# University City more than a neighborhood

Community Association Newsletter • Volume 13/Issue 3 • April 2012

# Neighborhood Watch Meeting Draws Large Crowd

#### by Sandy Lippe

n February 29th, 110 people filled the pews at the United Church of Christ sanctuary to hear from three policemen stationed at Northern Division: Captain Brian Ahearn, Acting Lt. Steve Shaw, and Officer Alan Alvarez, as well as our City Council representative, Sherri Lightner. Two victims of recent home breakins, Colleen Huscke and Patricia Rice, also spoke. Many thanks to Ida Keller and Rev. Curt Fuller for sharing the church for this community meeting.

Captain Ahearn and Officer Alvarez emphasized the need for homeowners to make their homes safe by locking doors, shutting windows, and locking gates. Most times the burglars get in through unlocked doors and windows. It is foolish to leave a house key under a doormat, in a flower pot, or on the ledge of the door. The Crime and Violence Prevention Center has a worthwhile brochure, "Home Security." Go to the website www.safestate.org to download this brochure.

In regard to vehicle thefts, "do not leave anything in view in your vehicle," according to Officer Alvarez. Always call the police if you are suspicious about something going on. Dial 911 for an emergency and 619-531-2000 for non-emergency police calls. Mrs. Huschke and Mrs. Rice shared their story about their UC homes being broken into by the same woman the same night. The bottom line is neighbors looking out for other neighbors in order to avoid crime.



Captain Brian Ahearn speaking at the Neighborhood Watch meeting.

Continued on page 10...

New Block Captain Training Information on page 7.

Crimemapping.com gives you a chance to check on crime in your neighborhood.

# April 2012 Calendar

April Fools Day
April 1

First Day of Passover
April 7

Spring Egg Hunt,
Standley Park
April 7th,
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 8

**UCPG Meeting** 

Tuesday, April 10
6:00 p.m. Forum Hall/UTC
Public invited

#### **UCCA Meeting**

Wednesday, April 11 6:00 p.m. UC Library Public invited

U.C. Garden Club Tuesday, April 17 6:30 p.m. UC Library

Taste of the Triangle Friday, April 20 UCSD Faculty Club

Earth Day, April 22

**UC Celebration Meeting** 

Wednesday,
April 18, 6:30 p.m.
Standley
Recreation Center

## **Standley Recreation Council**

Thursday,
April 26, 7:00 p.m.
Standley Recreation Center



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# University City Community Association Website

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#### Be the Eyes and Ears of UC

The University City Community 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 that pertain to the community and residents.

#### **Guidelines:**

- Your article should be approximately **250 words** typed in a document and attached to email. Be as brief and concise as possible. Editing may result in errors. Type in **plain paragraph form. No formatting**, no section breaks, no columns, no footer, no symbols, no extra hard returns, etc. All of these must be removed before the article can be used.
- Name the file appropriately so it can be identified.
- The Editor reserves the right to edit out opinions, conjecture and editorial comments.
- Attach photos separately in a picture format at high resolution or straight from camera.
- Send to: editorucca@gmail.com
- Please no full page flyers or announcements.
- The Editor acknowledges every submission. Email any questions.

#### <u>Deadline for the May 2012 Newsletter</u> <u>Publication is April 15</u>

Please send your submission as early as possible. Articles printed on a first come basis with priority given to time sensitive material. The UCCA does not discriminate against nor endorse all information in the monthly newsletter.



# Message from the President Peter Burch

It seems amazing to me that the year is a quarter over already. Spring is in the air and your Association is moving right along with the seasons. Have you noticed the new banners along Governor Drive? I think they are a clean, fresh reminder of what a great community we live in.

We also have started a major rejuvenation of the beauty of our common landscaping. Due to City funding cuts, the planting in the three medians along Governor Drive have become ugly and sparse. Several months ago the UCCA signed an Encroachment Agreement with the City to take over planting and upkeep of these medians. We commissioned a planting design using natural plants and the Board has now voted to enter into a contract with a landscape designer to repair, replant and maintain the medians, keeping them beautiful for years to come. The City will continue to pay for water. We owe a big thank you to the UCCA's Barbara Gellman for spearheading this effort.

At our March Board meeting, we voted to provide financial support for a couple of our local organizations. We will donate \$500 to the Curie Jog-a thon event. This will help teachers to buy much-needed materials for art, science and music programs. We also heard a presentation from Helen Lebowitz of the Friends of the Library in South UC. Donations from the community and local businesses have dropped from \$4,700 in 2010 to just \$463 in 2011. To help mitigate this, we voted to donate \$1,000 to the Library. The money will be used for reading, music and rent-a-book programs. Maybe residents could consider making a donation themselves.

We also met with Brook Feerick, President of EDUCate, to discuss ways to better coordinate UCCA's donations to schools.

I hope you agree we are moving in the right direction with our community support activities. As we grow, we are beginning to get more and more volunteers with new ideas. And, of course, we greatly value our paying members who provide the life-blood for the organization. Everyone is welcome to do their part.

# Thanks to Who Answered the call!

#### More Volunteers are Still Needed!

by George Odero

I am conveying many thanks to our responsive community members who have risen to the occasion to answer the call for volunteers to support this year's 24th anniversary of July 4th, University City Celebration event. We are still in dire need of more volunteers to join and support the dedicated team of new volunteers and our regular volunteers who have always been there when called upon. As the event day gets closer, I cannot emphasize enough the urgency of this dire need for more volunteers to join the volunteer group. Please find a moment to contact me by e-mail expressing your interest in lending this needed support.

