

JUNE/JULY 2025

The Gateway

UNIVERSAL CITY COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

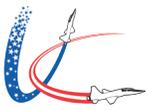


CoverStory

SALUTE TO SERVICE

VETERAN EMBRACES LIFE IN UC COMMUNITY

TRIBUTE TO A STATESMAN | EAST AVIATION DISTRICT MARKET



Universal City Municipal Directory

2150 Universal City Blvd. Universal City, TX 78148

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION 210-659-0333

City Clerk	Maribel Garcia.....	7 4 8
City Manager	Kim Turner	7 0 5
Code Compliance Officer	7 2 5
Communications.....	Kathy Williams.....	7 0 1
Court Administrator	Brenda Watkins.....	7 1 5
Development Services/EDC	Michael Cassata.....	7 2 0
Finance.....	Christine Green.....	7 0 8
Fire Chief.....	Todd Perna.....	7 8 6
Health Official.....	Anabell Maldonado.....	7 2 7
Permit/Zoning.....	Linda Iglehart.....	7 2 3
Police Chief	Johnny Siemens.....	7 5 5
Community Events.....	Brianne Brandenburg.....	7 2 1
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

Apply for Boards and Commissions!

Accepting Applications:
Board of Adjustment/Appeals
Library Advisory Commission
Parks and Recreation Commission
Planning and Zoning Commission
Apply by June 30th!

Find more information and apply here:
www.UCTX.gov/BoardsAndCommissions



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

JUNE/JULY 25

MEETINGS

■ **June 2, 2025** 6 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Meeting

■ **June 3, 2025** 6:30 p.m.
City Council Regular Meeting

■ **June 12, 2025** 5 p.m.
Economic Development Corporation Meeting

■ **June 17, 2025** 6:30 p.m.
City Council Regular Meeting

June 19, 2025 CLOSED Juneteenth

■ **June 23, 2025**..... 6 p.m.
Board of Adjustment Meeting

■ **June 24, 2025** 6 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

■ **July 1, 2025** 6:30 p.m.
City Council Regular Meeting

July 4, 2025 CLOSED Independence Day

■ **July 7, 2025** 6 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Meeting

■ **July 8, 2025** 4:30 p.m.
City Council BUDGET WORK SESSION

■ **July 10, 2025**..... 5 p.m.
Economic Development Corporation Meeting

■ **July 15, 2025**..... 6:30 p.m.
City Council Regular Meeting

■ **July 16, 2025**..... 5:30 p.m.
Library Advisory Commission Meeting

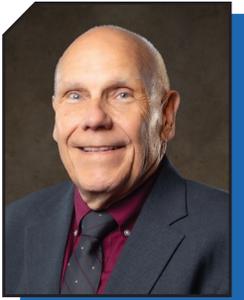
■ **July 22, 2025** 4:30 p.m.
IF NEEDED City Council BUDGET WORK SESSION

■ **July 22, 2025** 6 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

■ **July 28, 2025** 6 p.m.
Board of Adjustment Meeting



LEADERSHIP



TOM MAXWELL
MAYOR



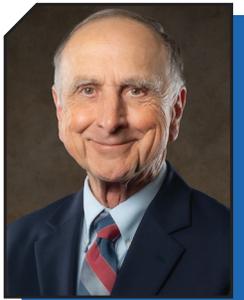
PHIL VAUGHN
COUNCILMEMBER



BEAR GOOLSBY
COUNCILMEMBER



LORI PUTT
COUNCILMEMBER



BERNARD RUBAL
COUNCILMEMBER



CHRISTINA FITZPATRICK
MAYOR PRO TEM



KIM TURNER
CITY MANAGER

HAVE A QUESTION?



ASK JET



How do I adopt a pet?

Can I get a library card?

