



SPECIAL THANKS TO

The Contributors of the articles for this issue.

Susan Holts for lining up our advertisers.

Our Advertisers for their support.

Lesley Cameron for the digital production.

Pomerado Press for printing this newspaper.

Brent Orlesky for updating the membership list.

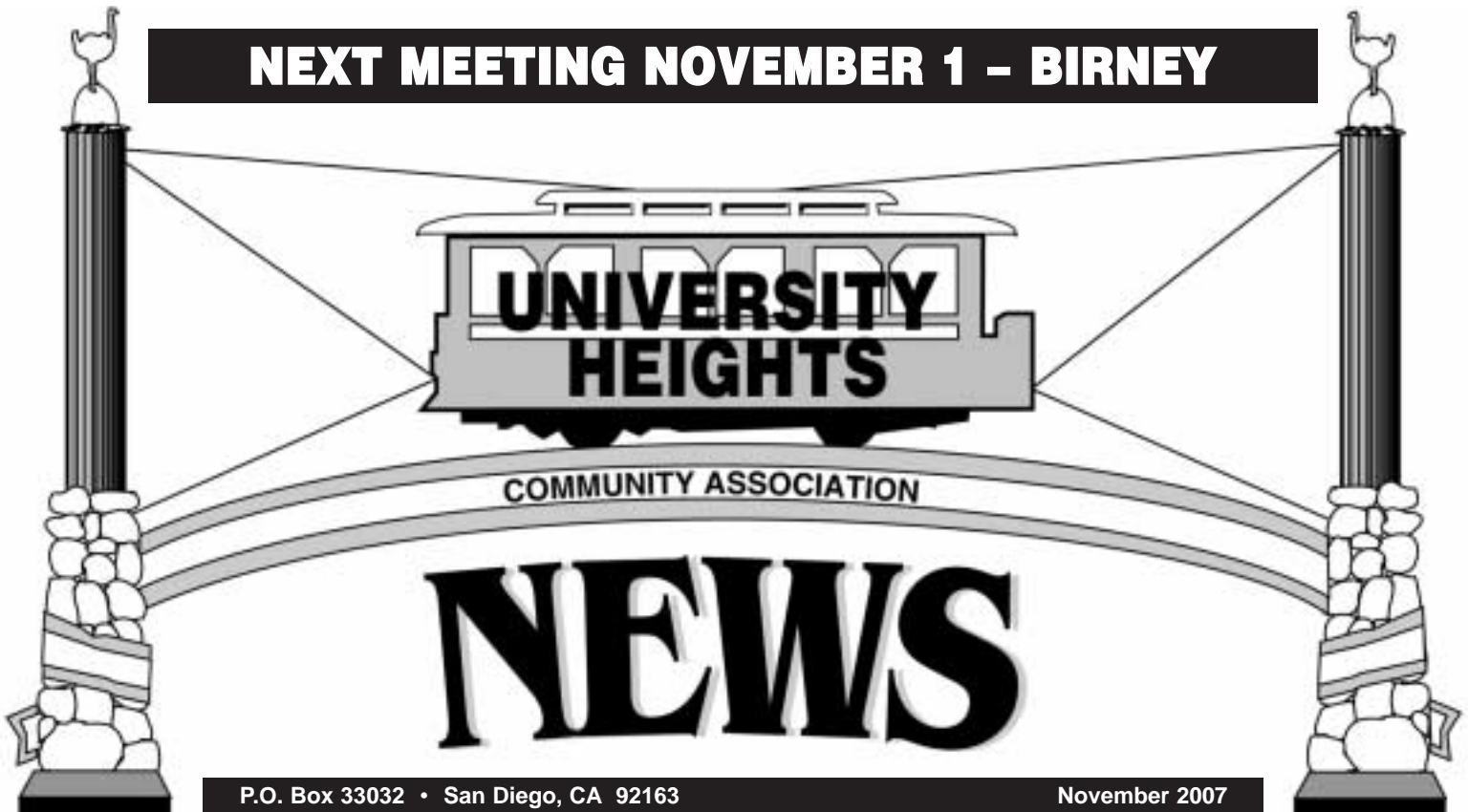
The 'UH News' Delivery Team for preparing, distributing and delivering the newspapers.

Nan McGraw for organizing the *News* Delivery Team.

You, the Reader, for reading the *UH News* and supporting UHCA. Without all of your help, this issue wouldn't be possible!

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UHCA MEETING AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 1, 2007

Planning is an important part of any project. From traffic congestion to neighborhood parking, natural resource protection to vacant land development, land use planning is a critical aspect of our expanding community. The city of San Diego has an entire department dedicated to the whole process. Mary Wright, Deputy Director of the City Planning & Community Investment Department will be our guest speaker at the November UHCA monthly meeting, Thursday November 1st. She'll go over the planning process, be available to answer questions and can give us tips on preparing to revise our community plan. Join us for some insight into this very important part of the development process.

- **6:30 - 7 pm - Crime Watch Meeting**
- **7 - 7:30 pm - UH Community Association November Meeting**
- **7:30 - 8:30 pm - Guest Speaker: Mary Wright - Deputy Director; City of San Diego Planning Dept.**

The UHCA will meet at the Birney Academy Auditorium, located at 4345 Campus Avenue. Parking is available in the lot just south of the school. As always, coffee & snacks will be provided. We look forward to seeing you!



UH PARK & REC APPROVES JOINT-USE PLAN

It's a go! On October 4th, the UH Park & Rec Council voted to approve the Birney Joint-Use Park design presented by Rick Engineering. After 10 years, this historic vote brings us much closer to regaining joint use of the playing field at the corner of Park & Meade.

The final design includes a multi-use turf field with a 10' decomposed granite walking/running path around

See FIELD on page 6



PHOTO: Liem Do

The UH Park & Rec Council was so thrilled about approving the plan for the Birney Joint-Use Field, they wanted to immortalize the event! Left to right: Liem Do, Vice Chair; Randy White, San Diego Unified School District; Barry Kelleher, city's Project Manager; Dorothy & Donald Matson, members; Marcia Boruta, Chair; Ernestine Bonn, Treasurer; Debra Jones, City Park & Rec Area Manager; Susie Villareal, member; Pete Abernathy, Rick Engineering. Also attending but not pictured were Juliana Humphrey, Birney PTA & Pat Johnston, Secretary.

BIRNEY ACADEMY SHARES MAGNET SCHOOL GRANT

by Amanda Hammond-Williams, Principal

The staff at Birney feel very lucky these days. We have just received a share of a \$10.7 million grant from the Magnet School Assistance program, a federal program that promotes diversity in education through magnet schools. Birney's share of the grant will provide the school with between \$300,000 and \$400,000 additional for the next three years. We plan to use this funding to improve our technology at school, making every classroom digital and-

See BIRNEY MAGNET on page 5

HISTORIC SPEAKERS FORUM: A Presentation on North Park - The First 50 Years

On Thursday, November 8th, at 7 pm at the Grace Lutheran Church in UH, Steve Hon and Michael Thornhill of the North Park History Committee will present a fascinating overview of North Park's first fifty years, illustrated with many historical photos.

