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Editors: Lauri Barwick and
Nina Macdonald

TOWN HALL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH

A Town Hall meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday March 16, 2005 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at the University Club Library. A general "State of the Hill" update on existing and new construction activities will be provided. The agenda will include the Community Building to be located at the intersection of Gabrielino Drive and California Avenue. A planning update for Area 9 to be developed south of California Avenue will also be presented. For more information please contact the ICHA Community Development Office at 824-2424.

NOTE FROM THE HRB REGARDING THE TOWN HALL MEETING

The HRB and the Community Center Committee encourage you to attend the Town Hall meeting - it will be your best opportunity to see and understand the plans for the Community Building. Please also do a follow-up, on-line survey that will be available via the University Hills website (we need responses by March 31), so that we know that we are representing your desires accurately. Please watch for a letter from us in early March with more details about the building and more information, including the survey, on the website. This is your chance to have your say about this building – please use it.

---Rachel Gamby, HRB Chair

HRB ELECTIONS

Seventy households elected the four candidates running for the four, two-year HRB positions. Aileen Anderson, Jeffrey S. Beckwith, Rachel Gamby, and Alan Terricciano will begin serving their terms in March. On behalf of ICHA and the community, I want to thank Michele Walot, who has been part of the HRB for six years. I am certain she will continue her involvement in the community in the years to come.

---Lauri Barwick, Newsletter Editor

HRB MEETING MINUTES - Tuesday, February 1, 2005

In Attendance: Aileen Anderson, Jeffrey Beckwith, Brian Cummings, Komal Dewan, Rachel Gamby (Chair), Wayne Sandholtz, Michele Walot, Ron Reid (ICHA)

Monthly Operation Report: Forwarded by Andrew Herndon

Planned Town Hall Meeting to be held March 16, 2005, 7-9:00 PM.

Work in Progress:

- Police records continue to note no significant disturbances at the Garden Park.
- Tree Pruning for many common areas has been delayed due to weather. Work is anticipated to commence in mid February.
- Pool One fence removal and replacement will begin in early February due to inclement weather delays.
- Brookfield is preparing to bring ICHA Management a plan to resolve the deficiencies at the Gabrielino pool. Resolution is anticipated prior to the opening of the pool in the Spring.

Work Completed:

Management has been coordinating repairs on over 20 leaking roof and window locations within the Townhomes and both Condo Sub-communities. Some responsibilities are being born by the owners as aging windows are in part responsible for the water intrusion. All other repairs are being financially covered by Reserve funding or Condo maintenance budgets.

Architectural Review

Three new applications were received this past month. All were Area VIII Expansion landscape plans for Murasaki and Fuertes residents.

HRB approved either design of a request for a garage addition on Twain.

Old Business:

Discussion about allowable fence height in the new Phase 8 homes and the fact that many new home-buyers are unaware of the two-phase approval process required when making changes to the outside of their homes, which includes approval by the HRB.

Campus Planning – Noise testing by EH &S of the Engineering Gateway has been redone. Results are not yet available and it isn't clear whether the parking lot and office construction will interfere with the readings.

Dog Park Committee – Grading of California is nearly done at the bottom of the slope near the proposed dog park. It is now possible to see the outline of the park.

Parks Committee – Weather has delayed the installation of swings, teeter totter, sand play area and a new multi-component play structure at Gabrielino Community Park. Construction is now anticipated to begin the middle of February and be completed by the end of March. Since the decisions for the Gabrielino Park have been made, the Parks Committee needs to meet again and start picking equipment for the play area adjacent to the Los Trancos (Lower) Pool and make decisions regarding the play area beside the Urey Pool.

