



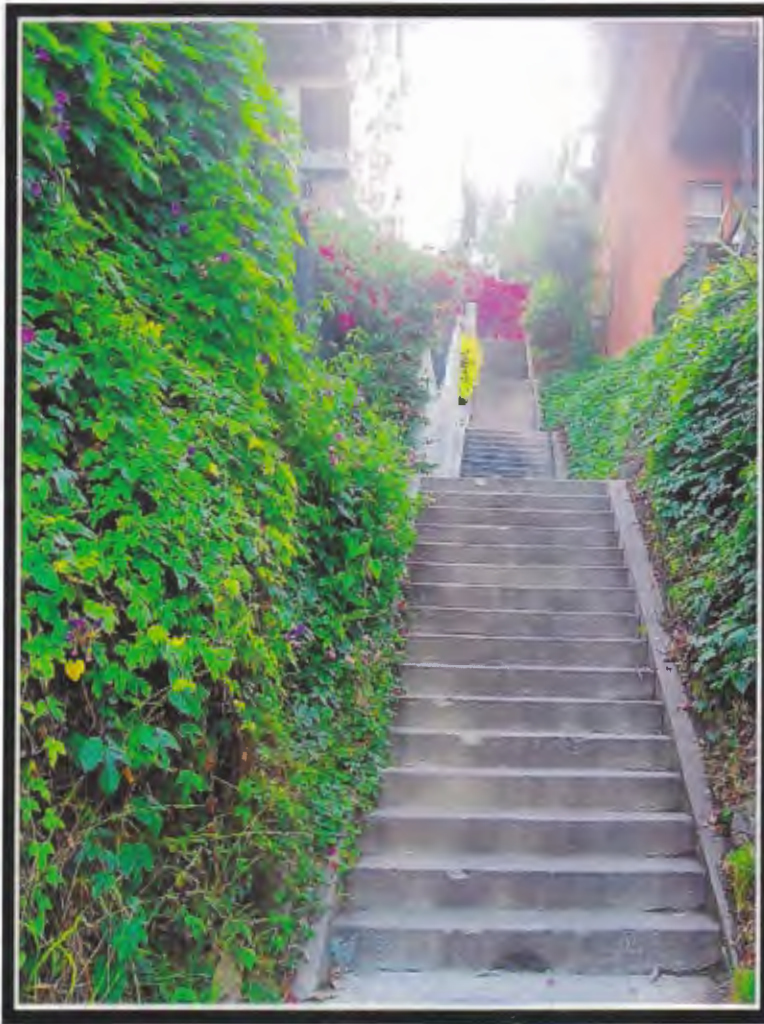
OVERVIEW

FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Issue #45

Spring / Summer

2013



DISCOVER THE FOURTEEN PUBLIC STAIRWAYS OF FRANKLIN HILLS

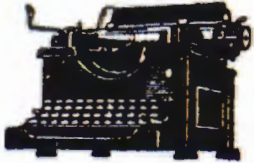
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FHRA Annual Mtg. / Sat. June 15 Noon-2pm / The Prospect Studios / see Page 10!

President's Comments / *Chris Boutelle*

OVERVIEW



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A neighborhood is as a neighborhood does.

Spring has almost fled and summer is just around the corner but we still have time to do some sprucing up around the neighborhood, as well as to our own homes before the main heat of summer is upon us. Many residents of Franklin Hills have been involved in projects that benefit all of us.

On Saturday, March 2, Councilmember Tom LaBonge's Field Deputy Mary Rodriguez organized a group of about 60 people to clean up the Radio Walk public staircase that runs from Franklin Ave. down to Hollyvista and on to DeLoz Avenue. People of all ages came from all over Franklin Hills and beyond. (Local Los Feliz Realtor Ross Carter was working throughout the morning as was Faith Ford of the Los Feliz Improvement Association and Andrea Iadero-sa from the GGPNC.) Those 200 steps have not looked so clean and trimmed in many a year. People were entertained

by stories from Charles Fleming, author of "Secret Stairs—A Walking Guide to the Historic Staircases of Los Angeles" while snacks and beverages were supplied by Councilman LaBonge's office, keeping everyone energized and sated until the Councilman drove away in the big yellow city pick-up truck with 30 or more large garbage bags of refuse from the morning.

