

JUNE/JULY 2024

The Gateway

UNIVERSAL CITY COMMUNITY MAGAZINE



THE SPIRIT *of* UNIVERSAL CITY

CELEBRATING SUMMER, COMMUNITY AND FUN
UC IN FULL COLOR - SEE PAGES 6-9



**MAY 2024
GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS**

Every May, Universal City residents get the chance to vote for their City Council representatives. This year, three Council seats and the Mayoral seat were up for election. On May 4, 2024, the community cast their votes to decide who will serve for the next two years. Based on the results of the election, the City Council of Universal City is as follows:

Mayor:
Tom Maxwell*

Councilmembers:
Ashton Bulman
Christina Fitzpatrick
Bear Goolsby
Lori Putt*
Bernard Rubal*
Phil Vaughan*

**Elected for the 2024-2026 term of office*

Council Meetings

Universal City Councilmembers are committed to representing all citizens of Universal City. Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 6:30 PM at the Municipal Offices Building, located at 2150 Universal City Blvd., unless otherwise posted.

Those not able to attend a meeting in person can view the meeting live on the City's website at www.UCTX.gov/CityCouncil-LIVE or through the link on the homepage. A complete recording is also available soon after conclusion of the meeting on the same page, under the live stream.

Council Meeting Agendas are available on the City's website at www.UCTX.gov/AgendaCenter or through the link on the homepage.

UC COMMUNITY
**BOARDS
& COMMISSIONS**

**UNDERSTANDING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
IN UNIVERSAL CITY**

Boards and commissions are groups of volunteer residents appointed by the Universal City Council to assist in the decision-making process. They play a crucial role in increasing resident involvement in City decisions and help reduce costs for basic city services.

Term and Residency Requirements

Term Length: Appointees serve 2-year terms starting August 1st.
Residency: All appointees must reside within City limits.
Term Limits: Members can serve up to three terms. After that, they must step down for one year before reapplying to the same board or commission.

Application Process

Deadline: Applications are due by June 1st each year.
Interviews: The Mayor interviews applicants for the Board of Adjustment, Planning & Zoning Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission, and Library Advisory Commission. The EDC Director interviews applicants for the Economic Development Corporation.
Filing: All applications are kept on file for 2 years. Applicants can resubmit or update their applications at any time.
Appointments: Recommendations for appointments are voted on by the City Council before the regular term expiration date of July 31st. Appointments to fill vacancies are made as needed.

Types of Boards and Commissions

Quasi-Judicial: These boards make final decisions. Examples include the Board of Adjustment and the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Advisory Boards: These boards make recommendations based on their findings to the City Council. Examples include the Library Advisory Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission and some Planning and Zoning Commission actions.

The Economic Development Corporation (EDC)

The EDC functions similarly to other commissions but with a few key differences:
Budget: The EDC has its own budget funded by sales tax.
Term Limits: There are no term limits, though terms are still for 2 years. The EDC does not have staggered terms.

By participating in these boards and commissions, residents have a unique opportunity to directly impact the governance and improvement of Universal City. Your involvement helps shape the community and ensures a vibrant and well-managed city. To learn more about the City's Boards and Commissions and apply, scan the QR code or visit www.UCTX.gov, click government tab.



**Universal City
Municipal Directory**

2150 Universal City Blvd.
Universal City, TX 78148
Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Administration - The following can be reached by dialing 210.659.0333, and then entering the extension number listed:

Building Official	Jaclyn Redmon	7 2 4
City Clerk	Maribel Garcia	7 4 8
City Manager	Kim Turner	7 0 5
Code Compliance Officer	7 2 5
Court Administrator	Brenda Watkins	7 1 5
Community Relations	Regina Carmona	7 2 1
Development Services/EDC	Michael Cassata	7 2 0
Finance	Christine Green	7 0 8
Fire Chief	Todd Perna	7 8 6
Health Official	Anabel Maldonado	7 2 7
Permit/Zoning	Linda Iglehart	7 2 3
Police Chief	Johnny Siemens	7 5 5
Stormwater Inspector	Wes Keller	7 2 2
Water Billing	7 1 0

