University City NEWS

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

December 2026 / January 2027

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universitycitynews.org





UCCA Brings Holiday Lights & Market to Standley Park December 12

by Jemma Samala

The University City Community Association is expanding its traditional Holiday Lights event to include a market. The Holiday Lights & Market will be on Saturday, December 12 from 2:00 to 6:00pm, just outside the Standley Rec Center at 3585 Governor Drive. Besides the Holiday Lighting of the Menorah and Christmas Tree, there will be photos with Santa, entertainment, hot drinks, treats, crafts, and local artisans, including young entrepreneurs. The weather outlook also calls for light snow! The schedule for the market is:

2:00-6:00pm:	Holiday Market Booths & Photos with Santa Open
2:00-2:30pm:	UCHS Jazz Band
2:30-3:00pm:	OMC Children's Choir
3:00-3:30pm:	Reality Sessions
3:30-4:00pm:	Spreckels Elementary Choir
4:00-4:30pm:	Key of She
4:30-4:45pm:	Holiday Story Reading
4:45-5:30pm:	Holiday Sing Along
5:30-6:00pm:	Councilmember Kent Lee, Menorah & Tree Lighting

The Holiday Market vendors include: Holly Wolf's Holly Looo's gifts and aroma stones; Laura Ravine art glass gifts; Green Dino toys and jewelry; Karla Baeza's vintage clothing; Lupines & Lilacs jewelry; Gayle Kehrli's pottery; Kimura Charms jewelry; and Georgia Wu's gifts. Other booths will have crafts for the kiddoes, such as the UC Parks Council ornament making led by former schoolteacher Carol Parham, who will have info on international holiday traditions; All Saints Lutheran Preschool; Canyons Church; Alliance Francaise; and the Fire Safe Council (also our first aid booth). Hot drinks and Peruvian treats will be available from Inka'fe SD Coffee Shop; and baked goods from Heart & Harvest. Additionally, there will be info from the Girl Scouts, and the Friends of UC Library will have a booth selling used books and library items. Plus, don't forget to stop by the UCCA booth for special treats.

UCCA thanks Westfield UTC for being an event sponsor. If you would like to help sponsor portions of the event, would like to volunteer the day of, or would like to have a booth, please contact jemmasamala@gmail.com. Bring the whole family for this University Coty holiday tradition that will truly light up your holiday season!







UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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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:

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 format.
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 2027 issue: JANUARY 14

Please send your submission as early as possible. The deadline for the February issue is **January 14, 2027**, 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. 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. UCCA will not knowingly print features or news items that appear to be entirely generated by artificial intelligence (AI). Publication does not constitute an endorsement.

2026 UCCA Board Members

Executive Board
President: Jemma Samala, president@universitycitynews.org
Vice-President: Jim Beshears
Secretary: Greg Hom
Treasurer: Phil Fowler
Appointed Positions
Beautification Chair: Merle Langston
CASA Liaison/Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter Chair/Publicity & Promotion/Webmaster: Diane Ahern
Historian: Greg Hom
Marketing (Membership & Advertising): Open
Neighborhood Watch: Barbara Gellman
*Newsletter Ads: Terri Day (OPEN starting December)
*Newsletter Editor & Distribution: Jemma Samala
North UC Liaison: Bill Beck
Parliamentarian/SD Network of Town Councils: Mack Langston
Past-President: Diane Ahern
Senior Watch: Jemma Samala
*Special Events: Barry Bernstein
*UCSD Liaison – Jim Beshears
Other Volunteers – Newsletter Contributors
*Mike Frattali: City Issues
*Vince Reardon: UC Profiles
*Non-Voting Position

UCCA GENERAL MEETING
November 17, 2026

Selected minutes taken by Greg Hom

Pure Water Update and UC Improv #1
Written report: None of the work should interfere with UCCA hanginng banners. Median restoration is ongoing on Genesee. Weather-permitting, Genesee medians could finish by end of year. Working on bike lane on Genesee between Governor and April Court.

UCPG
Chris Nielsen, UCPG Chair: Emergency easement access for Belmont Village retirement home was updated. UCPG working with owner of LJ Village Square to find way to open up the often-empty shopping center parking spots on 3 floors of the parking garage to use for trolley passengers. Cass Street made presentation on High Street Village Development Project. Anticipate several 7- or 8-story buildings with housing/lodging on upper floors and retail space on the bottom. About 350 units of affordable housing. Expect about 1,800 units when completely built. Next meeting on January 12, 2027.

Fire Safe Council
Diane Ahern, President: Presentation on Go Bags and Stay Boxes last week. Zone Zero presentation on January 23 at the UC Community Library. The Public Safety portion of the General Plan of the City is in the process of being updated to identify dead-end streets. The draft map has been published showing those affected streets in UC.

Elected Officials Report
Zach Burton, rep for Councilmember Kent Lee, submitted a written report: Efforts are being made to prepare for and respond to El Nino-related disasters. Residents are encouraged to assess their flood risk and get sandbags if needed. The city's website has information about sandbags, etc.

Committee Reports
Financial: Phil Fowler, Treasurer, presented current financials to end of October, report was approved.
Grants: Diane Ahern reported that UCCA received a grant of $10,000 for banners and installation from the County Board of Supervisors to expand to Nobel Drive area now that Pure Water construction is nearly completed.
Neighborhood Watch: Barbara Gellman reported that there are three new street captains. She reminded everyone that if you see old Neighborhood Watch signs that are not legible, let Barbara know so that they can be replaced.
Beautification: Barbara Gellman has identified six SDG&E boxes that can be approved for painting. A Girl Scout troop is interested in painting them. Interested parties can request to do painting.
Holidays Lights Market: Jemma Samala reported that it is on December 12 from 2:00 to 6:00 pm at Standley Park. 16 booths so far. Entertainment for the entire event, ending with traditional tree and menorah lighting.
Senior Watch: Jemma Samala reminded everyone that there is a sing-along and music trivia this Thursday night at Standley Rec Center. This past month, there was a senior finances seminar at Cal Coast Credit Union. New topics being entertained for next year.

Open Forum
The **UCHS Robotics Team** representatives came to make a request for funding of a grant of $150 for registration fees for competitive events. UCCA approved a motion to allocate $150 to UCHS Robotics Team.

A library patron wanted to convey a compliment to Melissa Martin for taking ownership for a potential problem and Melissa's efforts to rectify a concern about how certain books were displayed/shelved.

Next UCCA General Meeting: Tuesday, January 19, 5:30pm at the University Community Library on Governor Drive.

UCCA President Jemma Samala









The holiday season is my favorite time of the year – October we have Halloween, November it's Thanksgiving, culminating with Christmas in December, my absolute favorite holiday. And I love decorating for each one – I have no idea how many boxes of holiday decorations I am up to these days, plus all the things I buy throughout the year that I tuck away for later, which I tend to forget about, and subsequently don't find again until after Christmas.

Luckily, I have the opportunity to share my love of the hoidays with my University City family in the form of our Holiday Lights and Market, expanding on the original idea started by Barry Bernstein and Darlene Ventimiglia, who both have worked on the Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting events for over 20 years each.

