

WINTER EDITION WWW.UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG

CALENDAR

## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Tree Lighting

By Sandy Lippe

The December tree lighting at Standley Park is a long time tradition. Added to that event is the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual dinner with Santa, and you have a great family evening on Friday, December 12 at 5:30 pm. You can enjoy a hearty dinner for a frugal charge of \$2 child/\$4 adult, with arts and crafts, entertainment, and a chance to talk to Santa. Space is limited, so order tickets early at the Rec Center. (No baby strollers are allowed in the dining room for safety purposes.)



At 6:30 pm, the traditional Tree Lighting will take place outside the Rec Center. Mr. Marcus, music director at Standley Middle School, and his incredible band, will perform holiday songs, as will Tuesday Night Alibi, a barbershop quartet, and Our Mother of Confidence Children's Choir. Then the countdown will begin for the tree lighting. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served, and rumor has it that Santa will hear each child's Christmas list. Thanks to the Rec Council for sponsoring the event. The tree lighting is a gift from the UCCA with great help from various elves under the direction of Darlene Ventimiglia and Barbara Henshaw. Judy Bethel has served as artistic designer over the years, and we look forward to seeing her on the 12th of December.

The Marines' Food Locker will also be accepting canned goods and non-perishable food donations, which will be delivered by UCCA to the Marines' Food Locker on December 15.

Everyone in UC is invited to be part of this unique night. Remember that traditions create lasting memories for our children and ourselves. Whether you've lived here for decades or days, come out on December 12 to be part of this great tradition. "And to all a good night!"

Hanukkah Begins Tuesday, December 16, ends Wednesday, December 24

Christmas Thursday, December 25

New Year's Day Thursday, January 1

UC Planning Group Tuesday, January 13, 6:00 pm (No Meeting in December), Forum Hall at UTC

UCCA Meeting Wednesday, January 14, 6:00 pm (No Meeting in December), UC Library on Governor Drive

Martin Luther King Day Monday, January 19

UC Garden Club Meetings will resume in February

#### **Doyle Recreation Council**

Meetings are on 4th Tuesdays at 6:30 pm; call Doyle Rec Center for dates

#### Standley Recreation Council

Meetings are on 4th Thursdays at 6:30 pm; call Standley Rec Center for dates

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

# UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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Editor Jemma Samala, UCCAEditor@gmail.com Advertising Terri Day, uccaADS@hotmail.com

#### 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 and story suggestions that pertain to community and residents.

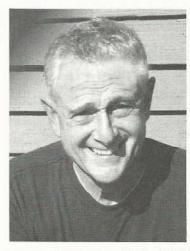
#### Guidelines:

- Your article should be approximately 250 words or less, typed in a document and attached to email or pasted inside the email.
- Be as brief and concise as possible. Editing may result in errors. Type in plain text format; no pdf formats.
- · Include who, what, why, where, and how.
- UCCA does not guarantee publication.
- The information contained in submissions may be edited and/or combined with others; for example, upcoming events.
- The Editor reserves the right to edit articles as needed.
- · Name the file appropriately so it can be identified.
- Attach photos separately in a picture format at high resolution or straight from camera as a jpeg or png.
- Send to <u>UCCAEditor@gmail.com</u> or jemmasamala@gmail.com; email any questions.

#### Deadline for the February 2015 Newsletter Publication is January 15

Please send your submission as early as possible. The deadline for the February issue is January 15, but the newsletter can fill up before the deadline. Articles and news items are reviewed as they are received. Priority may be given to UCCA members and time sensitive material. Articles may also be edited for allowed space. UCCA does not discriminate against nor endorse all information in the monthly newsletter.

The University City Community Association 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 same. Publication does not constitute an endorsement.



#### UCCA President Barry Bernstein's Column

Happy Holidays! A very Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah to all of our newsletter readers. I hope to see many of you at our Holiday Tree Lighting event at Standley Park on Friday, Dec. 12. The UCCA Board will not have a December meeting...and there will NOT be a January issue of our newsletter. So please do remember to send in your

membership form and join UCCA and be part of our efforts in maintaining and improving our community. Our new UCCA "Buy Local"/Membership cards and gift distribution will begin this month so watch for items in your mail.

Thank you for your support in my re-election as your president for the 2015 year. Our recently elected officers are pictured on page 11. Thanks to Bonnie Hornbeck for a wonderful job as our secretary this past year and congratulations to Vince Reardon for taking over the secretarial duties for 2015. Vince is still committed to finding time for his community clean-up efforts and would encourage you to volunteer.

Jemma Samala, current president of the UCHS Centurion Foundation, and EdUCate! board member, has agreed to serve as the UCCA newsletter editor. We're so pleased to have her take on this very important responsibility and know that her personal commitment to our community will be reflected in future newsletter editions. Welcome aboard Jemma!

Please take a moment to read about "Imagine U.C.2020"... Dr. John Lee Evans, a resident of U.C. and member of the San Diego City Schools Board of Education, has taken the leadership in introducing this very real opportunity for the development of a unique learning campus. And for your information, our community library now has the full mid-coast trolley environmental impact report in its reference section according to librarian Sharon Thomerson. There still needs to be a great deal of thought and coordination of various agencies related to the traffic issues the elevated rail line may cause on Genesee.

Our own Barbara Gellman was honored this past week as a nominee for SDPD's Volunteer of the Year. Barbara, with assistance from community police officer Larry Hesselgesser, established 73 Neighborhood Watch programs in South U.C. this past year. Congratulations and thank you Barbara!

UCPG is planning to hear at its January 13 meeting, (no December meeting), two building projects in South U.C. The continuing discussion of The University Terrace East Apt. additions was moved to January, and the building of homes just off Regents and south of the Catholic church, will also be on the agenda. Once again my best wishes to you and yours for a most happy and safe holiday season. The next UCCA newsletter will be delivered in early February 2015.

Barry

#### THE UC SCENE

By Jemma Samala

Okay, I have a character flaw, and that is I can't say no. I know many of you UC folks have the same disease. We see the same names and faces that volunteer at events, PTA meetings, sports leagues, troop meetings, etc. So my affliction came into play once again last month when the UCCA newsletter was in need of an editor, and for some reason I was asked to take over the position by the committee. Well, I couldn't say no. I have this disease. Plus, the newsletter has been such an integral part of the UC community, of course I will be glad to do my part.