Departments

Animal Care & Control	210-659-0333	EXT. 700
Fire Department	210-659-0333	EXT. 250
Golf Course	210-659-0333	EXT. 653
Library	210-659-0333	EXT. 048
Parks/Pavilion Rental	210-659-0333	EXT. 364
Police Department	210-659-0333	EXT. 353
Public Works	210-659-0333	EXT. 364

City Council

Mayor
Tom Maxwell
mayor@uctx.gov
210-659-0333 Ext 737

Councilmember
Christina Fitzpatrick
Council1@uctx.gov
210-659-0333 Ext 734

Councilmember
Phil Vaughan
Council4@uctx.gov
210-619-0731

Councilmember
Lori Putt
Council6@uctx.gov
210-659-0333 Ext 732

Councilmember
Ashton Bulman
Council5@uctx.gov
210-659-0333 Ext 733

Councilmember
Bear Goolsby
Council2@uctx.gov
210-659-0333 Ext 735

Councilmember
Bernard Rubal
Council3@uctx.gov
210-659-0333 Ext 736

www.UCTX.gov

**For EMS, Police and Fire Emergencies
ALWAYS Call 911**

Get notified of emergencies affecting the City or your neighborhood! Sign up for Blackboard Connect free of charge, www.UCTX.Gov/Connect. Choose how you get notified: text, landline, cellphone, or email. All information is kept confidential. Get Connected, Stay Informed — Blackboard Connect.

UNIVERSAL CITY MEETINGS

JUNE/JULY 2024



HAPPY
4th of July

CITY OFFICES CLOSED

- **June 13, 2024** 5:00 pm
Economic Development Corporation Meeting
- **June 18, 2024** 6:30 pm
City Council Regular Meeting
- June 19, 2024**
CLOSED in observance of Juneteenth
- **June 24, 2024** 6:00 pm
Board of Adjustment Meeting
- **June 25, 2024** 6:00 pm
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
- **July 1, 2024** 6:00 pm
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
- **July 2, 2024** 6:30 pm
City Council Regular Meeting
- **July 9, 2024** 4:30 pm
City Council Special Meeting: Budget Workshop
- **July 11, 2024** 5:00 pm
Economic Development Corporation Meeting
- **July 16, 2024** 6:30 pm
City Council Regular Meeting
- **July 17, 2024** 5:30 pm
Library Advisory Commission Meeting
- **July 22, 2024** 6:00 pm
Board of Adjustment Meeting
- **July 23, 2024** 6:00 pm
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

***Due to delays in delivery, some dates may have already passed. The City calendar and digital copy of The Gateway is available at www.UCTX.gov. Special Meetings may be posted in addition to these dates in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.*

THANK YOU MAYOR WILLIAMS!



MAYOR JOHN H. WILLIAMS

John H. Williams has stepped down from his seat as Mayor to be succeeded by Mayor Tom Maxwell. John Williams served in the United States Air Force for 25 years as a public affairs officer and currently teaches Mass Communications at the City's very own Northeast Lakeview College. During his time in the Air Force, Mayor Williams fell in love with the City of Universal City after being stationed at Randolph Air Force Base. In fact, he was assigned to Randolph AFB three times and decided to stay after his assignment in 1986.

Mayor Williams began his service in public office in 2000 on the Golf and Conference Center Commission, later being elected Councilmember in 2002 and 2004. After being reelected in 2006, he was appointed by his peers on City Council to serve as Mayor Pro Tem from May 2006 to May 2008. In May 2008, he was elected Mayor of Universal City and has been reelected to the seat ever since. He served as Mayor for 16 years before making the difficult decision to step down.