I have been wanting to expand the local holiday event and was further inspired by a sisters/mom Christmas Market cruise last year on the Danube River along Austria and Germany – I call it research. I hope that as we grow this event, we get the same feel of that festive holiday spirit. It's our gift to each other, to bring joy and cheer to the community.

I hope to see you at the Holiday Lights and Market on Saturday, December 12, from 2:00-6:00pm, just outside the Standley Park Rec Center. Those will be my open hours for December, so come find me and let's share some holiday greetings.

Speaking of my open hours, I got to hang out with some old and new friends last month: Gary Chun, M.D. (my sons' former pediatrician); Jonathan Doolittle; The Garay Family; and Laura Ravine; plus, more not pictured.

And what should you put on your holiday gift list – a UCCA membership! Your membership dollars help UCCA support local events, fund community grants, help Neighborhood Watch and Senior Watch programming, and in producing the University City News. Happy Holiday to all!

Jemma

Thinking Locally, Acting Neighborly

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: TERRI DAY



When I first started working as Editor of the UCCA newsletter, back in 2014, Terri Day was already volunteering as the Newsletter Ads Coordinator, and I'm sure she started many years before then. As a realtor in her day job, she brings that expertise to her Ads Coordinator role, and knows how to handle sales and get those ads in.

Terri's University City roots are deep. Her parents Navy Commander C. Wayne and Rita Wood were original homebuyers in the community in the 1960s. Terri and her mom Rita had a longtime real estate partnership.

This is Terri's last issue in that volunteer role, and we sure will miss her! Terri is retiring to spend more time with family, especially all her grandbabies. A noble reason in my book. Terri – we wish you many, many years enjoying life with those grandbabies, and thank you for the many, many years serving the University City community.

On that note, we are still looking for a volunteer to take over that role, please contact me if interested at president@universitycitynews.org. Thanks.

Calendar

December 2026 & January 2027

HANUKKAH
Friday, December 4 sundown to
Saturday, December 12 sundown

HOLIDAY LIGHTS & MARKET PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
Sunday, December 6, 9:00am
Standley Rec Center

STANDLEY PARK COMMUNITY REC GROUP
Thursday, December 10, 7:00pm
Thursday, January 28, 7:00pm
For meeting details, call: 858.552.1651

HOLIDAY LIGHTS & MARKET
Saturday, December 12, 2:00 to 6:00pm
Standley Park

SENIOR WATCH GAME NIGHT & POTLUCK
Thursday, December 17, 5:30pm –
Bingo & White Elephant Gift Exchange and
Favorite Holiday Dessert Potluck
Thursday, January 23, 5:30pm - TBD
Standley Rec Center

CHRISTMAS
Friday, December 25

NEW YEAR'S DAY
Friday, January 1

JEMMA'S OPEN HOURS
Saturday, January 9, 9:00-11:00am
Starbucks (by Sprouts on Governor Dr)
Bring your 2027 Membership Form!

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP
No December Meeting
Tuesday, January 12, 6:00pm
9880 Campus Point Drive, Third Floor or Zoom
Info: sandiego.gov/planning/community-plans/university/planning-group

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY
Monday, January 18

UCCA GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday, January 19, 5:30pm
UC Library on Governor Drive
4155 Governor Drive

ZONE ZERO & FIRE SAFE COMPLIANCE
Saturday, January 23, 10:00am
UC Library – 4155 Governor Drive

WE WELCOME YOU TO BECOME A PAID UCCA MEMBER, AND TO RENEW YOUR UCCA MEMBERSHIP FOR 2027. Go to UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG or mail in the enclosed membership envelope.



How to Prevent "Crimes of Opportunity"

submitted by Barbara Gellman, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

A "crime of opportunity" is a crime that is committed without planning when the perpetrator sees that he/she has the chance to commit the act at that moment and seizes it. In other words, given the opportunity, a crime can be committed with little or no premeditation. Suggestions on how to prevent:

1. Keep all doors and windows locked. If you have an alarm, activate it. Keep side gates locked.
2. Never leave keys in doors near glass. hang spare keys out of reach from doors and windows.
3. Never leave your purse in the cart at the supermarket or department store; on the floor next to your chair; hanging from the back of your chair or on the chair next to you in restaurants or public transportation or in an unattended desk at work.
4. Never leave strollers, bikes, lawn mowers, tools, sporting equipment or any other valuable items sitting unattended around your home.
5. Never leave laptops, purses, keys, cameras or other valuable items next to a door or visible from a window or in a car, place them in the trunk before you reach your destination.
6. Do not leave exterior lights on during the day but do leave them on all night. Put lights on a timer. Put inside lights on timers when away.
7. Never give your Social Security Number, Medicare number, Birth date, bank account number or pin number to anyone who asks for it on-line or on the phone. A bank will never ask you to do so. This is a scam!
8. Never send money to someone who claims to be traveling and without money. This is a scam!
9. I-phone, I-pad and I-pod are prized by robbers. If they see it, they will want it. Do not show them out in public.
10. Wear only one ear bud when listening to music or messages so you can still hear what is going on around you. Pay attention to your surroundings.
11. Try to go to the ATM inside the bank or during the daylight hours, not at night. Block the screen when putting in your pin number so others don't see it.
12. Don't carry large sums of money with you while walking on the street and don't count money in public.
13. Have your car VIN (vehicle Identification Number) etched to prevent auto theft.
14. Get to know all your neighbors so that you can recognize those who don't belong on the block and ask a neighbor to take in mail and papers while you are away.
15. Install a peephole in your front door and do not open to strangers, talk through the door. Add dead-bolt locks to all doors.
16. If the subject line of an email reads: Delivery Confirmation, Do not open it-unless you know you are expecting a package, it is an infection that can damage your computer.
17. If you witness a burglary or other crime in progress, call 911 and report. Write down everything you see and keep notes in a safe place. Non-emergencies call 619-531-2000, Al will answer and direct call, say the word "dispatch" up to three times to be moved into the proper queue and waiting time will be less.
18. Participate in Neighborhood Watch; be part of the solution. Contact me at bggellman@yahoo.com to find out if you have a street Captain and be part of the crime prevention team in partnership with our police. Help protect your family, property and neighborhood.

Holiday Tips from Officer Anderson Brown

SDPD Community Relations Officer for the Northern Division

The holidays are upon us, which means an increase in mail-order package deliveries. Please see the list below, detailing tips that may help you avoid becoming a victim of doorway package theft.

