing the two pipes inside casings already installed. The section on Genesee, south of Governor Dr., is finishing up, with curbs and asphalt almost complete. The area of Genesee north to Centurion Square at UCHS is underway. The south entrance to the school will be closed while work is progressing in front of the school. The City arborists have inspected four pine trees on Genesee, north of Governor Dr. and all are expected to survive. Further inspections will occur as trenching continues northwards. The project will be completed by 2025 to start pumping about 7.5 million gallons per day to Miramar Reservoir and increasing capacity to 30 million gallons per day.

Sewer Project- Vic Salazar, Project Coordinator, reported the project is mostly for the area north of Governor Dr. and east of Genesee. There will be 3.8 miles of new water mains, sewer connections and replacement of old lines. Workers are now on Huggins St., replacing a main sewer line. Work is usually 7:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Libraries - Misty Jones, the Director of San Diego Libraries, reported a Master Plan that has been completed. It is a comprehensive plan, and construction will be over the next 10-30 years as funds are available. The North UC Library is to expand to 20,000 sq. ft. from 16,000 sq. ft. The South UC Library on Governor Dr. is expected to expand to 20,000 sq. ft., with the possibility of two stories. Some short-term improvements of painting, new carpets, computers and improving restrooms are being considered. To help pay for improvements, a ballot measure is being considered, along with enforcing a law that requires the city to fund 6% of its budget for libraries. Helen Liebowitz, Friends of the Library, requested \$500 from the UCCA, of which the City will match 50% for a total of \$750. The request was approved unanimously.

Legislative and Community Reports

Allie Apfeld, aide to Congress member Scott Peters reported: (1) People wanting to apply to the military service academies should obtain application forms from their office and complete soon. (2) Their office is working on a supplemental funding request to address the polluted water crises at the border. (3) Their office is seeking funding for housing the homeless and is supporting plans to increase housing close to transit centers.

Evan Bridgman, aide to Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, reported: (1) Their office was working with the Office of Military Affairs to coordinate housing benefits for veterans. (2) A plaque was presented to Diane Ahern for her service on the UCCA Board.

Marc Schaefer, aide to State Senator Brian Jones, reported numerous bills have become law, including SB 566 regulating surveying practices, SB654 addressing airport regulation issues, and a Senate Bill controlling child trafficking. The Governor vetoed bills that decriminalized some hallucinate drugs, prevented caste designation, prevented surcharges being added to bills, and changed regulations of E-bikes.

Fatima Maciel, aide to Mayor Gloria, reported: (1) The City's Draft Community Plan Update and Draft Environmental Impact Report will be released some time in February 2024. (2) The tent camp for homeless people has opened at the "O" Lot by Balboa Park, with space for 360 tents. It will have bathrooms, showers, and laundry facilities. (3) A shelter on City property at the north end of the airport is under construction to rehabilitate former military barracks.

Zach Burton, aide to City Councilmember Kent Lee, stated their office

is sponsoring a "Dumpster Day" for disposal of bulky items. The date is December 8 at Miramar College.

Chris Nielsen, Chair of the UCPG, stated the UCPG was working on revisions to its bylaws to reflect new City requirements, and rules on procedure. (The next UCPG meeting will be on December 12 via zoom.)

Correction: CM Lee's office is not sponsoring a dumpster day in December. However, he and his staff will attend the Holiday Celebration at Standley Park on Friday, December 8. This is UCCA's content error and UCCA regrets the error.



UCCA President Jemma Samala

Happy Holidays everyone! My favorite time of the year – the baking, the decorations, the shopping, the music, the movies, the gatherings, the giving, oh and did I mention the cookies? All the merriment, it's plain fun.

We just finished our Thanksgiving weekend, and I am most grateful that I live in such a wonderful community as University City, and as we delve into the holiday season, I'm also thankful that I am able to give back to my home.

I didn't grow up in University City, like many of you in the community, some of which are third generations coming back to home. I wasn't even raised in San Diego. But about 30 years ago, I moved to San Diego with my then husband (who did grow up in San Diego). It was his great idea to move to University City in 1999, because this was, in his opinion, the best place to raise our kids. He was right, and I thank him for bringing me to my new community. (He's no longer in UC – I got the UC house, but hey we're still friends.) Ever since, I have loved this community. I have been welcomed by such a diverse group of friends, and that warmth has moved me to give back and help keep University City more than just a neighborhood...because it is home.

I like to take my walks in the quiet of the morning. One day I took a nice long walk along Governor Drive, what I consider our main street. And as I strolled, I realized everything around me represented my comfort zone – my local Starbucks where they know to prepare my grande hot chocolate, the elementary school my kids attended and whose teachers I try to keep in touch with, the baseball fields where my kids played Little League and where we met most of our close friends, and my favorite donut shop (and yes, I got a chocolate glazed donut – I had cash). If I had the time, I would have walked by our library where we have had many meetings, the senior apartments where my parents moved in from Orange County so they could be closer to their grandsons (and my dad would go across the street and sweep up around McElroy Field during baseball tournaments), and even further The Lighthouse Preschool where my little boys began their own journeys into life on their own.

The gist is, that like many of you, University City is our comfort zone, with many fond memories. I hope to help keep the neighborhood feel for those of us here, and for those in the future that we welcome into the University City family – so we can all strive to make more memories that bring a smile to our faces.

Join me in this goal and let me know what UCCA can do, and how you can help. My first **"Jemma at Starbucks on Saturday" (JASS ?) will be on January 13, from 9:00 to 11:00am.** (Starbucks on Governor Drive.) Stop by, sit, chat, have a drink, and we can solve all the problems in the world, or at least try in our little corner of San Diego.

Enjoy your holidays, relax and spend time with family, friends, and neighbors...because we have a lot of work to do in the new year! Peace be with you.

Jemma

Thinking Locally, Acting Neighborly

UCCA ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

UCCA held an election at the November 8 meeting. The slate of all four candidates was approved unanimously. The new officers, beginning as of December 1, 2023 for two years, are pictured below from left:

Katie Rodolico, Secretary; Jemma Samala, President;
Phil Fowler, Treasurer; and Jim Beshears, Vice President



Calendar

December 2023 / January 2024

STANDLEY PARK COMMUNITY REC GROUP

Thursdays, December 7 and January 25

For meeting details, call: 858.552.1651

FIRST NIGHT OF HANUKKAH

Thursday, December 7

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION AT STANDLEY PARK

Friday, December 8

Dinner begins at 5:15pm, followed by arts & crafts
6:30pm – Musical program and Tree Lighting begins

PEOPLE FOR A CLEAN UC

Sundays, December 10 and January 14

7:15-7:30am – meet & greet

7:30-9:00am – work

Cleanup volunteers meet at Starbucks
3203 Governor Drive, supplies provided

UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

Tuesdays, December 12 and January 9, 6:00pm

Info: planuniversity.org

CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday, December 25

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Monday, January 1

UCCA MEETING

No December Meeting

Wednesday, January 10, 5:30pm

In-Person Meeting

UC Library on Governor Drive

JEMMA at STARBUCKS on SATURDAY

Saturday, January 13, 9:00 to 11:00am

Starbucks on Governor Drive

MARTIN LUTHER KING'S DAY

Monday, January 15

RENEW YOUR UCCA MEMBERSHIP

GO TO UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG, OR MAIL IN
MEMBERSHIP FORM ON PAGE 14

UCCA will not host a public meeting in December 2023 and will not publish a print newsletter in January 2024. We will continue to update our news and social media sites with news and features. We also plan to send out periodic emails to our UCCA member email list. We look forward to seeing you at the Holiday Celebration on Friday, December 8; and at our January 10 meeting. Meanwhile, here are several ways to stay in touch with University City Community Association.