Now, I'm asking the UC community for a favor, and you can't say no. The UCCA newsletter committee can only obtain info for the publication of which they have access to. The UC community is a very active group of neighbors. For all those activities, we need you all to submit info, articles, pictures...and suggestions. Do you want more human-interest stories, investigative reports, sports updates, cat photos? Is there an "Ask the Editor" question you would like to submit? Let us know. All submissions will be taken under consideration.

I can't guarantee everything will be included; this is a family oriented publication. But I will do my best. Therefore, in the spirit of giving during this holiday season, give back to the UCCA newsletter. Oh, and don't forget to become a UCCA member (see the Membership Application on page 11). Your dues not only help other community groups, but supports the newsletter. It's like that cliché, help me help you!

There are a number of groups in the UC community that could also use some gifting. These groups are all non-profits and donations are tax-deductible. I've listed some on this page, so open up your checkbooks or PayPal accounts and give a little or a lot to these community groups. You'll feel better for giving, I promise.

Now go forth, bake those cookies, wrap those presents, and sing those carols...which are all welcomed at my house! Happy Holidays to all of you, and I look forward to serving you as your UCCA Newsletter Editor.



Food Trucks continue every Wednesday night from 5-7 pm in front of Spreckels Elementary. You can find your editor there many weeks finding something to eat with lobster. A portion of proceeds benefit all UC public schools through EdUCate! For

more info go to www.uc-educate.org. Food trucks rotate, so every week is a new dining experience for you and your family.



#### Adopt-A-Family Program at UCHS

Spread some UCHS
Holiday Cheer and
help the PTSA Adopt
A Family Program.
The program directly
benefits UCHS
students / families

who are in need of a little something extra this year. Last year UCHS helped over a dozen students and their families. Your tax-deductible donation will help us purchase grocery gift cards, store gift cards and wish list items. The PTSA will be accepting donations through December 12. 'Tis the time to give, please consider donating to those in our UCHS family. Go to www.uchsptsa.org to make a donation.

#### **EdUCate! Funds Local Schools**

EdUCate! helps funds many local UC programs. To help visualize where those monies are granted, examples are listed below. We know you chose UC public schools for a reason! EdUCate! funds items such as:

**\$75** funds a student attending a semester of the EdUCate! Math Academy

\$100 funds five elementary students attending Jr. Achievement's BizTown

\$170 funds lab coats for the UCHS bio medical science program

**\$265** funds a compound microscope for Standley middle school science

\$500 funds a UCHS scholarship to encourage our Centurions to reach for the stars after graduation

\$750 funds a principal grant request for an elementary school daily language review program

**\$1700** funds a principal grant request for an elementary school online reading program

\$3550 funds a principal grant request for music and arts education instructional supplies

Go to www.uc-educate.org for more information.

#### CENTURION FOUNDATION WINTER GRANTS

The Centurion Foundation is dedicated to supporting UCHS athletics and extra-curricular activities. Donations help fund grants to help teams fund purchases such as: football helmets, tennis nets, soccer equipment, cheer supplies. The foundation also helps fund the UCHS Athletic Trainer. Winter grants will be announced in January. During the current winter season, those who donate \$50 or more will receive two adult and one student pass good for entrance to all home varsity basketball games. Because UC, U Know! For more info, go to: www.uccenturionfoundation.com.

#### Why Law Enforcement Opposed Proposition 47

by Larry Hesselgesser, SDPD Community Service Officer (CSO), Northern Division

Editor's note: California Proposition 47, the Reduced Penalties for Some Crimes Initiative, was on the November 4 ballot in California as an initiated state statute. The measure was approved by voters.

Proposition 47 requires misdemeanor sentencing instead of felony for the following crimes:

- Shoplifting, where the value of property stolen does not exceed \$950
- Grand theft, where the value of the stolen property does not exceed \$950 including guns.
- Receiving stolen property, where the value of the property does not exceed \$950
- Forgery, where the value of forged check, bond or bill does not exceed \$950
- Fraud, where the value of the fraudulent check, draft or order does not exceed \$950
- Writing a bad check, where the value of the check does not exceed \$950
- Personal use of illegal street drugs

"Petty Theft" was already a misdemeanor. With the passing of Proposition 47, "simple drug possession" of even harder drugs like heroin, cocaine, methamphetamines, and even GHB (the date rape drug) are now just misdemeanors. This means the offender will receive a citation and be sent on their way. The offender

would literally be free to commit a residential burglary or another crime within minutes after receiving the citation.

Those "non-violent" crimes also include theft of firearms, pets or livestock, receiving stolen property, forgery and check fraud under \$950. Almost all handguns (which are the most stolen kind of firearm) retail for well below \$950. People don't steal guns just to add to their gun collection. They steal guns to commit other crimes. Police have lost yet another tool in the fight against crime. Street drugs and theft go hand in hand. A desperate street addict will not stop stealing until they are incarcerated.

Not only does this proposition affect all future arrests, but it is retroactive and now all prior arrests for the covered crimes will be reclassified. All those convictions will be resentenced which will tie up the City Attorney for months while they sort through numerous cases that will likely result in the release of thousands of convicted criminals, some of which were released right after this proposition passed.

Police expect residential burglaries to increase as a result of Proposition 47. Several studies cite drug usage as the number one reason why residential burglaries are committed with the percentage being in the high 60 percent range. Please, lock your doors and windows, light up your home, and stay safe.

#### Barbara Gellman, Northern Division's Volunteer of the Year by Diane Ahern

University City's own Neighborhood Watch Coordinator Barbara Gellman was honored by Northern Division and the Exchange Club of San Diego at its 11th Annual Law Enforcement Volunteer of the Year Banquet. The Exchange Club seeks to honor dedicated volunteers who perform needed services for the San Diego Police Department and help relieve the overload.