The lecture will be based on information and photos from the History Committee's long awaited book, *North Park: A San Diego Urban Village, 1896-1946*, written by Don Covington. After Don passed away in 2002, his widow, Karon,

and Katherine Hon, put the book in its final form. University Heights residents Ernie Bonn and Christopher Milnes are named in the book as members of the original North Park History Committee who worked with Don Covington in compiling the information.

The book will be available for sale at the lecture along with the UH Historical Society's *Cable Cars and Ostrich Feathers* self-guided walking tour of University Heights.

This free lecture, sponsored by the

University Heights Historical Society, will take place in the Fellowship Hall of the historic Grace Lutheran Church, which is located at 3993 Park Boulevard at the southeast corner of Park Boulevard and Lincoln Avenue.



See UHHS on page 6



University Heights Community Association

N E W S

THE OSTRICH STORY

University Heights, one of the oldest districts in San Diego, is a historic community. Mission Cliff Gardens, San Diego's premiere park during the early part of the 20th century was situated at the intersection of Park Boulevard and Adams Avenue in University Heights. Its Trolley Barn was the destination of San Diego's first trolley line.

Adjacent to Mission Cliff Gardens was the Harvey Bentley Ostrich Farm. In the early 1900's the ostrich farm became prominent due to the immense demand for lady's ostrich-feather hats and garments. The farm was a popular attraction for park visitors who were allowed to ride on the backs of the great birds.

The ostrich is brought back, on these pages, as a reminder of the color and character of our community's proud heritage. The Trolley Barn Park is a beautiful achievement due to the University Heights Community Association. Capturing the style of the original Mission Cliff Gardens, the park was awarded the prestigious AIA Orchid award in 1992.

OFFICERS

Please contact any officer of the University Heights Community Association if you have any questions or wish to volunteer a service.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
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The *University Heights News* is issued twelve times a year by the volunteers of the UHCA. We welcome articles and announcements about events in the greater University Heights area. We do not pay for articles or return disks. The Editor reserves the right to edit for length. Articles not time-sensitive may print in a future issue. **Deadline is the 10th of each month.** Send typed articles to:

University Heights News
P.O. Box 33032 San Diego, CA 92163

UHCA INFORMATION

PRESIDENT'S CORNER *by Greg Sorini*

It's fall! Almost overnight we went from a blazing September heat wave to cool mornings and days. Let me start by saying that seasonal weather changes are highly overrated. If it were sunny and 75° everyday for the rest of my life I would be happy. And since what I want has absolutely nothing to do with what actually happens I'll keep on wishing for it. Those who know me know my credo. For those who don't, here it is..."If the weather can kill you, you shouldn't live there".

That being said, what does fall mean for us in University Heights? Here are some of my observations. First, the newly exposed hardwood floors in our house are a little colder than the carpeted floors of a month ago. Have to think about area rugs. And we can turn off the ceiling fans now. Not quite time for extra blankets, but it's coming. I see fewer iced frappa-chappa-schmappa-ino drinks coming out of our local coffee shops. Customers are moving back to the cardboard cups with steaming beverages. Winter is on the way! I also see the runners in long sleeve shirts now. When going out for the evening, I take my jacket. I don't necessarily wear it, but at this time of year, you never know when it will dip down to 65° and I want to be prepared.

Trees are starting to change color and drop leaves. Granted, it's no New England Fall Spectacular, but you'll see them around town if you look. In a few months I'll be cutting off this year's branch growth from our fruitless mulberry.

My favorite holiday decoration house on Madison has Frankenstein out for the season; this is always a fun time of year to drive by their house. Pumpkin carving party invitations are arriving and everyone is starting to plan their Halloween costumes. How do those Halloween costume shops stay in business all year?

So there it is. If I have to accept less than sunny and 75°, this is a good place to do it. And actually it is nice to see changes. It makes you slow down and notice what's around you, even if it's just for a little bit.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT *by Lisa Jordan, Secretary*

MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 2007, UHCA MEETING

Crime Watch – 6:30 pm -7 pm

Nan McGraw opened the crime watch meeting at 6:30 pm. Nan distributed the crime stats list. A member at the meeting was very concerned about the activity around the Adams Ave. and Park Blvd. bars and restaurants. It appears that the noise and commotion is becoming a nuisance again.

There are still homeless in the Trolley Barn Park. An ordinance was posted in the Park in regards to setting up camp. If anyone sees anyone camping out or any suspicious activity, please call the non-emergency police department number at (619) 531-2000.

There are still homeless people living behind garages on the east side of Pascoe Street. A concerned neighbor has called the non-emergency police department number. Greg Sorini suggested that for this type of situation, it might be better to contact Environmental Services at (619) 533-5844. Always call the non-emergency police department number for documentation purposes.

UHCA Meeting – 7 pm -8:15 pm

Greg Sorini, President, opened the meeting. He began with community updates:

- There have been many inquiries in regards to the City's **underground utility project**. Please visit the city's link on the UHCA website or call (619) 533-3872 for further information.
- Work has started up again at the **Bridgeview Apts. (Old Park View Inn)**. They were to begin renting the apartments in June 2007. We do not have any specific dates as to when they will begin renting the apartments.
- Gordon Wahl is very concerned about the crosswalks in our neighborhood. We have very few that are marked correctly. He submitted his report to Greg Sorini and Greg will pass this on to Councilmember Toni Atkins' office for review.

Political Representatives Jason from Assemblywoman Lori Saldaña's office indicated that a bill to lease the DMV building to developers is on the governor's desk. This bill would allow the DMV lease to go out for bidding to developers. The plan is to have a developer rebuild the current DMV office with condominiums and the DMV office would be on the first few floors of the building. If this does happen, Lori assures us that the Farmer's Market will stay where it is.

See IN CASE YOU MISSED IT on page 7

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

George Winchell & Michele Morgan, Jack Smothers, Patty & Brad Snyder, James & Evangeline Richardson, Sharon Ritchie, Sylvia Naliboff, Alex & Carol Neidenberg, Sara Buettner, Renee Gregorio & Jill Kruse, David Gatzke & Anthony Winney, Paul & Priscilla Heisel, Arthur Brodshatzer & Judith Crowley, Beth Jaworski & Doug Grotjahn, David & Coco Santiago, Steve Huemmer, Richard Hook & Richard Hoffman, Martha Carey & Elisabeth Fidler, Robert Leyh & William McClain.

Thanks for renewing!

The UHCA appreciates your continued support. And a special thanks to those who made extra donations!

Visit University Heights on the web at www.uhsd.org or www.neighborhoodlink.org!