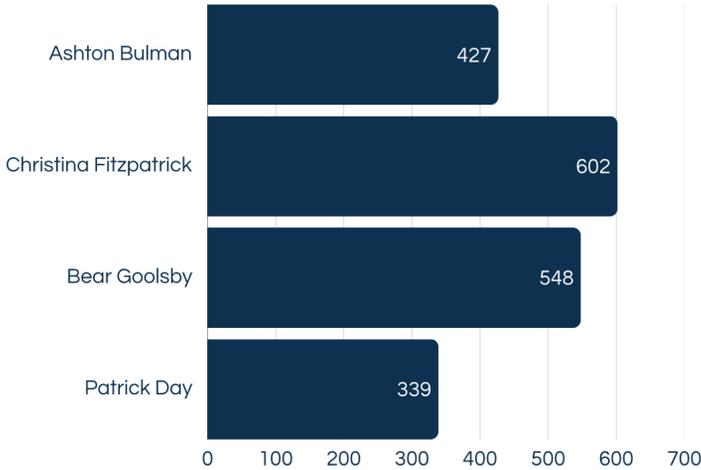
How do I pay my ticket?

Universal City's virtual assistant is here to help you report an issue or find the information you need!

TEXT "**HELLO**" TO (844) 634-8289

UCElections

UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS



Two councilmembers who retained their seats in the May 3rd general election were sworn in for new two-year terms during a special Universal City Council meeting May 13.

In the official vote canvass, official results from Bexar and Guadalupe counties, Christina Fitzpatrick received 602 votes. Bear Goolsby 549 votes, Ashton Bulman 427 and Patrick Day had 339

ballots cast in his favor.

Residents in the crowded chamber gave Goolsby and Mayor Pro Tem Fitzpatrick, who council voted to keep in the position of Mayor Pro Tem, received a standing ovation after the swearing in.

Former Council member Ashton Bulman is declining to serve a second term, and has officially resigned her council seat for the new term.



Spectrum



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UNIVERSAL CITY
Communications

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f @UniversalCityTX

Coming Soon to UC TV

Your Stories on Demand

For City Manager Kim Turner, bringing a Public Education and Government (PEG) Channel to Universal City has been a years-long journey.

"It's been five years from the time we began the process to this point. But as a result, Universal City will be the first city in the area with a channel completely dedicated to community news," she said.

The programming on UC TV will include content of public record like city council meetings. But most of what local residents will see will be feature stories about the many interesting people and events here, profiles of our local businesses, our schools and the area's fascinating history.

Content will run for a week at a time, with new stories added to the programming schedule regularly. The 5 a.m. to 9 a.m. time period will include special long-form programming like The Great Texas Air Show featuring the Thunderbirds. This time period will also include community calendars and content. Story ideas can be submitted by the public at stories@uctx.gov.

From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. you'll see the



stories of your neighbors and regional and state news that affects us.

Once the City is assigned a channel number by Spectrum, we'll announce a launch date on our Facebook page and website. Follow us at City of Universal City-Government and uctx.gov.



Salute to Service

Days after the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor 134,000 Americans enlisted in the military. After 9/11, more than a quarter of a million Americans came forward to serve.

Sgt. Debra Schultz, now a Universal City resident, was one of them. At the time she was a college student at Texas Woman's University in Denton and graduated with a degree in Kinesiology and Exercise Science. She initially decided to live in the U.C. during COVID when she was looking for the right place for her son to attend school. But the community quickly grew on her.

"The minute I moved here it was amazing the people who welcomed

me into the community. And I think it's important to be part of the community. It is important as a single parent with only one child to be a part of things."