Barbara was nominated by CSO Larry Hesselgesser. She is a registered nurse with a long history of volunteering. "Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, I volunteered with political and school board campaigns, school system nutrition programs, an Office of Aging wellness program, a community drug prevention program for kids and initiated a youth employment service through the high school," she said.

When she moved to University City 25 years ago, she decided to become involved as a volunteer after retiring from her family's wholesale gift business. "The University City Community Association has been a good match. I started as part of the Beautification Committee but soon found another passion as a Neighborhood Watch Coordinator," she said.

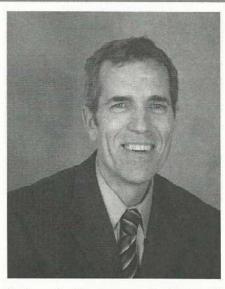
In the past 2 years, Barbara has established over 80 Neighborhood Watch groups. Never one to brag about herself, Barbara said her success is "due to a partnership with Larry Hesselgesser and the Northern Division and great UC residents who have stepped up to be street captains."

What's next for Barbara? Larry and Northern

Division have asked her to help the Clairemont community reestablish its Neighborhood Watch program. She's also a member of the Captain's Advisory Board, asked to serve by Captain Jerry Hara. And she's a Lead with Nextdoor.com, the social network for neighborhoods. Oh yes, and she's still involved in the Beautification Committee.



Editor's note: Photo of Barbara Gellman and Officer Hesselgesser. If you are interested in forming a Neighborhood Watch group on your street, or you would like more information about communicating with neighbors through Nextdoor, please contact Barbara Gellman at bggellman@yahoo.com. UC's Neighborhood Watch is made possible, in part, through allocation of membership dues.



#### A San Diego Unified diploma must be meaningful

John Lee Evans San Diego Unified Trustee, District A

San Diego Unified has been focused for several years on increasing our graduation rate. Now we are putting our focus on making sure

that graduation is meaningful for all students. We want all of our students to graduate with all of the option to go to college, to enroll a technical school or to be prepared to directly enter the workforce.

In the past some students were often placed on a college prep or vocational track. Now we are combining both tracks so that all students will have more options. For example, some high schools now have auto tech programs. Students who enroll in that program will have a full range of coursework and will be prepared to directly enter the work force or enroll in a technical school or enroll in a university to major in mechanical engineering.

One example of our career technical programs is the biomedical careers program at UC High. This program gives students a head start on their chosen career.

There is one significant change starting with the Class of 2016. We are matching up our high school graduation requirements with UC and CSU. This will give all of our students the option of applying to a four-year college or be better prepared for a community college or technical program. Because San Diego Unified and the college requirements were not completely aligned some deserving students were not eligible to apply.

The major change to the curriculum is a requirement for two years of a world language and one additional year of math. A major goal of Vision 2020 has been for all of our students to graduate with the ability to communicate in a second language as global citizens. One additional year of rigorous math will also prepare our students for college and career.

Students perform better when expectations are higher. Support will be provided for those students who have difficulty with the more rigorous courses.

The Class of 2016 will be leading the way for all of our students to be truly prepared for college and career.

#### Happy Holidays from Council District 1

Sherri Lightner, San Diego City Councilwoman



I am excited about all we have accomplished in the last year and am looking forward to continuing to work with you in the New Year to achieve our goals.

I am pleased to announce an increase in branch library hours, something I know is important to the University City residents. Beginning November 8, 2014, all branch libraries have seen an increase of four hours throughout the week. In addition, the North University Community branch is now open from 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

I am also pleased to announce that the planned winter closure of the Swanson Pool has been decreased by 6 weeks. After hearing concerns from many of my constituents about the upcoming closure, I was able to transfer \$20,000 from my office budget to the Park and Recreation Department, which will allow the pool to reopen March 9, 2015, instead of April 19, 2015, as previously planned. We will continue to work to make sure the library hours and pool hours are restored to the service levels University City residents deserve.

Finally, I hope you can join the Environmental Services Department and my office for a reusable bag giveaway. This event will help shoppers prepare for the transition away from single use plastic bags that will occur in July 2015. The bag giveaway will take place Wednesday, December 17 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Sprouts Market on Governor Drive in South University City.

As always, please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions about these issues or any other neighborhood issues, and have a very happy and safe holiday season.

## Libraries are Alive in University City: What's Going on at Your Local Library?

Featured Events at the University City Community Library 4155 Governor Drive, 858.552.1655 sthomerson@sandiego.gov

Fall Book Sale: Friends of the UC Library Fundraiser

Thursday, December 4 at 1:00-5:30 pm Friday, December 5 at 9:30-5:30 pm Saturday, December 6 at 9:30-2:30 pm

Besos de Coco Latin Jazz Concert Back by popular demand!

Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30 pm

Memoir Writing Find guidance, inspiration and acceptance of the past in this writing group. Thursday, December 11 at 1:00 pm Thursday, January 8 at 1:00 pm Thursday, January 22 at 1:00 pm

Online Information Security How to prevent identity theft.

Saturday, December 13 at 2:00 pm

Pearl Harbor: Day of Infamy, Day of Sacrifice An OASIS seminar.
Thursday, December 18 at 2:00 pm

Scrabble Club Bring your own board and meet new friends!
Tuesday, December 23 at 5:00-8:00 pm
Saturday, January 24 at 12:00-3:00 pm

**Qi Gong:** Gentle Exercises and Meditation Practice.

Every Monday at 9:30 am

Adult Yoga Gentle exercise to aid flexibility and improve concentration. Every Tuesday at 4:30 pm

Signing Story Time Stories and Songs for Babies, Toddlers, Preschoolers. Every Monday at 10:30 am

Preschool Story Time Stories, crafts, finger plays and songs.
Every Thursday at 10:30 am

Historical Tour of Balboa Park Nancy Carol Carter will discuss the park's history from its establishment in 1868 up to the 1915 Panama-California Exposition which changed the park forever.

Thursday, January 15 at 2:00 pm

Dancing with the Bamboo Brush Art Show and Sale Join Jean Shen, juried artist and instructor, and her students for an art sale and celebration of Chinese brush paintings. Exhibit runs November 1, 2014-January 31, 2015.