Mayor Williams held his position during the first Snowfest in 2010 and the first Pumpkin Patch in 2017. His tenure included the openings of the new Animal Shelter three months after his election in 2008, the Dog Park in 2011 with its dedication to Aina B. Blake in 2018, the Universal

City Library on Northview Drive in 2014, and the Northview Splashpad in 2019. He led Council during many decisions to help the development of local businesses including the passage of many Planned Unit Developments and Specific Use Permits, both of which have been uniquely utilized by the City of Universal City. He also participated and guided City Council during the creation and adoption of the Aviation District Masterplan. While Mayor Williams presided over many Council meetings that led to decisions regarding several bonds, grants, funding opportunities, City masterplans, and strategic initiatives, they are too countless to name individually.

The City of Universal City, along with Mayor Maxwell, current and past Councilmembers, and residents would like to express their eternal gratitude to Mayor Williams for his dedication and service. John H. Williams made it his passion to serve the City of Universal City. He has been especially gifted in his direction of Council meetings, and his hard work will certainly leave a lasting impression on the City. In his retirement from City Council, Mayor Williams is sure to get back to his other passions: teaching at Northeast Lakeview College and golfing, especially at the Olympia Hills Golf Course.

Thank you for your commitment to serve!



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SPIRIT OF UNIVERSAL CITY



CAPTURING THE SPIRIT OF UNIVERSAL CITY

A vibrant community is what makes Universal City so special! From community events and heartwarming volunteer activities to educational workshops and fun-filled family gatherings, these photos showcase the diverse and dynamic spirit of our residents. Each event brings us closer together, fostering a strong sense of community and shared purpose. Thank you to everyone who participates and contributes to making Universal City a wonderful place to live, work, and play!

Photos include Tasty Table, Live Oak Armed Forces Day Parade, Fiesta Community Olympia Hills Happy Hour, and the UC Volunteer Fair.



SPIRIT OF UNIVERSAL CITY



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SPIRIT OF UNIVERSAL CITY





EVENTS CALENDAR

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

■ HAPPY HOUR AT THE HILLS

Experience an inviting atmosphere every Thursday evening from 5:00-8:00 pm at Olympia Hills Bar and Grill where you can enjoy great music and food and drink specials while socializing with your neighbors. Happy Hour at The Hills are free to attend and open to all ages.

Here is the lineup for live musicians in June.

Thursday, June 6th- Dennis Dietz

Thursday, June 13th- Zach Carney

Thursday, June 20th- Motown Theme Night featuring Love and Happiness Band

Thursday, June 27th- Gary "The Showman"

With the hotter temperatures in July and August, Olympia Hills will go "Unplugged". Guests will enjoy background music inside the lounge and one theme night with a live band.

Thursday, July 4th- No Happy Hour – Happy 4th of July!

Thursday, July 11th- Country Theme Night featuring Bret Mullins

Thursday, July 18th- Unplugged Happy Hour

Thursday, July 25th – Unplugged Happy Hour

Live musicians will resume with cooler temperatures in September.

■ SUMMER JR. GOLF CAMPS

Join Olympia Hills instructors for an exciting summer at Jr. Golf Camp! Camps run Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm with a special golf outing on Friday starting at 8:00 am. It's open to young golfers ages 6 to 16.

2024 Camp Dates:

June 10th – June 14th July 8th – July 12th

June 24th – June 28th July 22nd – July 26th

During the camp, golfers will receive comprehensive instruction on all the fundamentals of the game including rules, etiquette, scoring, full swing, chipping, and putting. With a 5 to 1 student-to-teacher ratio, each participant is sure to improve their skills.

For additional information, visit www.OlympiaHillsGolf.com or call Olympia Hills Golf Shop at (210) 945-4653. Reserve your spot early, space is limited, and camps do fill up quickly.

■ Community Casino Night – UCCPAAA Fundraiser

Saturday, July 27th at Olympia Hills Event Center, 12900 Mount Olympus
Casino 6:00-9:00 pm; Prizes 9:00-10:00 pm

This casino themed event is a community fundraiser benefiting the Universal City Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (UCCPAAA). Guests receive casino chips to play various table games such as blackjack, roulette, and craps. At the end of the night, redeem your casino chips for raffle tickets for a chance to win several prizes. Tickets for this event are available online at www.UCTX.gov/Events.

