

SEPTEMBER 2004

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Nina Macdonald



**COME TO THE GABRIELINO PARK "DESIGN DAY"
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9TH**

Celebrate our unique UH community and help with the conceptual planning for a new play facility at Gabrielino Park. All interested children and their parents are invited to join in the fun on a design exercise with a recreation planning consultant to develop ideas for the play structure.



With the development of the new Area 8 Expansion community and the construction of California Ave, Gabrielino Park will slightly expand and there is an opportunity to incorporate new amenities. The HRB and the UH volunteer Park Planning and Use Committee have elected to use the services of a design consultant who specializes in a "hands-on" process of both designing and constructing a play structure using community volunteers. The design day is the first step in identifying what the community feels is needed in terms of a play structure. Once the consultants gather the initial concepts, the HRB and the Park Planning Committee will meet to further discuss the details and feasibility.



Leathers and Associates, the design consultant, has facilitated both large and small playgrounds at over 1000 locations, including one in Santa Barbara. All playgrounds meet safety codes, are beautiful to look at and offer exciting and different features for older as well as younger children. Their website (www.leathersassociates.com) has more information, as well as pictures.

---Rachel Gamby, HRB



COMMUNITY-BUILT PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

As mentioned above, the playground committee is pursuing the idea of a community-built playground for Gabrielino Park. We are currently seeking volunteers to serve on the Steering Committee for the Community-built Playground. We still need to fill the following positions: Coordinators for the Children's Committee, Coordinators for Donated Materials, Coordinators for Fundraising, Coordinator for Purchased Materials, Coordinators for Volunteers. Without volunteers this project will not happen. If you would like to volunteer for any of these positions, please contact Simon Cole at scole@uci.edu / 509-7559, or Liz Phillips at EPhillips@gsm.uci.edu / 856-0886.

---Simon A. Cole, Murasaki St.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dog Owners:

Please control your barking dogs in early evening into late at night. Dog owners have some consideration for people who are trying to relax after dinner and can't feel comfortable with continuing dogs barking.

---Dorothy Mulligan, Owen Ct.

Dog Owners:

We are writing to further warn dog owners of the dangers of coyotes.

Last week I was walking my dog Sasha (a 40 pound boxer x) and a similarly sized dog we are caring for in the preserve - near Bison & Peltason when two or three coyotes came upon the dogs without warning. Admittedly, they were off leash as they should not have been. They were walking not 5 yards behind me, but the coyotes were not afraid of me and tried to follow my dogs. As soon as I saw the coyotes, I ran toward them shouting. They would hold back a few steps, but each time I tried to call my dogs to me, the coyotes would follow, trying to grab the dogs' legs. Sasha attempted to chase the coyotes away, as she knew that when she turned her back they would follow. Eventually both dogs came back to me; while one was unharmed, Sasha was bit on the flank. We took her to the vet, where she received antibiotics. Fortunately,

her rabies vaccinations were up to date, as, if they were not, she would have required quarantine.

After this experience, we would like other dog owners to understand the dangers of the coyotes this year. I feel that the dogs are safe on leash (or at least on leashes of legal length...8 ft?) but ANYTIME they are off-leash they are at risk. Do not take that risk: it is not worth it to the dog or the owner. It is the owner who must take responsibility, as the dogs do not understand the danger. The suggestion of Direct Stop spray as a protection sounds good; we use this at the animal shelter to break up dogfights. I found a website (www.mightypets.com) that sells it for about ten dollars each. However, it has only a 10-foot range and will be useless for dogs off-leash.

Finally, I would like to warn those owners of large dogs who think their dogs are too big to be threatened by coyotes. They are not: coyotes hunt in groups, and can easily surround a confused dog. I witnessed this happen in the preserve when a large lab (probably about 80 lbs.) was surrounded. My dog and I chased the coyotes, but they are not as scared as one would hope.

---Natalie Yahr

HRB NEWS

(There was no HRB meeting in August, therefore there are no HRB Meeting minutes)

HRB Position - Sixteen Months left on 24-Month Term - Volunteer Sought

Ruby Xiong has resigned from the HRB and we would like to invite interested individuals to volunteer to step in for the remainder of her term. This is an opportunity to get valuable insight into the workings of University Hills. Please email: rgamby@cox.net

Garden Park Fence

Invitation to the September 7 HRB Meeting re: Garden Park Fence.

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: ICHA rearmost trailer

The HRB is still weighing the fence options for the Garden Park. At our July meeting we evaluated the alternative solutions that had been put forward (see July and August newsletters for details - both are available on the web site) and met with residents. We tentatively recommended an eight-foot fence at the rear of the park because it wouldn't interfere with residents' access to the park, while making the park less appealing to outside intruders because police could "trap" trespassers. Since that meeting we have had mixed feedback from UCI Police on this proposal and the neighbors adjacent to the Garden Park have expressed doubts as to whether it will be an adequate solution. We would like to invite interested residents to attend the September HRB meeting where we hope to come to a final decision. In recognition that this newsletter may be received too late for interested parties to be alerted to this meeting, notice of the meeting will be sent to the U-Hills listserv and all individuals who have provided feedback before now.