Again on May 4, the Saturday before Big Sunday's citywide effort, FHRA Board Members Charley and Shirley Mims pitched in along with dozens of neighbors, including many from John Marshall High School, attacking the overgrowth and refuse (and graffiti) at both the Franklin Avenue Median, just west of our beloved Shakespeare Bridge and the public stairs that run from Sunset Drive's cul-de-sac west to Sanborn Avenue. Here, refreshments were provided by FHRA Board member (and neighbor on Sunset Drive) Brenda Kilbourne.

So, what can you do to keep our neighborhood as lovely as we want it to be?

Join in! Donate a couple of hours on a project in the neighborhood. Clean up some graffiti that bothers you. Volunteer at the library. Paint your house. Write a short piece for the "Overview" or deliver a short "Overview" route. Start a Neighborhood Watch Program on your block. (You can get information on how to do that by calling your LAPD Senior Lead Officer from our "Community Contacts" list in this magazine.) Even patronizing the great restaurants, retailers and services in the neighborhood adds to the cohesiveness of our "neck of the woods."

And be sure to attend our annual Franklin Hills Residents Association meeting on Saturday, June 15 at the Prospect Studios at 4151 Prospect Avenue to get involved. To do so, an R.S.V.P to our email at FHRA@Franklinhills.org or to our voicemail at 323-908-6078 is required.

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Cover—Illustration by Eric Frase



Membership UP - (But so is the **RED** ink)

FHRA Treasurer's Report / *Bruce Carroll, Treasurer*

FHRA membership increased to 266 for 2012, a 1.5% gain from 2011, and member contributions beyond the basic dues were also up slightly to \$1,295. But income for the year from all sources was down about 1% to \$15,317.05 and we ended the year with \$29,401.43...a drop of nearly \$3,100 from 2011. Over \$2,100 of that decline can be attributed to the cost of completely redoing the Franklin Ave. Median's irrigation system which had become inoperable. Money well spent, and just in time, since we are in the midst of one of LA's driest years on record.

Our biggest income source, ads in the *Overview*, totaled \$4,825 in 2012, a \$2,440 drop from 2011. That was caused by two factors, some of 2012's ads were not paid for until 2013, after the end of the fiscal year, and the 20 page fall issue had less ad space than previous 24 page issues. Contributions for special purposes were up sharply in 2012 due largely to a \$3,500 grant arranged by Councilmember Tom LaBonge's office to help pay for improvement of basketball facilities at King Middle School. Sales of FHRA T-shirts and Historic Photos (check them out on our website at www.franklinhills.org/fh-historicfotos.pdf) brought in \$276, contributions to the median \$260, while the Norman Harriton Community Garden collected \$1,135 in dues and contributions. And bringing up the rear, and declining once again, we earned just \$36.05 in interest and dividends down 37% from 2011. *(continued on next page / see Treasurer)*



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(Treasurer—continued from page 3)

As in past years while the *Overview* brings in the most revenue it also ranks as our biggest expenditure, even with a 13% reduction from 2011 the 2012 cost came to \$7,768. The next highest expense was maintaining the Franklin Ave. Median, with the new irrigation system spending was up to \$3,661, more than double previous years. The Norman Harriton Community Garden spent \$1,202 for gardening tools and supplies. Insurance for the FHRA and its volunteers ran \$1,171. Membership costs including the annual meeting, website - www.FranklinHills.org , e-mail -FHRA@FranklinHills.org, voicemail/fax - 323-908-6078, and snail mail - PO Box 29593 LA CA 90029, came to \$825. And miscellaneous items like contributions to the Hillside Federation, renewing the holiday lights on the Shakespeare Bridge and our stock of Historic Photos came to \$276.