Community Center - It was a dark and stormy night (which included a power cut – highlighting the need for the Community Center to have off-grid emergency power options)...when the Community Center Committee met at the ICHA trailer on January 26 to review the proposed plans for the Community Center with Victor Van Zandt. The meeting focused on two topics: the current building design, and the mechanism to achieve community input for the existing plans. With regard to the second version of the building plans, the committee remains concerned by the lack of green building features, and the specific floor plans suggested. The HRB agreed to ask the Community Center Committee (CCC) to design a community consultation process utilizing the March 16 Town Hall Meeting so that the CCC and HRB can get direct community feedback about the plans. The architect, Leason Pomeroy, will be present at the March 16 to explain the design choices and answer questions.

Pool Committee - Preliminary results of a survey of the Pool Committee members showed the respondents to be evenly split between heating the Urey and Gabrielino spas on weekends or heating at least one other pool and spa (in addition to the Los Trancos ones) during the Spring break. At the end of December the pool budget was \$4,000 over where it was at the same time last year due to cold fall temperatures and rising energy costs. The HRB asked ICHA Management to explore reallocating funds from elsewhere in the University Hills budget to allow heating of pools in addition to the Los Trancos ones. A survey of Pool Committee members will be conducted before the March meeting so that the HRB can make informed recommendations regarding the pool schedule and budget for the 2005-06 year.

New Business:

A request to ICHA by a Gibbs resident to remove Eucalyptus trees was considered with the suggestion that the resident(s) be asked to submit details on the exact location of the trees and a formal request for "Alterations to Common Areas" to be reviewed by ICHA and HRB.

Adjournment

---Komal Dewan, HRB

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Residents of University Hills,

I have lived in University Hills for my entire life, a whole seventeen years. My family has been helping our community for longer than that- my mother is a member of the HRB and chair of the Community Center committee, I run the annual Halloween parties...and now I need to ask all of you for a favor. I am running a Red Cross Blood Drive at the new Jewish Community Center across the street from our campus on March 8th, my seventeenth birthday. As a birthday present to me and as a service to humankind, I urge you to send me an e-mail and make an appointment to donate blood with me on the 8th at the JCC theater from 1:00-7:00 PM (walk-ins are also welcome). There is a shortage of blood in the California blood banks - at the time of the drive I ran in September, there was only enough blood to last two hours. This is the largest blood shortage since World War II. Every two seconds, somebody needs blood, and it isn't hard to help. Each donation takes less than an hour to give, and each blood donation can save up to three lives. Take that time to donate blood on the 8th. Anybody over the age of 17 who weighs more than 110 pounds is (in theory) eligible. Please e-mail me at funwithhomelettes@gmail.com if you are interested or want more information. The JCC is at 1 Federation Way in Irvine.

---Doran A. Walot, Schubert Ct.

Neighbors,

I'm connected with a woman's group that is collecting new **and** used children's books to be distributed in the pediatric units at UCIMC. These books are a comfort and a distraction for the in-patients; also, when discharged, they may take some books home to be their own. If you want to contribute, please call me and I'll retrieve them from you, or you may drop them at 16 Blake Court. Thanks for considering this project.

---Betty Newcomb, 856-0969

Dear Prospective Vista Verde Parents:

On behalf of the Irvine Unified School District and the Vista Verde community, I welcome you to Irvine! One of the greatest draws to our city is the outstanding reputation of our Irvine public schools. As principal of Irvine Unified's Vista Verde School, I can attest to the dedication and passion our teachers and staff possess in providing the highest quality education for our students.

I am excited to announce that Vista Verde School will be relocating to a beautiful, new, state-of-the-art facility in Turtle Ridge, which will serve as the neighborhood school for Kindergarten through eighth grade students in the surrounding area. Construction on our new school is estimated to begin this March and we anticipate moving into our new school by December 2006.

In the meantime, I encourage you to learn more about Vista Verde School at <http://Myvistaverde.com> and consider enrolling your children with us *before* our move so that they may become familiar with our excellent teachers, participate in our unique K-8 programs, make new friends, and share in the excitement of our *BIG* move in 2006!

Vista Verde School has received national recognition, both as a National Blue Ribbon School and California Distinguished School. In addition, our Academic Performance Index (API) scores are among the top schools in Irvine and Orange County, with last year's results coming in at 914.