As I indicated in my past messages, there are plenty of opportunities and activity areas to lend support in. We would therefore like to have enough volunteers to provide a comfortable two-hour (maximum) rotation to ensure that volunteers are not exhausted and that every volunteer also has enough time to enjoy the celebration along with everyone else.

The months of March and April are critical since they will define success of the event, depending on whether we meet our volunteer capacity to provide execution and support.

As a reminder, the volunteer event participation areas include the following: fundraising follow up calls. The (7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.) activities at the July 4th event celebration, include: Pancake Breakfast, Bike/Pet Parade, Photo Scavenger Hunt, Book Barn, Booths, Family Field Games and children's activities (rock wall, inflatable, etc.), Opportunity Draw and ticket sales, setting up and taking down equipment and stage, and helping out in various areas during the celebration.

We have dedicated volunteer event leaders who are happy to train each event volunteer support team member.

If you are interested in volunteering for fundraising follow-up calls (to already contacted sponsors), or any of the other activities, please contact George Odero via e-mail at: godero@goreadusa.org or by phone at 619-987-1377. Your invaluable time contribution is greatly appreciated. We also welcome you to join our planning committee and provide new ideas to make this event more fun for everyone to enjoy. Our April meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 18th, at the Standley Recreation Center, Crafts Room starting at 6:30 p.m. We plan to confirm and streamline all volunteers' specific assignments, roles and schedules during this meeting. Please plan to attend whether you plan to volunteer or just provide input and/or suggestions to make the event successful, enjoyable and fulfilling. Our meetings are intended to be brief, constructive and informative. In the meantime, do not hesitate to contact me with any questions/suggestions or ideas.



by John Lee Evans

# San Diego Unified Embraces Technology in the Classroom

The San Diego Unified School District continues to move forward with its implementation of Vision 2020 for Educational Excellence. At the time we adopted it in 2009, the Class of 2020 was in first grade. Now they are in fourth grade. In spite of ongoing budget woes, we have continued forward with our plans to transform our local educational system as the Class of 2020 moves through the system.

One key element of the program Vision 2020 is the use of state-of-the-art technology in the classroom. We are in the third year of a five-year rollout of our I-21 program, which will place a laptop or other device in the hands of every student in the district. I-21 also includes smartboards and other classroom technology. San Diego has become a nationally recognized leader for educational technology.

I visited a middle school math classroom whose teachers were trained in the technology. As students worked on math problems on their netbooks, the teacher was able to see instantly which students were having difficulties with a problem. She then tailored the instruction for them. Another math teacher places all of his lessons online for his students to review at home and is able to give more individual assistance in the classroom. At the high school level some students who are behind in credits are taking courses online. We even have a virtual high school, I-High.

Classroom technology continues to change at a rapid pace. This spring we have authorized the purchase of I-pads for some classrooms. We will need to continue to adapt to new innovations.

Our technology program was a key element of Proposition S, approved by voters in 2008. No general operating funds are used for this program. We will eventually see cost savings as we move to more online textbooks. In years past we have spent millions on textbook updates. They will be updated online at a lower cost. It is also interesting to note that another school district that issued laptops to students had a lower dollar cost due to damage or loss than they had with textbooks.

Watch for other innovations in the school district as the Class of 2020 progresses towards graduation.



by Earl and Rita Newell

Many thanks to those who donated yarn for afghans to be made for the VA Hospital in La Jolla. Thanks also to Jane Reilly at Postal Annex for collecting the yarn. There are 30 prisoners working on the project now. The 14 afghans we delivered last week were welcomed by the head of the VAVS department, saying that they were needed. This is an ongoing project and Jane said that she is still willing to collect any yarn donations.



## An Appetite for Education

FRIDAY, APRIL 20TH, 2012 UCSD FACULTY CLUB, 9500 GILMAN DRIVE, LA JOLLA, CA 92093 **6PM VIP RECEPTION, 7PM EVENT** 

> GO TO WWW.UC-EDUCATE.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS.









Tickets to the Taste of the Triangle are \$75 in advance or \$85 at the door. UC teachers and staff pay only \$50 (\$60 at the door). Sponsor a teacher (and maybe even his or her guest) to attend by visiting our website. All proceeds directly benefit the five public schools of University City: Curie, Doyle and Spreckels **Elementary Schools; Standley Middle School;** and University City High School. For more information, or to purchase tickets, go to www.uc-educate.org or call 858-677-0989.

> Brian Barnhorst can be reached at taste@uc-educate.org.

by Jemma Samala

UC Little League opens Spring Season. Clear blue skies welcomed UC Little League players and their families the morning of March 3, a perfect setting for their Opening Day ceremonies. Players from all divisions (Challenger, T-Ball, Caps, Minors, Majors and Juniors) participated in the Parade of Teams led by the Standley Middle School Marching Band. Emily Culp, senior at UCHS, beautifully sang the National Anthem. The first pitch was thrown by T-Baller Gunner Reyes and caught by Juniors player Grant Bailey.

The league honored Larry Yandel, UCLL manager and board member, who passed away during the last spring season, and presented a signed jersey and beloved practice bat to his wife Dawn, sons Ryan and Matt, and daughter Kaitlin, who is a current T-Ball player. The 2011 Juniors All Star team was also honored for their success in winning both the District and Sectional tournaments.