- Visit: www.UniversityCityNews.org
- Follow us on X (Twitter): @UCCA_SD
- Like us on Facebook:
@universitycitycommunityassociation
- Voice mail: 858-412-0786
- Email : universitycitynews@gmail.com



A Gift for Everyone

by Barbara Gellman

Those of you who visited the Neighborhood Watch/Socks For Safety booth and donated to receive pairs of designer socks, thank you. And, did you know, you can place orders through the UCCA website at Universitycitynews.org and click on Neighborhood Watch or email: bggellman@yahoo.com for the flyer of styles. Easy gifts for everyone, everyday including holidays; don't miss out, act now, be bold.

REFLECT ON GRATITUDE: We are so grateful for finding Casey at C&S Painting and Fine Finishes for our reflective address curb painting. They were professional, detail oriented, committed and supportive of our community project. There were a few glitches along the way, but overall, they were successful in applying the addresses to almost 400 residential curbs in University City. Communication was primary and Casey and his staff receive a "10" for all their efforts. Thank you to all who participated; your patience was appreciated.

CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD REPORT

This group for November was comprised of Capt. Manansala, Lt. Botkin and Officer Anderson Brown along with inland representatives from Westfield Mall, JCC, Bay Ho and the University City Neighborhood Watch Coordinator. The purpose is to discuss problems and concerns within the community with our SDPD, for example:

1. Shoplifting and "Smash and Grabs": SDPD is coordinating with local retailers and regional law enforcement agencies to address shoplifting through investigative operations within the SDPD. The Target on Balboa is one of those "hit" the most. A recent Northern Division Investigation operation resulted in four suspects being arrested for stealing merchandise. Extra patrols are being used in many areas of the city where this is prevalent.
2. Northern Division is increasing the frequency of police patrols by officers and Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol by providing more coverage for the churches, synagogues and mosques.
3. In October, there was an increase in catalytic converter thefts usually between the hours of 2:00-4:00am. No suspects caught yet. Below are some tips to help reduce the likelihood of being a victim (Source: Allstate Insurance)
 - Know if your car is a likely target: hybrids, SUV's and trucks have valuable or easily.
 - Removable catalytic converters. Etch your license plate number or VIN onto your catalytic converter, this may help alert a scrap dealer that it was stolen and make it easier to identify the owner.
 - Park in well-lit areas close to public entrances, regularly move your car's spot or use a closed garage.
 - Install an anti-theft device.
 - Install motion-sensitive lights and cameras in your parking area.
 - Paint your catalytic converter to deter buyers.
4. Fentanyl is still prevalent in San Diego County. Training and resources to mitigate the risks of fentanyl are available for those interested in learning more. Please Contact Officer Brown for more details, email at: Anbrown@pd.sandiego.gov.

5. Westfield Mall security is working with SDPD who will be providing extra officers and patrol on foot through the mall. They will have a heavy presence before and during the holiday season. Retailers are organizing and will work with regional agencies regarding loss prevention in their stores.

Facts for a Safe Holiday Season

SD City Attorney Mara Elliott

Of all the stories we share over the holidays, there is one we need to retire, and it has nothing to do with reindeers or elves. Every holiday season, millions of our fellow Americans tell themselves they are fine to drive after using cannabis or a prescription drug. The story they tell themselves goes like this: cannabis is a safe, natural product; prescription drugs are also safe, or doctors would not prescribe them; and, driving under the influence only applies to alcohol; you can't be convicted of a DUI, unless you have been drinking. That story is wrong.

Our Office aggressively prosecutes drugged drivers -- people driving under the influence of drugs, often in combination with alcohol. The reason is simple: almost half of all injury accidents in California involve drivers who used legal or illegal drugs. On some holidays, one in every four drivers on the road is impaired. Most have been drinking and often have both alcohol and drugs in their system. The most detected drug, other than alcohol, is cannabis, which people use more frequently and less cautiously since it became legal.

San Diegans need to know people using cannabis are more likely to be involved in crashes. Alcohol, which is a depressant, slows normal brain functions and impairs hand-eye coordination. Cannabis alters perception. The THC in cannabis impairs psychomotor skills, impedes the ability to multitask, disrupts lane tracking and cognitive functions, divides a driver's attention, delays the ability to react, and may also increase risk-taking behavior like speeding. Combining alcohol and cannabis can heighten the effects of both on the body and brain.

The misuse of prescription drugs and illegal drugs, often in combination with alcohol, is dangerous. Some medications cause drowsiness, and can lead to aggressive driving. All can affect your reactions, especially when they are mixed with alcohol. We have seen a significant increase in drugged driving cases involving the anti-anxiety drug Xanax, which is used to treat depression and panic disorder, but can cause dizziness or drowsiness, effects that can be exacerbated by alcohol.

Psychologists say 38% of people suffer from increased stress over the holidays, which can lead to depression, anxiety, and substance misuse. The average American drinks 27% more during the holidays compared to the rest of the year. Misconceptions about the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, prescription drugs and illegal drugs can prove deadly. Anyone inebriated can have a designated driver, take public transportation, or utilize a rideshare app. Remember:

- Don't mix alcohol and drugs. If you do, don't drive. The use of cannabis and other drugs in combination with alcohol makes driving even riskier than using either drug by itself.
- Many prescription drugs -- particularly those with a warning to refrain from operating machinery -- can have a huge impact on your ability to operate a two-ton automobile.
- Even without alcohol, the use of cannabis or prescription drugs can lead to a DUI arrest.
- You can lose your license, possibly go to jail, and spend thousands of dollars on your defense and fines.

The holidays can be stressful, but they can also be joyous. As a mother, there is no greater joy than having my family together to celebrate each important milestone. I hope your holiday season is filled with love and good memories you can remember for years to come. Please share the facts on driving, drinking and drug use with your loved ones. Through education, we can keep our entire community safe.



Mayor's Office Reports

Selected Excerpts

Employ & Empower

Employ & Empower was an initiative Mayor Todd Gloria launched last year after receiving state funding from the *Californians For All Youth Jobs* program. The goal is to hire San Diego students between the ages of 16-30 as interns so they can see what public service could look like as a career option. Just last month, we made our milestone of hiring the 700th Employ & Empower intern. More information can be found on the City website at: sandiego.gov/employ-empower

Mayor for a Day

The "Mayor for a Day" contest aims to foster and encourage leadership in young people living in San Diego. City of San Diego K-12 students are invited to submit a brief essay (approximately 500 words) or short video (no more than 3 minutes) on how you would make the City of San Diego a better place if you were the Mayor. The selected winner will be given the opportunity to shadow Mayor Todd Gloria and other City Departments for a day and will be included in the State of the City address in January of 2024. Please submit an essay or video by 11:59pm, December 15, 2023. For more information, visit: sandiego.seamlessdocs.com/f/mayorforaday2024

University City Community Plan

As mentioned last month, the anticipated release date for the Draft Environmental Impact Report and Draft Community Plan is now set for this Winter (early 2024). Our team continues to work diligently to address feedback we received on the Discussion Draft Community Plan and publish an environmental document that can be used to help inform the community and decision-makers about potential environmental impacts.