MEMBERSHIP/TEAM SIGN-UP

Support your UH Community Association! Clip and return to: **UHCA P.O. Box 33032, San Diego, CA 92163**

NEW **RENEWAL** **Membership** **Team Sign-up** *(check all that apply)*

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- | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15* 1 year Single Rate | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50* Vermont Street Bridge Builders |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20* 1 year Family Rate | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100* Golden Ostrich Elite |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25* 1 year Membership with <i>News</i> mailed to me | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ Donation for 'Keeping up the Good Work' |

Become Part of The Team! The success of the UH Community Association has been largely dependent upon the volunteer efforts of area residents. If you would like to volunteer your time as a team member of any of the following special interest areas, please sign up below:

- Blockwalker Team** *(Help to prepare & deliver this newspaper to homes on your block)*
- Neighborhood/Zone Watch Team** *(Join neighbors to help keep our community safe)*
- Historic Team** *(Help to research and preserve UH's history)*
- UH Park & Rec Council** *(Participate in overseeing UH's recreational facilities)*



EVERETT GEE JACKSON EXHIBIT OPENS AT SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART

The San Diego Museum of Art is having an exhibition of the works of Everett Gee Jackson from November 3, 2007 to January 27, 2008.

The museum will be highlighting regional artists from Southern California and Jackson, a former resident of University Heights, is the region's most important Modernist artist. The exhibition titled "Everett Gee Jackson, San Diego Modern 1920-1955" presents a comprehensive overview of Jackson's vast artistic production. It will bring together approximately 50 paintings, prints, drawings and illustrations from both public and private collections to highlight an extremely productive 35-year span of Jackson's prolific career.

After studying at the Chicago Art Institute and living in various parts of Mexico, he brought his style to San Diego. While living in University Heights, he continued to paint over seven decades. He was a founding member of the Latin American Arts Committee at SDMA and imparted his legacy to hundreds of students during his many years of teaching at San Diego State University. —Sheila Moss

THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

UH GOES FROM GOOD TO GREAT *by Michael Caldwell*

We'd seen them moving in the weekend before. Now we had our chance. Both my wife and I had been slightly disappointed when we moved in a few years earlier and no congenial tapping came on our door. So we decided to take the new neighbors some cookies. Two days later, we were standing at their door, ringing the bell and waiting. A young woman opened the door. She – we noticed – did not open the security screen. "Hi!" We chimed in unison. "We're your neighbors." "Uh, I don't live here, but how nice of you." She spun around and called up the stairs to her friend who came to the door. Still looking through the security screen, the actual resident was clearly hesitant to take the cookies. Finally at her friend's prompting, she opened the screen, stuck out a hand and accepted the cookies as if we were giving her a dead possum.

"Well that didn't go well," my wife and I both said as we made our way home.

In retrospect, our offering at the time was probably a little too hippie for such an urban community as University Heights – loosely situated

between Texas Street to the East, El Cajon Boulevard to South, the 163 to the West and Adams Avenue to the North. But with each passing year the neighborhood has grown closer and warmer. Our most recent "new" neighbors have become our good friends. We bring each other goodies and watch each other's children. There is a standing open invitation for unannounced visits and we often find we are having an unexpected dinner together. Of course, in the suburbs this type of interaction is not uncommon, but for us the suburbs have few charms to soothe our restless desire for diversity and stimulation.

University Heights on the other hand is perhaps one of the few true melting pots in San Diego. Our selection of restaurants reads like roll call at the United Nations and illustrates the variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds contained in the neighborhood: Mama's Bakery is Lebanese, Soltan Banoo is Persian, Pomegranate is Russian, El Zarape is Mexican, Harar is Ethiopian. At Dao Son, which offers Vietnamese and Japanese cuisine, Eric the "hot chef" can make your eyeballs sweat. Part of the fun of living in University Heights is that it feels like travel, like an adventure – and we've been here nearly a decade.

Stepping in dog doo on the other hand is not the kind of excitement we seek. Unfortunately, there are still people who neglect to pick up after their dog. Yet we appreciate that residents are caring and spunky enough to post signs on their lawns in retaliation, such as, "Pick up after your pet. It's the law." Or my favorite, "We know who you are and we're watching you. Yeah, you!" Sure, we wish there was no crap to watch out for, but what we do like is that there remains a certain amount of innocuous grit to the neighborhood. And that relatively rough around the edges quality gives a crunch to life. We're chunky peanut butter eaters after all.

We appreciate the juxtaposition of young hipsters heading out to the local bars – Red Fox Room, Live Wire and The Lancers, etc. – as nascent families are snuggling down for the evening. We enjoy that the elderly lady around the corner remembers when our house used to be a corner shop. When we're out strolling, Crystal the UPS lady never neglects to wave. And we're always walking because everything is in walking distance. Passing by Twigg's, the man playing violin on the sidewalk changes his tune to something our three year old daughter recognizes. She starts to dance. We all smile. Inside Twigg's or our other main-stays, Mystic Mocha and Cream,

See GREAT on page 9

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MAD ABOUT MID CENTURY MODERN by Nan McGraw

Los Angeles architectural buffs are proud of their homes designed by the mid century architectural masters of the time. These masters include Charles and Ray Eames, Eero Saarinen, Rudolf Schindler (who worked for Frank Lloyd Wright), Richard Neutra, Pierre Koenig and others. Southern California was ripe for their talent. The climate was perfect for their "less is more" vision: bringing the outside in and defining a new California life style. Light was vital to them. Simplicity of design, new construction materials and techniques, lots of glass, horizontal planes were exemplified in their architecture. UH has some notable mid century architecture too. This stunning home on Rhode Island Street was designed by Richard George Wheeler in 1959 for Ms. Ruby Christenson. Note the strong horizontal features of this home. The long low roof line and the elegant entryway, the detail on the exterior of the fireplace, all emphasize a horizontal profile. There are other Mid Century homes of note in UH. We can boast of a Cliff May home. May was the creator of the modern California Ranch House. Another, designed by mid century master Homer Delawie, overlooks Mission Valley. It features his signature 1950s style of minimal disturbance to the site, post and beam construction, simple architectural forms that "float over the hillside", creating a horizontal "box" softened by mature trees. If you are interested in Mid Century Modern, the Getty Center in Los Angeles is displaying famed photographer Julius Shulman's work from October 11th to January 22nd. He captured the essence of modern architecture in Southern Cali-



Richard George Wheeler home on Rhode Island designed in 1959

fornia. If you are interested in a modern tour of LA, consider visiting a Schindler or a Neutra home: (neutra.org/tours.html and makcenter.com). In the meantime, soak up our Richard George Wheeler home on Rhode Island Street and its elegant features.