Avoid Porch Theft: 5 Tips to Protect Your Packages

1. Network with Neighbors - Arrange to pick up packages for each other
2. Have Packages Delivered to Work
3. Leave Specific Drop-off Instructions
4. Use a Smart Lock
5. Install Security Cameras

Tips to Avoid Package Theft

- Get a P.O. Box at your local post office or package shipping business
- Use Lockers - Amazon lockers can be found at some neighborhood 7/11's
- Set Up Notifications to Track Your Packages
- Install a Security Camera
- Get Your Packages Delivered to Your Office or a relative's home if they will he home at time of delivery
- Require a Signature on Delivery
- Reschedule Delivery or Ask for a Package Hold When on Vacation
- Try Smart Locks Get a Package Guard - Devise.
- Insure Your Packages
- Ask Your Neighbors to Grab Your Packages

What to do if you've become a victim of a porch pirate

1. Check with your delivery company to make sure your package was delivered.
2. Know exactly what's in the missing package.
3. If you see the thief, pay attention to what his or her vehicle looks like and its license plate number. Second to that, get the thief's physical description - gender, approximate height, and weight, and what they're wearing - so you can tell an officer.
4. Call the San Diego Police Department at 619.531.2000 and file a theft report.
5. If you have a security camera on your home, get a copy of the video to the police. Ask your neighbors if their cameras captured the thief in action.









County Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer Holds State of the County Conversation

by Jemma Samala

San Diego County Board of Supervisors Chair Terra Lawson-Remer held the annual State of the County address in November at the La Jolla Playhouse. The format was in a conversational style with LA Times journalist Jim Newton. They looked back at the past six years of the County trying to do as much as they can for the people who live in the county. The event included short videos on six key issues, summarized below by Supervisor Lawson-Remer's office:

Protecting your healthcare. We ended the County's outrageous practice of searching families' homes when they applied for public benefits. Now, instead of trying to keep people from getting help, we're working to make sure they get the healthcare and food assistance they need. We've hired new eligibility workers and cut call-center wait times to an average of just 53 seconds.

Getting stolen wages back to workers. Our new Office of Labor Standards and Enforcement has helped put nearly half a million dollars back into workers' pockets. One worker waited eight years to recover $10,000 in stolen wages. When the money finally came, it helped his family while his mother was battling leukemia.

Responding to mental health crises with care, not handcuffs. We created Mobile Crisis Response Teams that send trained mental health professionals directly to people in crisis. They've responded to more than 35,000 calls since 2021, diverting more than 80% from emergency rooms. Now, anyone can call 988 to get help.

Defending Due Process for All. We created an Immigrant Legal Defense Program that has provided legal representation to more than 3,500 San Diegans facing deportation. Because having a constitutional right means little if you can't afford to exercise it.

Standing up to corporate greed. We're taking on powerful companies accused of breaking the rules — from corporate landlords and social media giants to ghost gun manufacturers and companies driving up the price of fire trucks. And as Washington dismantles consumer protections, we're creating our own local watchdog to fight for San Diego families.

Fighting sewage pollution. After decades of families suffering from toxic sewage pollution, we're advancing a new plan to intercept and treat polluted wastewater on our side of the border. Because we can't control everything that happens in Mexico, but we can control what we do here to protect our beaches and communities.

To watch the State of the County event and the documentary stories go to: www.youtube.com/live/Y_x7_DDCOGs?t=2390s.

Councilmember Kent Lee

Dear University City Neighbors,

I want to start by saying how grateful and honored I am that the residents of District 6 have once again placed their trust in me to represent our communities on the San Diego City Council for another four years.

In our first term, we worked hard to deliver major investments in our neighborhoods, fought to protect the services our residents rely on – from library and recreation center hours to funding for arts and culture – and asked the tough questions necessary to make our city work better for everyone. None of that would have been possible without the dedication of our incredible team, the partnership of so many community leaders, and the residents who continue to inspire this work every day.

This victory is both a tremendous honor and a responsibility I don't take lightly. Working families across our communities continue to face rising costs, particularly when it comes to housing, while our city must build a stronger financial foundation to improve the services residents count on. Our team is ready to meet these challenges, keep delivering results, and help chart a brighter future for the city we all call home.

I'm proud of what we've accomplished together, excited for what's ahead, and ready to get back to work!

As the holiday season approaches, I'm thankful for the opportunities we've had to come together as a community and enjoy time with our families. Thank you to everyone who joined us for our District 6 Turkey Distribution event on November 23. It was a great success and helped many families heading into the Thanksgiving holiday.

Looking ahead, my office invites District 6 military families to our annual Trees for Troops event on December 5. For those staying close to home in University City, I hope to see you at the UCCA Holiday Market event On December 12 at Standley Park as we celebrate the season together.

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or our University City representative, Zach Burton, at zburton@sandiego.gov.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season,
Council President Pro Tem Kent Lee



LOCAL LIBRARY NEWS

North University Community Branch Univ
8820 Judicial Drive, San Diego, CA 92122
858.581.9637
Manager: Kat Carn
sandiego.gov/public-library/locations/north-university-community-library

University Community Branch
4155 Governor Drive, San Diego, CA 92122
858.552.1655
Manager: Melissa Martin
sandiego.gov/public-library/locations/university-community-library

Library Hours and programs are subject to change. Call to confirm hours and events.
Local libraries are open on Tuesdays from 11:30am to 8:00pm; and Wednesdays through Saturdays from 9:30am to 6:00pm.
All San Diego Public Library locations will be closed on Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25 in observance of Christmas, and Thursday, December 31and Friday, January 1 in observance of the New Year.

North University Community Library

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Toddler Storytime: Tuesdays, 12:00pm
Join in as we read, sing, dance, and play at Toddler Storytime!
Stay and Play: Tuesdays, 12:30pm
Stay and Play is a relaxed playtime designed for babies, toddlers, and their caregivers. Little ones can explore toys, practice new skills, and interact with other children while caregivers connect and socialize.
Lego Builders Club: Tuesdays, 3:30pm
Come build your creations while making new friends! All Legos will be supplied by the North University Community Branch Library.
Storytime Stomp: Wednesdays, 10:00am
This lively and interactive program is designed for children of all ages to explore the joy of movement, music, and creative expression. Join the fun and enjoy watching your little one dance and sing in a playful and energetic environment.
Signing Storytime: Tuesday, December 15, 12:00pm
Join us for a joyful, interactive Signing Storytime filled with stories, songs, and American Sign Language!

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS AND SENIORS

Chair Yoga: Thursday, December 3, January 7, 14, & 21, 10:00am Enjoy a gentle accessible yoga class that uses a chair for support to improve flexibility and balance. **Chair Yoga is generously sponsored by the Friends of the N. University Community Library. Donations are welcomed.*
San Diego Legends: A Prohibition Era Smuggler's Cave: Friday, December 18, 2:00pm
Did William Randolph Hearst actually shoot and kill a famous Hollywood movie producer aboard his yacht off the San Diego coast? Join award-winning author and storyteller Jack Innis as he leads an exciting PowerPoint exploration of a Prohibition Era smuggler's cave hidden along the San Diego shoreline.
History and Haunting of the RMS Queen Mary: Friday, January 15, 2:00pm
Join paranormal researcher Nicole Strickland for a fascinating exploration of the RMS Queen Mary's remarkable history and reported paranormal activity. Discover the ship's mysterious hauntings, explore theories behind its resident spirits, and examine paranormal evidence collected through audio, video, and photography.
The Death Cafe: January 23 at 10:30pm
Join certified Death Doula, Heather Smith, for an open, honest conversation about life, death & dying. No agenda. Just bring your curiosity & open mind. Refreshments will be provided.
Garden Share: Friday, December 18 & January 15, 4:30pm
Join us with your friends and family to share your garden. Bring what you have to share; take home something you really want and bring a bag to take home your finds.