We will provide additional updates on our progress as we work toward an early 2024 release. When the documents are available, we look forward to welcoming additional feedback to inform the adoption process, which is anticipated to occur in Spring 2024. For updated information regarding the University Community Plan Update, please visit: planuniversity.org/

Homelessness Updates

Safe Sleeping Program

The safe sleeping program provides people who were previously sleeping in unsafe and unsanitary sidewalk encampments with access to clean new tents, cots (so they are not on the asphalt), sleeping bags, daily meals, bathrooms, as well as access to showers, laundry and supportive services that will help put them on a path to permanent housing.

"O" Lot located on the outskirts of Balboa Park, near the Naval Hospital, opened on October 21 and currently has 106 individuals with a capacity of 366 tents. The 20th & B Operations Yard safe sleeping site is also still activated with 101 individuals and a capacity of 136 tents. For more information, visit: sandiego.gov/homelessness-strategies-and-solutions/services/safe-sleeping-program

Mental Health Beds and Reform

In August, local cities and counties called for \$6.4 billion to the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act of 2023 to fund thousands of additional mental health and drug treatment beds. Governor Newsom and California legislators approved this increase on September 13, but this bond measure will need voter approval in the March 2024 ballot.



District 6 Councilmember Kent Lee

Hello University City,

My family, the D6 team, and I would like to wish you and yours a restful and happy Holiday Season!

December marks one year since I assumed office and one of the most encouraging parts has been seeing the level of care and engagement that residents of UC have for our community. I have enjoyed meeting many of you over the past year. Our office receives many thoughtful inquiries, and we look forward to another year of representing you on San Diego City Council. Our team is excited for the upcoming Tree and Menorah Lighting on December 8 at Standley Park, please stop by and say hello. We always enjoy engaging with the community and hearing about the issues that are important to you. I hope to see you there!

Over these past few months, our community team has been working hard hosting various beneficial events in District 6. We partnered with the San Diego Humane Society for two Affordable Pet Care events, led a Prescription Drug Drop-Off event with the San Diego Police Department and the U.S. DEA, and we also hosted a No-Cost Dumpster Day/Thanksgiving Food Drive with the San Diego Food Bank. The response and participation from the community has been fantastic. Please keep an eye out for more events in the coming months.

Stay safe and see you soon!

District 6

TREES

FOR TROOPS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023 10 AM - 12 PM

The Office of Councilmember Kent Lee invites District 6 residents who are military servicemembers or veterans to a community event where constituents can pre-register to receive holiday trees at no-cost this holiday season!

Visit bit.ly/D6TreesforTroops To Register.

A free Google account is required for the form. Confirmed registrants will receive instructions via email, including the pick-up location. One 5-6 ft. Douglas fir limited per military household.

COUNCILMEMBER
KENT LEE
SAN DIEGO CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 6

University Community Branch, 4155 Governor Drive, San Diego, CA 92122: 858.552.1655

sandiego.gov/public-library/locations/university-community-library

North University Community, 8820 Judicial Drive, San Diego, CA 92122; 858.581.9637

sandiego.gov/public-library/locations/north-university-community-library

Library Hours and programs are subject to change. Call to confirm hours and events.

Local libraries are currently open on Monday and Tuesday from 11:00am to 8:00pm; and Wednesday through Saturday from 9:30am to 6:00pm. University branch closed Sundays; North University branch open Sundays 1:00-5:00pm.

Libraries will be closed on Sunday, December 24 and Monday, December 25 in observance of Christmas; Sunday, December 31 and Monday, January 1, in observance of New Year's Day; and Monday, January 15, 2024 in observance of Martin Luther King's Day.

What's Happening at the Libraries?

North University Community Library

2024 Winter Reading Challenge

During our annual Winter Reading Challenge in January 2024, get ready to explore the captivating theme of "Where We Come From," which dives into the profound topics of family, history, and identity. This program runs from January 1st through January 31st and is open to readers of all ages. To sign up online, visit: <https://sandiego.beanstack.org/reader365>

Program Highlights

Art History at the Library: Saturdays, December 16 (Theme: Painting Winter, from Bruegel to Monet) at 11:00am and January 27 (Theme: Behold the Unicorn: Tapestries and Bestiaries in Medieval Europe) at 11:00am.

Meet and Greet with Author Jennifer Coburn: The Page Turners Book Club are proud to present bestselling author Jennifer Coburn on Saturday, December 16, 1:00-2:30pm.

Ukrainian Christmas Craft and Dance Performance: Saturday, December 16 at 4:00-5:30pm.

Lunar New Year Lion Dancer Performance: Sunday, January 28 at 2:00-2:30pm.



All Ages

Chess Club: Every Thursday at 3:30-5:30pm

Rock Painting Party: Tuesday, December 12 at 3:45-5:15pm

Children's Programs

Baby/Toddler variety program: Mondays, 11:45am-12:15pm

Toddler Storytime: Wednesdays at 10:00-10:30am

Lego Club: Mondays at 6:00-7:00pm

Teen Program

Teen Advisory Meeting: Monday, January 22, 6:00-7:15pm

Adult Programs

Fiction Lovers Book Club: Saturdays, December 9 at 10:00-11:00am: *Lucy By the Sea* by Elizabeth Strout; and January 13, at 10:00-11:00am: *Recursion* by Blake Crouch.

Amantes de la Lectura, Novelas Hispano-americanas en Espanol: Saturdays, December 9 at 2:00-4:30pm and January 20 at 2:00-4:00pm. RSVP to tlampell21@gmail.com

Friends of the North University Community Library Meeting: Tuesday, December 12 at 6:00-7:00pm

Bridge: Learn the Game from a Master: Saturdays, December 9 at 11:30am to 1:30pm and January 13 and January 27 at 1:00 - 3:00pm.

Page Turners' Book Club: Saturday, January 27 at 1-2:30pm. Title to be announced.

University Community Library (Governor Drive)

ADULT PROGRAMS (December & January)

Make & Take: Healthy Holiday Appetizers: Thursday, December 14 at 4:00pm. Join The Healthy Adventures Foundation to make 2-3 tasty recipes to enjoy at your holiday get-togethers. Recipes included!

Great Decisions 2024 is here! The group meets on the 3rd Friday of the month, 1:00-3:00pm, in the Community Room. Great Decisions is coordinated by the Foreign Policy Association and is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. Each month participants read the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watch the video series during the meeting then discuss the topic of the month. The topics for 2024 include: Mideast Realignment, Climate Technology, Understanding Indonesia, Pandemic Preparedness and more. Contact Branch Manager Melissa Martin to register.