■ Flix and Finds featuring WONKA

Get ready for a magical evening under the stars with a community movie night, Flix and Finds! Admission and activities are free for all ages. This event is open to the public.

Saturday, June 29th at Olympia Hills Golf Course, 12900 Mount Olympus.

7:00 pm- Activities and Scavenger Hunt until movie begins.

8:30 pm- Movie begins.

Flix and Finds is more than just a movie night—it's a place to make memories, laugh, and relax. So, bring a blanket or chairs, wear your comfiest attire, and prepare for an unforgettable evening of flix and fun.

Pre-show Fun: Explore the grounds with a family scavenger hunt featuring unique tasks, displays, and activities.

Feature Film: As the sun sets, grab your blanket or chair and settle in for our feature presentation starting at sundown.

Themed Snacks: Bring your own treats or enjoy a movie themed family food and drink menu from the Olympia Bar & Grill.

■ Family Glow Dance

Saturday, August 3rd at Olympia Hill Event Center, 12900 Mount Olympus
6:00 pm-9:00 pm

The whole family can enjoy this community event with refreshments, dancing, and prizes. A special event food menu will be available for those who would like to purchase meals. Admission and activities are free for all ages. This event is open to the public.

SKYHAWKS SUMMER CAMPS

COMING TO **UNIVERSAL CITY PARK**

REGISTRATION OPEN
 BOYS AND GIRLS
 AGES 6-12
 9AM-12PM \$169

MULTI-SPORT CAMP

(SOCCER, FLAG FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL)

6/10 - 6/14

BASKETBALL CAMP

7/08 - 7/12

FLAG FOOTBALL CAMP

7/22 - 7/25

REGISTER HERE:

REGISTER.SKYHAWKS.COM



RESILIENCE



LEADERSHIP
 SPORTSMANSHIP



TEAMWORK
 RESPECT





RIDE OF THE MOSQUITOES

Unfortunately, these tiny transporters of discomfort thrive in the warm summer months but if we all work together, we can limit their numbers and help keep our community insect population down. Sun Tzu, a known military strategist, was a strong advocate that a person should know their enemy in order to defeat them, so listen up! There are approximately 3,500 species of mosquitos. But, before you fly into a panic attack, know that only a couple hundred of them imbibe on human blood.

These pesky blights are attracted to the carbon dioxide, lactic acid, and octenol found in our breath and sweat. Some studies even show they may prefer beer drinkers! Though they thrive in hot muggy environments, they typically avoid the hottest part of the day choosing to rest in cooler spots.

Now you must be asking, "Well okay, now I know all about my

enemy, how can I defeat them?!" An excellent question! The best defense against these pests is a good offense by preventing stagnant or standing water. Stagnant water is a body of water that

has little to no activity and can become a giant breeding ground for mosquitos and bacteria. It may not be the most glamorous part of a sunny summer's day, but stagnant water can be anywhere.

YOU CAN ELIMINATE STANDING WATER BY ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

- Treat water in pools or water features or remove the water completely
- Empty and replace drinking water for outdoor pets daily
- Drill holes in cans, buckets, tires or bottles that can hold water or remove them from areas that they may be prone to filling with water
- Fill out low spots in your lawn to help with proper run off to the alley or street
- Clean clogged gutters

The City conducts night-time mosquito spraying at public locations such as parks and drain ways. Private property is not sprayed and residents should spray their property as they see fit.

Together, we can bring these little harbingers of itching and distress to their knees (or femur as the entomologists call it) by cutting off all water sources to lay eggs.