ASPIRE PLAYWRIGHTS COLLECTIVE PRESENTS STAGED READING

Aspire Playwrights Collective will present a staged reading of a new, full-length play by local playwright and actor Kevin Six. *Love Negotiated* is a play about fear, denial, love and the fear and denial of love. The reading will be directed by Patricia Elmore Costa, and the audience is invited to participate in a discussion afterward. A unique feature of the evening is the ticket price. People are asked to pay what they want – after the performance.

Kevin is a published fiction writer, an award winning screenwriter, and the author of three plays and a musical, and has been involved with Aspire Playwrights Collective since May.

Aspire Playwrights Collective is a group of seven local playwrights, founded by Kristina Meek, which meets for networking and development of new plays. The Collective periodically produces staged readings and workshop productions of work by its members.

MISSION: IMPROVIBLE

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY The Improvisational Comedy Troupe

will present Mission: Improvible – For Your Eyes Only, an improvisational comedy show, on Saturday, November 10th at 8 pm. The location is the Swedenborg Hall at 1531 Tyler Avenue, between Cleveland and Campus Avenues. Doors open at 7:30 pm, and the admission is \$10.

Light refreshments will be available for purchase before the show and during intermission.

Generally involved in private top secret missions, the agents of Mission Improvible will take to the public stage with their all-improvised comedy show, featuring a mix of traditional improv and unique pieces. Each scene is created on the spot based on audience suggestions. The agents invite the audience to think as well as laugh. The show is upbeat and clean, suitable for all.

For additional info, visit www.missionimprovable.com or contact Jacquie Lowell at (858) 581-0050.

BORRELLISPACE EXHIBIT

San Diego artist Art Suelz will be having an exhibit at the Borrelli Space Neighborhood Art Gallery, 4411 Park Boulevard.

Titled "New Work in Watercolor", the exhibition will open on November 27th and run through January 7, 2008. An artists reception is set for Saturday, December 15th from 6 to 8 pm.



PHOTO: ScareFest staff

'Norbert'

SCAREFEST IN UH

Norbert, University Heights' resident dragon, wants to remind all trick-or-treaters, and everyone else who likes getting scared, to drop by on Halloween, from dusk to 9 pm. The 20-foot tall creature will be greeting guests at 4366 Maryland Street, near Meade Avenue. Next door at 4366 Maryland, the lovely Victorian home will be transformed into the Bates' Motel from the movie "Psycho" with Mother sitting and rocking while waiting for treaters to visit. Don't miss the 15-foot tall Grim Reaper at 4376 Maryland, or Halloween Town with Jack Skellington at 4386 Maryland. This is probably UH's favorite Halloween haunt – just follow the sound of the shrieks!

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John will present "Contact with the Spirit World," at the closing of the Funerary exhibit at the Sharp Gallery in North Park, Nov. 2, 6-10 pm, free. Call for details.



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BUZZ FROM BIRNEY

Congratulations to Student Council 2007/08! Student Council elections were held this month at Birney. The 12 candidates, elected in their classrooms, spent one week putting up campaign signs and preparing their speeches. They then had to speak to all the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classes and tell them why they should be elected for office. Each candidate did their best to persuade their classmates to vote for them. They are to be commended for having the courage to speak in front of such a large group of their peers. The results are as follows:



- President – Alexa S.
- Vice-President – Ricky S.
- Secretary – David G.
- Playground Commissioner – Alex G.
- Fire Marshall – Emily D.
- Safety Marshall – Baron D.

Thanks to all the candidates and their families for helping run a good, safe and respectful campaign.

BIRNEY MAGNET continued from page 1 state of the art. We will also purchase materials for Spanish language enrichment, enhance our art room, beef up our library and provide funding and time for teachers to create a robust Program of Inquiry as the foundation of our IB PYP program.

Magnet schools in the San Diego Unified School District received a big boost from the federal government when they were awarded nearly \$10.7 million over three years, the US Department of Education announced. The grants are part of the federal government's Magnet Schools Assistance Program. It helps school districts create more school choices for parents, bring diverse groups of children together, and help create innovative educational programs. San Diego Unified will receive in excess of \$3 million each year under the award. For the current school year, the grant is \$3,518,188, the fifth highest total in the nation.

For the 2008-09 school year, the grant will total \$3,483,418, and for 2009-10, \$3,654,599. It's the first time since 2003 that San Diego Unified has been awarded this funding.

Six schools were named in the grant. Three magnet school programs begun in the 2007-08 school year will receive additional funding, two will be significantly revised, and an additional magnet program will be added in 2008-09. Programs benefiting that began this year include the Birney Elementary Academy of International Studies Intl. Baccalaureate Primary Years Program.

More than 1,800 students will be enrolled in this programs. District-wide, more than 21,000 students are enrolled in magnet programs.

Magnet school programs are located on fifteen elementary campuses, as well as nineteen middle, atypical and high schools.

Roosevelt Middle School International Baccalaureate (grades 6-8) and San Diego High School Educational Complex: School of International Studies will also benefit from the grant.

Parents are invited to explore the magnet program on the web at www.sandi.net/enrollmentoptions/magnet/magnet_front.html or by calling the Magnet Schools Program at (619) 725-7158.

UH PET OF THE MONTH

To have your animal companion be Pet of the Month, send a brief description and photo to the *University Heights News Pet of the Month*, P.O. Box 33032, San Diego, 92163. Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you'd like to have your photo returned.



UH NEWS IN JANUARY

Because of the holidays, the January 2008 UH News will be delayed. You should receive your 'News' by the first weekend of January.

The Plume Award

The University Heights Community Association

Proudly Salutes

BRENT ORLESKY

This month UHCA would like to salute Brent Orlesky. Brent's contributions to the community over the years have been extremely varied: from his cerebral, white-collar duties as treasurer to dirt-under-your-fingernails kind of work. In this Plume, we'll highlight three of his recent and very hands-on activities: For years, Brent has been the person behind the scenes stewarding a few our community's collective physical assets: in particular the Vermont Street Bridge, several street trees planted along Park Boulevard, and the Gateway landscaping project behind the newly remodeled Bridge View Apartments at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Washington Street.

Every six weeks, or as needed, Brent had been the person taking on the responsibility for maintaining the cleanliness and attractiveness of the VSB by removing graffiti and powerwashing it.

At the Gateway, Brent took a leading role in trash collection, weed abatement and keeping the landscaping healthy by irrigating this community initiated landscaping project using water donated by neighboring property owners.

Along Park Boulevard next to Birney Academy, Brent had been responsible for hand irrigating and maintaining six lovely street trees planted through a community collaborative effort. Brent's dedication is especially noteworthy given the labor necessary to get these trees established. The area has no irrigation system, and Brent filled up 50 gallon trash cans to use to hand-truck water to the trees. When these trees eventually become self-sustaining and form a lush canopy to shade pedestrians, filter our air and winter storm run-off, we hope passersby will appreciate those benefits and pause a moment to reflect how the accumulation of private efforts in public places creates a better (and cost-effective!) environment for us all. Thanks Brent!

