

United Services on The Village Green

Hours are M-F 9-5 and Saturday 10-3.

cs@HWUMB.com 323-822-5322

Hip hip Hooray for United Services in Hollywood. I do not know whether to call it personal mailboxes or Business Center accommodations or Fed Ex and UPS services or Post Office Boxes or Sales panels or what – because it is all of these things and more. Let's look at them one by one.

Opened Monday, March 1st. Med and Mary, a couple and business partners, have set up a great place to service our communications needs. They know what they are doing and were able to set up right there between the Market and the Drycleaner without a hitch, for this is their second such shop. United opened up in Beverly Hills 35 years ago; Med and Mary bought the United company, currently work the Beverly Hills store, and now this expansion to Sho #2 will enhance the history of HOLLYWOODLAND. Mel will move back and forth between the two and Mary will be "ours." They are hiring staff and are pleased to announce that one of the 3 staff members has a boyfriend in David, a clerk at the Market. Another employee is the son of M&M.

MAIL and PO Boxes: US Mail will be picked up by one of our carriers twice a day (AM and PM) when carriers drop off mail for United clients. The beautiful shop has 500 Post Office boxes available for rent, but these are Post Office boxes beyond regular USPS Post Office boxes. You get a discrete, anonymous PO Box address, but unlike the USPS, United will accept your packages from Amazon, Fed Ex, and UPS. Expecting a package? Just stop in or contact United to see if it awaits you. Now, that's nice. WHY might you want a box? Mailbox theft and doorstep package theft! Box holders will have a key code to enter the facility 24/7 to access their box and any packages that fit into said box.

MAIL DROPOFF: just drop with stamps or pay for metered and stamped by United

UPS and FEDEX: UPS and FedEx are privately owned companies, but United can process a package for you to them and then deliver it (daily) to a FedEx or UPR dropoff. It looks like the little fee for a UPS package will be under \$1. So if, say, you have an Amazon free "return" and you have the little scan image or label that to send it free to Amazon, United will charge you some thing under \$1 for their part in the process. United is still in negotiation with them on the final prices. Fed Ex might do it for free. You can also start fresh and get a package to United and they will weigh and price it for you and deliver to your choice: Fed Ex or UPSr.

CONFERENCE ROOM: There is a tidy little conference room in the rear which your group may rent for \$65/hour. It has a large screen, WiFi, and all you need for on line conferences away from the chaos or informality of your home. HHA could host meetings there such as classes for our kids, run by kids, for kids. Step up your "remote" presence.

NOTARY: Med is already a licensed Notary and by the end of March Mary will also be official. The standard fee, set by the official Notary Board, is \$15—the same everywhere you would go. Now you can go here!

PRINTING SERVICES: Oh my goodness United is also going to offer professional printing services, with more detail in the future.

SALES PANELS: across from the golden bank of PO boxes are several very large “panels wherein you can display your good! Do you have a start up business of oils or candles or other “arts and crafts or photographs or books or that wonderful new invention you have in mind? Display it here! One display case is \$350/month—and you can share it and set up “shop” with a creative neighbor or two. A strong security grid will descend at the end of the day to protect your goods which otherwise would be exposed to Box holders who key card their way in 24/7. If United has your stock and sells it to customers for you, your monthly rental decreases to \$300 and they take a mere 5%. You work out the storage situation and stock with United. Otherwise the panel is for display and includes your words about how to go to your website or however you determine to distribute the goods. Let the creative juices flow!

In cooperation with HHA which pays for insurance and maintenance of the Village Green, Med and Mary, are in the process of working out some broader matters, including that Med owns a **pressure washer** and is willing to have us use it for free! All we need are hearty young folk who to do the labor. Med says the whole area could be cleaned in about 2 hours – and it only takes water! Just think! We could have a *sparkling* Village Green. Would you like to “volunteer” a daughter or a son – or yourself – to supply the labor?