University Community Library

CHILDREN/TEEN PROGRAMS

Toddler Storytime: Fridays 10:30-11:30am. Ms. Ann shares fun stories and sings songs followed by craft time.
Children's Craft: Wednesday, December 2 and January 6, 12:30pm. with Ms. Barb. Decorative pine cones (Dec) and "woven" winter hats (Jan).
Homework Help: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:30 to 4:30pm. Students in grades K-8 can get help with their homework twice a week. Our tutors are high school and college students who can help with Common Core math, reading practice and other topics. Bring homework assignments to review and finish.

ADULT PROGRAMS

UC Book Buffs (book club): Thursday, January 14, 2:00pm. Copies are held at the Circulation Desk. January's book selection is *Alexander Hamilton*, by Ron Chernow. New members, please check with staff prior to attendance to ensure enough copies are available. No book discussion in December.
Art for Adults, Friday, December 18 and January 15, 1:00pm. Create art with a trained art therapist in a soothing, welcoming environment using a variety of art methods. All supplies provided, no registration required. Program capacity: 10 people. No registration, first come/first served.
San Diego OASIS: 15 Steps to a Successful Remodel: Friday, January 22, 1:00pm. This class is a primer for anyone looking to remodel their home. This is not a Do-It-Yourself class, but rather teaches you the steps needed to remodel a home and how to prepare yourself mentally and financially for a remodel. Includes examples of plans, permits, contracts and invoices.
UC Book Club: Wednesday, January 27, 2:00pm. The January book selection is *How to Solve Your Own Murder* by Kristen Perrin. No book discussion in December. New members, please check with staff prior to attendance to ensure enough copies are available.
Concert: Tuesday, December 1, 6:30pm. Spirit Wind is back by popular demand!
Mahjong Club (open play): 4th Saturday of the month: December 26 and January 23, 2:00 – 5:00pm. Sets are provided, please bring your own 2026 card.
Qi Gong: Thursdays, 10:00am - 12:00pm, Community Room
Qi Gong: 2nd Saturday, 9:30 – 10:30am, Community Room
NEW! Chair Yoga, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 11:00am, January-June 2027. The instructor modifies traditional Hatha Yoga into poses you can do in your chair or while using your chair for support. This yoga class is also a great way to learn how to incorporate yoga into your schedule at your desk. You can participate completely seated or as a blend between seating and standing.
Exhibit: The Magic of Pastels, Saturday, through early January 2027. The exhibit features the work of student artists from the San Diego College of Continuing Education Older Adult Magic of Pastels classes with longtime instructor and University City resident Rochelle Bradford.

Holiday Events at the Local Libraries

North University Community Branch Library

Holiday Crafting Corner for Adults: Saturday, December 5, 3:30pm Enjoy a fun and festive afternoon of creativity as you choose from a variety of holiday crafts, including handmade greeting cards, ornaments, and seasonal greenery arrangements. Create something special to decorate your home or share with someone you love! *This program is for adults only, space is limited and available on a first come, first served basis.*

A Treasury of Christmas Humor, with Richard Lederer: Saturday, December 19 at 2:00pm *Union-Tribune* language columnist and International Punster of the Year Richard Lederer will offer a program of history, lore, jokes, puns, and funny verse about Christmas.

Winter Craft Wonderland: Saturday, December 19 at 3:00pm Embrace the season's spirit and discover a treasure trove of unique handmade crafts, and festive joy.

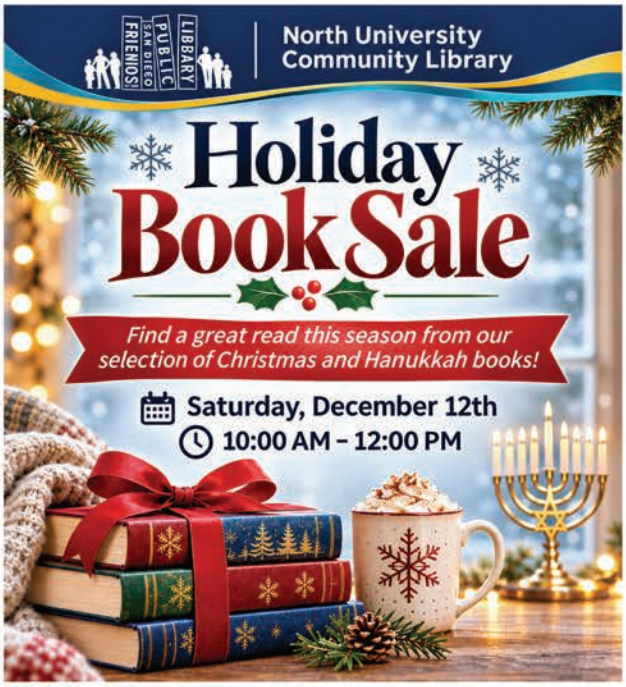
Lunar New Year Celebration: Saturday, January 30, 11:00am Celebrate the Lunar New Year with us at North University Community Library! Join us for a festive celebration featuring a spectacular Lion Dance performance, fun crafts for kids, and activities for the whole family.

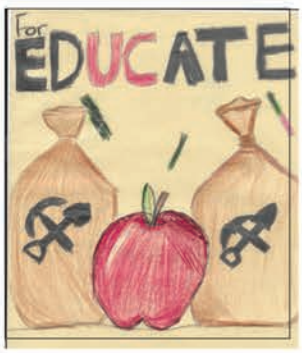
University Community Branch Library

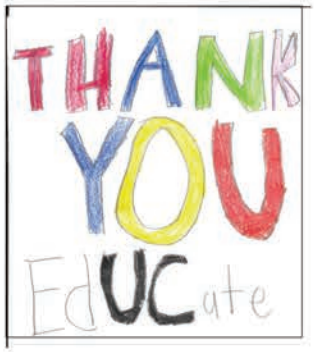
Children's Winter-themed Take-home Craft: Wednesday, December 16 and January 20 – Fairy cocoa cups (Dec) and TBD (Jan). While supplies last.

Holiday Program: Making natural perfumes and lotions, Friday, December 18, 4:30pm In this class, you'll make 2-3 lovely take-home gifts using your choice of essential oils and other ingredients. Recipes are provided for you to recreate them at home. This class is recommended for ages 8 & up. Registration required via library online calendar.

Concert: Saturday, December 19, 2:00pm The Many Moods and Modes of Christmas (with two shakuhachis). Performed by Jonathan Crick and Mary Lu Brandwein.