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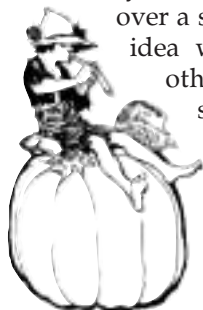
Call Direct Sonya or Dennis
858-456-1827 or 619-461-8391

WASHINGTON STREET IMPROVEMENTS

Discussion at recent UHCA meetings regarding safety and the lack of marked crosswalks in University Heights especially crossing Washington Street has prompted our efforts to remedy that situation. John Gibbs and Richard Barrett, from WRT Landscape Architectural firm, have helped us to study the problems. Now we need to focus on solutions. We will bring visuals to the UH Community Association meetings for you to critique.

FRIENDS OF BUCHANAN CANYON

My boys have fun stories of playing in the canyon years ago with their neighborhood friends. They made little rooms out of a huge stand of arunda, one to read comics in, one to play board games in, etc. Further down the canyon they had a swing that went out over a steep open area. The idea was to jump to the other side from the swing. Not being sure footed led to many cuts and bruises. It was not for the weak of heart. When I was a kid, my friends



and I just hiked around and explored the canyon occasionally. We spent more time playing hide and seek, kick the can, week long Monopoly games, or Canasta, staying at one of our houses until the parents move us on to someone else's house. Do you have any stories of spending time in our wonderful canyon? Join us on November 17th for a project of making the walk down to the bottom more steadfast, and share your tales with us.

Meet at 9 am at the canyon side on Johnson Avenue, north of Lincoln Avenue. See you there. -Jeannie Hine

NEXT UH POINT CLEAN-UP: SATURDAY, NOV. 3rd - 1 pm

The Friends of UH Point welcome friends and neighbors, and all folks who love our city open spaces to join us for the November University Heights Point clean-up on Saturday November 3rd at 1 pm. We will thin the plant cover in our native plant habitat, possibly do some watering, and pick up trash on the canyon hillsides. We shall see whether the light October precipitation has caused any burgeoning of green in our native coastal sage scrub plant community.

Please join us for an hour or two the afternoon of Saturday November 3rd. We will meet at 1 pm at the corner of Golden Gate Drive and

New York Avenue in UH, one block north of Madison Avenue.

Bring a favorite weeding tool, work gloves and wear sturdy shoes. Our City Open Space Ranger for the area, Jason Allen, will be there to provide trash bags. If you want more information, please call or email Terry Weiner at (619) 543-0757 or email to: terryweiner@sbcglobal.net or Catie Fyfe of the Sierra Club Canyons Coalition at: CFyfe@sierraclubsandiego.org

PARK & REC continued from page 1

it. The art gate entrance will have both stairs and a ramp to meet ADA accessibility requirements. The Council recommended native plants for landscaping at the entrance as a way to provide a link to the natural canyon terrain and the garden history of UH and to demonstrate water conservation landscaping techniques. An 8' chain-link fence will separate the school from the ball field.

Depending on funding, the Council has requested that the fence be green to match the fence on the cobblestone wall around the field.

The bad news is: it still may take two years to complete the project. The current timeline estimates a finished design by June 2008, construction beginning December 2008, and the field ready for use by

October 2009. City Project Manager Barry Kelleher said that the bidding process takes time and also the grass needs a little time to grow, but there is some hope that the project could be completed sooner.

All in all, we're pleased to have gotten this far. Our thanks go out to members of the community for their perseverance and to our elected officials and planning boards for the funding. But there's always more to do, so we invite you to join us at our next UH Park & Rec meeting on Thursday, November 1, 5:30 pm in the Birney Academy Library. For more information about the UH Park & Rec Council, contact Chair Marcia Boruta at (619) 255-6111, sdecc igc.org or Park & Rec Area Manager Debra Jones at (619) 235-1161, djones@sandiego.gov.

UHHS continued from page 1

Free parking is available in the lot behind the church. Enter the church from the back alley and proceed through the gate and then the metal entry door into the church. Take the stairs to your right up to the second level. The Fellowship Hall will be on your left at the top of the stairs. The meeting will commence at 6:30 pm with dessert and coffee prior to presentation at 7 pm. For more information, contact the UH Historical Society at (619) 297-3166.



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With Summer upon us, Charlie offers advice on coping with unwanted out of town guests:

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- 2 - Leave the front door open. Perhaps they'll run out and get run over in the street.
- 3 - Take them to the beach. Leave them there.
- 4 - Kindly explain that you understand their wanting to save money by staying with you, but you have another option for folks on a tight budget. Then take them to Father Joe's.
- 5 - When all else fails, treat them to dessert at Twiggs!



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FROM THE LIBRARIAN'S DESK *by Pat Benefiel*

Here's some information for library patrons who use the SDPL's reservation feature to order items from other branches. Our circulation software has been updated, and as a result some changes have been made to the patron reserve process. We no longer charge a \$1 reserve fee, but we do charge a \$1 restocking fee if a reserved item isn't picked up after eight days. We also no longer call patrons to let them know that their reserves have arrived. Patrons will now be notified through mail or email. Thanks for your patience as we adjust to the new system.

Happy Thanksgiving!

UH BOOK CLUB & SALON

The UH Book Club & Salon will have their last discussion of the year on Wednesday, November 28th, 6:30 pm, in the downstairs room of



From the UH Library Staff

the branch library, corner of Park Boulevard and Howard Street.

Pick up a copy of November's selection at the UH branch, then plan to attend the meeting – discussions are always lively and stimulating! New readers are welcome!

FRIENDS OF UH LIBRARY

The Friends of the UH Library will be meeting on Saturday, November 3rd, 10 am, in the downstairs room of the library at the corner of Park Boulevard and Howard Street.

The discussion at the October meeting included inviting a local author to speak at the library; librarian Vy Tu suggested replacing the bottled water in the library with a water fountain; and the Halloween party for the kids.

New landscaping on the front & side of the building will be on the agenda at the November meeting.

Support your local library! Become a UH Friend!

UH LIBRARY TASK FORCE MEETING AND UPDATE

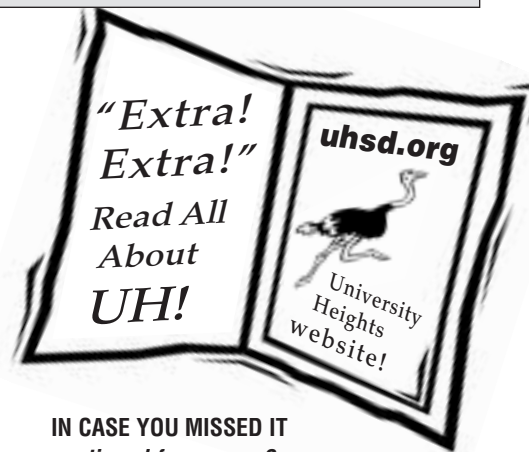
The UH Library Task Force held their monthly meeting on October 10th and updated the team on the meeting in the Mayor's office on October 4th. At that meeting, a copy

of the 60-page booklet created by the Task Force was presented. The attendees, representing the Mayor's office and San Diego Library management, were also given an overview by Chair Ron Johnston and member Tim Sotoodeh of work that had been done including the goals and obstacles. A number of signed petitions representing over 300 community residents were also presented to the Mayor's representative, Abby Jarl. There was no representative from Council District 3 in attendance.