SOUTHERN RADIAL / CALIFORNIA AVENUE ROAD WORK TO BEGIN

The University Design and Construction Services Department (UCI D&CS) has contacted ICHA to advise that FCI Constructors will be initiating work on the Southern Radial Road and California Avenue project commencing the week of August 23, 2004. They will begin installation of their project fencing and barricades in order to delineate their project boundaries / limits of construction.

Beginning next week, they will start mobilizing equipment to create their project entrance at Bonita Canyon and follow by establishing their access routes across the job site as required. They will also begin to mobilize their offices to the project site over the next few weeks. Should you have any questions, please contact Tom Olivor, the Project Manager for D&CS. His phone number is 824-9197.

---UC Irvine Design & Construction Services

VISTA BONITA LOG STRUCTURE REMOVED

It is with regret that I provide this note that the log structure at Vista Bonita Park was recently removed. The structure in recent months became very unstable and did cross many avenues of concern due to its unique design and construction. The HRB and ICHA are exploring new ideas and encourage anyone who has a concept to contact the ICHA office. The location and nature of the physical setting restrict certain uses.

---Andrew Herndon, ICHA

CAL-IT² TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION NOISE INCREASE

Beginning August 30th exterior grounds construction and landscaping will begin on the Cal-IT² site. This phase includes the demolition of the pre-cast construction mock-up located at the northeast end of the construction area. The breaking of the concrete is nuisance when it comes to noise, but there should be little vibration. Duration of the demolition is approximately 4 days, all day, during regular business hours.

Schedule detail:

- Day 1: saw cut around mock-up / remove brick from face of panels.
- Day 2: knock down panels and columns/ begin breaking up concrete.
- Day 3: remove footings/ break up concrete.
- Day 4: finish breaking concrete/ load end dumps & haul away/ backfill.

ANNUAL TOWN & GOWN MEMBERSHIP COFFEE

Members of the UCI community are invited to the Annual UCI Town & Gown Membership Coffee to take place on Monday, September 20, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. at Sherman Gardens, 2647 East Pacific Coast Highway, Corona del Mar. Enjoy a delicious brunch while flute music drifts through the beautiful gardens. Sign up for membership (\$25 per year) and interest groups (such as book groups, art and music, Spanish and French conversation, theater, and more) and hear speakers Manuel Gomez, UCI Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Charmaine Craig, UCI published author, and selected UCI scholarship awardees. For questions, please call (949) 854-8710 or (949) 548-1361.

DSL AVAILABLE SOON IN U HILLS

SBC PacBell Engineering has informed ICHA that their new DSL Service will be available to U Hills residents tentatively by early October. Physical improvement are to completed in early September, however, the FCC requires a 30-day grace period after new installations are complete.

---Andrew Herndon, ICHA



STREET BIOGRAPHY - O'KEEFFE (One in a series continuing to appear on the newsletter)

The American artist Georgia O'Keeffe is famous for her bold, detailed paintings of single flowers. Born in Wisconsin in 1887, O'Keeffe studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and later in New York, where she was taught imitative realism. The definitive influence on her artistic technique, however, was the approach of Arthur Dow, who believed that art should represent the artist's feelings and could achieve harmony through color, linear depiction, and shading of light and dark.

In 1916, photographer Alfred Stieglitz saw O'Keeffe's charcoal drawings from this period and exhibited them in his New York Gallery. Stieglitz agreed to support O'Keeffe, and they married in 1924. Five years later, O'Keeffe made her first summer trip to New Mexico. The lure of the southwest was irresistible, and O'Keeffe returned to New Mexico often to paint, buying a house there in 1940 and another one in 1945.

Stieglitz continued to promote and exhibit his wife's work until his death in 1946, whereupon O'Keeffe moved permanently to New Mexico. She continued to paint, in later years turning to pencil and watercolors. She worked until the age of 96, two years before her death in 1986. Although O'Keeffe's work has been sometimes criticized as mere photography, her influence on American art is undisputed. The largest public collection of her artwork can be seen at the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

---Ellen Elghobashi

BOMMER CANYON FAMILY CAMPOUT

Bring your family and friends together at the Irvine Open Space Preserve - Bommer Canyon Campout on September 4th.

On September 4th and 5th you are invited to set up camp in Bommer Canyon to enjoy a night under the stars. Bring your tent, sleeping bags, and food for the grill. We'll provide the BBQ and s'mores for the campfire. There will be time to relax under the Sycamore trees and some adventure on the wilderness trails. Highlights of the campout include campfire songs and stories, nature hikes, and a slide presentation explaining the natural beauty of Bommer Canyon.

This is a great opportunity for families with children aged 3 and over. An adult must accompany children under 18. The cost is \$10 per person and pre-registration is required. To save your space, please call (949) 724-6610.

Bommer Canyon is located at 11 Bommer Canyon Road in the City of Irvine. The campout begins at 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 4th. For more information please contact the Turtle Rock Nature Center at (949) 724-6738.