Saturday, January 17 at 12:30-2:30 pm

Gypsy Jazz! Concert with Django A fourpiece ensemble.

Tuesday, January 20 at 6:30 pm

Haus Musiking A new kind of music to the Library! Wednesday, January 21 at 7:00 pm

SilverWood! Diane Wilson's SilverWood Flute and Piano Ensemble will perform works by Villa-Lobos, Antonio Carlos Jobim and others in a concert entitled "Brazilian Special". Wednesday, January 28 at 6:30 pm

Featured Events at the North UC Library, 8820 Judicial Drive 858.581.9637, friends.northuclibrary.org

#### Events for Adults/Seniors

Small Business Assistance Dr. Adolfo Sanchez offers help in navigating the process to starting a business. Appointments available by calling the library. Wednesdays at 11:30 am

Job Help Assistance Dr. Adolfo Sanchez offers help with resume writing and job searching. Appointments available by calling the library. Wednesdays at 3:30 pm

ESL Conversation Improve English conversation skills in an informal, small group setting. Wednesdays at 5:00 pm

Note: No class scheduled for Dec. 24

Gentle Yoga Learn basic yoga techniques, perfect for beginners, expectant mothers, seniors and persons with disabilities. Please bring your own mat. Fridays at 10:00 am

Zumba® The exercise class that started the dance-fitness revolution and changed the way we look at a "workout" forever. It's fun, effective and made for everyone! Sundays at 12:30 pm

Knitters' Circle Yarn enthusiasts at all skill levels are welcome. Basic instruction is available. Thursday, December 4 & 18 at 1:00 pm

Page Turners Book Club The Book Club will be discussing And the Mountains Echoed by Khaled Hosseini. Wednesday, December 10 at 5:30 pm

Memories in the Making® Memories in the Making® is a unique program for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias to express themselves through art. Please call the library to reserve a spot. Monday, December 15 at 10:00 am

Cinema Café Enjoy refreshments while watching a thought-provoking film. Title TBA. Please inquire with library staff for further details. Wednesday, December 17 at 6:00 pm

E-Reader Clinic Bring your e-reader, tablet or smartphone and learn to download e-books, e-audiobooks and magazines. Friday, December 19 at 3:00 pm

#### Events for Children/Families

Craft Time Let your creativity run wild with a fun craft activity! Children under 8 welcome with an adult or older sibling. Saturdays at 11:45 am

Young Artist Series Local young musicians showcase their talents in an informal, interactive setting designed to expose children to the world of music. Saturdays at 3:00 pm

Music Makers Toddlers and preschoolers explore different aspects of music and learn to express themselves creatively in a fun, energetic environment. Recommended for ages 2 to 5. NOTE: Music Makers will be closed to arrivals once our room is at capacity, or 5 minutes after start of program. Monday, December 1 at 10:00 am

**Book Signing: Danny Dog** Meet Danny the rescue dog and learn all about his journey to find a forever home. Thursday, December 4 at 10:30 am

Family Yoga Families enjoy healthy fun and bonding while exploring yoga poses and breathing exercises. Please bring your own mat. Monday, December 8 & 22 at 10:30 am

STEAM 2 Academy Science-based educational activities geared to students in grades K-3. This month's topic is Transportation: How things move. Tuesday, December 9 at 3:00 pm

Piano Recital Featuring young students of local piano teacher Mary Kilmer. Sunday, December 14 time TBA

LEGO Club Recommended for ages 5 – 13. No sign up needed. Parent supervision required for younger children. Saturday, December 20 at 9:30 am

#### STORYTIMES

Hebrew – Thursdays at 9:45 am
English – Thursdays at 10:30 am
French – Thursdays at 11:15 am
Chinese – Saturday, Dec. 6 & 20 at 11:00 am

Family – Saturday, Dec. 13 at 10:00 am

Japanese – Saturday, Dec. 13 at 11:15 am Sign Language – Thursday, Dec. 11 at 12

Songbirds – Friday, Dec. 19 at 12:45 pm (registration required)

Note: All San Diego Public Library branches will be open 9:30am – 6:00 pm on Wednesday, Dec. 24. All branches will be closed on December 25 in observance of Christmas Day. For a list of branches open Dec. 26 - 31, please visit www.sandiegolibrary.org.

#### UC PLANNING GROUP REPORT by Nancy Groves, UCPG Rep District 1

Reports from the November meeting included:

- An informational item that an application has been filed with the City for a Conditional Use Permit and Costal Development Permit for a Medical Marijuana Cooperative at 10671 Roselle St.
- Megan Beale gave a report on the adoption of the Pure Water plan for wastewater treatment, which was adopted by the city council and is planned to be on line by 2023 with funding from Prop 1.
- Mel Millstein from Council person Sherri Lightner's office announced plans for city infra structure bond, extending library hours by 4 hours a week], and the Sprout's free bag give away on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 P.M.
- During the Public Comment time Barry Bernstein presented information on the Imagine UC 2020 plan to improve UC South by enhancing the center of Governor Drive between Genesee and Regents. Plans are to develop a plan to be more pedestrian, bike friendly and to provide education/recreation/entertainment/socializing places for all ages. Improving the park with a stage, a jogging track and an enhanced aquatic center are a few of the ideas so far. Brad Tuck from Alegria Real Estate gave an update on the housing development planned on Regents Road between Pennant and Governor. See separate article for details.
- The UCPG Fire Station sub committee chair Ash Nasseri gave the report concerning the plans for station 50 in North U.C. The sub committee has been working with the fire department and Elif Cetin, City Public Works department to site the station as strategically as possible with as little impact on the environment as possible. The sub committee is also working on a muchneeded fire station for south U.C.
- The MTS report detailed the new route 237 from Rancho Bernardo via Mira Mesa, L.J. Village Drive, Genesee and to UCSD every 15 minutes. UCSD students voted to pay for a student pass system for the next 5 years. Regret to report, still no transit improvements for South U.C.
- SGPA Architects rep gave an informational report on the update of the La Jolla Shops (Whole Foods area) in which B.J.'s, TGIF, and the Landmark theatre will be removed and the parking lot and entrances remodeled. The restaurants may return in new buildings but that is still TBD. This is an integrated mixed-use area with shops and residences and the residences will be reduced from 33 to 30. Let's hope the right of ways and parking is improved.
- The Campus Pointe Master Plan informational item was presented by the Center for Life Science for expansion on Campus Point Drive. The EIR is being prepared and will be presented in Jan or Feb. Transit issues are currently being reviewed at the site.