We have a \$10,000 fund-raising goal. UCLL needs your help in raising this money. Funds will quickly add up as an anonymous donor has pledged \$5,000 in matching funds - so every dollar raised from the community is two dollars to the league - for a total of \$10,000! This matching campaign is available to the league through the end of the 2012 season. Funds will be used to upgrade fields for upcoming Little League field guidelines changes, and to help keep registration fees low. To make a contribution, please send a check payable to UCLL, P.O. Box 22511, San Diego, CA 92192, and write "matching funds donation" in the memo line. UCLL is a 501c(3) non-profit organization and contributions are tax-deductible. Thank you for supporting UCLL.

See photos on page 20...



by Sherri Lightner

After years of bad news and budget deficits, the City recently announced we have a \$16.5 million surplus for the current fiscal year. City Council recently approved using the extra funds to increase operating hours at all libraries by four hours a week and increase hours at all recreation centers by

five hours a week. The city will also use the surplus bolster public safety, funding 15 additional police cadet positions as well as a new state-of-the-art fire alert system, which will help improve emergency response times. The surplus is the result of reforms such as managed competition as well as improving revenue. We have worked hard to restore fiscal responsibility to San Diego. It hasn't always been easy, but it has paid off. After years of sacrifice, the San Diego taxpayers are finally reaping the benefits of these efforts. Still, San Diego is not yet out of the woods and there is plenty more to do to ensure the City's ongoing fiscal health. We must continue to work to ensure fiscal stability while responsibly restoring service levels and improving our infrastructure. We must continue our reform efforts so we can deliver all the services San Diegans deserve.

Council member Sherri Lightner represents University City on the San Diego City Council. She can be reached at (619) 236-6611 or SherriLightner@SanDiego. gov. Sign up for email updates at Sherri's website at: www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd1/.nt.

# APRIL 2012 EVENTS @ your UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY BRANCH LIBRARY 4155 GOVERNOR DR. \* (858) 552-1655

Please Note: All SDPL Branches will be closed on Thursday, April 19, 2012 so that staff may participate in an all-day training workshop to better serve you.

Yoga for Kids, Gentle exercises to help flexibility and improve concentration.

Please bring your own yoga mat or towel.

Saturday, April 21 at 10:30 a.m.

Enjoy an evening of Classical Guitar, Tuesday, April 24 at 6:30 p.m.

The UC Book Club discusses People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks., Wednesday, April 25 at 2 p.m.

<u>Paws to Read:</u> Children can practice reading skills with our furry friends. This program is made possible through Love on a Leash, San Diego Central Chapter, Thursday, April 26 at 4:00 p.m.

<u>Circus Minimus Puppet Show:</u> Pig's Eye Puppets brings a lively marionette show with a Q & A for kids and adults afterwards. Friday, April 27 at 3:30 p.m.

<u>Job Search Assistance</u> every Tuesday at 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Dr. Adolpho Sanchez offers resume reviews and tips on interviewing.

Signs at Play signing storytime with Jennifer Duncan. Sign language is used to enhance the telling of well-loved children's stories. Includes a Q & A session for parents. Every Friday at 10:30 a.m.

Game On! Enjoy family-friendly games on the Nintendo Wii. Friendly, all-ages competition on a big screen. Every Friday at 3:00 p.m

FREE Homework Help for elementary through middle school students, all subjects. Every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Ayuda con la tarea disponible en Español.

Please call the library to confirm any given program. Cancellations are rare, but it does happen.

All programs are made possible through the generosity of the Friends of the UC Library.

You, too, can be a Friend! Ask how!

# THALIA MURRAY SCHOLARSHIP for 2012

by Bruce Murray

Bruce and Kevin Murray, sons of Thalia Murray, in partnership with EdUCate! established an annual \$2,000 scholarship in her memory that has been awarded since 2005 to an eligible University City High School senior. Mrs. Murray taught in the San Diego Unified School District for 20 years, including 17 years at Marcy Elementary in UC. She received a scholarship that allowed her to start attending Radcliffe, a high – quality, four year college from where she graduated. This opportunity dramatically increased her options in life. Our goal is for this scholarship to help a graduating senior from UC High to get started at college.

- Senior student at UC High
- Acceptance to a four year college
- Minimum grade point average and citizenship of 3.0
- Financial need
- Application required including two (2) short essays
- Certified UC High Transcript required
- Interview of finalists
- Committee comprised of donors and EdUCate! members will choose recipient
- Brief note after your first quarter or semester of college about how you are doing.

The EdUCate! link is: http://www.uc-educate.org/scholarships.asp. You can download a 2012 application or you can pick one up at UC High. Submit your completed application by Monday, April 30, 2012 at 3PM to Mr. Clayton Ballard, Counselor, UC High School, 6949 Genesee Ave., San Diego, CA 92122. The phone is 858-457-3040 x221 or cballard@sandi.net.

#### **Past Scholarship Recipients:**

2005 Deanna Hayley, UCSB 2009 graduate

2005 Brandy Burns, CSU Sacramento

2006 Raymond Flores,

University of PA/Wharton Business, 2010 graduate

2007 Ksenia Dyachok, UCLA 2011 graduate

2008 Leslie Grant, UCLA

2009 Liora Jaffe, UC Berkeley

2010 Diana Bahena,

San Diego State University

2010 Nina Gu, Harvard

2011 Juliet Nussbaum, UC Berkeley

# An Accident Waiting to Happen!

Editor's note: While an accident did not happen, Mr. Salata reminds us to drive safely.