We hope all Franklin Hills residents will help to continue to support our community efforts. If you have been receiving our e-mailed FHRA alerts, but haven't officially become an FHRA member, or your membership has lapsed, now would be a great time to make your contribution. Current members can use the return addressed envelope in the FHRA letter you should have received. If you're not already a member use the convenient membership form printed in this Overview or come to the annual meeting and join us there. Individual dues are just \$15 per year, \$30 for a household and of course extra contributions are always welcome and tax deductible since FHRA is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charity. And for those who just can't tear themselves away from their computers our FranklinHills.org website can now take your credit card donations via PayPal. Thank you for your past and continued support for FHRA and the businesses whose ads make the *Overview* possible. ■

FHRA Annual Mtg. / Sat. June 15 Noon-2pm / The Prospect Studios / see Page 10!

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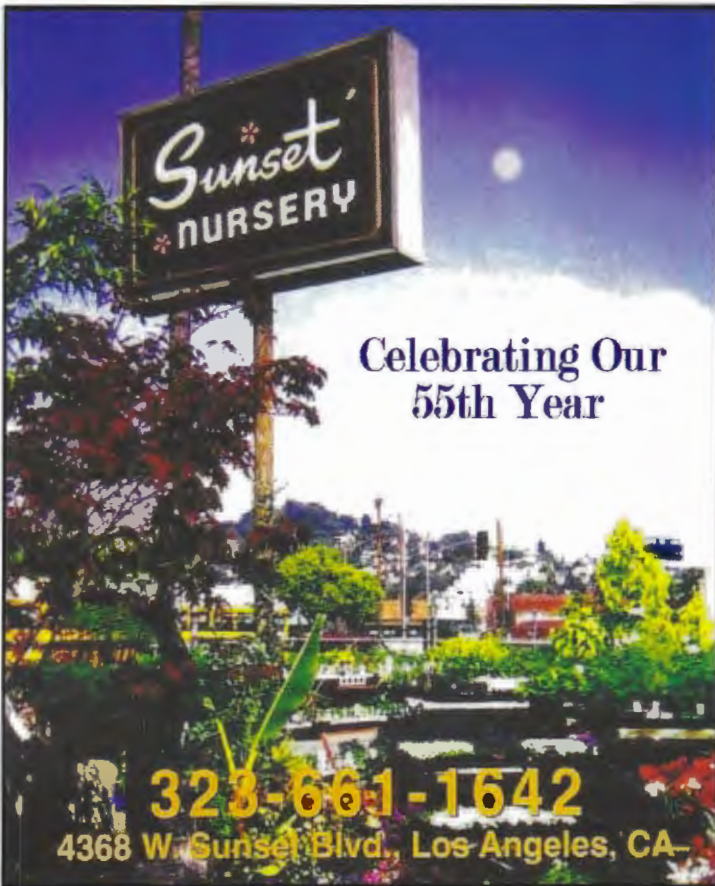
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The Critter Report

Coyote Hazing / *by George Grace*

In reaction to expanding coyote populations in urban areas, many state, local, and private organizations have formed to provide information and advice on how to peacefully co-exist with the critters that the Navajo call the "song dog". What to do if you encounter a coyote, and how to keep coyotes away from specified areas is a subject easily researched on the internet, under the general topic "Coyote Hazing". Check out YouTube for the video "How to Haze a Coyote".

Project Coyote, a California organization fostering peaceful co-existence between humans and coyotes has an excellent Coyote Hazing Field Guide. that can be downloaded from their website at www.ProjectCoyote.org. Copies of the brochure will also be available at the FHRA Annual Meeting in June.

Two different types of hazing activities are described in the brochure, "Active" and "Passive". Active hazing involves how to handle a face-to-face encounter with a coyote. Passive hazing involves steps you can take to move/keep coyotes out of an area.