CHILDREN/TEEN PROGRAMS (December & January)

Comic Art Creation Workshop – Wednesday, December 6 at 2:00pm. Explore the art of comic storytelling in this workshop led by comic art experts from Little Fish Comic Book Studio. Learn how to make your own comics and improve your drawing skills, whether you like manga, Dog Man or Spider-Man! Ages 12+. Registration required via the Library's online calendar.

Children's Craft: Holiday House Wednesday, December 13 at 1:00pm. Come celebrate the holiday season by decorating your own (non-edible) ornamental house using recycled materials, then stay and watch the film *The Polar Express*.

ADMIT ONE: COLLEGE PREP ACADEMY: HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL (Grades 9-12) | 6-WEEKS SERIES - SAT TEST PREP (January 13 & 27, February 3, 10, 17 & 24)

Let San Diego Public Library and UCSD Extension help students prepare for the transition from high school to college through the Admit One College Prep Academy! This 6-week series, focusing on preparing for the SAT, includes 16 hours of instruction and a pre-test and post-test. Space is limited. Registration required in advance via the Library's online calendar (opens Nov. 29).

Exhibits

December: New Scientists (in the Community Room). Portraits tell the first-person stories of 19 intersectional queer identities working in STEMM (science, technology, engineering, math, and medicine) professions.

January: Associated Fine Artists. An exhibit of works by San Diego artists in a broad range of styles and mediums: oils, pastels, watercolors, colored pencils and collage.

2nd Saturday Storytime – Saturday, December 9 at 10:30am

2nd Monday Pajama Storytime (NEW TIME!) – Monday, December 11 at 5:00pm

Homework Help for Reading and Writing – Tuesdays & Thursdays from 2:30-4:00pm.

Toddler Storytime & Craft – Wednesdays at 10:30am

Kids' crafts at 2:30pm – 2nd Tuesdays at 2:30pm

Qi Gong (adults) – Thursdays, 9:30am-11:30am

Friends of the University Community Library monthly meeting: Wednesday, January 17 at 4:00pm.

The Library Master Plan

by Melissa Martin and Azalea Ebbay

During the UCCA November meeting, San Diego Public Library Director Misty Jones announced that the Library Master Plan was recently approved by City Council on November 6, 2023 with much support from community members. The Master Plan serves as a "GPS" to guide the City in its planning with an aspirational goal of 2040. The Department's last Master Plan occurred in 2002 and it proposed one-size-fits-all recommendations for all locations. The Department strives to be adaptive as communities change.

The Master Plan makes facility recommendations for all City library locations divided by Zone and profiles Central Library and each of the 35 branch libraries, including University Community Library and North University Community Library. The North University Community Library is currently 16,000 square feet and the plan recommends that the branch be expanded to 25,000 square feet. The University Community Library is currently 10,000 square feet and the plan recommends that the branch also be expanded to 25,000 square feet.

Senator Toni Atkins previously secured around \$1.9 million in state grants to help expand this branch. Director Jones explained that this would only cover the building design, as construction would cost even more millions of dollars. Designs must be implemented within six months or risk becoming immediately outdated. The Library Department is looking for alternative ways to ensure that this grant continues to benefit the University Community Library through facility improvements. You can read the Master Plan here: sandiego.gov/public-library/about-the-library/library-master-plan.

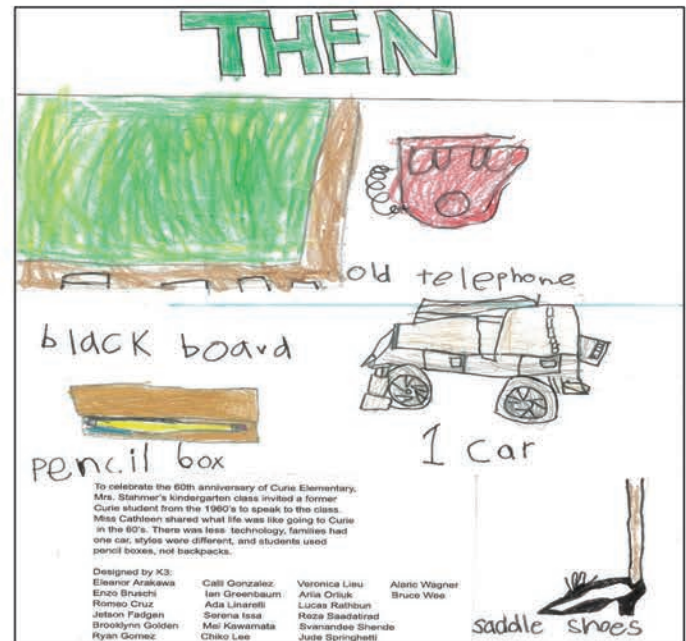


Volunteer Crisis Interventionists Needed

The San Diego Police Department Crisis Intervention program is looking for volunteers to assist fellow San Diego residents during traumatic times in their lives. The Program was developed 30 years ago

to provide short-term emotional and logistical support to individuals in the City of San Diego who've experienced traumatic events such as suicide, homicide, overdose death, or other serious life-altering incidents.

Volunteers assist police by responding to scenes to assist residents who have been affected by a crime or other critical incident. Provide emotional and logistical support, referrals and resources. No experience is needed. All you need is a desire to help others. A comprehensive 100-hour training course will provide you with the skills needed to perform this valuable and rewarding service. After that, there is a 20-hour-per-month "On-Call" commitment plus a short monthly meeting. For more information volunteer opportunities and Crisis Interventionists at: sandiego.gov/police/recruiting/volunteer



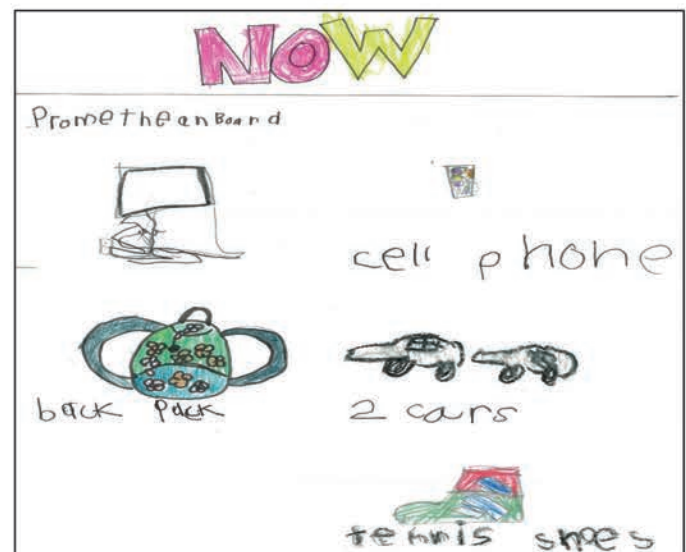
Curie Students Learning about the School and University City History

by Principal Ashley Duren

This year marks Curie Elementary School's 60th anniversary, and throughout the year the school will welcome visitors to share their school memories of their time at Curie. Curie's kindergarten class, taught by Mrs. Stahmer, welcomed Curie alumni Cathleen Wallace to their classroom on November 6.