NO MEETING OF UCPG IN DEC., but issues to come before the UCPG on January 13 include: Trolley Station Update, Alegria Real Estate 10 houses on Regents, Caltrans I-5 and Genesee interchange plans for 2015, University Apartments East on Genesee back for appeal after reducing height, reduce number of units. Info on sewer repairs by the city public works dept. You can view the posted agenda at http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/profiles/university/agendas.shtml

If you would like to receive agendas via email, send your request to sdplanninggroups@sandiego.gov and indicate University planning group.

## Special Holiday Celebrations

#### NORTH UC LIBRARY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Refreshments courtesy of the Friends of the Library, followed by a performance from the North University Community Teen Symphony. Tuesday, December 9 at 6:00 pm. And a **HOLIDAY CARNIVAL** Presented in conjunction with the Nobel Recreation Center, featuring face painting, crafts and refreshments. Thursday, December 18 at 10:30 am.

OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS SHOW, SONGS AND DINNER Children's reenactment of the birth of Jesus, Children's Choir, Contemporary Choir, Youth band, solos and trios singing Christmas Favorites. December 14, 7:00 p.m., Our Mother of Confidence Sierra Hall (3131 Governor Drive). Fun for the whole Family!!! For tickets contact: lan or Ellie at 858-453-3554 or email: emcglynn@omcsandiego.org, imascarenhas@omcsandiego.org or call Bobbi Cawdrey 858-453-3929. Tickets: \$25 per adult, \$10 teens, free for children. Dinner catered by the French Gourmet, no-host bar.

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I am writing this update to keep south University City residents informed about the proposed housing development on the west side of Regents Road between Pennant and Governor Drive. The plan is currently for an HOA development of 10 single-family, 5 bedroom, 2 story, approximately 3,000 sq. ft. homes. The developer Alegria Real Estate plans to sell the homes for around \$900,000. He has asked for two deviations from the standard R-1 (single family housing) required regulations. One is to reduce the lot width to 40 feet rather than the standard 50 feet required. The other is to allow a setback of only 11 feet rather than the standard 15 feet. There will be a very narrow road built extending Renault Way down to the houses allowing for no street parking and only one way in and out of the area.

The only parking will be in the garage or driveway at each house with only 6 additional parking places for visitors or residents who have several cars. Residents on Renault Street and Fried feel that this will amount to additional cars being parked on their streets. Many residents have written to the city to: John Fisher (Dev. Project Mgr., Dev. Services Dept., jsfisher@sandiego.gov) to object to the deviations which make these two-story houses too close together and not consistent with the current R-I residential style of south UC. And of course, parking is also an issue. You, too, still have time to write in your comments as well.

I urge you to be informed and to view the plans. Alegria owns the land and will build there, but you can perhaps influence the density and look of the development by making constructive criticism now. I have the UCPG's complete set of plans and am very willing to show them to anyone. You can contact me at 858-453-6486 or through nextdoor.com and arrange a time that is convenient.

The developer will be on the UCPG agenda for **JANUARY 13**. Come and hear the presentation and also voice your concerns before the final vote, which may be at this very meeting. The UCPG meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. at Forum Hall, above the Wells Fargo Bank in UTC.

Do come to the meetings and find out about this project as well as the trolley plans and updates on the new fire stations for both north and south UC. I am on the fire station sub committee so would be glad to keep you up to date on those important developments as they progress.

Nancy Groves, UCPG District 1, Resident Representative

### Meet the Sponsors of the Buy Local Shopping Bag\*

AlphaGraphics: December is a time of giving. In that spirit, AlphaGraphics would like to shine the spotlight on their nonprofit partner, the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank.

This organization gives so much to so many San Diego County residents throughout the year. Last year, the Food Bank distributed 22.3 million pounds of food to San Diego County, the equivalent of 18.6 million meals; and served, on average, over 320,000 people per month throughout San Diego County, more than one in ten San Diego County residents.

AlphaGraphics is collecting non-perishable food items at the AlphaGraphics Business Center, 3202 Governor Drive, #102 (near Starbucks), in University City; or visit www.us727@alphagraphics.com. Terri Day: A UC resident since 1987, a supporter of UCCA and a Realtor for the last 8 years serving buyers and sellers, I know UC and San Diego. I am here to provide you with my experience, along with the resources and information you need to buy or sell real estate. For all your real estate needs, contact me at 858-775-8377 or visit www.terriday.com.

Discovery Property Group was founded by Senior Real Estate Specialists Mark & Frank Powell, "The Powell Brothers", two experienced real estate brokers who live and work in University City. By remaining a relatively small company the Powell Brothers are able to oversee all transaction elements and ensure client satisfaction. Contact us at 858-361-2488 or visit www.discoverypropertygroup.com.

### UCCA Gives a Shout-out to Its Buy Local Partners

Thank you to all the local businesses participating in UCCA's Buy Local. UCCA members\* can take advantage of these Buy Local offers beginning January when you present your 2015 UCCA membership card at time of purchase. For an up-to-date listing, including location and contact information, visit the Buy Local page at www.universitycitynews.org.