Active Hazing: Franklin Hills is coyote territory, so be prepared for an encounter at any time. As a general rule, you should haze every coyote you meet. Failing to do this can lead to "habituation" (loss of fear of humans) - a situation that can ultimately result in the coyote's death. The following list describes how to Haze a Coyote, but be aware that wily coyote is smart and may already be acclimated to some of them. **Don't depend on only one method of deterrence.**

1. Begin by acting "Big, Bad and Loud". Make eye contact. This will let him know that you are the source of danger and discomfort. Stand tall, wave your arms and yell at the coyote, maintaining eye contact and approaching it if necessary. Shaking a jacket, walking cane, umbrella, or large stick also makes you more threatening.
2. Throw something toward the coyote (don't try to actually hit him). I think this is the most effective deterrent, and have used it when walking my dogs. I carry dessicated limes (they can't hurt), but ordinary sticks, cans, rocks, balls, or similar also work. Coyotes hate having something thrown at them.
3. Carry a loud whistle. I haven't tried this, but FHRA gave extra loud whistles to last year's annual meeting attendees. If anyone has used one of them, please let me know.
4. Use a Coyote Shaker: A can containing coins which can be shaken and thrown at the coyote.
5. Use various noisemakers, such as bells, pots and pans banged together, air horns.
6. Other effective deterrents include: garden hoses, water guns with vinegar water.

After you successfully haze a coyote, he may return. If he does, haze him again. It usually only takes one or two times to haze a coyote away for good.

Passive Hazing:

Coyotes' principal diet is rodents, and they are instrumental in suppressing rodent infestations. However, they are omnivorous and always on the look-out for something to eat, including what is available in our yards. Deterrents - many just common sense - will help keep them away.

1. Remove food sources: Don't leave pet food outdoors. Clean up fallen fruit. Secure garbage can covers.
2. Fences. Coyotes are capable of scaling or jumping fences upwards of 5 1/2 feet in height. They can be deterred by increasing the fence height to at least 6 feet. Rollers can be attached to the tops making it harder to scale them. Keep fences free from vines and other vegetation that provide footing for them.
3. Close off crawl spaces under porches, decks and sheds that could be used for resting or denning.
4. Spray ammonia in your trash can several times a week to kill food odors.
5. Place mothballs, ammonia soaked rags or cayenne pepper at areas where coyotes can enter your yard.
6. Install motion-activated devices such as yard lights, strobe lights, sprinklers, or noise-makers. An internet search for "wildlife motion detector deterrent" returns links to product manufacturers.

You can see what your neighbors have to say about their coyote encounters. Link to our Coyote Sighting webpage and click on the link to over 350 comments from local residents....and please post your sighting so others can share your experience at: www.gmrnet.com/Coyotea.html ■

Commentary

How noble it is to rescue a dog from sad circumstances. But when you adopt one, it becomes a member of the family. When you shower affection on your pet, it continues to crave the attention. When you leave for work, or elsewhere, the dog only returns to the painful loss it experienced before. The consequence is barking, barking, and more barking.

For the life of me, I do not understand why canine sympathizers adopt a dog from the pound and then turn around and abandon it during the day. The rescued dog does not understand either and barks out of painful loss of its human companion.

While most of us work day hours and sleep at night, others, such as police officers, nurses, night-school teachers, etc., need to sleep during the day and are disturbed by dog barking.

Los Angeles City Council recognized this problem and there is now a law on the books that will impose a fine for barking dogs. This is a step in the right direction..

(Brenda Kilbourne is a current member of the FHRA Board of Directors and is a retired public school teacher.)



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Jefferson County (Colorado) Animal Control

FHRA Annual Mtg. / Sat. June 15 Noon-2pm / The Prospect Studios / see Page 10!

OVERVIEW #45—SPRING/SUMMER 2013

Summer Time At The Los Feliz Library / *by Brenda Kilbourne*



Looking for a good book to read? Check out the “Hot Off The Press” shelf across from the front desk for the latest best-sellers and new books. You can borrow two books at a time for a week. There’s also a special shelf with items of interest about Los Feliz area residents, events, and history.

In search of a good movie? A recent Saturday matinee featured a double bill of Kubrick classics, complete with popcorn! You can bring your own non-alcoholic drink and pillow if you like. Future films to be announced.