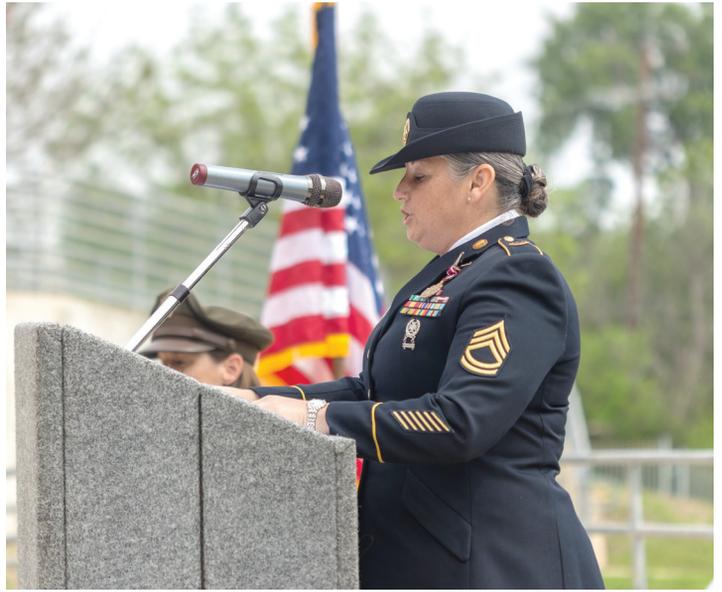
We first learned about Sgt. 1st Class Schultz from Bernadette Bell, a PR and Internal Relations Manager seven hundred miles away in New Mexico. Her organization, the American Society of Radiologic Technologies (ASRT), had featured Sgt. Schultz, a member of the organization, on the cover of its

ASRT Scanner Magazine.

Bell wondered if Universal City's Gateway Magazine might be interested in a story about Schultz who was featured in the ASRT Scanner as part of the 30-year milestone of its military chapter.

Bell shared that she took the time to let us know about Schultz not just for the skill she brings as a leader and teacher in the radiology field, but also for the dedicated community service she has done at all of her duty stations.

"She would never seek the spotlight for herself, but she deserved every bit of publicity she gets, and I wanted the community she calls home now to know about her," Bell said.



Sgt. Schultz's first assignments after leaving Texas Woman's University included Ft. Stewart in Georgia and then during the Iraq War Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.

Landstuhl is a challenging assignment. One that requires both skill and compassion because it's the largest military hospital overseas and is classified as a Level 2 Trauma Center. The staff often see catastrophic injuries. The job itself was challenging, but Schultz' says her Jewish faith has always guided her. She describes performing imaging on the wounded as a powerful experience, and an opportunity to train others.

Returning stateside, Schultz served as a basic training drill Sergeant at Ft. Jackson in South Carolina. She acknowledges being

firm, but also fair. Then came the assignment at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio where she earned her way into the role of supervisor. She was a senior training developer when she retired just weeks ago. But she's not done yet. Schultz already has a new leadership role as an imaging supervisor at South Texas Radiology Imaging Center (STRIC). Still growing and teaching others.

"Being an imaging supervisor at BAMC allowed me to flourish. My supervisors and my peers showed me to doors that I chose to walk through that led to a myriad of experiences."

Days after our interview with Sgt. Schultz, her nearly 20 years of service in the Army was recognized in a special retirement ceremony at

Ft. Sam. She says she was excited and humbled by the ceremony.

During the event Schultz was surrounded by family and friends who took her words to heart. "The Army has been more than just a career. It has given me a family. And while I may be retiring the uniform, the lessons, the friends and the memories will stay with me forever."

Mayor Tom Maxwell and wife Cheryl were in the crowd that day. "We are so happy and proud that Sgt. Schultz has chosen Universal City as her home. She is an impressive person, and we understand she's a heck of a baker!" he laughs.

That is apparently a well-known fact about

her. She says baking holds positive memories from her childhood and we may see her creations at a Universal City event. She has a twin sister Laurie, and she was extremely close to her late father Harmon who she misses every day. She becomes emotional when speaking about him and adds that she sees her dad in her 11-year-old son Jordan.

It was Jordan, who she describes as her ball of joy, who had the tribute of the day at the retirement ceremony. "I just want to say that I love you and how good a mother you've been. And you've been there every step when I have had struggles you've always been there. I love you mom."

Editor's note: Segments of our on-camera interview with Sgt. Schultz and the retirement ceremony will be featured on the premiere of UC TV. Follow us on Facebook for the launch date.



THE END OF AN ERA



Legacy School Closes Its Doors

As word spreads about the pending closure of Universal City's Coronado Village Elementary, many are taking to social media to reminisce. Current and previous staff, students were excited about the final walk of the halls and a celebration scheduled for a few days later.