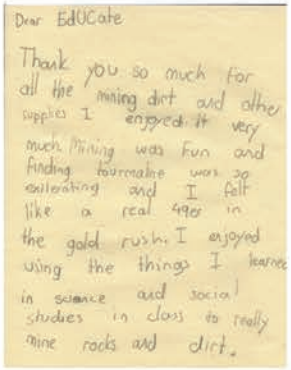


EdUCate! Awards $70,000 in School Grants!

by Bobbie Lee, EdUCate! Grants Chair

EdUCate! awarded 40 Teacher grants and 5 Principal grants totaling $70,000 this fall. Principal grants fund school-wide needs identified by principals. Teacher grants fund classroom needs. Principal grants funded free student mental health services at UC High, school facility dogs at Standley and Spreckels, a paraeducator for high needs students at Curie, and an English Language Arts online program for all students at Doyle.

Highlights of items granted to teachers this year include several classroom seating rugs that provide our youngest students with their own clearly defined spaces that help them stay focused during group instruction. Building and engineering kits were granted. One teacher requested raw mining dirt, or "pay dirt," for Mining Days, a fun and engaging Earth Sciences activity to teach students about the California Gold Rush. Sets of novels and textbooks are always in demand for classroom libraries. Pocketalk translators for voice and text were granted to Doyle Elementary. Four Spreckels teachers combined their request for Mystery Science packs for their classrooms, providing hands-on materials for science lessons. A first-grade teacher at Spreckels received phonics and de-coder books for her students. 45 calculators were granted to a math teacher and EdUCate! is excited to help fund printing of the school newspaper at Standley Middle. At UC High, 37 novels of "Young People's History of the United States" were granted, as well as measuring tapes and leg guards for the Environmental Science students and their field work.


Dear EdUCate

Thank you so much for all the mining dirt and other supplies I enjoyed it very much. Mining was fun and finding tourmaline was so exhilerating and I felt like a real 49er in the gold rush. I enjoyed using the things I learned in science and social studies in class to really mine rocks and dirt.

My personal favorite was replica DNA splitters "PCR classroom packs" for the high school. Boy, we have come a long way since my day and dissecting worms in science class!

A big THANK YOU to all of our supporters. As with many nonprofits, our needs continue to be greater than our income. We have cut many corners but want to maintain our level of teacher and principal grants. We wish we could have fully funded all teachers who submitted a grant request.

While the Oktoberfest fundraiser was a wonderful event this year it did not meet our goals. Increases in permit expenses and the extreme heat affected our bottom line. We did not reduce our grants because of our shortfall in the hope that Taste of the Triangle, scheduled April 23rd, will help refill the coffers. You can still make a difference this year and consider EdUCate! in your end of year donations and tax planning. We could not do this without you! *For more info, go to: uceducate.org.*

VOLUNTEER CONNECTIONS

Help Plan the Holiday Lights Market

Help UCCA plan the new Holiday Lights Market, scheduled for Saturday, December 12. The next and last planning committee meeting will be on Sunday, December 6, 9:00am at the Standley Rec Center. Come help us plan a new University City tradition! We are also looking for local crafters and community groups to participate, and day of the event volunteers. For more info and to show your interest, email: jemmasamala@gmail.com.

Newsletter Advertising Coordinator

UCCA is looking for someone to take over the Newsletter Advertising Coordinator role. This person will prepare the ad pages, using software of their choice. They will communicate with current advertisers and find new ones. As well as work with UCCA's Treasurer and Newsletter Editor. If you are interested, please email: jemmasamala@gmail.com.

Be A Neighborhood Watch Leader

Consider being part of the crime prevention solution as a Neighborhood Watch Street Captain in partnership with SDPD. They need us as extra eyes and ears of our community. If this sounds of interest to you, contact bggellman@yahoo.com. The following streets need a Captain/Co-Captains to step up and lead. Once this happens, a Neighborhood Watch sign will be installed. Streets: Araya, Arnoldson, Baeza, Briand, Branting, Carnegie, Carrena, Erlanger, Enders, Ferber, Fried, Finson, Gullstrand, Kantor, Maynard, Merwell, Occidental, Pennant, Pauling, Soderblom, Sandburg, Steinbeck, Werner, Wellesley, Whipple, and Willard.

COMMUNITY SHORTS

UCHS STUDENTS ADVANCE IN PTA REFLECTIONS COMPETITION

We are thrilled to share exciting news from the UCHS PTA Reflections Arts Program! Two of our talented freshmen have been selected to advance to the next level of the PTA Reflections Program, showcasing their creativity, artistic talent, and dedication to self-expression.

Visual Arts Category: Congratulations to Ava H, whose inspiring artwork, *The Surfer and the Sea*, has been selected to advance in the PTA Reflections Visual Arts Category. Ava's creativity and artistic vision beautifully captured this year's theme and impressed judges with its originality and thoughtful expression

Music Competition Category: Congratulations to Christos K, whose original musical composition, *Kymata*, has been selected to advance in the PTA Reflections Music Composition Category. Through his talent and passion for music, Christos created a meaningful composition that exemplifies the power of artistic storytelling.

FRONT PORCH PANDEMIC JAZZ JAM

The Front Porch Pandemic Jazz Jam (FPPJJ) continues to provide free live Jazz every Thursday afternoon, starting at 3:00pm to roughly 5:00pm (winter hours), at 5626 Bloch Avenue. Bring your own seating. Picnics and wine tasting are very popular events. Kids of all ages are welcome, as are dogs on a leash.

BE A UC BLOOD CHAMP

The UCUC San Diego Blood Bank Bloodmobile will be at the Sprouts/Starbucks Marketplace on Governor Drive, Saturday, January 9, from 8:00am-1:30pm. Sign up at: mysdbb.org or call 619.400.8251. Appointments are encouraged and walk-ins accepted, make sure to bring your photo ID. Future Bloodmobile Blood Drives are Saturdays: 3/13/27, 5/15/27, 7/17/27, 9/11/27, and 11/6/27, all 8+ weeks apart.

UC GARDEN CLUB

The UC Garden Club will resume meetups in February 2027. We are looking for volunteers to host and/or present on a topic. To get on the UC Garden Club email list, please contact jemmasamala@gmail.com.

UC Little League Celebrates Fall Season and Looks Ahead to Spring

by Christine O'Bannon

Spring registration is now open! Families can save $100 with early-bird registration through November 30. University City Little League (UCLL) wrapped up its fall baseball season on November 15, celebrating another season of youth sports, player development, and community connection. This fall, UCLL brought together 14 teams across four divisions: four Machine Pitch teams, four Minors teams, four Majors teams, and two Intermediate teams. With approximately 10–11 players per team, young athletes strengthened their baseball skills, learned the value of teamwork, and built friendships on and off the field.

A highlight of the season was the reintroduction of interleague play, with UCLL teams competing against Presidio and Mira Mesa Little Leagues. These matchups brought new competition and experiences for players while helping strengthen connections throughout the San Diego baseball community.

Although rain and several game cancellations shortened the season, players continued to make the most of their time on the field. Beyond learning the fundamentals of baseball, athletes developed sportsmanship, teamwork, and confidence while forming friendships that extend beyond the ballpark.