WELCOME TINT WORLD



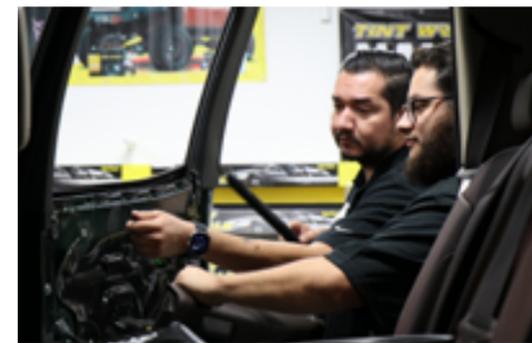
Tint World at 1734 Pat Booker celebrated their Grand Opening with great fanfare including a performance from the Veterans Memorial High School Drumline, Universal City ribbon cutting ceremony, car show, Cybertruck unveiling, and several service specials.

Tint World® Automotive Styling Centers™ continues rapid growth in Texas with new location in Universal City. Tint World Universal City, owned by Dan Billings, is the 24th Tint World location in Texas. The store serves the heart of the fast-growing San Antonio metropolitan area.

"I have wanted to open a business offering services that "Make Cars Cool" for forty years and after

moving from Fort Worth to San Antonio two years ago, I am thrilled to have found my home in Universal City, TX. My staff and myself have been delighted with the outpouring of support from the entire UC Community." -Dan Billings, Tint World, Universal City Owner

Tint World Universal City offers Auto Window Tint, Auto Paint Protection Film, Vehicle Wraps & Graphics, Nano Ceramic Coating, Auto Detailing, Headlight Restoration, Car Audio & Video, Auto Remote Start & Security, Advanced Driver Assistance, Automotive Lighting, Auto/Truck Accessories, Powersport & Marine Upgrades, Residential/Commercial Architectural (frosted glass) & Window Tint Films.





& HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS PRESENT

DINE & DONATE FOR OUR ANIMAL SHELTER

10% OF PROCEEDS ARE DONATED WITH MENTION OF HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS

JUNE 20TH & JULY 18TH 5-9 P.M.

Roscoe

Hazel



BECOME A VOLUNTEER



JOIN THE UNIVERSAL CITY ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL VOLUNTEER TEAM!

Volunteers are an essential part of the Universal City Animal Care and Control (UCACC) team. Without their dedication and time, UCACC wouldn't be able to support as many animals, educate the public, or raise the critical funds needed for their mission.

■ Why Volunteer with UCACC?

Volunteering with UCACC is a rewarding way to give back to the community and help animals in need. Whether it's assisting with daily operations, participating in outreach programs, or helping at fundraising events, volunteers make a significant impact.

■ Volunteer Opportunities

There are several ways to help at the shelter, including:

Kennel Cleaning: Help maintain a clean and healthy environment for the animals.

Dog Walking and Pet Socialization: Provide exercise and companionship to dogs and other animals, helping them stay happy and healthy.

Community Events and Fundraisers: Assist in organizing and participating in events that raise awareness and funds for UCACC.

Laundry/Dishes: Keep the shelter running smoothly by helping with laundry and dishes.

Dog Bathing: Ensure the animals are clean and comfortable.

■ Volunteer Requirements

To ensure a safe and effective volunteer experience, UCACC has a few requirements for prospective volunteers:

Age: Volunteers must be 16 years or older.

Orientation: Attend an orientation and tour of UCACC to get familiar with the facility and procedures.

Time Commitment: Volunteers are asked to commit to at least 8 hours of service per month.

Policies and Procedures: Read, understand, and abide by all UCACC policies and procedures.

Personal Qualities: A friendly and outgoing personality, along with a genuine concern for animals, is essential.

By volunteering, you will be joining a passionate team dedicated to animal welfare and community education. Your efforts will directly contribute to the well-being of countless animals and help promote responsible pet ownership within the Universal City community.

If you are interested in making a difference and becoming a part of the UCACC team, visit www.UCTX.gov to learn more about volunteer opportunities and to sign up for the next orientation session. Volunteer sessions are held the 3rd Saturday of every month (excluding February and December).