The social media and in-person comments all reflected heartfelt nostalgia about the school that first welcomed students in the 1971-1972 school year.

"My Dad, George Ammermann, was principal there at one time. Not sure when or for how long. I remember one summer they got a new coffee maker & the secretary made me hot

chocolate with it. Strange some of the things we remember!" - Susan Abbey

"Caleb and I met in third grade at Coronado." - Oly Schafer married Caleb and they have six sons.

"Loved this school so much for my babies." - Jessica Spatafore

Jessica isn't alone. Hundreds of local families have generational history with Coronado Village Elementary. The school was deemed a necessity when the then brand new subdivision Coronado Village was built. Initially, many students were the children of service members assigned to Randolph Air Force Base.

It opened in an era of bell bottoms and bouffant

hairdos. School leadership quickly made the school part of "The Village." Students marched the streets for events like Fiesta and even households without children enrolled participated in supporting fundraisers.

Fast forward to now as staff members like Coach Ashley Nevarez say the move is bittersweet.

"It's a mix of excitement and nostalgia. Our graduating 5th graders are jealous that they're going to miss out on the move to a brand new school," she said.

The closure comes as a result of shrinking student enrollment. Recently, the school was the source of controversy

when word spread that it would be repurposed as an alternative campus for young offenders. District leadership has since abandoned that plan.

Low enrollment is a challenge in the region and across the state, and Coronado Village Elementary won't be the only school closing effective this fall. Three schools in the Northeast Independent School District face consolidation for the 2025-2026 school year.

As for students from Coronado Village Elementary this fall, they'll attend brand new Selma Elementary, still under construction, but already prepared to welcome in a new era.

A New Reason to Gather in the City

When Gather Brewing Company had its ribbon cutting in December of 2021, neighbors were hopeful that it would be a positive presence in the East Aviation District.

Now Gather Brewing Co. is a great example of what other businesses could be in the City's 10-year Aviation District Masterplan. It focuses on the redevelopment potential of the area. Its goal is to create a vibrant public space anchored by a town center, mixed-use spaces, life at night and open areas that are walkable and bring the community together.

Bringing the community together and supporting local small businesses was the goal when Gather owners Mike and Rachel Voeller launched Market Days three years ago.

"From the very beginning, our vision in opening Gather was to be a place where connection is facilitated. In today's marketplace, the mom-and-pop shop tends to be the one that struggles the most. We saw our placement in the community to act as an anchor, connecting small, local businesses with the local community. We envisioned something special, local goods

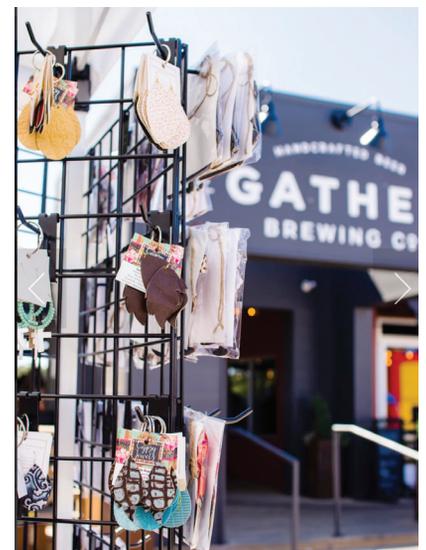
being marketed to the community, bringing everyone together. This vision aligned with our brand in such a strong way that we wanted to make the Market Days our first regular event," Mike said.

Now Market Days have morphed into the East Aviation District Markets in partnership with the City of Universal City. All markets take place on the first Saturday of each month.

"These markets featuring farmers, artisans and artists benefit Universal City as a gathering place for residents, foster a sense of belonging, and are great economic stimulus for the local economy by increasing foot traffic to nearby shops and businesses," said City Manager Kim Turner.

Becki Babcock, the new Executive Director of the Tri-County Chamber has also pledged support for the effort which welcomes residents from surrounding communities as well.