On March 7th, at approximately 8:55 a.m., a light blue Nissan Leaf struck and killed a 7 year old girl and her father while they were crossing through the pedestrian crosswalk at the intersection of Mercer St. and Governor Dr. A third person was seriously injured. The driver of the Nissan stated that he was trying to save 30 seconds of his time traveling through the crosswalk in which the pedestrians had the flashing sign signifying that they could cross safely. He said, "I saw an opening between the three people and I really thought I could make it. If I had just stepped down to accelerate sooner, then all of this could have been avoided."

What you just read would have happened if the driver of the Nissan wasn't so lucky as to have three pedestrians aware that drivers sometimes take chances at that intersection. Some drivers seem to forget that pedestrians exist and have the right-of-way, or are too focused on their destination to ignore the fact that they could kill someone with their car. This was the closest I have come to being struck and let's just say it was too darn close.

In our neighborhood we have plenty of pedestrians and many children going to and coming from school. Drivers need to always be aware of their surroundings and drive with care. Our sheltered bubble within a car doesn't protect those outside of it, only good drivers do. In this instance, the pedestrians were not caught off guard by the quiet car (the Nissan Leaf is a 100% electric car). The pedestrians were aware of the car's presence, but completely shocked at the driver's reaction to them - he increased his speed as he approached and maneuvered between them. I am glad that I always hold my daughter's hand and don't allow her to run across.

Might I suggest that if you need to shave 30 seconds from your drive, then do it by getting into your vehicle 30 seconds earlier. Don't gamble with the life of my daughter (or my life, or the other gentleman's life). I am sure that you would prefer not to have killed a child (or anyone) to save time!

# **2012 Library Essay Contest Winners**





Andrea Bautista

Mikayla Collins

Congratulations to Mikayla Collins Bautista, Andrea Standley Middle School 8th grade students, for their winning essays submitted to the 2012 Library Essay Contest. Mikayla and Andrea were awarded certificates, a journal from the UC Friends of the Library, and a gift card from the City-Wide Friends of the Library. The library essay contest is an annual, city-wide event sponsored by the Friends of the Library and corporate sponsors. The contest is open each year to 4th, 8th, and 10th grade students in San Diego schools. Entry information is distributed to local schools, and essays are judged by local chapters of Friends of the Library. The University Community Library Friends coordinates this contest each year for University City Schools. Look for the 2013 contest information which will be distributed to schools in September.

## NORTH UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY LIBRARY 8820 Judicial Drive, San Diego, CA 92122 858-581-9637

#### FREE eREADER CLINIC

APRIL 26 at 12:30 p.m. Learn about the digital catalog!

#### **AARP TAX AIDE**

4/5 and 4/12 from 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Walk-ins welcome and appointments made on
Thursdays and in-person only.
For more information about programs in the library visit:

#### www.sandiegolibrary.org.

Like us on Facebook-Search for the North University Community Branch Library Visit the Friends of the Library website:

#### friends.northuclibrary.org

or come into the branch and pick up a monthly schedule

LIBRARY MUSIC IN THE LIBRARY WEDNESDAYS at 6:30 p.m.

YOUNG ARTIST MUSIC SERIES SATURDAYS at 1:00 p.m.

# Training for New Neighborhood Watch Block Captains

by Sandy Lippe

If you attended the Neighborhood Watch meeting on February 29th, you might have signed up to be a block captain in your neighborhood. Officer Alan Alvarez is going to hold a training session in April at the UC library. With a concern about crime, home and vehicle break-ins, UC should come on board and take charge of each small neighborhood by starting a Neighborhood Watch program. This is a proven program that decreases crime.

Captain Brian Ahearn wrote a note to the community after being part of the program at the meeting on February 29th. "The credit really does go to each and every community member who took the time to listen to the message of engagement and empowerment. There was a tremendous amount of electricity in the Church Wednesday night... I was honored to be present... Looking forward to a vibrant NWATCH program in University City."

If you signed up, please email our new UCCA liaison for Neighborhood Watch, Barbara Gellman, at bggellman@yahoo.com for any further information. The date for the meeting will be April 3rd, 6:30 p.m., at UC Library. Thanks again to U.C. Volunteers who do make University City "more than a neighborhood."

# **University City United Church**

#### Maundy Thursday Communion Service,

Thursday, April 5, 7:00 p.m.

This is a somber and reflective candlelight service of Tenebrae remembering the last hours of the life of Jesus. "A Service of Darkness," seven choral meditations on the suffering and death of Christ, will be performed by the Chancel Choir. Communion will be served.

Easter Egg Hunt and Carnival, Saturday, April 7, 9:30 a.m.
The Easter Carnival will include crafts, games and snacks. The Easter Egg Hunt will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. for toddlers and children up to the 5th grade. A prize will be awarded to the children who find the silver and gold eggs. After the egg hunt the Easter Bunny will read a story. Families are invited!

**3rd Annual Easter Breakfast**, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Breakfast and fellowship will be available in Koehler Hall prior to each worship service. Special snacks available for the children.

All are welcome. A goodwill offering will be taken.