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY.

2024 SUMMER ADVENTURE EXPERIENCE
JOIN US FOR VARIOUS ADVENTURES - A DIFFERENT THEME EACH WEEK!

WEEKLY ON TUESDAYS
LIBRARY MEETING ROOM:
@ 3:00PM

JUNE 11 - ADVENTURES IN MYTHOLOGY
JUNE 18 - ADVENTURES IN NATURE
JUNE 25 - ADVENTURES IN ART
JULY 2 - CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE
JULY 9 - ADVENTURES IN SPACE
JULY 16 - ADVENTURES IN IMAGINATION



UC PUBLIC LIBRARY SPECIAL PROGRAMS

THE SUMMER ADVENTURE EXPERIENCE!

Adventure begins at the Universal City Public Library this summer! Join us for the registration and kick-off event with Big Time Bubbles on June 8, 2024!

The library's summer adventure experience inspires all ages of kids, teens, and adults to read for pleasure. .

Mark your calendar for an exciting summer of events! There is something for all ages.

Bubble Party SAE Kick-Off & Registration (Family program)
June 8th @ 10:00 AM in the library parking lot
Wear your swimsuit and bring your towel
Register for our Summer Adventure Experience @ the front desk

Adventures! (Youth Program)
Tuesdays @ 3:00 PM, Meeting Room
June 11th – Adventures in Mythology
June 18th – Adventures in Nature
June 25th – Adventures in Art
July 2nd – Choose Your Own Adventure
July 9th – Adventures in Space
July 16th – Adventures in Imagination

Entertainer Series (Family program)
Thursdays @ 10:00AM, Splash Pad Pavilion C
June 13th – UCFD Firefighters & Truck
June 20th – Kim Lehman “Stories, Songs, and Adventures”
June 27th – Danny Conner’s Reptile Adventures (live reptiles)
July 11th – Magician John O’Bryant
July 18th – KGCO Mystery Radio Show

Science! (Youth program)
Fridays, June 14th, 21st, 28th, & July 12th, 19th
10:00 – 10:45 AM, ages 5-10
11:00 – 11:45 AM, ages 11-18

Adventures in Cooking (Teen program)
Saturdays, June 8th – July 13th @ 12:00 noon

Raffle Round-Up
Saturday, July 20th @ 10:00 AM

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY.

Adventures in Cooking

For: Teens 13-18 years old.

Dates: Saturday, June 8, 15, 22, 29 & July 6, 13.

Time: 12:00PM - 1:30PM
Where: Library Meeting Room or Activity Room.

Calling all Aspiring young chefs and any teens who love food! Interested in experiencing new cuisine? Then join us to create and sample delicious recipes that can be made easily at home.

PREVENT THAT SUMMER SLIDE!

Children who read during the summer months can help prevent the summer slide by keeping their reading and math skills sharp during the break in the school year.

READING ENCOURAGES AND FOSTERS LIFELONG LEARNERS!



CALENDAR

JUN/JUL 24 YOUTH PROGRAMS

PAWS to Read: Read with Teddy
The Reading Education Assistance Dogs (R.E.A.D.) program uses therapy dogs as reading companions for children. These dogs serve as non-judgmental, attentive listeners, helping to alleviate the fear associated with reading aloud. Registration required. Visit www.UCTX.gov/Library to register.
Saturday, June 1st @ 10:00 AM, Quiet Reading Room
Saturday, July 6th @ 10:00 AM, Quiet Reading Room

STORYTIME: Read, Sing, and Learn together!
Pre-school (ages 3-5):
Tuesdays @ 10:00am, Meeting Room
Toddlers (ages 2-3):
Tuesdays @ 11:00am, Meeting Room
Babies (ages 0-24 months):
Wednesdays @ 10:00am, Meeting Room

Stuffed Animal Sleepover
Drop-Off: June 21st @ 4:30-6:30 PM
Pick-Up & Slideshow: June 22nd @ 10:00 AM