Summer library plans include author and nature presentations as well as the regularly scheduled teen-LACMA-art-classes on Tuesdays at 4pm and story-time-for-children Wednesday mornings at 10:30. “Friends of the Library” will hold their monthly used book sale on the fourth Saturday of the month with all proceeds benefiting the library.

The “Friends of Griffith Park” will return with program presenters Bernadette Soter who has focused on the Anza National Trail, and wildlife expert Dan Cooper who has spoken on the Park’s urbanized predators; including P-22, the mountain lion who managed to cross two freeways to end up in Griffith Park. (Perhaps an update will bring news that P-22 has found a mate and established a family of mountain lion kittens!)

Additional upcoming library programs will feature the Central Library map collection, how to avoid investment fraud, the STAR (storytelling and reading) program, teen anime, adult book group, and teen council. There’s something for everyone! ■

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What's Going On? Subscribe to FHRAAlerts / by *Bruce Carroll*

If you don't know what an FHRAAlert is, you're not one of more than 550 Franklin Hills residents who get e-mails alerting them to a wide range of incidents from neighborhood reports of car and home break-ins, to hints on watching the last space shuttle fly-over. There is no set schedule for the alerts, they are sent when we receive info that might help the community. In the last year we've sent about 30 messages, with crime prevention tips, warnings of possible noise or late night activity at The Prospect Studio, street closures, and unfortunately too often reports from Franklin Hills residents who have been crime victims. If you'd like to get on the list, it's easy. Just e-mail FHRA@franklinhills.org and ask to be put on the FHRAAlert e-mail list. ■





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Q. Which holidays affect my usual trash pick up day?

A. Your trash collection day will be one day later following these holidays:

- New Year's Day
- Fourth of July
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day



FHRA's Silver Anniversary Meeting - Join Us June 15th

You're all invited to help the Franklin Hills Residents Association celebrate its 25th anniversary at our 25th annual membership meeting being held on Saturday, June 15, 2013 from noon to 2pm at our biggest neighbor, The Prospect Studios, 4151 Prospect Ave. LA, CA 90027. Meeting check-in begins at 11:30am and to sweeten the experience we'll have FHRA member Vivien Shea's delicious home baked treats plus other refreshments, a couple of raffles, and a chance for you to get an always stylish FHRA T-shirt or find your house in our historic area photos dating back 96 years.

Due to studio security you'll need to RSVP by June 13th so your name(s) will be on the studio list at the main gate on Prospect just east of Talmadge. We have set up a special e-mail address RSVP@FranklinHills.org for you to let us know who is coming, or you can call our voicemail, 323-908-6078. Please speak clearly and spell out your name. Studio security has also asked that you have photo ID available when you check in.

We'll have some important new faces for you to meet. Among them the new Commander of the LAPD's Northeast Division Capt. Jeffrey Bert and a new Senior Lead Officer, Craig Orange, who will be joining SLO Lenny Davis who replaced Officer Al Polehonki after he retired. We will have Councilmember Tom Labonge's insight into how things will be taking shape at City Hall when our new mayor takes office.

For entertainment we'll introduce you via film clips to some very not new faces from the studio's nearly century long history. And as usual we will be having an election for the FHRA Board of Directors. This year there are 6 seats for FHRA members to vote on including at least one new face. But perhaps best of all, it's a great time to reconnect with neighbors or meet new ones and strengthen the ties that make the Franklin Hills a truly special corner of LA. Please remember to RSVP by June 13th. There will be special parking arrangements for the disabled.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL. ■

Vivien Shea: Cookie Queen (and more!) / *by Brenda Kilbourne*

Vivien Shea and her husband, Bob, recently returned from a cruise to Tahiti, the Easter Islands and beyond, just in time for our FHRA Annual Meeting on June 13. No doubt she will have many tales of their adventures, but we want to tell you of her own adventures in Franklin Hills.

Vivien is originally from Australia, grew up in Huntington Park and met her husband at the telephone company, where they both worked. They have one daughter who is a teacher.