- AlphaGraphics on Governor, Scott Weathers: Save 20% on your first project (print, mail, large format, promotional products) of \$150 or more. Let us help you Increase your reach!
- Better Than Home Placement, Merle Berman: \$200 toward moving costs when our free service helps you find an assisted living residence for your loved one.
- Chabad Center of UC: New members save almost \$30 monthly on the \$150 per month Family Rate.
- Cycle Quest: Save 10% off MSRP on any store purchase (labor excluded) when you mention this UCCA Buy Local offer; or visit our website and share in the same savings by using coupon code "UCCA".
- Dance Hula: Save 10% on new, family, or group dancers ages 3 to adult.
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- Kelly Johnson Fitness: Free consultation and 10% off fitness package for new clients.
- Lori Miller, First Choice Properties: Save thousands in commission when you sell or buy with me.
- Lorna's Italian Kitchen: Save 50% on Bottles of Beer and Wine Sunday thru Thursday (In-House Only). With

- current UCCA membership card, receive 10% off your meal.
- Outcast Grill: Free drink of your choice with the purchase of any meal on the first Wednesday every month! Limit one per person.
- Remcon Design Build: Free in home estimate & 10% off any Kitchen & Bathroom Remodels, Room Additions, or Complete Home Remodeling projects.
- Roberts Carpets Cleaning: New customers save 25%.
- Round Table Pizza on Governor: Save 20% on any meal purchase, dine in or take out, when you show your 2015 UCCA membership card. Excludes alcoholic beverages. Not valid with any other offer.
- Steve Gray, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage: Free initial consultation and mortgage pre-approval.
- STUDIO A SALON: New clients save 10% on any service with Hairstylists, Manicurist and Esthetician.
- Terri Day, Realtor, First Choice Properties: Free Home Inspection when you buy your next home with me, valued at \$450.
- UCSolarClub.org: Save up to \$1000 when you purchase a Solar System and up to \$500 when you purchase an Energy Storage System.



\*There is still time to join UCCA. Refer to the membership coupon in this issue for information. All members receive a membership card and personalized calendar; those who join at the \$100 level receive an insulated shopping bag as well.



#### Cleanup Volunteers Have Their Reasons

By Vince Reardon

Why would anyone spend a Sunday morning picking litter from their neighborhood streets? It's a good question because for the past eight months People for a Clean University City, a group of citizen volunteers, have elected to do just that.

On Sunday, November 9th, 14 UC residents and one volunteer from La Mesa, met at Starbucks, 3202 Governor Dr., to tackle a silent but unsightly problem in UC — litter piling up on our busy streets.

At 7:30 they fanned out across Governor Dr., Regents Rd., Genesee Ave., and Governor Dr. to collect about 150 pounds of litter and debris over the next 90 minutes.

I asked several volunteers why they join our neighborhood litter brigade every month. "I really enjoy living in UC," said Kim Morch, a regular volunteer. "It's wonderful for walking and biking. Picking up trash once a month seemed like a simple and very worthwhile way to improve the neighborhood. As a bonus, I enjoyed chatting with my daughter as we worked side by side."

Another regular volunteer John Sudul said, "I enjoy the sense of community and get satisfaction from doing my part when time allows, and presently time allows."

Long-time resident and UCHS girls' volleyball coach Brooke Chic said, "Our Earth is a beautiful place and needs to be taken care of. I volunteer for the UC cleanup group because I know that when everybody gives a little, it is always for the greater good. I wish everyone took a little more responsibility to enhance and nurture our Earth." People for a Clean UC will meet on Sunday, Dec. 14, at Starbucks for its next neighborhood cleanup. Please join us.

#### THE TRANSFORMATION OF GOODWILL

At Goodwill Industries® of San Diego County, we really appreciate our customers, and are excited to announce our new Bookstore opening at 7061 Clairemont Mesa Blvd on December 19<sup>th</sup>. This new location is just a hop, skip, and a jump away from our site on Governor Drive. More space will allow for more opportunities and better selection for our loyal Bookstore shoppers. Our Governor Drive location will now be accepting donations of used clothing, household wares, and now UC residents can recycle electronics, including computers (working or not!), plastic bags, and printer cartridges. Need document shredding? We provide secure document destruction too!

# Everybody Out of the Pool... Swanson Pool!



Hope is on the horizon that the City will support the UC community and make plans to expand the pool to meet the needs of the community, especially the UCHS swimmers and water polo players who have to rent space for practice and matches. UCHS swimming coach Jim Vance (pictured above) says that the rental space for the Jewish Community Center pool is \$100 an hour. That is very expensive for UC families whose children play water polo or compete on swimming teams. It is time for UC to make Swanson serve its swimmers.

Seven years ago an article appeared in La Jolla Village News that endorsed the idea of Swanson's expansion. UC resident Catherine deGroot-Hedlin put it this way: "The more closures we have, the fewer programs they'll be able to start or maintain there, which will bring attendance down. If the city can point to few attendance numbers, it becomes easier for them to close the pool periodically to save money. How quickly it becomes a vicious cycle!" Whether you swim or not, Swanson should serve the community of swimmers. Please contact UCCA if you would like to help Swanson expansion plans. Email sandylippe@gmail.com.

## OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2014 MEMBERSHIPS FOR 2015

#### Thanks to the following new and renewing UCCA members:

GENERAL Larry & Elaine Alexander Alice Andrus Lillian Brounstein Mary Jo Brown Sally & Pat Crahan Curie PTA Inge Davidson Judie Dresser Liz Fort Jane Gibson Millie Goddard Barbara & Jeffery Gordon Margaret Gurney Al & Rebecca Harutunian Dr. Tony Hugli Jack & Jean Huth Kelly Johnson - Kelly Johnson Fitness Terry Jones Ruth Kaplan A & T Levy James Luxon Helga Marchione Barbara Mauro Anthony McKoy Janet & Gary McNamara Dee McKinley Dorothy Merrin Vicki Miller Diana & Rudy Mottis

Ed & Marcia Munn Dave Newman Earl & Rita Newell Pauline & Oliver Oen Deborah Olstad Florence O'Shea Paula Ries Bob & Gerrye Riffenburgh Venkat Sethuraman Tyra Schwartz

Don & Elaine Shankles Marshall Verano Katherine Wong

Leila & Jerry Wopschall

Matt Wuest

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#### CONGRATULATIONS



The following officers were elected unanimously at the UCCA November election:

President Barry Bernstein Vice-Pres. Barbara Henshaw Secretary Vince Reardon Treasurer Ginny Charvat

Congratulations to the incoming board; thank you to outgoing recording secretary Bonnie Hornbeck, Pictured above is: Reardon, Henshaw, Charvat, and Bernstein.