Feedback that the Mayor's office had received from "someone" at the San Diego Unified School District, was that the District had a "Master Plan" for the property... in a juxtaposition to what Superintendent Cohn and Jose Bettencourt had intoned at prior Task Force meetings. We are awaiting further word from the Mayor's office and/or District 3. No meeting is currently scheduled for November.

Our thanks to the Mayor's office, Steve Hill, and San Diego Public Library's Ana Tatar for their time. Thanks, also, to all Task Force members, especially Tim Sotoodeh, for their efforts in preparing the presentation and its supporting information package.

–Ron Johnston, Chair



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT
continued from page 2

Birney Academy Amanda Hammond-Williams, Principal of Birney, indicated that the final plan was approved for the Joint Use Field. She also indicated that Birney, in conjunction with six other schools that received a \$3 million grant. The six schools will split the grant equally.

Other Business Greg Sorini encouraged community members to get involved in UHCA. There are plenty of volunteer projects and committees for people to take part in. He also encouraged community members to attend an Uptown Planners meeting. The city is going to change our community plan and the community's input is imperative. Uptown Planners hold their meetings on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Joyce Beers in Uptown at 6 pm.

The Meeting's Program – The Friend's of Buchanan Canyon Paul Barmick from the Friend's of Buchanan Canyon presented a slide show. The group takes nature walks into the Canyon on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 9 am. Please meet them at the vacant lot on Johnson Street just beyond the Lincoln intersection. Meeting adjourned 8:15 pm.

| N O V E M B E R | | | | | | |
|--|--------|--|--|--|---------------------------------|--|
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| Mail calendar happenings to uhnewsed@yahoo.com or: UH News P.O. Box 33032 San Diego, CA 92163 All meetings are open to the public unless otherwise noted. | | NOVEMBER is <i>American Indian Heritage and Aviation History Month</i> NOVEMBER 13th – 19th <i>Children's Book Week</i> | UH Park & Rec Council Mtg. 5:30 pm Crime Watch 6:30 pm UHCA Meeting 7 pm Birney / Curbside Recycling | | | Friends of the UH Library 10 am Alex Bevil: 'RAIDERS of the LOST ARCHIVES' Day 2 of Workshop, 9 am |
| 4 Daylight Savings Time Ends | 5 | 6 Uptown Planners 6 pm Joyce Beers in Uptown | 7 UHCDC Meeting 6:30 pm 4452 Park Boulevard Suite 104 | 8 HISTORIC SPEAKER'S FORUM 7 pm Grace Lutheran Church <i>see article on page 1</i> | 9 | 10 UH News DEADLINE! |
| 11 Veteran's Day | 12 | 13 <i>Street Sweeping</i> | 14 | 15 | 16 <i>Curbside Recycling</i> | 17 UH Library Book Sale 8 am-3 pm Friends of Buchanan Canyon Clean-up 9 am |
| 18 | 19 | 20 North Park Planning 6:30 pm 2901 North Park Way | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 <i>Street Sweeping</i> | 28 UH Book Club & Salon 6:30 pm / UH Library UH News Distribution | 29 <i>Curbside Recycling</i> | 30 | PLEASE NOTE <i>Curbside Recycling Dates this Month:</i> Thursday, November 1st, Thursday, November 16th & Thursday, November 29th |

AcousticMusicSanDiego.com CONCERT SCHEDULE

by Michael A. Johnston

This month promises a full schedule from AcousticMusicSanDiego.com, located at 4650 Mansfield. A combination of new and old performers will be coming to our neighborhood with all types of music.

Starting on November 2nd will be the return of the duo of Terri Hendrix and Lloyd Maines. San Marcos based Hendrix has a wide range of influences from Sonny Boy Williamson II and Mississippi John Hurt to Paul Simon and Ella Fitzgerald that she mixes into her music. Her producer/musical partner Lloyd Maines has been a session musician for many years, including playing pedal steel guitar on The Byrds' "Sweetheart Of The Rodeo" album, among others, as well as being Dixie Chick Natalie Maines' dad. His instrumental prowess helps add to the depth of Hendrix's material. Terri sings and plays guitar, mandolin and harmonica, while Lloyd plays mandolin, guitar and dobro along with his pedal steel. Their performances have been widely received, and their other appearances have always been enjoyable.

November 4th brings Boston singer-songwriter Ellis Paul for his sixth visit to AcousticMusic. He has won thirteen Boston Music Awards, and his style combines the

best of Woody Guthrie and Bob Dylan into a style that is distinctly his own. Paul recently performed a tribute show for his idol, Guthrie, and put music to an unfinished Guthrie song, "God's Promise". His music has also appeared in two films by the Farrelly Brothers', "Me, Myself & Irene" and "Shallow Hal". He wouldn't be returning six times for nothing, so come see Ellis Paul's latest concert.

After his two sold out shows last year, Richie Havens will be making his return November 6th. Known for his three hour performance at Woodstock, (while the other acts tried to fight their way through the traffic), Havens has been recording steadily for much of his life. His cover of The Beatles' "Here Comes The Sun" gave Havens a major hit, and he has bubbled on the lower ends of the hit charts off and on ever since. Tickets are almost sold out again, so call for ticket availability.

First time AcousticMusic performer Erin McKeown will be performing November 17th with opening act, Matt the Electrician. McKeown's music is a mix of roots alt-folk, and heavy duty rock and roll, blended into a wry version of Americana. She has released five albums and 2 E.P.'s, as well as performed about 200 concerts a year for the past decade. Matt The Electrician is exactly what his

name says for his day job, but at night, he plays his own version of blue-collar modern alt-folk. Come see these performers while it's still easy to see them in a small intimate environment.

The month closes with another returnee, Eliza Gilkyson on November 18th. Gilkyson has performed many times for us, and every time has been a real treat. Her music ranges from social commentary to love songs, always with just a touch of humor or lightness to balance the sometime darkness of her subject matter. This promises to be another great show, so make sure you get your tickets early.

Tickets for all performances are \$15-\$20, with a \$45 dinner package also available, except for Havens, whose prices you need to call and see what's available, and Eliza Gilkyson, whose tickets are \$18-\$22, with a \$47 dinner package. For more information, or to order tickets, please call (619) 303-8176, or visit their website at www.AcousticMusicSanDiego.com.