As one of only two K-8 schools in Irvine, Vista Verde provides unique academic opportunities for students:

- Because of Vista Verde's nine-year time span, our students and their families form exceptionally strong connections to the school and our teachers.
- We're afforded opportunities to build strong curriculum, outstanding instruction, and grade-level teams that consistently deliver a high-caliber program across grades K-8.
- Students are provided leadership experiences, positive cross-age experiences and effective behavior reinforcement that lend optimum learning environments.
- With a strong academic focus combined with a child-centered approach, Vista Verde provides an exceptional school experience for each and every child.
- Because of Vista Verde's year-round calendar, our students and their families benefit from a schedule that reinforces retention of skills and concepts.
- Our year-round schedule also provides appropriate breaks in the school year for families to spend time together and for staff to plan and rejuvenate.
- Research shows that K-8 year-round schools offer numerous benefits for children, staff and parents, including strong academic performance within a "family" setting and fewer transitions for students entering different schools. (See "*Study Shows Students of K-8 Schools Perform Better*" at <http://myvistaverde.com/aboutus/principal>.)

---Sincerely, Dr. Jean Mylen, Principal

VISITOR NIGHT AT THE UCI OBSERVATORY

Date: Friday, March 4 **Time:** 7 - 9 pm

Place: The Observatory on the campus of UCI

See Saturn, Jupiter, star clusters and nebulae with our telescopes, learn to locate your favorite constellation, tour the Observatory dome and see a slide show about the formation and evolution of our own Milky Way galaxy.

Visitor Nights are free of charge and open to the general public. We encourage amateur astronomers to bring along their own telescopes to share with our visitors. In the event of rain, Visitor Night may be canceled, please check our website. The Observatory is operated by the Department of Physics & Astronomy, and Visitor Nights are funded primarily by a National Science Foundation FOCUS grant to UCI.

Please note: we will be using Parking Lot G. Because of complaints from UH residents who live along Gabrielino, we will be hiring extra parking lot attendants who will direct traffic at the intersection of Gabrielino & Peltason. Parking will be prohibited along these streets in keeping with posted signs. UH residents will also be excluded from parking along these roads, so please plan to walk to the Observatory, unless you are bringing telescope equipment or a handicapped person. Any questions can be addressed to Professor Tammy Smecker-Hane at outreach@carina.ps.uci.edu or (949) 824-7773.

---Tammy Smecker-Hane, Associate Professor & Director of the UCI Observatory, Department of Physics & Astronomy

PROJECT CHILDSAFE COMES TO THE UCI COMMUNITY

The UCI Police Department will provide free firearms safety kits to students, staff and faculty members through a partnership with Project ChildSafe, the nationwide firearms safety education program. The safety kits, which include a gunlock, will be available at the front counter of the UCI Police Department between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. The UCI Police Department would like to encourage members of the campus community to pick up a free Project ChildSafe safety kit to securely store their firearms at **off-campus locations**. Each kit contains a safety curriculum and a cable-style gunlock. The locks fit on most types of handguns, rifles and shotguns.

PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE SECTION:

Penal Code 626.9 prohibits the possession of a firearm on school grounds, which includes all residences located on the property of a college campus. Possession of a firearm on a college campus is considered a Felony and is punishable by confinement in a state prison.

For further information, please contact Lieutenant Shaun Devlin at (949) 824-3398.

[Editor's Note: ICHA has been given 200 of these locks and they are in the office for those who come for them.]

UC IRVINE ANTEATER

BASEBALL

University Hill night



#18 UC IRVINE VS. SAN DIEGO STATE

**TUESDAY
MARCH 8TH
6PM**

**4 FREE
TICKETS**

**WATCH AS YOUR 18TH RANKED
ANTEATERS TAKE ON TONY
GWYNN AND THE AZTECS!**

**REDEEM THIS COUPON AT TICKET BOOTH FOR 4
FREE ADMISSIONS ONLY VALID MARCH 8TH**

WWW.ATHLETICS.UCI.EDU