Mrs. Wallace, who attended Curie as a 3rd grader on the first day it opened in February of 1963, shared with the class what school and the University City neighborhood was like in those days. The students asked questions about her experiences, and afterward created a "Then and Now" project together. The lesson was informative and engaging for the kinder students. Mrs. Stahmer's class thanks Mrs. Wallace for sharing her time and fond memories with them in the classroom that day.

If you are a Curie alumnus, and would like to be interviewed by a classroom, please reach out to Katie Mead (Associate Principal) at kmead@sandi.net.



COMMUNITY SHORTS

HOUSING ACTION PACKAGE 2.0 WILL RETURN TO CITY COUNCIL IN DECEMBER

On November 13, the Mayor's package of incentives to increase housing inventory for San Diegans including homeless individuals, college students and middle-income residents, was rejected by City Council. The plan drew controversy because it would allow developers to build market-rate and required affordable housing in different areas, potentially reinforcing existing patterns of low-income housing. The package also drew criticism from residents of single-family neighborhoods who oppose higher-density development.

In a joint statement released on social media a week later (on November 20) Mayor Todd Gloria and City Council President Sean Elo-Rivera announced that they will bring an amended H.A.P. 2.0 proposal for San Diego City Council consideration in December. For the most up-to-date information, visit: sandiego.gov/planning/work/housing-action-package

A COMMUNITY GATHERING + CONVERSATION

The Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center Jacobs Family Campus will be sharing a major demographic study and needs assessment of San Diego County at the interactive public event "Blueprint for our Future: A Community Gathering + Conversation" on Sunday, December 3, from 3:30 to 6:30pm. The comprehensive report, conducted by Brandeis University and NORC at the University of Chicago, details the unique needs and insights of San Diego's 100,700 member Jewish community. Pre-registration is required at www.lfjcc.org/study.



LA JOLLA RENAISSANCE SINGERS RETURN

On Saturday, January 7, the La Jolla Renaissance Singers will return to UCUC to perform a program of unaccompanied (a cappella) vocal music from the Renaissance era, celebrating music of the Spanish renaissance. The program, which will begin at 3:30pm, will include a free-will offering benefiting the church; it should last for about one hour. The program will include works by Tomas de Victoria, Francisco Guerrero, Cristóbal de Morales, and Juan del Encina. We hope you will be able to join us! More info at: ucuc.org.

UCUC BLOODMOBILE BLOOD DRIVES FOR 2024

The UCUC Bloodmobile Blood Drives for 2024 will be on Saturdays, from 8:30am to 1:30pm. The dates are: January 13, March 9, May 11, July 13, September 14, and November 16. The Bloodmobile will be located at the Sprouts Marketplace parking lot on Governor Drive. Sign up in advance at mysdbb.org or call 619.400.8251.

THE GO DECK

Former UCCA Secretary, Deanna Ratnikova, has developed a "GO Deck" which is 52 cards – one for every week of the year – with ideas for outdoor locations within the City of San Diego, including Rose and San Clemente Canyons. The cards are an easy way for friends and family to connect with each other in nature. Learn more at TheGODEck.com, on Facebook @TheGODEck, or Instagram @TheGODEck.SD.



December Food Drive Reminder

University City United Church's (UCUC) pre-holiday December food drive for the benefit of Community Christian Service Association (CCSA) will take place on Sunday, December 3 from 11:30am to 12:30pm at the UCUC parking lot, located off of Gobat Avenue, directly behind the Church's 2877 Governor Drive location. A holiday-clad Church member will be at the drop-off site to jollily welcome you and unload your vehicle into his CCSA sleigh.

CCSA supplies emergency food to individuals and families in the local area who are experiencing hardships. Donations of unopened, packaged food items, baby food and diapers as well as personal care products are welcomed, especially small cans of tuna fish, chicken, Vienna sausages, and peanut butter. For neighbors wishing to help fill holiday gift bags for the homeless, CCSA has need of travel size toothbrushes/toothpastes, shampoos/conditioners, lotions and soaps as well as \$10 gift cards for fast food restaurants and grocery stores. A list of other recommended items may be found at www.ccsasandiego.org.

A record number of neighbors participated in the UCUC November food drive. Thank you for donating a great bundle of goods that will help many people. May your holidays shine bright! Info about UCUC may be found at www.ucuc.org.

Turkey and Gas-Fueled Deep Fryers

by William Beck, Former Fire Chief

Many people like to use a deep fryer to cook their holiday bird as the fryers cook up juicy turkeys in a fraction of the time it takes to roast one in an indoor oven. However, they do pose a hazard. Outdoor fryers heat gallons of cooking oil to very high temperatures, making the risk of the oil and/or vapors igniting, resulting in a fire and potentially severe injuries. Here are some tips from the National Fire Protection Association regarding using a gas-fueled deep fryer.

- Always use the deep fryer outdoors and at least ten feet away from a building.
- Be sure that the oil is at 350 degrees and not hotter.
- Make sure that turkey is totally thawed.
- Be sure there is no water associated with it as having any residual water will react with the oil and possibly cause some to spill out, igniting on the burners.
- Never drop the turkey into the oil - go slowly.
- Have a proper extinguisher handy and be sure you know how to use it.
- If a turkey deep fryer fire occurs, call 911 immediately.



New Enhancements at UC Racquet Club

If you haven't been to the University City Racquet Club recently, you'll notice several changes and improvements, including:

- a new entrance sign and the implementation of a new entrance to access the club
- 8 new windscreens on the tennis courts
- repaired the 48 court lights, so evening tennis can still occur during the winter
- restroom renovations, except if you notice the ceilings don't look "finished", those will be repaired and painted once we replace the roof on the clubhouse. We are trying to raise the \$20,000-25,000 needed for a new roof ASAP. We would also like to raise additional funds to replace fascia boards that have dry rot, paint the exterior and interior, and renovate the floor and interior lighting.

If you would like to make a donation towards these sorely needed projects, please drop off or mail a check or make a donation via Venmo to the club via @ucrc-tennis1

In other news, in late October, over 130 players participated in the first USTA-sanctioned tournament hosted by UCRC since 2014! We heard many positive comments about the club, its atmosphere, and all the recent improvements made. The courts were freshly water broomed (a sort of gentle power washing), so they were sparkling in the near-perfect weather.

Come on out to join us for some tennis; we are a friendly tennis club and have annual or monthly memberships available for individuals, couples, families and also have senior discounts...tennis, anyone?

For more info about the UC Racquet Club, go to: ucrc-tennis.com



Making Hydrosols at the UC Garden Club

by *Jemma Samala*

On a sunny Fall day, overlooking Rose Canyon, Jana Fortier taught UC Garden club attendees how to make hydrosols – a water solution made through distillation of steam moving through flowers, leaves, and roots of herbs and plants. Both steam and boiling methods were shown by Jana, and at times it felt like we were taking a Chemistry class. An archeologist by trade, Jana provided an excellent step-by-step presentation, along with a handout for future reference.