EVENTS AT THE SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART

This month at the San Diego Museum Of Art in conjunction with the "Everett Gee Jackson San Diego Modern 1920-1955" exhibit starting this month, (see article—page 3) there will be a lecture on November 28th at the James S. Copley auditorium entitled, Meet The Masters – "Uncovering Local Art And Industry: The Discovery Of Hidden WPA Murals At SDSU". Hosted by Dr. Seth Mallios, director of the South Coastal Informational Center at the California Office of Historic Preservation and associate professor of anthropology at SDSU, the lecture will focus on his recent discoveries of an historic mural painted by students of local artist Jackson. Lecture starts at 6 pm, and tickets are \$12/members, \$15/nonmembers & \$7 for students.

The ongoing Jazz In The Park series also continues this month with a performance by The Roberta Piket Trio with special guest Coral

MacFarland Thuet on November 7th. New York pianist Roberta Piket will make her San Diego debut with bassist Ratzoo Harris and ex-San Diego drummer Billy Mintz. Vocalist Coral MacFarland Thuet will join them on their second set. Tickets are \$18 for members, \$22 for nonmembers and \$10 for students. The concert will be held at the James S. Copley auditorium at 5:30 pm.

For more info, visit online: www.sdmart.org, or call (619)696-1969.

SAN DIEGO LYRIC OPERA PRESENTS THE SWALLOW

The San Diego Lyric Opera will be presenting Puccini's only operetta, "The Swallow" from November 9th through the 18th. Set in Paris in the 1870's, this production features lavish costumes and melodies, including "Canzone di Doretta". Tenor Chad Johnson will be debuting at the Lyric Opera after his Tanglewood Festival debut earlier this year.

The opera runs from November 9th – November 18th at the Birch North Park Theatre located at 2891 University Ave. Tickets are \$25, \$30, \$35, \$40 and \$45 depending on seating location. November 9th, November 15th & November 17th performances are at 7:30 pm, and November 11th & November 18th performances are at 2:30 pm. For more info, go to www.lyricoperasandiego.org, or call the box office: (619) 239-8836.

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM NOVEMBER LINEUP

The San Diego Museum Of Natural History will be offering its last of the Cooking Natural classes as well as the next of the Global Climate Change lecture series this month.

On November 14th at 6:30 pm-8 pm, the Global Climate Change: Species And Places will present San Diego State University Ph.D., Walter Oechel's lecture, "Local Impacts Of A Changing Climate". The lecture is free with museum admission.

The Cooking Natural series will conclude on November 3rd with "Awesome Appetizers". Learn how to make onion and olive focaccia

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with eggplant tapenade, a stuffed mushroom and French endive with farmer's cheese. The class is \$25 for members / \$33 for nonmembers. The class will be held from 10 am-12:30 pm. For more info, please call (619) 555-0203, or go to: www.sdnh.org.

BURGLAR IMPERSONATES CITY OF SD EMPLOYEE

The San Diego Police Dept. is warning residents about a male who is gaining entry into homes and stealing items by claiming he is with the City of SD Metropolitan Wastewater Dept.

The victims say that the male comes to the door wearing a uniform similar to a mechanics uniform. He says he is with the city of San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Department and asks to check the plumbing or water pressure inside the residence. When the resident is preoccupied, he steals jewelry, wallets and money from the home.

The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, 35-40 years, 5'6" to 6' tall and clean shaven.

Please be aware that only in unusual circumstances will a city of San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater employee need to gain access to the inside of a residence. All city employees are required to carry their photo ID with them while on duty. If any person claiming to be a city employee comes to the home asking to gain entry, ask them to show their ID. You can verify that the individual is an employee of Metro Wastewater by calling (858) 292-6484 during business hours or (619) 515-3525 after hours.

Three cases have been reported in the last few weeks; the first was in Mid-City on Aragon Drive; the second in Serra Mesa; and the third in Allied Gardens. (*Ed. note-An incident in Zone 4 was also reported.*) If you have info on cases, call Eastern Division (858) 435-7900, or the Crime Stoppers anonymous, tip line: (888) 580-8477.

GREAT continued from page 3

considerate, creative and talented individuals abound. Poetry readings, open mic nights and art displays are all common. Each time we enter one

of these establishments we feel like we're on the TV show Cheers. "Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name and they're always glad you came." The owners and barristers do know your name.

And the sensation is that these businesses are providing more than just caffeine, they're providing community.

Another popular gathering place is our local Trolley Barn Park. In summer, this always well populated patch of nature swells with the sounds of music and laughter. The UH community development group hosts free concerts that accelerate the process by which strangers become friends. The recently renewed playground is a hive of buzzing children swarming the slides and swings. Near the dreaded-yellow-spiral-ladder-of-doom, nervous parents hover with outstretched arms ready to catch little ones. The ladder has become a right of passage. Knowing nods accompany sighs of relief when a parent relates that their child has finally graduated to climbing unassisted to the top.

Likewise, UH continues climbing from a good place to live towards a great place to live. It's not urban Utopia yet, but in many ways it feels pretty close. And we realize that some of our warts help to provide the uniqueness which enhances the beauty of living here. Ultimately, what makes UH so appealing is that there is nothing artificial about it. Remolded craftsman homes stand side by side with might-have-been nice-in-their-day condo complexes. There is no cookie cutter conformity in this neighborhood. We can have our convenience and variety at the same time and that for us is the best of both worlds. There are people of all walks of life living together like we wish people of all walks of life could live together everywhere. And my wife and I have come to realize that our first new neighbors are just quiet. Or maybe they thought there was pot in the cookies. Either way, we respect their differences and wouldn't want it any other way.

WHERE TO EAT IN UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Hungry and looking for a good meal? Try one of these local restaurants!

Adams Avenue Grill

2201 Adams Avenue • 619-298-8440

Brians' American Eatery

1451 Washington Street • 619-296-8268

Café Delight • 4646 Park Boulevard • 619-298-5248

Cream • 4496 Park Boulevard • 619-260-1917

DMOOD • 4628 Park Blvd. • 619-297-MOOD [6663]

El Zarape • 4642 Park Boulevard • 619-692-1652

European Market & Deli • 4135 Park Blvd. • 619-298-8661

Gulf Coast Grill • 4130 Park Blvd. • 619-295-2244

Lei Restaurant & Lounge

4622 Park Boulevard • 619-813-2272

Mystic Mocha • 2105 Mission Avenue • 619-688-0858

Open Air Café (formerly Espresso Garden)

1817 Howard Avenue • 619-301-8817

Park Boulevard Deli • 4504 Park Blvd. • 619-295-1362

Parkhouse Eatery • 4574 Park Boulevard • 619-295-7275

Pomegranate • 2302 El Cajon Blvd. • 619-297-4007

Red Fox Steak House • 2223 El Cajon Blvd. • 619-297-1313

Soltan Banoo • 4645 Park Boulevard • 619-298-2801

Summer's Market • 4602 Park Blvd. • 619-296-0504

Terra, in Uptown • 1270 Vermont Street • 619-293-7088

Twiggs • 4590 Park Boulevard • 619-296-0616

Underground Café • 3922 1/2 Park Blvd. • 619-296-2906

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GREATER HILLCREST AREA SELECTED AS ONE OF 10 GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS IN AMERICA!!! *by Beth Jaworski*

On October 2, 2007, the American Planning Association (APA) announced that greater Hillcrest has been designated as one of the top 10 great American neighborhoods.