**Easter Worship Services**, Sunday, April 8, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. We invite you to join us this Easter morning. The Chancel Choir will sing "A-men, A-men" by Lloyd Larson, "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" by Dan Forrest, and the "Hallelujah Chorus" by Handel. All are invited to join in and sing the Hallelujah Chorus. Child care is provided at both services. At 10:00 a.m. the children of the church are encouraged to bring some flowers to decorate the cross for the second Easter Service. Topics: 9:00 a.m. "He Lives Within My Heart" John 20: 11-18 and 10:30 a.m. "Now What?" Mark 16:1-8

Worship Gathering, Saturday, April 28, 5:11 p.m.

In Koehler Hall – The topic is "The Power of Music – In Our Lives, and In Our Faith." A special guest singer/song writer will provide the music and demonstrate how much music affects all of us.

858-453-3444 or visit us online at ucuc.org.
University City United Church
2877 Governor Drive San Diego, CA 92122

## **Coldwell Banker Agents Hold Drawing**



by John T. Schindel

John Schindel, Realtor, handing the ticket to the winners Linda and Bruce Driver.

The University City Coldwell Banker agents held a drawing for a \$150 ticket for a chance to win a \$2.2 million dollar Dream House to benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities in San Diego. The winners, Bruce and Linda Driver, were thrilled to win. "We would love to win the grand prize, but there are several early bird prizes that would be great to win too," said the Drivers. The drawing was held on Feb. 18 and agent John Schindel had registered the winners. Said John, "This was a great way to give back to the community as it's Real Estate related and a great cause as well."

This group of enthusiastic agents are looking forward to their next Community Service event. It will be a free file shredding by a professional company. The annual "Shred Fest" will be at the Recreation Center in Standley Park on Saturday, April 28th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

# UCRC Gearing Up for a 'Grand Slam'Year of Tennis

by Bob Morrison

The University City Racquet Club was founded in 1976 to run the 6 tennis courts at Standley Park. The member-run club is gearing up for a great year of tennis. In the past year, a new Director of Tennis has been appointed, a new Board of Directors has been elected, and a state of the art website for its members launched. Reasonable membership rates offer unlimited play throughout the year. Other benefits available include:

- Individual lessons provided by two USPTA Tennis Professionals.
  - Group lessons and clinics provided by the Tennis Director and other USPTA Pros.
- Online court reservations and communication with other members.
  - Discounted rates for racquet stringing and tennis gear.
- Club representation in league tennis play throughout the county.
- Organized Ladder Matches and USTA Tournaments throughout the year.

UCRC's membership is open to the public. Stop by the club house to get all of your questions answered and/or become a member of this tennis jewel in University City. Please visit the club's website at www.ucrctennis.com.

# February - March 2012 UCCA Memberships

Making UC More Than Just a Neighborhood

#### **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**

Fred & Alice Andrus Valerie Bauer Roger & Selih Brown Dorothy Canty Jamie Chapel Susan Elden Llovd & Eileen Farrar Simon Finburgh Andy Freeburn Ellen Geis Don & Judy Gladden Jack & Millie Goddard Sandy Goldsmith Don & Patricia Gonzales Beatrix Gorog Peter & Virginia Graham Les & Dottie Graham Margaret Gurney John & Jeannette Holm Tanya Howe Ruth Kaplan Robert & Linda Kochanski Trana Le Zuzana Leblova

Adrian & Rose Mancuso

Michael & Jessica Middleton Alfred Moscola The Mottis Family Ralph & Marion Nebiker I. Perry & Eva D. Nerenberg Mel & Marlese Pinney Jane Reilly Susan & David Revak Raimundo & Cristina Rios Flora Linda Sardina Tyra Schwartz Don & Geri Shaevel R. Shapiro Lloyd & Fran Sime Loretta D. Spano Katherine Williams Katherine Y. Wong Wayne & Jackie Young Al & Monica Zabrocki

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CDR. N.L. Bausch, USN, RET. Teddie Brown Herbert Greiner Esther & Bob La Porta Jeannine Lacy Robert & Nancy Meader Carl & Marilyn Mehr
Rosemary Norling
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Mark Pinto - Island Enterprises
Veronica Rich
David & Helene Schlafman
Janet & Steve Shields
Ed & Stephanie Smythe
Nancy & Jerry Sturm
Kathleen Wallace
Paul Wolf

## **SILVER MEMBERSHIP**

Maynard & Diane Bissonnette
Patricia M. Callan
Jack & Ginny Cassidy
Ginny & Jim Charvat
Larry & Barbara Clark
Dave & Sandy Cox
Jean & Milton Creek
Joan Holtz
Bill & Delores Huston
Joyce & Fritz Langenbacher
Bill & Patti Macock
Gary & Sarah Williams

#### **COMMUNITY ANGEL**

Harry Griswold & Stephanie
Webber
Dan & Karen Harvey
Barbara & Phil Henshaw
Charles Herzfeld & Paul Rogers
William & Nancy Ivey
Mariette Kobrak
Jorge & Karen Martinez
Kathy Niess
Tracy Shaw
Jonathan Tang

#### **GOLD MEMBERSHIP**

Merle Berman & Mack Langston
Better Than Home
Placement
Jerry & Barbara Fitzsimmons
Elaine Hanson
Dr. Dennis L. Hemingway
Mark & Cathy Johnson
Ron & Susan Styn
Syd & John Walsh
Golden Triangle Chamber

	ember \$20 $\square$ Community Supporter ver Membership \$50 $\square$ Gol	d Membership \$100	mmunity Angel \$60 $\square$
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Individual	and Business members' names will be liste nt your name to be listed. Do NOT list my notes a list of the property of the proper	d in the newsletter ame.   payable to UCCA besite: www.universitycair, UCCAmembership willing to help us with	. Please indicate if yo itynews.org o@gmail.com