Vivien and Bob have been active in many neighborhood organizations and she is on the board of various garden clubs including the Pacific Rose Society, the Beverly Hills Rose Society and the Los Angeles Garden Club. Vivien is a gardening star and has won many blue ribbons for her efforts.

She also finds time to volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House where she helps parents of hospitalized children, serves at the reception desk and assists at Ronald McDonald events.

To FHRA members she is most famous for her luscious lemon bars which she bakes for our annual meetings. She got her love of baking from her mother. Lucky for us that Vivien is generous in sharing her culinary expertise. (See recipe on page 17).

Vivien and Bob are charter members of the FHRA and continue to support and contribute to successful meetings. We are fortunate to have them. ■

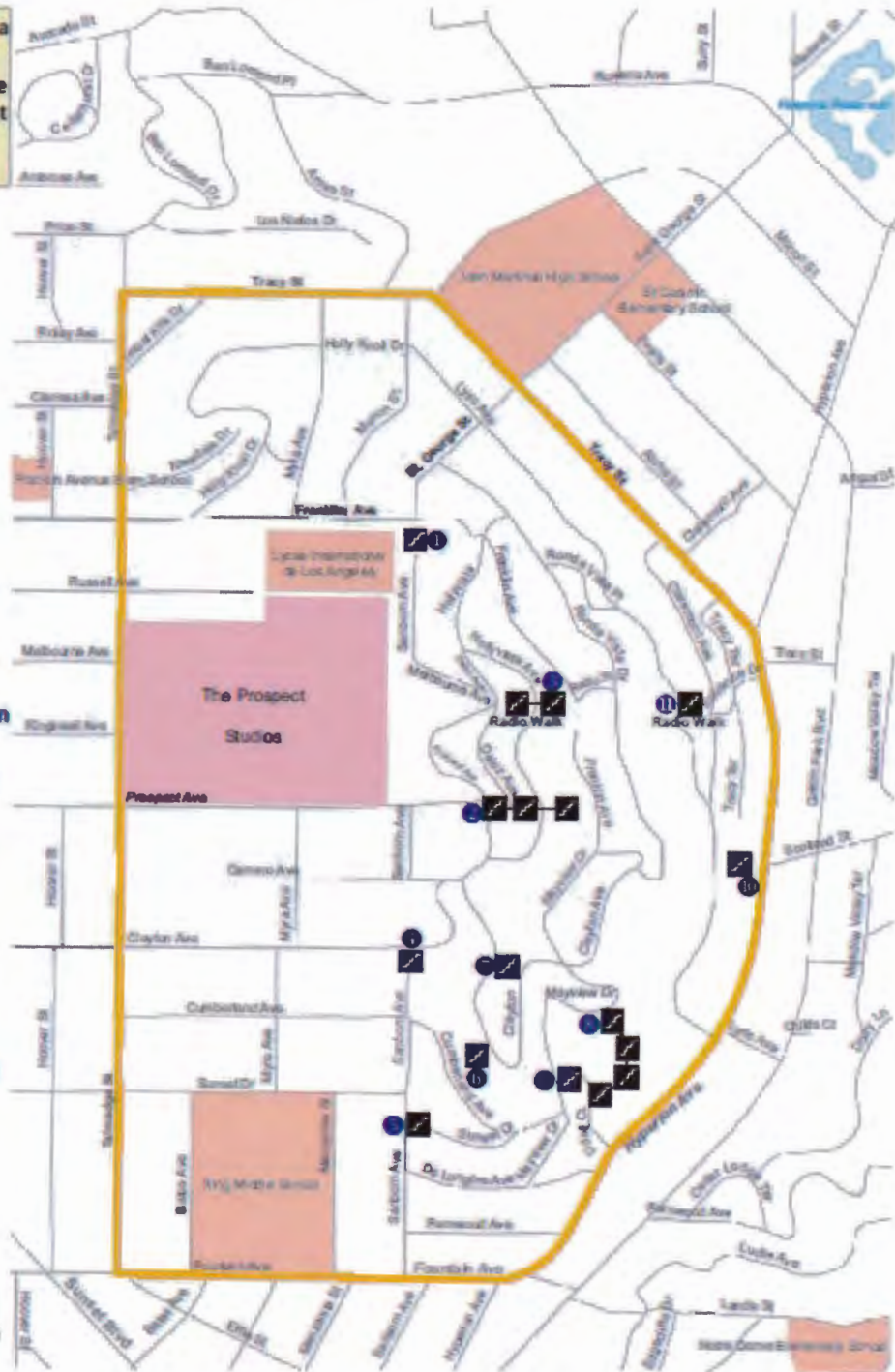
The Franklin Hills Public Stairways

The Franklin Hills Community bordered by Talmadge, Tracy, Hyperion and Fountain is notable for its 14 public stairways. Originally built in the mid-1920's as a shortcut to get to trolley lines. Today they enable a delightful pedestrian exploration of our hills, and a great free workout!