In October, UCLL also welcomed approximately 45 of the community's youngest aspiring ballplayers to its Tee-Ball Clinic. The clinic introduced children to the fundamentals of baseball, helped them develop basic skills, and gave them a fun first experience participating in a team sport.

Spring 2027: Registration Is Open

With the fall season behind us, UCLL is already preparing for an exciting spring 2027 season. Opening Day is scheduled for Saturday, February 20, 2027. The league has adjusted its spring schedule to better align with the school year and accommodate local families. Spring Registration Details:

- Final registration deadline: January 22, 2027.
- Opening Day: Saturday, February 20, 2027.
- Register online: www.UCLL.org

Volunteers and Community Partners Make It Possible

A successful Little League season takes more than players. It takes dedicated parents, coaches, volunteers, and local business partners who believe in supporting youth sports and investing in the next generation.

As preparations begin for spring, UCLL is actively seeking parents interested in coaching. No previous coaching experience is necessary—just a willingness to get involved, encourage young athletes, and help make a positive impact. Coaching is a rewarding way to support your child's development while giving back to the community.

Local businesses are also invited to support UCLL through sponsorship opportunities. Sponsoring the league is a great way to invest in local youth athletics while gaining visibility among families throughout the University City community.

Interested in getting involved?

- Coaching opportunities: info.officer@ucll.org
- Volunteering and general league involvement: volunteer@ucll.org
- Business sponsorship opportunities: sponsorship@ucll.org

Whether you're a returning baseball family, a first-time player, a prospective coach, or a local business looking to give back, there's a place for you at University City Little League.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to the ballfield for Spring 2027! Visit www.UCLL.org to register and learn more.



Crazy Seniors Sing Along to Music Trivia

UCCA's Senior Watch evening event for November was a Sing Along and Music Trivia. The singing was led by Bruce Frager, who accompanied the singing on his guitar or the Standley Park piano. The song list was chosen by Jemma Samala and Richard Patchett, who also prepared the music trivia questions relating to each song. Songs included *I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing, Brown Eyed Girl, Sweet Caroline, Let It Be* and much more. The winning trivia team were the Depends, who each won a Starbucks gift card. Plans are to have another Sing Along sometime in the Spring.

The next Game Night & Potluck is Thursday, December 17, 5:30pm at the Rec Center. We'll be playing Bingo (bring your $1 bills for each game) and have a White Elephant gift exchange. It's okay to regift! For the potluck – bring your favorite holiday desserts.

The monthly activities are part of the UCCA Senior Watch programs, which includes monthly presentations on senior topics and Tai Chi. Programming will resume in January. To get on the Senior Watch email list, contact jemmasamala@gmail.com. Please free to email with any suggestions for future programming.

WALKING ON WEDNESDAYS

Walking on Wednesdays Led by Marie Pleasant, the Senior Walkers meet every Wednesday at 9:00am in front of Swanson Pool, unless there's inclement weather. The group walks for about 45 minutes, some bringing canes. The important thing is to show up and move. For more info, contact Marie at seekgene@aol.com or 858.452.2107.



MAKING A GO BAG AND STAY BOX

The Fire Safe Council had an event in November to show attendees how to pack a Go Bag and to build a Stay Box. Attendees received a free document holder and Disaster Ready Guide from Listos California. Free raffle prizes included a Go Bag and smoke detectors. Steve Lyons, State Farm Insurance, also spoke about Zone Zero and its effect on homeowners' insurance. For more info about the Fire Safe Council, go to ucfiresafecouncil.com, and see articles on page 13.

PEPPERMINT BEACH CLUB AT WESTFIELD UTC



Celebrate the season at Westfield UTC through December 24 at the Peppermint Beach Club. Westfield UTC has created a festive setting complete with Santa's cozy Christmas Bungalow, where you can join Kris Kringle for photo experience, presented by SeaWorld San Diego. The furry members of your family can also have a Santa Paws photo session December 7 and 14 from 4:00 to 8:00pm. The mall also has over 240 shops and restaurants to help you check-off your gift list. Plus, glide into the holiday spirit at UTC Ice, where twinkling lights and seasonal music set the scene for festive fun. You can lace up your skates, sip hot cocoa rink side, and make magical winter memories with friends and family.



Experience the magic of snowfall Thursday through Sunday nights until December 23.



Holiday gift wrapping is complimentary with donations benefiting Rady Children's Hospital. Find the service between Fabletics and GAP from December 12 to 22, starting at 1:00pm.

WESTFIELD UTC HOLIDAY HOURS:
12/4 – 12/10, 12/27 – 12/30: 10:00am to 9:00pm
12/11 – 12/23, 12/26: 9:00am to 9:00pm
12/24 & 12/31: 9:00am to 6:00pm
12/25: closed
1/1/27: 10:00am to 8:00pm

For additional info on holiday events and to make reservations, go to: www.westfield.com/en/united-states/utc/holiday.

UCCA thanks Westfield UTC for being the corporate sponsor for the Holiday Lights & Market event on Saturday, December 12.

Holiday Volunteer Opportunities



Jewish Family Services

Jewish Family Service is a people-centered, impact-driven organization working to create a stronger, healthier community where everyone can thrive. Founded in 1918, today JFS is considered one of San Diego's most impactful nonprofit human services agencies, providing compassionate care and supportive services to more than 70,000 people every year.

Our diverse network of staff, volunteers, supporters, and community partners are committed to the pursuit of one shared goal: helping individuals and families in our community move forward. Whether you need services or you'd like to volunteer, you can find information at: jfssd.org/about-us

Volunteer Projects at San Diego Food Bank

Volunteers help the Food Bank by sorting/bagging produce and donated food items; and assembling Food bags/boxes for the Emergency Food Assistance Program, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and the Food 4 Kids Backpack program.

The San Diego Food Bank encourages everyone in the community to volunteer their time at the Miramar, North County, and nonprofit partner locations. If you meet the age requirements, they welcome volunteer support. For more information, visit: sandiegofoodbank.org/volunteer

Wreaths Across America Returns to Miramar National Cemetery

Wreaths Across America will be at Miramar National Cemetery in December to Remember and Honor our veterans through the laying of Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes.

The ceremony is scheduled for December 19, 2026, at 09:00 am. Wreath placement follows immediately. To donate or sponsor a wreath for Veteran's grave, and for more information about volunteering and event parking, go to: wreathsacrossamerica.org/pages/14747/overview

Feeding San Diego and *Meals Made Easy*

Volunteer from home and create *Meals Made Easy* Kits for Feeding San Diego. Help neighbors in San Diego access nutritious meals by assembling meal kits from your kitchen.

Create meal kits using shelf-stable ingredients that help neighbors experiencing food insecurity. Choose from 6 tested recipes, assemble ingredients in clear bags with recipe cards, and drop them off at the Feeding San Diego facility—all on your schedule. Details at: feedingsandiego.org/get-involved/volunteer/meals-made-easy/

Toys for Tots 2026

Every year, the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program collects new, unwrapped toys and distributes those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community.