"Community is everything. When we show up for each other, we all grow. I believe in bringing what I can to the table—support, energy, ideas—whatever helps our members thrive," Babcock said.





NEVILLE PARK & CLUBHOUSE

SUMMER FUN IN UNIVERSAL CITY

Neville Park and Club House

For those who have used the playground or clubhouse at Cimarron Park, please note that the facility has been renamed in honor of late City councilmember and Mayor Pro Tem Richard "Dick" Neville. When you visit this special park, there's a plaque that details the contributions to the City made by Mr. Neville and his wife Carol.

Monthly Markets First Saturdays



Next Market: June 7

- GATHER BREWING CO
- 210 EAST AVIATION
- 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Parks in Universal City

- Universal City Park
- Red Horse Park
- Northview Park and Splashpad
- Cibolo Creek Nature Trails
- Universal City Dog Park
- Meadow Oaks Park
- Neville Park and Clubhouse

To find the perfect facility for your next event, check availability at www.uctx.gov/parks.

Rental deposits are required. For rentals, contact Public Works at 210-659-5364.

Splashpad Hours

Open Daily thru October
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
100 Randolph Plaza Dr.





UC PUBLIC LIBRARY SUMMER PROGRAMS



Kickoff June 7

The Universal City Public Library invites families to join its free Summer Library Experience, a six-week celebration of reading and creativity from Saturday, June 7, through Saturday, July 19. This year's theme, "Color Our World," features programs and activities for children, teens and adults designed to inspire imagination, build skills and bring generations together.

The fun kicks off June 7 at 10 a.m. on the library's front lawn (corner of Northview and Parkview) with Magician John O'Bryant's family magic show. No registration is required for this high-energy performance of illusion, music, storytelling and audience participation. After the show, stay for snow cones, face painting, rock painting, popcorn, swag bags (while supplies last) and more interactive fun beginning at 11 a.m.

THROUGHOUT JUNE AND JULY, YOUTH PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

Storytime for every age Baby Storytime (birth-25 months) 10 a.m. Wednesdays; Toddler Storytime (ages 2-3) 11 a.m. Tuesdays; Pre-K Storytime (ages 3-5) 10 a.m. Tuesdays. No registration required.

Tuesday Tours at 3 p.m. explore a different continent each week through crafts, games and stories. For ages 6 and up; no registration required.

Read with Therapy Dogs Practice reading aloud to a trained dog. Register for 15- to 30-minute time slots by calling 210-659-7048 or visiting the circulation desk.

PAWS to Read with Teddy on Saturday, June 7, and **R.E.A.D. with Jett** on Saturday, June 21, and Saturday, July 19.

TEEN AND ADULT OFFERINGS FROM CULINARY TO CRAFT:

Young at Heart Senior Games (Bingo) at 1 p.m. Fridays; open to ages 60 and up.

Crafty Crew meets at 1 p.m. Wednesdays for crocheting, knitting, scrapbooking and more; open to adults 18 and up.

Book Buddies Book Club at 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 18 "Lonely Spires" by Rae Sengele and July 16 "The Red Tent" by Anita Diamant.

Tastee Table, Marble Ink Coaster Class and Adult Painting Party to round out the lineup.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY HIGHLIGHTS:

Origami for the Family at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 25. Learn the Japanese art of folding paper into decorative animal shapes.

Splash of Color Tea Party June 12 - 13. Dress in your finest garden attire, bring a stuffed animal and enjoy tea and treats. Registration opens May 22 and space is limited.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover Drop off your plush pal Friday, June 27, and return June 28 at 10 a.m. for a slideshow of their overnight adventures and light snacks. No registration required.

The grand finale on Saturday, July 19, features a raffle drawing at 11 a.m., followed by a foam bubble party outside.

Cooking With Color!
Teens 13-18
June 7 - 19
Saturdays @ Noon

Disclaimer: Please be advised food prepared may contain allergens or may contain these ingredients: milk, eggs, wheat, soybeans & peanuts.
Please call UCPL with questions or concerns.
No Registration Required!