We learned that hydrosols, water-based solutions, are better for when a small or medium amount of aroma is needed, such as room sprays, facial mists, and personal skin sprays. Whereas, essential oils are better for higher aroma needs, such as perfumes. Jana's demonstration used lavender and we all soon fell under the spell of the wafting lavender aroma.



UC Garden members continued to stroll through Jana's garden and took home items to create hydrosols at home. Thank you Jana for providing such a lovely gathering.

2023 provided UC Garden club members with a variety of topics to enjoy the garden lifestyle in our own backyards. If you would like to get on the email list, contact jemmasamala@gmail.com.



KEEPING PETS AND THEIR OWNERS HEALTHY DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Adapted from the San Diego Humane Society

Let's be honest, we all splurge a little during the holidays — often in the form of changes to our usual diets — and it's normal to want to include our pets in the festive fun as well! As long as we're doing this mindfully there's little harm in offering special treats. But overindulgence can be very dangerous for pets.

Here are some tips, tricks and food for thought to keep you both on track while celebrating:

- Put it in perspective: "Just a pound" isn't a big deal for an adult human, but for an adult 10-pound pet, one pound is 10% of their body weight!
- Safe snacks: Giving pets holiday treats is even more fun when the treats are specifically made for the pet. But if you'd rather give your pets a bit of the holiday feast, consult a pet-safe food list and set aside some totally bland versions of dishes as you're preparing them.
- Everything in moderation: Sneaking your pet some turkey? Feed them less of their regular food at dinner time. Keeping serving sizes balanced helps avoid unwanted weight gain and upset tummies.
- Make it a game: Creating a treat treasure hunt can be loads of fun and a low-impact way of adding activity to your pet's routine. Hide pea-sized treats in areas your pet will naturally visit and let the games begin!

For more information, visit: sdhumane.org/about-us/news-center/stories/thanksgiving.html



WESTFIELD UTC OPENS PEPPERMINT BEACH CLUB

Westfield UTC (La Jolla Village Drive & Genesee Avenue) has unveiled their newest holiday spectacular, Peppermint Beach Club, which arrived late November. Following a year of toy and gift creation, Santa, Mrs. Claus, and their team of elves are in need of rest and relaxation before the big Christmas Eve drop and there's no better place for a little R&R than the beach!

This exciting new concept offers families, friends, visitors, and locals a perfect place to celebrate the holidays and relish in the magic of the North Pole San Diego style. Peppermint Beach Club will dazzle and delight with an array of activities including fabulous parties, retailer pop-ups, fan-favorite snowfall, playful visits with Mrs. Claus and the elves, and a live DJ to help spread holiday cheer:

- **Santa's Villa:** Stop by Santa's Villa located in Palm Plaza between November 17 and December 24 to snap a holiday photo with Santa — or bring along furry friends for Santa Paws photos on December 4 and December 11 from 4:00-7:00pm. Reservations are highly recommended, visit westfield.com/united-states/utc/events-detail/photos-with-santa.
- **Queenstown Bistro:** Set in the heart of Peppermint Beach Club is Queenstown Bistro, offering patrons a curated seasonal menu inspired by Westfield UTC's resort-like holiday destination. Featured highlights include a themed specialty cocktail menu, the comeback of the popular Holiday Sandwich boasting a delicious combination of oven-roasted turkey, brie cheese, stuffing, gravy, cranberry and jalapeno relish served on sourdough bread, and a curated boozy and non-alcoholic Hot Cocoa offering.
- **Gift-Wrapping Station:** After finishing your holiday shopping, leave the holiday wrapping to the professionals and personalize each of your gifts at the gift-wrapping station located near Aritzia. Benefitting Rady's Children's Hospital, the station will be available from December 15 through December 23.
- **Holiday Ice Skating:** All-day ice skating sessions are available December 16 to January 2 for families and friends looking to cap their day at Peppermint Beach Club with a fun run around the ice at UTC Ice Sports Center. New this year will be a skate tying station where trained staff will lace up and tie a guest's ice skates complimentary.
- **Gift With Purchase:** Enjoy a surprise and delight gift with a purchase in partnership with the Peppermint Beach Club's presenting sponsor, Fiji Airways.



SDFD IS ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF NEW TOYS AND BOOKS

The San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD) is sponsoring the 2023 Toys for Tots toy drive in partnership with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. All SDFD facilities (including several lifeguard facilities) are accepting donations of new unwrapped toys and books through Wednesday, December 13.

SDFD has been a toy drop-off point supporting Toys for Tots for almost 20 years. Since 1947, more than 600 million children have benefited from the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. For more information and other ways to donate, visit: san-diego-ca.toysfortots.org



REMEMBER, HONOR, AND TEACH

National Wreaths Across America Day will be held on Saturday, December 16. Join the more than two million volunteers and supporters who will gather to Remember, Honor and Teach at more than 4,000 participating locations in all 50 states, at sea and abroad, including Miramar National Cemetery. Community members and groups can help by sponsoring wreaths, volunteering, and inviting friends to help. Check the Miramar National Cemetery *Wreaths Across America* website for updated information for wreath sponsorship, logistical information, and protocols for public wreath laying at: wreathsassacrossamerica.org/CAMRNC



SNOW IN SAN DIEGO

What: Doyle Elementary's Winter Wonderland
Where: Doyle Park Recreation Center and Field
When: Saturday, December 9, 1:30 to 5:30pm
Admission: \$5 adults, \$2 children

The forecast calls for snow in University City! Winter Wonderland is a fun-filled family event at the Doyle Park Recreation Center in support of the Doyle Elementary PTA. Winter Wonderland features a real snow play-area with four tons of snow, international food pop-ups, a bounce house, arts & craft stations, family photo opportunities, live DJs, and so much more. Seating will be limited, so families may want to bring a blanket for the field.

Doyle Elementary's Winter Wonderland will take place on the afternoon of Saturday, December 9 from 2:00 to 6:00pm. Admission is just \$5 for adult and \$2 for children. Tickets will be available at the event and in advance at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

For more info about Winter Festival events, go to: sandiego.gov/winterfestival

Dinner with Santa & Tree & Menorah Lighting

The University City Parks Council (UCPC), University City Community Association (UCCA) and Standley Community Recreation Group invites the community to a festive, fun-filled evening. Enjoy a Hearty Pasta Boxed dinner from Lorna's Italian Kitchen, entertainment, arts & crafts and an appearance from Santa.

Friday, December 8, 2023
 Dinner begins at 5:15 p.m.
 Tree Lighting begins at 6:30 p.m.
 Standley Recreation Center
 3585 Governor Drive

CASH ONLY
 Boxed meal
\$9

UC Planning Group Meeting Update

by Chris Nielsen, UCPG Chair

There is some important news from the Planning Department: Nancy Graham has moved to a planning position at the City's Capital Projects and Infrastructure Department, a promotion for her. She expects that this move will have no effect on the timing of the release of the updated community plan, Program EIR or subsequent passing of the plan. Community input will still be taken after the release, expected in the first few weeks of January. The UCPG appreciates the hard work and contributions to the Plan Update by Nancy and wishes her the best. Planner Suchi Lukes will remain on the project which will be managed by Coby Tomlins, Community Planning & Housing Program Manager.