#### 2015 UCCA Board Members

President: Barry Bernstein, apdrfn@aol.com, 858-453-3713

Vice-President: Barbara Henshaw, barbarahenshaw@ymail.com

Secretary: Vince Reardon, vfreardon@gmail.com Treasurer: Ginny Charvat, ginnycharvat@yahoo.com

Appointed Positions

Beautification: Barbara Gellman, bggellman@yahoo.com and

Merle Berman, mberman@san.rr.com Corresponding Secretary: Terry Jones,

t17jones@roadrunner.com

Election: Mack Langston, Terry Jones, Diane Ahern

\*Garden Club Chair: Robert Byrnes,

Historian & Holiday Tree Lighting Coordinator: Darlene

Ventimiglia, darleneven@yahoo.com

Membership: Hallie Burch, UCCAmembership@gmail.com Neighborhood Watch: Barbara Gellman,

bggellman@yahoo.com Newsletter Chair: open

\*Newsletter Ads: Terri Day, uccaADS@hotmail.com

\*Newsletter Distributor: Valerie O'Neill, voneill95@yahoo.com \*Newsletter Editor: Jemma Samala, UCCAEditor@gmail.com

Publicity & Promotion: Diane Ahern, ahern.diane@gmail.com

UCCF Rep.: Mack Langston.

mack@pacificcoastcommercial.com

UCPG Rep.: Nancy Groves

\*Non-Voting Member

## University City Community Association 2015 UCCA Membership Application\*

2015 Members will receive our new membership card and a special thank-you gifts for joining. Individual Member \$20 \_\_\_ Community Supporter \$40 Community Angel \$60 Gold Membership \$100 2015 Gold category members will receive the UCCA shopping bag, along with other gifts.

Please print Name(s) Address Business name Phone E-mail

Individual and Business members' names will be listed in the newsletter. Please indicate if you do NOT want your name to be listed. Do NOT list my name. Make your check payable to UCCA. Mail to UCCA, 3268 Governor Drive, Box 121, San Diego, 92122. Payment is also accepted through PayPal on our website www.universitycitynews.org

> Your UCCA membership dues make a big difference in our community. These funds help support our many worthwhile organizations, (i.e. public schools' fundraising, Standley Park, EdUCate, Neighborhood Watch, Garden Club, ImproveUC, Buy Local) as well as many special projects and activities such as median beautification. painted electrical boxes and street banners, 4th of July Celebration, summer concerts, December holiday tree lighting, and of course our monthly newsletter delivered to your home and/or business.

\*This membership is valid for the 2015 calendar year. Thank you for joining UCCA. If you have any questions, please contact our membership chairperson Hallie Burch at UCCAmembership@gmail.com.



#### UCHS Marching Band Finishes on a High Note

#### By Karen Newman

This season, the UCHS Centurion Sound Marching Band moved up from the 1A (up to 50 musicians) to the 2A competitive class (bands consisting of 50-70 performing musicians). The change in Division level was due in part to the largest number of incoming freshman musicians in recent history. The majority of the eighteen talented freshmen came from Standley Middle School, home of the outstanding music program directed by Mr. Philip Marcus. This year the Marching Band consists of 54 musicians and 7 members of the Color Guard directed by Mr. Brandon Corenman, Music Director at UCHS.

The students perform at UCHS home football games in the stands playing pep tunes, and on the field performing their field show at half-time. October 19 was Homecoming and several band alumni brought their instruments joining in with the band in the stands. On November 7, students from the Standley Middle School Advanced Band joined forces with the UCHS Marching Band to wow the crowd in the stands for the last regular season home game.

In addition to performing at home football games, the Marching Band & Color Guard competed in five tournaments this season. The last regular season field tournament was held at Ramona High School in Riverside, CA. The band attained their highest score of the season placing them 13th out of 27 bands in the 2A class that are members of Southern California School Orchestra and Band Association. A terrific showing for their first year as a 2A Division marching band! Way to go Centurion Sound!

There are 12 seniors who will be leaving at the end of the school year including Anthony Le Calvez, Tim Notestine, Leana Yearwood, Julian Finberg, Jenna Hom, Lee Hagaman, Ryan Valenzuela, Eric Wilkinson, Kate Endsley, Nolan McRae, Kalyn Orazi, Kalla Rodriguez. They leave behind an excellent group of musicians and we are looking forward to an even bigger freshman class entering in Fall '15!

The UCHS Marching Band will make their final appearance of the year at the La Jolla Christmas Parade on Dec. 6. The Concert Band, Choir, and Orchestra will be performing their Winter concert on December 18, in the high school auditorium at 7 pm. Tickets will be on sale soon. Standley students are free with their school ID.

#### TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL FIELD!

Sign ups to play spring baseball with University City Little League are happening now! Registration is online at www.ucll.org. UCLL has divisions for all ages and players of all ability are welcome. Divisions range from Tee Ball (4 - 6 years old) to the Juniors Division (players are accepted up to 14 years old). Boys and girls are both welcome to play. Teams are formed in January, and the season runs from Opening Day in early March to Closing Day at the beginning of June. Little League is a great UC tradition and a fantastic way to make friends and contribute to the community. Come out and play!



UC Del Sol Girls Fastpitch Softball Spring Fever!

Please join us in kicking off our Spring season with 2 FREE Softball Clinics! Whether new to the sport or a loyal returning player...girls ages 5 to 14 are welcome and encouraged to attend. Meet up with old friends or make new ones...dust the rust off or learn new techniques by professionals that support the great sport of softball and our community.

Saturday, December 6th from 9:30am - 1:00pm Standley Adult Field, 3585 Governor Drive 92122 (between Swanson Pool and Standley Middle School) Clinic Host: Power Line Consulting Power Line mentors coaches, leads large skill developmental clinics and offers team practices for multiple league and organizations throughout San Diego County. The Power Line vision is to provide a program within which athletes are inspired to excel.

Saturday, December 13th from 9:30am - 12:00 Hickman Youth Athletic Association Complex, Hickman Field Drive, 92111 (softball fields are located at the farthest end of the complex...follow signs) Clinic Host: Power Surge Softball Club, led by club President,

Scott Berndes and his Power Surge Travel team

The Power Surge organization, established in 1992, is the most successful and competitive youth softball organization in San Club coordinators and players are committed to supporting the sport at the local level by mentoring girls of all ages participating in recreation leagues.