# Saint Patrick's Day Dinner Dance, a Hit!

by John Walsh

We had our Saint Patrick's Day Dinner Dance a week early this year at Our Mother of Confidence Hall. Our band, hailed from an Irish Pub in San Francisco, "Westy O'Douls" on Keary St., was the Frank and Kerry Connor Band. The band promised San Francisco that they would stay home when the date falls on a Saturday, so we celebrated a week early this year. There were other things to do on March 17th. A large parade was held on 5th and 6th Streets plus an Irish Fest went on in Balboa Park. Mark your calenders for next year. There was a repeat performance by the award winning San Diego Malone Academy Irish Dancers. Their show was worth the price of admission. The colorful costumes and hair pieces were something to behold. The hall was decorated by eight Irish murals (20'x18'). These murals were created by the daughter of UC resident, Ellen McLaughlan Artley (Eileen McCann), an Academy Award Artist. John and Syd Walsh and Eileen McCann have chaired this event in the community for 20 years. There were a lot of Irish folks and many other nationalities there to celebrate. A bar license and entertainment license were purchased. This was the first year for our new pastor at OMC, Msgr. Mark Campbell, to attend. He hailed from Ireland many years ago and it was a nice way for him to meet the community.

> Photos to right: Crowd enjoying the night. Some of the many dancers that participated in making the dinner dance a hit.



continued from page 1.

# Neighborhood Watch



The need for Neighborhood Watch across University City is imperative. Fifteen people signed up at the meeting to be captains of their blocks for Neighborhood Watch, a popular, proven program that combats crime. A captain of the blocks gets names, phone numbers, and emails of neighbors. The neighbors have a group meeting with a policeman and learn about specific crime prevention. Then the neighbors become the eyes and ears of the police.

If you are interested in being a captain of your block or getting more information, contact Officer Alan Alvarez at AAlvarez@pd.sandiego.gov.

Right to Left: Council Woman, Sherri Lightner, Sandy Lippe and Officer Alan Alvarez.

# **Undergrounding of Utilities Final Pole Removal March 13, 2012**

by Sandy Lippe



The final pole was removed on Stresemann and Ducommon.



Left to right: Ignacio De La Torre,
AT&T Executive Director for External Affairs
Stuart Wells; SDG&E Public Affairs Strategy
Manager Deborah Ritch;
Governmental Liaison Planner, Project Manager
SDG&E, Councilwoman Sherri Lightner;
Mario Reyes, Project Manager,
Utilities Undergrounding Program

On March 13th, the end of a utilities undergrounding project was celebrated with the final pole removal. The project began in April 2009 and was part of the San Diego long range plan to invest in public works by replacing unsightly overhead power and communication lines with a safe and reliable undergrounding. Fourteen streets were involved in the removal of the telephone poles and wires: Angell, Arnoldson, Award, Brannick, Branting, Briand, Buisson, Bunch, Ducommon, Dunant, Fried, Honors, Renault and Travers.

Councilwoman Lightner was the featured speaker at the event on March 13th that drew TV cameras, media representatives, local University City neighbors, and representatives from SDG&E and AT&T.

# **Standley Recreation Center Easter Event**

**Upcoming Event:** 

Spring Egg Hunt – April 7th, 2012, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (For kids of all ages) Free!

- Along with the egg hunt there will be arts & crafts, face painting, and inflatable jumpers.
  - Please arrive early with a basket and meet in the gym at Standley Recreation Center.
    - Children will be divided into groups and sent out to gather eggs.

It will be a great time for the whole family!

**Standley Recreation Center ● 3585 Governor Drive ● San Diego, CA 92122 ● 858-552-1651** 

## E-Waste Event - Recycle!!

Recycle San Diego and Councilmember Sherri Lightner are working together to keep San Diego landfills clean of electronic waste. Bring any amount of computers, monitors, tvs, printers, and other electronics to be recycled for FREE on Saturday April 7th, 2012 from 10am – 2pm for the University City Community Electronics Recycling Event at Marie Curie Elementary School parking lot located at 4080 Governor Drive, San Diego, CA 92122. This event will benefit The Friends of University Library and Curie Elementary School.



Electronics such as computers and televisions contain high amounts of lead and other harmful chemicals. If landfilled, these chemicals leach into our underground water supplies. This can cause health problems for children and adults. Do your part by attending this free recycling event. To learn more about the event visit www.recyclesandiego.org or http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd1/.

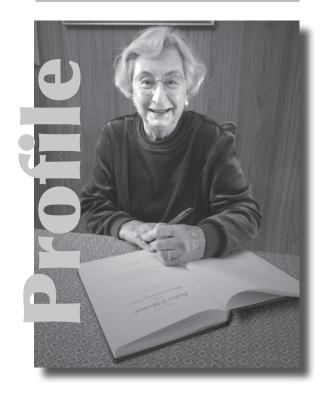
# IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Jesse Mays, Council Representative for Council member Sherri Lightner, has provided this information for University City residents:

Emergency (police, fire, medical): 911
Graffiti Control Hotline: 619-525-8522
Streets (potholes, lights, drains): 619-527-7500
Neighborhood Code Compliance: 619-236-5500
Police (non-emergency): 619-531-2000
Traffic division: 858-495-7800

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Senior citizen, Mary Russell, age 83, published her first book, *Butchers and Merchants from Johnstown, Kilkenny, Ireland*. Mary and her husband, Captain John R. Russell, USN, moved to University City in 1974 when he was transferred to duty at the Naval Training Center Dental Clinic. Four of their six children enrolled in schools in UC and in Clairemont.