FAMILY PROGRAMS
Puzzle Palz
All ages are welcome to join and solve all sorts of puzzles, from traditional to Sudoku, crossword, and more! Bring your own puzzles or work on group projects with others.
Saturday, June 1st @ 11:00 AM, Meeting Room
Saturday, July 6th @ 11:00 AM, Meeting Room

ADULT PROGRAMS (18 AND UP):

Crafty Crew
Bring your own personal crafty project to work on and meet with other crafters for some personal creative focus, great conversation. You will find attendees enjoying their crochet, embroidery, adult coloring, card making, and more.
Wednesday, June 12th @ 1:00 PM, Meeting Room
Wednesday, July 10th @ 1:00 PM, Meeting Room

Young @ Hearts Bingo (Senior Programs)
Open to Seniors ages 60 and up only.
Friday, June 7th, June 14th, June 21st, June 28th @ 1:00 PM, Meeting Room
Friday, July 12th, July 19th @ 1:00 PM, Meeting Room

Painting Party
Saturday, June 29 @ 11:00 AM, Meeting Room
Registration is required and spots are limited. Sign-up at the circulation desk.

Tastee Table Club
Wednesday, July 17th @ 1:00 PM, Meeting Room
Registration is required and spots are limited. Sign-up at the circulation desk.

DIY Tote Bag
Wednesday, June 26th @ 1PM in the Meeting Room (we will provide all the supplies)
Registration is required and spots are limited. Sign-up at the circulation desk.

Beading with Darlene
Thursday, July 11th @ 1PM in the Meeting Room (we will provide all the supplies)

Scan the QR code to access the Library website, social media, programs, and catalog.

uctx.gov/library



CRIME PREVENTION



SECURE YOUR SUMMER

TOP TIPS TO KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE ON VACATION

Families are preparing for summer road trips and vacations. Before you hit the road, remember some people are looking to take advantage of an easy opportunity to heist your valued belongings.

Here are a few things you can do to deter criminals from targeting you or your home.

Home maintenance

- Invest in a Doorbell Camera. Most will notify you through your phone if someone approaches your house.
- Remove unnecessary shrubbery or debris from doors and windows (remove hiding places).
- Keep the lawn well-groomed and devoid of weeds.
- Avoid leaving contractors/landscapers alone at your residence.

Make efforts to secure your home/garage, and toys/tools, even on short trips to a store.

- Window stops are a good idea if you must leave them open.
- Do not advertise items in your garage or outbuilding by unnecessarily leaving doors open or equipment lying around.
- Secure lawn equipment and/or any other gardening tools when not in use.
- Identify/photograph & secure valuables (obtain serial numbers where applicable).

Secure your vehicle and avoid leaving anything in plain sight.

- Firearms, jewelry, purses, and wallets should always be removed.

Keep an eye out for suspicious vehicles or people.

- Always be aware of your surroundings. If it seems suspicious call the police, it's not a bother and we do not mind checking it out.

Notify the police department and a friend/family member/neighbor of your plans to travel.

- Have someone pick up mail or newspapers or place a hold on delivery.
- Place various lights on timers.
- Leave a TV or radio on the inside to make it appear if someone is home.
- Stop by the UC Police Department to request to be placed on the Out-of-Town list while on trips.

When traveling, only carry enough cash for that day. Carry cash in your front pocket.

Leave valuables in the hotel room safe.

If you must carry a purse, carry a small one and keep it close.

Make sure you have your credit card numbers saved so they can be cancelled quickly if lost or stolen.

Making a small effort to do these things is a simple method to reduce the likelihood of being victimized. Be safe and enjoy the summer!

Resolute in action. Gentle in nature.

- Wills, Trusts & Estate Planning
- Medical & Financial Powers of Attorney
- Probate & Trust Administration
- Business Formation
- Real Estate Drafting
- Probate, Business & Real Estate Litigation



Jason W. Barger • Attorney at Law

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