From now until December 15, 2026, new and unwrapped toys may be dropped off at any San Diego Fire-Rescue Station. For more information and to make a cash donation, visit: https://bit.ly/ToysForTotsSanDiego



University City Family Builds Support Through Cerebral Palsy Foundation

by Maxim Novichkov and Ekaterina Novichkova



We started Cerebral Palsy Community Foundation because caring for our son David showed us how much families need support, both today and when parents can no longer provide it. We live in University City. David has severe cerebral palsy. He cannot walk or speak and needs help with almost every part of daily life. His smile brings us joy, but we also live with a difficult question: who will care for him when we are gone? With no extended family able to take over his care, that question is deeply personal.

Our San Diego nonprofit exists to support children, adults and families affected by cerebral palsy and related severe disabilities. We are building programs around practical assistance, caregiver support, community connection and access to assistive technology. The foundation is at an early stage. We are welcoming requests for help and seeking volunteers, donors and partners to develop responsible support for needs such as mobility equipment, transportation, communication tools and therapy access.

Our experience with David also reminds us that safe, accessible housing and planning for future care matter throughout life. We want families facing these challenges to have people they can turn to. We invite our University City neighbors to help this work grow through donations, volunteering or professional expertise. Learn about our mission, request help or get involved at cerebralpalsycommunity.org.



UC Del Sol Softball Ready for Spring

by Perry Peters, UC Del Sol President

Registration for the upcoming 2027 Spring Ball season is now open for UC Del Sol Girls Softball! The 2027 season looks to continue the success the league has been having the last several years. The season will run from January through early May and is open to girls aged 4 through 14. Practices take place at Standley Middle School and games are played in the local area. Please go to ***ucdelsol.com*** to get more information and register!

UC Del Sol is affiliated with USA Softball and aims to create a supportive and enjoyable environment for young athletes to develop their skills and passion for the game. Not only do our girls learn how to love and play the great sport of softball, they learn life lessons such as teamwork, friendship, leadership and sportsmanship. Whether you're a beginner or a "seasoned vet", UC Del Sol softball is for you!



Over 80 Community Members Rode Bikes to Ask for a Safer Governor Drive

by Martha Wudka

Did you know 81% of pediatric injuries in San Diego occurred in areas *without* bike lanes? More than 80 community bikers came out and rode down Governor Drive to show support for a safer lane configuration on Governor Drive in November. Kids got free bike lights and the chance to decorate their bikes and helmets so that they are more visible to our neighbors traveling by car. This ride was part of a larger effort by the UC Bike Bus to encourage the City of San Diego to stay true to the University Community Plan and add traffic calming and bike infrastructure to Governor Drive when the street is repaved west of Genesee.

A current draft change order has a full repaving set to occur before next Spring, but the city insists that they will keep all four lanes. The Mobility Report delivered in March estimated 14 seconds would be added to commutes between Stressman and Genesee during peak morning and evening hours if reduced to a single lane in each direction. A bike lane will *not* allow the city to change density requirements, and the Federal Highway Administration suggests lane reductions like this for places where there are roads carrying up to 20,000 cars per day. The Mobility Study conducted in December 2025 counted less than 11,000 cars per day from Genesee to Mercer and fewer on other stretches of Governor Drive, suggesting that even after the possible housing growth in our shopping centers, there would still be reason to support traffic calming on Governor Drive.

Lane reduction is a proven way to slow cars down and with 15% of cars going over 41 mph during peak times when kids are getting to school, this change might get our neighbors to go the speed limit and keep us all safer. Bike riders from the November event think 14 seconds is a small price to add a bike lane and make our neighborhood safer for community members accessing the schools, recreational facilities, pools, park, and baseball fields all along Governor Drive. You can go to ucbikebus.com/responsible-repaving or follow @ucbikebus on Instagram to learn more.







Genesee Avenue median between Radcliffe Lane and Governor Drive as of November 2026

Pure Water 1 Update

Progress continues on the Morena Northern Pipelines and Tunnels project. Throughout November, traffic loop detector installation along the project alignment continued. Traffic loop detectors are sensors imbedded in the roadway that detect the presence of vehicles for proper traffic signal operation. Traffic loop detector installation takes place at night to help minimize traffic impacts to the community. Crews will also continue underground work and median restoration along Genesee Avenue.

Construction schedules are subject to change, especially due to weather impacts from Super El Niño conditions. For the latest updates and construction notices, visit UTC.PureWaterSD.org. For questions, email PureWaterSD@sandiego.gov or call 833-882-7973. Thank you to the University City community for its patience and support as this important work continues. ***Community Liaison: Marisa Twite, TwiteM@sandiego.gov.***



Draft 2027 General Plan Amendment is Available for Public Review and Comment

The City of San Diego's City Planning Department has released the draft 2027 General Plan Amendment which incorporates recent state laws and requirements and includes technical and clarifying revisions.

For instance, the draft 2027 Amendment updates safety information about dead-end streets in University City that have been identified as having limited access because they lack at least two emergency evacuation routes. This could impact evacuations during hazardous events such as fire, earthquake, flood and/or dam failure. The draft 2027 General Plan Amendment is available on the City of San Diego website at: sandiego.gov/planning/work/general-plan

On December 2, 2026, the City Planning Department will present the draft 2027 General Plan Amendment to the Mobility Board. On December 17, 2026, the City Planning Department will present the draft Amendment to the Planning Commission. You may submit feedback on the draft 2027 General Plan Amendment from now until December 31, 2026, by e-mailing: generalplan@sandiego.gov

University City Planning Group Update

UCPG Meeting on November 10, 2026

by Chris Nielsen, UCPG Chair

Vacation of an Easement for Emergency Access for the Bellmont Retirement Facility Our action item was to make a recommendation on an Easement Vacation, or removal of an easement, for emergency access for the Bellmont retirement property at 3880 Nobel Drive. The property currently has two emergency access easements for fire and paramedic service. The original emergency access easement was superfluous given the two new access easements. The UCPG recommended approval of the original Easement Vacation in March 2020 by a vote of 14 Yes, 0 No, and 0 Abstain. The city did not follow through with this vacation (likely due to COVID). The property owners were asked to resubmit the easement vacation to the UCPG this year to clean up the paperwork for the site. The UCPG recommended approval of this easement vacation on November 10 by a vote of 11-0-0.

Use of the Nobel MTS Retail Parking Spaces UCPG Vice Chair Daren Esposito has been looking into the idle retail parking spots in the MTS parking structure at Nobel Drive that serves the Blue Line Trolly. The first four floors of the MTS parking structure contain parking spaces for retail users of the La Jolla Village Square shopping center with the top two floors and the rooftop reserved for Trolly users. The retail use parking floors are almost always empty while the Trolly floors are frequently full, particularly during baseball season. Daren contacted shopping center management representative Diana Betancourt to ask if the empty spaces could be used either every day or during special downtown events (such as baseball games). She said that she did not have the authority to make these changes herself but would be willing to pass the question to the property owner to see if anything could be done. Daren will continue to follow up.