After the popular television series *Roots* was over, Mary caught the genealogy bug. Her youngest son, Patrick, who then attended the new Standley Junior High, had an assignment to write about where his ancestors came from and how his family moved to San Diego. After inquiring from John's eldest living uncle about his parents and grandparents, Mary learned that they were descended from a Ryan family of butchers who emigrated from Ireland and settled in Cincinnati, Ohio after the Great Famine.

Mary then spent 25 years researching Irish history and their Ryan ancestors while volunteering at the San Diego Mormon Library and teaching classes on Irish research. Mary sent out a Ryan newsletter from 1995-2004 to all their newfound relatives, and gathered more stories during eight trips to Ireland. When Mary turned 80, and with the urging of many cousins, she decided it was time to write the family story.

Mary's publisher, Tom Underhill of Creative Continuum, snapped a picture of Mary signing her book, delivered on Leap Day, just in time for St. Patrick's Day.

# **WE WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER**

Spring is 'Sprung', so it must be time for baseball, soccer, swimming and more. Even dry old Phoenix is awash with the stars and gazillions of major league "wannabes." This is the time that crusty but benign Coach Larry Yandel Jr. would normally be scrounging though the garage to find baseballs, gloves, bats, bases, tennis rackets, golf clubs, etc. He would be calling anyone and everyone, lining up players and coaches and umpires and scorekeepers and faithful field maintenance experts. He would be asking for help from anyone who would like to be involved and had something to offer to the kids. He would be thinking about sprucing-up fields, and mostly looking for boys and girls to play baseball. He knew in his heart that one day some of these kids would be in some professional training camp fighting to "move up."

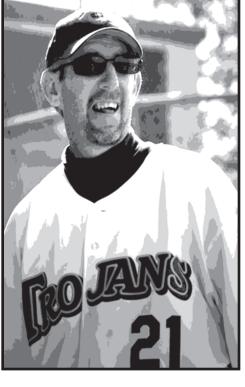
Larry Jr. always gave the UC programs all he could and many of you have mentioned how much he helped your kids. So we (the undersigned) want to continue his efforts. To do this we have created the Larry Yandel Jr. Memorial Youth Sports Fund.

The Fund will be subordinate to the present sports organizations (UCLL, La Jolla Pop Warner Football, etc.). We want the fund to help support youngsters who may not otherwise be able to play. We may help with some needed expenses, provide supplies, information or other needed assistance, development assistance and a management plan as potentially sought from UC parents, other volunteers, vendors and community leaders. We have received some donations and we thank those friends.

We are participating in the Larry Yandel Jr. Memorial Youth Sport Fund Softball Tournament on April 15. 2012. A Save-the-Date email has gone out and it's also been posted on Facebook. A registration flyer with more detailed information will be available soon.

For a contribution, please send a check payable to UCLL, P.O. Box 22511, S.D., CA 92192. Write "matching funds donation" in the memo line.

Good Sporting to You All, The Yandels, Dawn, Larry Sr., and Teresa



# Town Park Villas & University City Village History

by Al Petraitis and Laura Spano

Many of our community neighbors recall the park-like venue at the east end of Governor Drive, where they as children bicycled and walked the complex. But do you know its origin/history? The Town Park/ University City Village Tenants' Association, a non-profit corporation, is serving the community interests and the residents of a cluster of apartments along Governor Drive, Pavlov Avenue, Gullstrand Street, Kantor Street, and Kantor Court between Governor Drive and Route 52.

The complex was originally called Leisure Life Village. It was opened in 1964 as a non-profit housing project for senior citizens. It included a nine-hole golf course, clubhouse, swimming pool and 542 one-story garden apartments. Today 440 of the original single story apartments remain, situated among the streets and private walkways of the site, surrounded by tall trees and mature greenery.

By the late 1970's the property had been sold to private ownership and was called University City Village. In 1979, when the owner proposed a plan to convert the apartments into condominiums, the residents formed a Tenants Association to protect their interests and litigated the proposal. The tenants lost, but the owner continued to operate the property with NO changes.

In 1997, the owner announced a plan to double the number of units of the complex, involving five years of phased remodeling and second story construction upon existing buildings. Again there were issues of mutual interest to all tenants arising from the proposed redevelopment. In 1999, the Association negotiated a Tenants Protection Agreement covering rents and relocations.

Since 2003, two corporations share ownership of the property. In 2005, major remodeling and new construction projects were undertaken on the site, in accordance with a master plan approved by the City of San Diego Development Services in 1998 (CUP). The original redevelopment plan permits 1189 senior rentals and 80 assisted living units. At this time there are about 700 apartments in place and under construction.



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#### **EASTER**

The Resurrection of Our Lord
Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> 9:00 pm Easter Vigil
Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Easter Eucharist
followed by Easter Eqq Hunt and Easter Brunch

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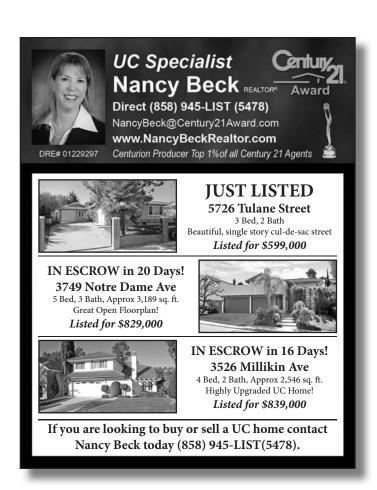
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for more detailed information on ad placement.