#### **UCHS Inducts Three Members Into Alumni Hall of Fame**

University City High School's Hall of Fame 2014 Induction Ceremony was held on September 26th. Three new alumni members into the prestigious group: CDR Paul Brantuas ('90), Lisa Dodd ('03), and CDR Joseph Ring ('91).

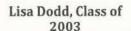
Family, friends, community members, and former UCHS faculty were in attendance to honor the alums, who were also introduced at that evening's home football game.

The Hall of Fame is a permanent exhibit in the UCHS Media Center (back wall), and is also a travelling exhibit at various community events. For more information about the UCHS Hall of Fame, you can contact Ernie Smith (former UCHS Principal) at ernestsmith90@gmail.com. Donations on behalf of the project can also be made at www.uccenturionfoundation.com (look for the Hall of Fame box).

Congratulations to the new inductees, who have become inspirational role models for the current UCHS Centurions! A summary of the accomplishments of each inductee is as follows:









#### CDR Paul Brantuas, Class of 1990

- Blue Angels Navy's Elite
   "Flight Demonstration
   Squadron" Right Wing (#2)
   in F/A 18 Hornet 2007-08
- Flew F-14D Super Tomcat: 31 "Tomcatters"; F/A 18 Hornet VFA-125 "Rough Raiders"
- Accumulated more than 2500 hours of flight time; 400 carrier-arrested landings
- Decorations include Strike Flight Air Medal, Individual Air Medal
- Navy & Marine Corps
   Commendation Medal with
   Distinguished "Combat Valor"

- Selected as Assistant Coach of USA Softball Women's National Team
- Served as coach of the USA Softball Junior Women's National Team
- Selected as Head Coach of University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV Rebel Softball Team)
- Played for Forli, Italy: 2008
   Italian Championship, 2007
   European Championship
- Outstanding player for UCLA Softball Team – competed in College World Series 2004-2006; 2004 National Softball Champions

#### CDR Joseph Ring, Class of 1991

- First American in Australian history to receive Chief of Navy Commendation (highest personal decoration given by Royal Australian Navy)
- Lead hostage negotiator resulting in successful release of six international hostages from Somali pirates
- On-scene Commander for Typhoon Haiyan disaster relief in Philippines delivering 80,000 lbs. of aid
- Commander, Naval Surface forces "Tactician of Year" for Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group
- Veteran of Operation Iraqi
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Derk S. 619.534.1904



Kathleen M. 858.449.7014



Carol S.



Lydia H.



Kathleen W.



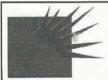


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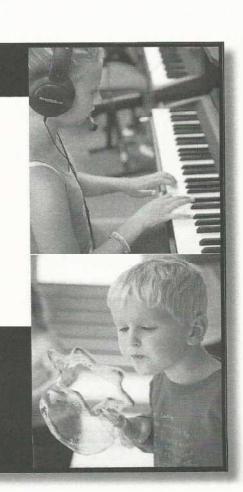
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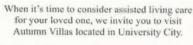
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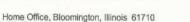
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#### **IMAGINE UC 2020**

#### BY GREG ZINSER, PRESIDENT, IMPROVE UC

Improve UC is nonprofit organization dedicated to facilitating all types of improvements within our community. We've been working on the Standley Park Pavilion project since the beginning of this year and on behalf of the Improve UC board, I want to thank all those who have made pledges to this project. We appreciate the community support we've received so far, and will continue our efforts to make this project a reality. We are also very excited to let you know about a larger vision for the community in the area along Governor Drive that has been presented by San Diego Unified School Board member John Lee Evans and other community leaders. This vision is consistent with the mission of Improve UC, and we are pleased to be part of the effort to awareness and solicit create community input.

Governor Drive and its surrounding streets run through the heart of South UC, providing a community path to three public schools, Standley Park, and nearby shopping areas. This hub also allows easy access for thousands of residents who walk and bike along Governor Drive and surrounding streets.

"The Great Neighborhood Book" by Jay Walliasper describes the concept of "Placemaking" as the notion that great communities have places within the neighborhood where people can go to relax, have fun and see one another. It goes on to say that one of the key characteristics of community "places" is that they promote "These are the spots sociability. where you run into people you know, where you take friends and family when you want to show them the neighborhood. These places become heart and soul of neighborhood because they offer people many different reasons to go there". They go on to say that great "places" are also accessible and

attractive, and facilitate activities that bring people together.

As a community, we've already gone far in creating a true neighborhood atmosphere and "place" for us to gather with the July Summer Concerts, Celebration. Oktoberfest, Banana Split, holiday events, sporting events, and many As a continuation of these efforts and with this "placemaking" ideal in mind, we would like to introduce and promote discussion for projects that can be incorporated into a long term master plan to be prioritized and executed during the next 3-5 years. This is a "wish list" which in due course will require feasibility review. Right now we ask you to "Imagine UC 2020" without regard to assumed feasibility and Dream Big regarding our future. In the next phase, we can move forward to consider individual projects for researching feasibility and funding.

Ideas proposed to date include our Pavilion project in Standley Park, the expansion of Swanson Pool into an aquatic center that will meet competition requirements for our schools, and provide new features for community members of all ages, and a walking track around Spreckels Elementary and Standley Middle schools.

Regarding funding, the assumption, and hope, is that individual or collective projects can be funded as public/private partnerships with portions of the funding coming from the San Diego Unified School District, the City of San Diego, and from private sources. At this time, there is no financial commitment from any of these three sources, and significant feasibility work must be done once we reach a consensus about the vision.

We will soon be having town hall meetings to get input regarding the Vision and specific projects, and will be sending out notifications regarding date, time and place. In the meantime, please send us your ideas and provide input by going to our website at www.improveuc.org and clicking on the Survey tab. If you would like to get involved or have questions, please contact greg@ImproveUC.org.

#### PROPOSED PARK IMPROVEMENTS



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