Welcome: Becki Babcock

Tri-County Chamber — Executive Director



The new Executive Director of the Tri-County Chamber has already met dozens of business leaders in her few weeks in the new position. Babcock is a heavy hitter with a background in Advertising and Marketing, Real Estate, Social Media Strategy—and she’s even been a P.E. coach in her education journey. Our team recently had the opportunity to spend time with Babcock. Since small businesses are the lifeblood of Universal City, we asked her what owners can expect in the months ahead:

Q: How are things going in your new role as the Executive Director of the Tri-County Chamber?

A: So good. Honestly, I wake up every day knowing I get to do my favorite things—connect, support, and serve. It feels like a dream.

Q: What are some of your immediate goals?

A: I want to really get to know our communities and businesses on a deeper level. Understanding their needs and offering real, helpful resources is huge. I’m planning to spotlight a different area or zone each month and bring in relevant learning opportunities that add value.

Q: You immediately stepped up to support the East Aviation District Market, The City is excited to be a part of this effort started by Gather Brewing Co. Why, (the support)

and how important do you think events like this are for local communities? What impact might an event like this have on the overall community?

A: They create connection and momentum. These events show how collaboration makes life better for everyone. I always say: Be a light. Be reliable.

Q: How do you navigate having multiple business communities that are clustered so closely together?

A: My previous role as a Community Engagement Specialist with Whataburger taught me how to support multiple areas under one big umbrella. Each city, each zone has its own personality—and I love tailoring support to fit what makes them special.

Q: And finally, what’s a message you’d like to share with the (business) community?

A: When you invest your heart in your local businesses and communities, you don’t just watch growth—you live it. It’s in the connections we build, the stories we share, and the pride we take in making our community a place you want to be.”



BRUSH PICK-UP

JUNE 23 - 26

ALL BRUSH COLLECTION MUST BE AT THE CURB BY 7 A.M. THE MONDAY OF PICKUP WEEK

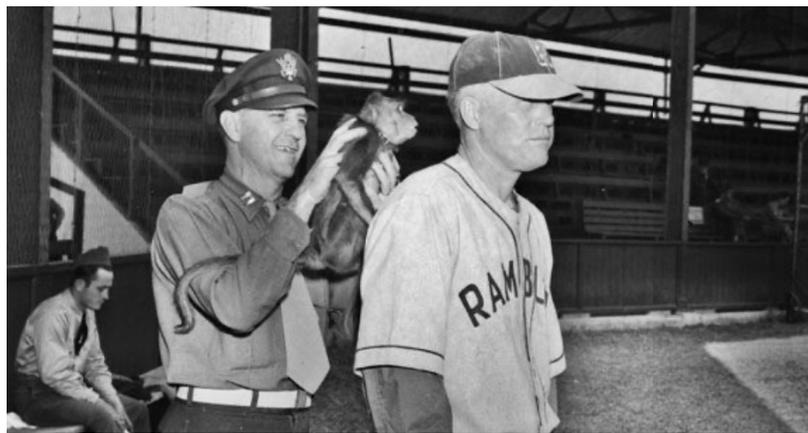
LIMITED TO SIX CUBIC YARDS TOTAL INCLUDES BAGS OF LEAVES AND LIMBS. BAGS SHOULD WEIGH NO MORE THAN 35 POUNDS EACH. PLEASE PROPERLY BUNDLE LIMBS

Did You Know?



The Randolph Ramblers football team, circa 1943. In the 1944 Cotton Bowl, they tied UT, 7-7.

Courtesy photo /U.S. Air Force



BASEBALL PHOTOS COURTESY SAN ANTONIO LIGHT/UTSA
T.O. Graham and Bib Faulk

Wartime Baseball at Randolph

JBSA Randolph was still named Randolph Field when the Randolph Field Ramblers were part of the San Antonio Service Baseball League in the 1940's. There was also the Brooks Field Ganders, the Fort Sam Houston Rangers and the Kelly Field Fliers.

Despite some Americans questioning playing baseball during World War II, both the Service Leagues and Major League Baseball were a major morale boost for both military personnel on the battlefield and the folks back home. There were even "victory games" organized to raise money for the military and other war-related efforts. Baseball patriotism.