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# April 1st 5pm

# **Free Concert**

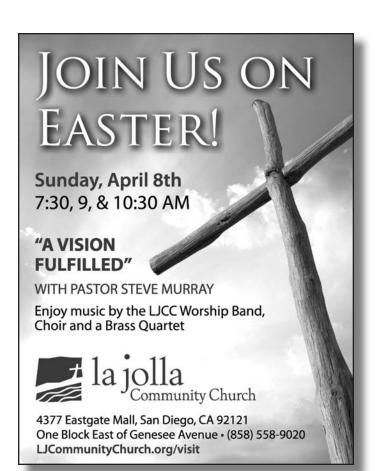
SACRA/PROFANA, a 24-voice ensemble specializing in a unique blend of classic and contemporary styles, is honoroed to give the San Diego premiere of modern American composer, David Lang's Pulitzer Prize winning piece, *The Little Match Girl Passion*, described by **The New Yorker** as "one of the most original and moving scores of recent years."

Based on Hans Christian Andersen's tale and Bach's St. Matthew Passion, Lang's work is a stark, yet beautiful meditation.

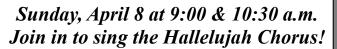
There is no admission charge. Reception immediately following the concert.

For more information: sacraprofana.org

8320 La Jolla Scenic Drive North / La Jolla, CA 92037 / 858-453-3550 / torreypineschurch.org



# Share the Joy! Easter Services



**Delicious Easter Sunday Breakfast** Served 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon

# Carnival and Easter Egg Hunt

Games, Crafts, Snacks and Fun! Saturday, April 7th at 9:30 a.m.



University City United Church 2877 Governor Drive 92122

858-453-3444

April 5 Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday

Communion Service

April 6 Fri. 12-3:00 p.m. Good Friday Prayer Vigil

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6333 Erlanger St, UC Beautiful 4 br, 3 ba home with bonus room, sunroom & 12,700 sf lot. \$645,000



2501 Angell Ave, UC Fantastic canyon site with A+ views. Many upgrades, pool & added library. \$699,000



6617 Ave de las Pescas, LJ 3 br, 2 ba ocean-view Muirlands home. Upgraded kitchen & baths. \$1,250,000



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# URBAN CORPS TO PLANT 500 TREES BEFORE THE SUMMER

by Klara Arter

Urban Corps of San Diego County is committed to planting 500 street trees by the end of June.

"Trees are one of the City's most important resources, yet we are at risk of losing funding for tree planting here in San Diego," says Urban Corps Director of Operations Sam Lopez. "We have existing funding for 500 trees but they must be planted by the summer. We need San Diego's help to find planting locations, and to let their local elected officials know how valuable trees are to the community so that urban forestry efforts don't fall by the wayside."

According to Lopez, Urban Corps is seeking public right-of-ways in need of street trees, and ideally those that can accommodate a minimum of 25 trees along one or two adjoining streets. Urban Corps plans to give priority to areas most in need of trees and in which children play; surrounding schools, libraries, parks, or multi-family residential areas. Urban Corps will expedite the site analysis and permit process, provide guidance in tree selection, and plant the trees before the start of the summer.

If you would like to nominate a planting location, please complete the No-Fee Street Tree City Permit Request and Watering Agreement found here: <a href="http://www.urbancorpssd.org/">http://www.urbancorpssd.org/</a>
FreeTree.pdf and return to Ty Sterns at <a href="mailto:tsterns@urbancorps.org">tsterns@urbancorps.org</a>.
For more information, or to get involved promoting this effort in your community, please contact Ty Sterns directly at 619-235-6884 ext. 3312.

# IMPORTANT MEETING

Notice of Public Participation
Hearings Regarding
Proposed Wildfire Expense Balancing
Account SDG&E Co. (Application No. 09-08-020)

This past week, San Diego residents received in the mail a meeting notice card from SDG&E, regarding what might be a huge increase in future rates. SDG&E wants to recover their uninsured damages from the 2007 wildfires. They want to recover \$62 million in these uninsured damages from their CUSTOMERS and have announced the possibility that up to \$400 million more may be added to this amount. In addition, IN THE FUTURE, they want to be able to recover similar losses from under-insured wildfires. Once again, they want to recover this money from YOU, the consumer. If you do not want this tax/increase in your rates (an estimated \$356 per household to begin with), please attend one of the meetings or send in you comments to the address/email below. Let your opinion be heard.

Two meetings will be held on:

April 5th, 2012

Al Bahr Shriners Memorial Auditorium 2:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. 5440 Kearny Mesa Road San Diego, CA 92111

For more information or to submit written comments instead, please contact:

Public Advisor
California Public Utilities Commission
320 West Fourth St., Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90013
Public.advisor.la@cpuc.ca.gov

1-866-849-8390 (toll-free)

# Please try and attend!

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http://www.ucan.org/energy/electricity/ucan\_ protests\_hidden\_rate\_hike\_356\_household

#### from KUSI News...

http://www.kusi.com/story/16699973/moreon-sdges-hidden-rate-hike

#### from KPBS....

http://m.kpbs.org/news/2012/mar/02/sdge-expects-customers-will-pay-pending-07-wildfir/