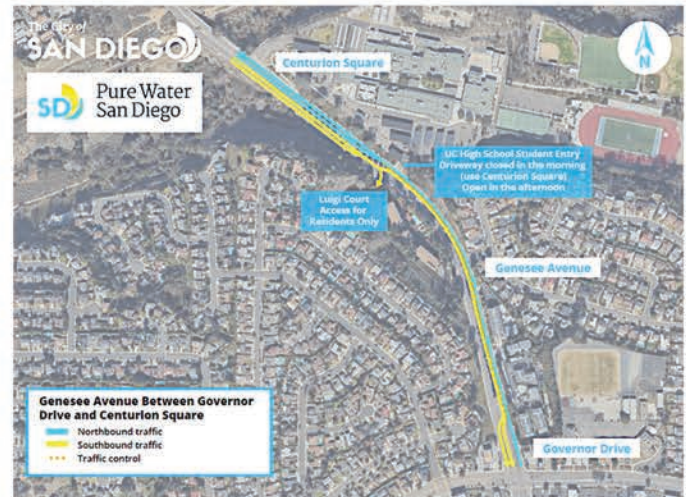
The Tentative Map Waiver project was continued until December due to the inability of the applicant's representative to explain the implications of recommending the split of the Aventine property into two parcels, a "hotel condo", and a "lab/office space condo". We have asked the applicant to return with answers to the questions raised in the meeting.

The Healthpeak project was unanimously recommended for approval. This project replaces an existing 42-year-old building with two new buildings totaling 122,000 sq. ft.

UCPG approved several changes to the governing documents for the UCPG, one of which was adding a fourth UCPG District, District 4, comprising the UC San Diego campus. At the November UCPG meeting, we approved an additional change permitting any voting member [board member] elected from one of the four UCPG districts to keep their seat for the remainder of their term if they move to another location in the UC Plan Area. Joining a planning group requires a significant time commitment that may not be worth it to some if they expect to lose their voting seat if they move. Removing this barrier should help both renters and students decide it's a good investment of their time to join the UCPG.

Last week, the City noticed a project located at 4249 Nobel Drive. The proposal is for three residential towers of 40, 40, and 23 stories, totaling 1315 units with 1300 parking spaces in underground and lower story parking. The project has affordable housing based on the "Complete Communities" formula that uses the current low-density RM-2-5 base zoning (29 Dwelling Units / acre) to calculate the project's required affordable housing, proposing approximately 2% for low, and very low income. While we don't know what the affordable housing percentage will be for the new Community Plan Update, it is expected to be at least 10%. The 2% affordable for this project and displacement of current residents is very disappointing given that the site currently has the most affordable rental housing in our planning area and has among the most diverse social composition with about two-thirds people of color. For comparison, the planned density of this parcel under the community plan update would be about 109 DU / acre, versus the proposed project's density of more than 350 DU/acre. The developer is listed as Wilmark Corp, the owner of the Avia development at Gullstrand and Governor.

UCPG will meet on Tuesday, December 12, to rehear the Aventine project, Tentative Map Waiver and to finalize the document package for the UCPG's recognition by the City. Upcoming in January, we expect an information item by the city traffic engineers regarding the restriping plan for Genesee on completion of the Pure Water Project. We will also form an election subcommittee for the March UCPG elections.



Pure Water Construction Heads North Towards Luigi Court and Centurion Square

by Diane Ahern

This new section of pipeline construction will include traffic control setup and pipeline construction on Genesee between Governor and Luigi Court. Working hours for this segment of pipeline installation will be Monday through Friday from 7:00am to 5:00pm. Work started in November and will continue through Spring 2024. Two-way traffic will be maintained, and there will be no intersection closures as part of this work.

Construction teams will install one 48-inch wastewater pipeline and one 30-inch brine pipeline in a 16 foot-wide trench in the southbound lanes of Genesee with through traffic being shifted into the northbound lanes around the construction zone to maintain two-way traffic on Genesee Avenue at all times.

Plan extra time when traveling on Genesee Avenue. University City High School students and parents are to use the entrance at Centurion Square during the morning school commute/drop off. The student entry will be closed in the morning and the gate will reopen in the afternoon for school dismissal/exit.

The City and project team are committed to completing construction as efficiently as possible with safety as our highest priority, and the community's patience and coordination are appreciated. For the most up-to-date information on Pure Water construction in the University City area, visit: bit.ly/PureWaterUniversityCity

Miramar Matters

At the November planning group meeting, Kristin Camper, the MCAS Miramar Community Plans and Liaison Officer, announced that there will be Air Force pilots training with Miramar Marine Corps pilots in the early weeks of December. This means community members may see and experience unfamiliar aircraft with an increase in flight operations and flight noise in the University City area adjacent to MCAS Miramar. In other MCAS Miramar news, Kristin announced that she is arranging for a MCAS Miramar tour and flight operations brief early next year for community members to take place at the air station with commanding officer Colonel Bedell and the flight operations staff. Please contact Citizens Advocating Safe Aviation (CASA) if you'd like to be on the notification list for this opportunity at: citizensadvocatingsafeaviation@gmail.com



California Assembly Bill 530 to Create e-Bike License Program

by Diane Ahern



Existing law defines an electric bicycle (e-Bike) and classifies electric bicycles into 3 classes with different restrictions. Under existing law, an electric bicycle is a bicycle and rules pertaining to the operation of bicycles apply to

electric bicycles. Existing law prohibits a person under 16 years of age from operating a class 3 electric bicycle. A violation of the Vehicle Code is a crime.

Assembly Bill 530 (AB 530) would prohibit a person under 12 years of age from operating an electric bicycle of any class. The bill would state the intent of the Legislature to create an e-bike license program with an online written test and a state-issued photo identification for those persons without a valid driver's license, prohibit persons under 12 years of age from riding e-bikes, and create a stakeholders working group composed of the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of the California Highway Patrol, the Transportation Agency, bicycle groups, policy and fiscal staff, and other relevant stakeholders to work on recommendations to establish an e-bike training program and license.

Because the bill would prohibit certain persons from riding electric bicycles, the violation of which would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. For the current status of AB 530, visit: legiscan.com/CA/text/AB530/id/2834086



Road Repair Projects in University City

by Diane Ahern

Roads are being repaired in neighborhoods such as University City as part of the Transportation Department's ongoing Slurry Seal program. Slurry seal is often completed in phases over several days or weeks, and multiple slurry seal projects are happening across the City simultaneously. The latest work as part of Slurry Seal Project 2322 will be completed, weather permitting, through the month of November and the first week of December.

In University City, the following roads are scheduled to be resurfaced: Barkla Street, Bloch Street, Bothe Avenue, Curie Place, Lebon Drive, and Soderblom Court. For more information, visit the Street Resurfacing and Pothole Repair tab at: sandiego.gov/street-div



Cooking, What are the Risks?

by William Beck, former Fire Chief
and UC Fire Safe Council Member

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) cooking is the leading cause of home fires. The NFPA reports that two out of every five home fires started in the kitchen and more than 150,000 fires a year are related to cooking. Can you guess why most of these fires occur? If you said it's leaving cooking unattended, you got it right.