After the Pearl Harbor attack, President Roosevelt

received a letter asking if baseball should continue. The next day, his quick response in the affirmative is known as the "Green Light" letter.

The Ramblers were no joke. The San Antonio Service Baseball League was highly competitive from 1943-45. In 1943 there were eight teams. That number dropped to six in 1944 and ended with seven in 1945.

Former major leaguer Bib Falk managed the Randolph Field Ramblers. The lineup over the years included future major leaguer Tex Aulds who played left field. Matt Batts was behind the plate. The minor league roster was longer and included Marty Errante, Tom Finger, Irv

Fortune, Jack Lindstrom, Jim Morris, Reuben "Rube" Naranjo, Walt Nothe, Stan Novak, Clarence Pfeil and Jim Wright. Perhaps the most well-known was "Boo" Ferris, major leaguer for the Boston Red Sox who briefly played for Randolph.

The San Antonio Light /UTSA archives include some great photos from that era including one featuring Capt. T.O. Graham, who ran Randolph Field's baseball program, putting a monkey on Corporal and coach Bib Falk in 1943.

There was also the Randolph Ramblers football team. It made headlines in the 1944 Cotton Bowl tying UT 7-7. We'll have many

interesting facts about Randolph Field and Universal City's history in our "Did You Know" segment on UC TV.



Reuben Naranjo

UCLibrary Events & Programs

COLOR OUR WORLD™

2025

TEEN SUMMER
LIBRARY EXPERIENCE

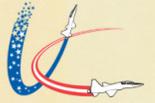
COOKING WITH COLOR!

SATURDAYS @ NOON



@universalcitypl

Disclaimer: Please be advised food prepared may contain allergens or may contain these ingredients:
milk, eggs, wheat, soy bean & peanuts.
Please call UCPL with questions or concerns.



June 7	Candy Sushi
June 14	Cupcakes
June 21	Sugar Cookies
June 28	Pizza
July 12	Smoothies
July 19	Raffle Round Up

COLOR OUR WORLD™

SPLASH OF COLORS TEA PARTY



June 12

Ages 6+
(without caregiver)
at 4pm

June 13

Ages 6+
(with caregiver)
at 10am

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Tea Party Attire Encouraged

Ages 3-5
(with caregiver)
at 12:30pm

REGISTER HERE:



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When former Universal City Councilman and Mayor Pro Tem Richard “Dick” Neville passed away recently, it was just a few days after the City’s Cimarron Park was renamed in his and his wife Carol’s honor.

When guests arrive at the newly renamed Neville Park and Clubhouse, they’ll see a plaque that details the contributions of the couple. Councilman Bernard Rubal led the charge for the name change, and the proposal was unanimously approved by the council.

Neville and his family will forever be part of Universal City’s story.

Prior to his dedicated service to the City, he had already served in two branches of the military,

retiring from the Air Force as a Chief Master Sgt.

He then became an educator earning two master’s degrees at St. Mary’s University. Never wavering from his faith, he also served as a deacon.

While many may not know his name, his legacy in Universal City is permanent.

He was a leading proponent of the Pat Booker Road Enhancement Program, which made travel easier for all residents. The project also won a Texas Downtown Association Award. He joined forces with other leaders to support the building of a new library.

Those who knew him describe him as a man of wisdom and humility who exemplified dedication.

NeighborsOfNote



A group of volunteers representing all of our volunteer organizations traveled to Austin to accept the Governor's Community Champions Award. Congratulations Parks Partners, Friends of the Universal City Public Library, Universal City Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association, and Homes for the Homeless Pets. Our volunteer corp was the only San Antonio-area recipient in the 41st annual Texas Governor's Volunteerism Award this year. We salute all of our volunteers past and present.



UCCommunity

Out & About

Easter Egg Hunt 2025



UCCommunity

Out & About

Pancake Breakfast 2025



THE GATEWAY

City of Universal City
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Universal City, Texas 78148

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