January 12 next year at the UCPG We hope to have a report by Kristin Camper, our representative from MCAS Miramar, on reducing fire risk on the base with Miramar Fire Chief Josh Allen joining the meeting. We hope to see everyone there.

Pet Disaster Plan

from the County of San Diego Dept. of Animal Services



For most of us, pets are part of our family, so we need an emergency plan to protect them as well. We recommend that everyone prepares for an emergency by gathering necessary supplies ahead of time and practicing your family disaster plan. Household pet necessities include crates or other carriers, a supply of food and water, medicines, copy of current veterinary records, and several recent photographs of your four-legged friend.

Make sure your pet is wearing a collar with identification and an emergency contact. Having an ID on your animals may help reunite you if you are separated. Another safeguard is microchipping in case your pet loses its collar. For additional information about preparing a pet disaster plan, visit County Animal Services at: sddac.com.



Everything You Need to Know about Zone 0 Compliance for Existing Structures but Were Afraid to Ask

by Fire Safe Council president Diane Ahern

- The Fire Safe Council will host an in-person booth at the Holiday Lights on Saturday, December 12, from 2:00 to 6:00pm, at Standley Park. Please stop by for information about Zone 0 for existing homes.
- The Fire Safe Council will host an in-person meeting at the University Community Library on Saturday, January 23, from 10:00 to 11:30am with the latest information on Zone 0, the first 5 feet around the walls of your home. We have invited the SD Fire-Rescue staff to participate.

The Fire Department recommends removing flammable materials from the first five feet to create a fire break that helps to prevent fire from spreading to your house structure. Homeowners should aim to meet Zone 0 guidelines by February 2027. The Fire Safe Council will share information about the fire history and high fire severity maps for University City and other topics such as hardening your home to make your home less likely to burn, and planning for evacuation to safely get out of your home and neighborhood.

The San Diego Fire-Rescue team has been invited to present information at the January 23 meeting about Zone 0 compliance for existing homes. At the January meeting, we'll also have giveaways and door prize drawings including a sample Go-Bag with backpack, crank radio, and first aid kit. For more information and updates, visit: universitycitynews.org/fire-safe-council-university-city/.

Wishing You a Safe & Happy Holiday Season

During the holiday season, the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, Community Risk Reduction Division, would like to remind residents of the importance of lithium-ion battery safety. These batteries are commonly found in e-bikes, e-scooters, and other rechargeable devices. When used, charged, or stored improperly, these batteries can pose a fire hazard. Stop charging a battery once it is full.

To be safe, use only the charging equipment that is supplied with your device. Stop using your device if the battery shows signs of damage, such as an unusual odor, excessive heat, popping sounds, swelling, or change in color. Learn more at: sandiego.gov/fire/community-risk-red.



EL NIÑO - ARE YOU READY?

From Marine Corps Base Camp Pendelton:

El Niño conditions can bring the potential for increased rainfall and severe weather across Southern California. Heavy rain can lead to flash flooding, debris flows, coastal flooding, high-tide surges and power outages. Now is the time to prepare and protect your family before the next storm arrives. Here are three ways to get ready:

- Sign up for emergency alerts: Register for the ALERT! Mass Notification System to receive important notifications and emergency updates: alertsandiego.org
- Prepare your property: Clear gutters and storm drains of debris, secure outdoor items and assemble a 72-hour emergency supply kit.
- Know what to do: Obey road closures, never drive through floodwaters, be prepared to shelter in place or evacuate, and stay informed through official channels.

Don't wait until the rain starts to prepare. A little preparation now can make a big difference when severe weather hits. Prepare early. Stay ready. Protect your family.



THANK YOU TO NEW AND RENEWING UCCA MEMBERS FOR 2027

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Thank You to Westfield UTC for Being a UCCA Corporate Sponsor!

UCCA's 2027 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: SEND IN THE FORM BELOW, OR GO TO UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG

Thank you to everyone who has already sent in or renewed their 2027 UCCA memberships. UCCA uses membership funds to help support neighborhood events and organizations.

Those funds also help UCCA accomplish the mission of communications with neighbors about local issues and activities through hosting of general meetings, a website, social media platforms, and in publishing this local newsletter, delivered by an all-volunteer force.

Support UCCA today by sending in your membership dues using the form below, going to universitycitynews.org or scanning the QR code below.

2027 University City Community Association 2027 Supports *University City*

___$25 Individual | ___$50 Supporter | ___$75 Angel | ___$100 Gold

___$500 Business | $_____Additional Donation

Print Name

Address

Business

Phone E-mail

Mail to check to:
University City Community Association
3298 Governor Dr, PO Box 22574; San Diego, CA 92122
Payment is also accepted on our website at:
www.universitycitynews.org/join-ucca-today
Individual and Business members will be thanked in the newsletter.
Please indicate if you do NOT want to be listed. _____ Do NOT list.
Please email us at: UniversityCityNews@gmail.com

UCCA thanks you for your ongoing support. UCCA is a 501(c)4 organization; donations and membership dues are not tax deductible.

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Advent & Christmas *at* UCUC
You are welcome to join in the celebration!
-Carols around the Campfire-
Monday, December 14th
5-6:30pm
Light supper, carols and community.
Indoors if weather requires.
-Christmas Program-
Sunday, December 20th
10:30am
A family-friendly service, followed by San Diego snowball fun!
-Christmas Eve-
Thursday, December 24th
7:00pm
Candlelight worship for all ages.
Sundays at 10:30am
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Medicare's **Annual Enrollment Period** runs **October 15 to December 7**. It is the one time each year most people with Medicare can review their coverage and make changes for the year ahead.



I'm Marina Ruder
Lic. #0I53105
mruder@sbhis.net

I can help you understand:

- **Changes that may be coming** to your coverage in 2027
- Whether your **current plan** still fits your needs

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Nancy has been extra busy this November!
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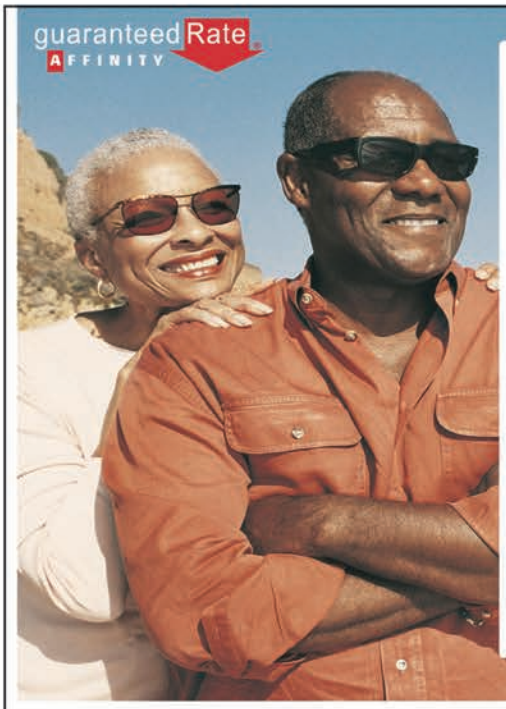
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Call us to discuss the exciting housing forecast for 2027.

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