From Thanksgiving through Christmas, fire departments see more unattended cooking fires than other times of the year. However, the facts in this article apply anytime you are cooking. Hopefully this holiday season, you won't need to call the fire department unless your inviting them to join you for dinner.

Think back, how often has the doorbell or telephone rung or a child interrupted you while you were cooking, causing you to forget about the chicken you left sizzling on the stove - until smoke filled the house? If this sounds familiar, I hope you'll read on, because you're running the risk of having a dangerous fire.

Often when there is a cooking-related fire, the owner says they only left the kitchen for a few minutes. Sadly, that's all it takes! Regrettably, there's really no safe period of time for the cook to step away from a hot stove. So, when your cooking – Stand-By Your Pan!

Here are some important things to remember when you are cooking:

- Never leave food cooking on the stovetop unattended.
- Keep a close eye on food cooking inside the oven.
- Be sure cooking areas are clean and clear of combustibles (e.g. potholders, towels, rags, drapes and food packaging).
- Enforcing a "kid-free zone" of three feet around the stove.
- Keep pets from underfoot so you do not trip while cooking.
- Never use a wet oven mitt, as it presents a scalding danger if the moisture in the mitt is heated.
- If there is an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed to prevent flames from burning you and your clothing, get everybody out and call the fire department.
- With a grease fire, you never want to use water! Either turn the heat off and smother it, or let it start to cool down.
- If there is a microwave fire, keep the door closed. If possible unplug it or turn off the circuit breaker. Call the fire department and make sure to have the oven/microwave serviced before you use it again.
- Food cooked in a microwave can be dangerously hot. Remove the lids or other coverings from microwaved food carefully to prevent steam burns.
- Do you have an up-to-date fire extinguisher handy? Know when and how to use it and check your smoke alarms twice a year.

Thank You to Renewing and New UCCA Members

Individual

Vito and Phyllis Asaro
Karie Chow
Inge Davidson
Michael Dwyer
Patty Estes
Bar-Giora Goldberg
Marty Hawley
William Hiltunen
Brad Lents
Kelly Lyndon
Aileen Fong Knowles
Luke Miller
Connie Nowlan
Hugh Pates
Esther M. Peterson
Tamara Petersson
Betsy Pelling
Mel and Marlese Pinney
Paula Ries
Dr. Robert H. Riffenburgh
Katie Rodolico
Wally Schlotter
Wendy Smith
Harvey Stewart
Marge Suess
Sally Tang
Stefani Walens
Mary Weinbrecht
Kris Worley
Gary Young

Supporting

George and Sally Berg
Jack and Kathy Ensich
Warren and Greta Erwin
Blair and Dan Forde
Steve and Terri Gray
Paul Hewitt- Hewitt Watershapes
Ron and Cora Huber
Diana and Ronald Johnson
Lawrance Family
Fred Lonidier and Caroline De Pottel
Nancy McAvoy
Karen Merker
Valerie Mickey
Dr. Robert and Anne Morrison
Marion and Ralph Nebiker
Walt Parker
Dan and Peggie Peoples
Phyllis Perlroth
William and Jamie Pugh
Frank and Brian Reinsch
D.M. Schmidt
Patricia Schneider

Angel

Bryden Family
Charles and Francine Frasier
Michael Hammersmith
Robin Bettin and Pat Mather
Kathleen Longmire
Bill and Barbara Mitchell
Cinco and Nicole Plumb
Sunni Farkas and Bob Treitter
Terence Tran and Alice Nguyen
Stephanie Webber and Harry Griswold
Vivian Wong

Gold

John and Crunchy Beacom
Bill and Joan Breher
Eric Chang
Cheryl Creagh
Gerald D'Spain and Sandi Cottrell
Phil and Nancy Fowler
Jan and Eddie Friedman
Rande Gaydon and Tom Wegman
Peter and Doree Hekman
Lisa Heikoff and David Katzer
Merle & Mack Langston
Bill and Carol Mahler
Doug and Peggy Magde
Harry and Mary Mathis
Linda Levy and Edward Mc Grath
William and Lucille Massicot
Bruce and Elizabeth Murray
The Nielsen Family
Jack and Lavia Peluso
Judy and Barry Petro
Helene and David Schlafman
Lynn and Steve Shields
Steve and Janet Shields
John and Mary Jayne Stoll
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Margaret Watkins

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Michel Malecot for the French
Gourmet Bakery and Catering

University City Community Association 2024 UCCA Membership Application*

Members will receive a 2024 membership card and a special thank-you gift for joining.

☐ \$100 Gold | ☐ \$75 Angel | ☐ \$50 Supporter | ☐ \$25 Individual | ☐ \$500 Donor/Corporate



\$_____ Additional Donation Enclosed



Please print Name(s) _____

Address _____

Business/Corporate name (optional) _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

We prefer checks; please make your check payable to UCCA; mail to UCCA, 3298 Governor Drive, #22574, San Diego, CA 92122.

Payment is also accepted on UCCA's website at universitycitynews.org/join-ucca-today

Your UCCA membership dues (and optional additional donation) make a big difference in our community. These funds help support worthwhile local organizations, as well as many local projects, events, and activities.

Your membership dues also support UCCA's University City News print newsletter, and UCCA's website and social media sites.

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


Please let us know by emailing us at: UniversityCityNews@gmail.com

*This membership is valid for the 2024 calendar year. UCCA is a 501(c)4 organization and membership dues are not tax deductible.

Thank you for joining UCCA. For the latest University City News, visit our website at: UniversityCityNews.org


G

ANNE GAFFEY ART



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100% of proceeds will be donated to the World Central Kitchen which is helping to feed families in Gaza and Israel.



Please go to annegaffeyart.com for more details.



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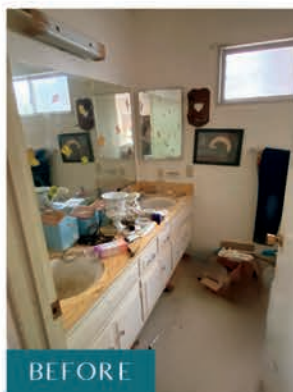
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Katie

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858.353.0406
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CalRE#00911089



June

Carol Uribe
858.705.2399
caroljuribe@gmail.com
CalRE#00878552



Carol

Scott Harden
858.610.5283
scott.harden@camoves.com
CalRE#02059452



Scott

John Schindel
858.349.9051
john.schindel@camoves.com
CalRE#00900435



John S.



Kathleen



Lydia

Kathleen Williams
619.944.6520
kathleen.williams@msn.com
CalRE#00909208

Lydia Hwang Vosovic
858.472.0608
lydiavosovic@gmail.com
CalRE#01445033



Kathy

Kathy Cornell
858.775.1239
coldwellbankeruc@gmail.com
CalRE#02063174

John Bassler
858.583.5157
john.bassler@camoves.com
CalRE#01262474



John B.

Milo Worsham
858.449.0014
milo@miloworsham.com
CalRE#00991249



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