According to the APA, a "great" neighborhood is defined by its architectural features, accessibility, functionality, and community involvement. According to APA Executive Director Paul Farmer, the most important features of Hillcrest that make it a great neighborhood are its residents and community-based leaders. In particular, the APA cited greater Hillcrest's community clean-up projects, local resident involvement in the community planning and land use process and its festivals as being the three most important factors in greater Hillcrest's success as a neighborhood.

It is worth noting the very active role University Heights residents have played in pivotal aspects of greater Hillcrest's distinction.

A key reference by the APA of area activism was the Vermont Street Bridge. In the 1990s, area residents, organized under the UHCA, sought to replace the closed footbridge at Vermont Street. Highway officials refused to approve and fund the

project because it would not serve motorists. At the behest of residents and with the assistance of city council representatives, the current VSB was built with \$1.2 million of the state's Transnet funds. Matching funds for the public art component came from the city's Commission for Arts & Culture. Since the re-dedication of the VSB in 1994 and the hugely successful redevelopment of the Uptown Shopping district on the former Sears site, the city has become more mindful of urban planning from a pedestrian's point-of-view.

UH residents continue their involvement with the bridge by assuring that the community and government are well aware of its significant impact on our quality-of-life; reminding planners of how the structure can serve as a model for other communities; and, stewarding its ongoing maintenance, attractiveness and safety.

In regards to community involvement in planning: Uptown Planners, the community planning board officially recognized by the city currently has, as either elected or appointed members, no less than six residents of UH and two former UH residents.

UH congratulates affiliates of greater Hillcrest on this national recognition. We are proud to have a long history of working closely with our neighbors and business leaders to make the greater Uptown area a model of modern living.

PANORAMA DRIVE SIDEWALK REPAIR



Pictured: Panorama Drive sidewalk - before & after

PHOTO: Thomas Nelson

The City recently reconstructed the sidewalk in front of 4739 Panorama Drive. Those of us that live on Panorama, as well as the numerous folks who walk or jog on our street, are relieved that this problem has finally been corrected.

In October 2006, a private crew was hired apparently by a new owner to begin a renovation. During that brief flurry of activity, the sidewalk was removed, leaving an uneven, rocky, dirt path for pedestrians. Unfortunately, the renovation came to a sudden and permanent halt almost as soon as it began.

Numerous calls and e-mails by many residents were made to various City departments and to our City Council representative's office. Promises to forward the matter to the proper city employees or persons of authority resulted in bureaucratic delays, mumbo-jumbo responses and no action until City workers showed up to install an unsightly chain link fence around the house and a sawhorse on each end of the former sidewalk.

Neither the City, the property owner of record, nor the lender, accepted responsibility to replace the sidewalk. It was a stalemate.

A call was made to Michael Turko of KUSI TV Channel 9, who was there the next day with his crew. His story aired the following day. A few days later, the "Just Fix it" column in the San Diego Union-Tribune, written by Jeff Ristine, featured the missing sidewalk dilemma.

Finally, Mr. Hassan Youssef, acting Deputy Director of the City's Street Division, responding to an offer by about 20 Panorama residences to share the cost of replacing the sidewalk, agreed to help. In short order Mr. Youssef saw to it that a new sidewalk was re-poured, without cost to the residents.

On behalf of all of us on Panorama Drive, and everyone who enjoys strolling, jogging, and dog-walking on Panorama, I wish to thank each of you for your efforts to correct this unfortunate and hazardous situation. - Thomas Nelson

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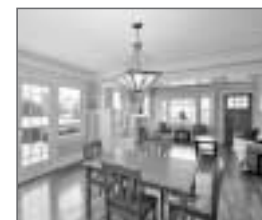
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BACKUP BLOCKWALKERS are always needed to help out our regular team in case of vacations etc. **Please call Nan McGraw at (619) 260-0668 to volunteer.**

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Nan McGraw (619) 260-0668

PHONE BOOK



EMERGENCY (Police, Fire, Medical) 911
Police-Emergency (from a cell phone) 619-531-2065
Non-Emergency (Police, 24 hours) 619-531-2000
Crime Tipline (for ongoing problems) 619-692-4862
Narcotics (suspicious drug house / property—anonymous) 619-531-2468
Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) 619-291-8228
SDPD Community Relations Office Jim Heppel or Linda Lafond (Ocean Beach Storefront) 619-531-1540
SDPD Western Division 5215 Gaines Street 619-692-4800
San Diego Crime Statistics http://www.sannet.gov/police/
San Diego City Services
 Downed Power Lines / Gas Leaks / Tree Limbs in Electrical Wires 1-800-411-7343
 Emergency Storm Damage 619-527-7500
 (pot holes, streetlights and signals, flooded streets, fallen trees, clogged storm drains)
 Emergency Water / Sewer Repair / Sink Holes (press #1 for water / press #2 for sewer) 619-515-3525
 Environmental 858-492-5060
 (recycling, uncollected trash & litter control and pickup, household hazardous waste)
 Rats / Rodents (Dept. of Environmental Health) 858-694-2888
 Dangerous Animals (emergency dog attack, etc.) 619-236-2341
 Graffiti Hotline 619-525-8522
 Brush & Weed Abatement 619-533-4444
 Code Violations 619-236-5500
 Stolen Vehicles 619-531-2000
 Vehicle Abatement (junk cars, abandoned cars, etc.) 858-495-7856
Homeless Encampment 858-492-5055
Project Wildlife (www.projectwildlife.org) 619-225-WILD
Poison Center 1-800-404-4646
Shopping Cart Pick-up Service 1-800-252-4613
Birney Academy Office 619-497-3500
 After School 6 to 6 Program 619-666-2098
UH Public Library 619-692-4912
UHCDC Office 4452 Park Boulevard, Suite 104 619-297-3166

REPRESENTATIVES

When was the last time you made your opinion known to your elected representative? We are continually reminded to speak up in order to effect change. Now, with this list, you can call, fax or write your representative easier than ever. It's important to not only contact a representative that may tend to agree with your point of view, but also a representative with a divergent stand on your issue. Make your point clear and give supporting reasons for your position. Now, more than ever, your opinion really counts.

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 619-525-4641 / 619-525-4640 fax
 governor@governor.ca.gov

UNITED STATES SENATOR
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