The Sierra Club has devised a route covering all 14 stairways, which should take about 1-2 hours. It starts just east of the Shakespeare Bridge.

1. Down Sanborn from Franklin (↓4 stairways)
2. Up Prospect (↑2 stairways)
3. Down Radio Walk (↓2 stairways)
4. Up Sanborn from Clayton (↑1 stairway)
5. Up Sunset from Sanborn (↑1 stairway)
6. Up Cumberland (↑1 stairway)
7. Across Clayton-Clayton (→1 stairway)
8. Down Mayview-Udell (↓4 stairways)
9. Up Udell-Mayview (↑1 stairway)
10. Up Hyperion-Lyric (↑1 stairway)
11. Up Radio Walk-Lyric (↑1 stairway)

Then walk northwest on Lyric back on St. George to complete the circuit.



StepRightUp!

By Charley Mims

Network of vintage public stairways in Franklin Hills suspected as leading cause of exercise and community service

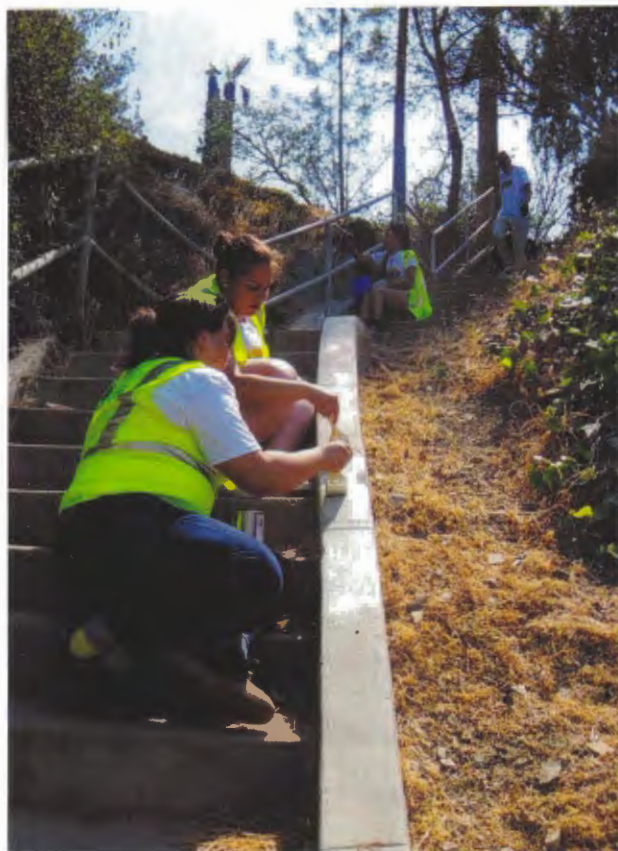
In the mid 1990s a resident of the Franklin Hills came to an FHRA Board meeting all enthused with his discovery of public stairways in our neighborhood. His name was Adam Weisman. Adam brought a key map of all of the public stairways in our hillside area. While many of us had noticed a stairway here



ABOVE Radio Walk stairway cleanup crew on March 2, 2013. Councilman Tom LaBonge (front center) and his Chief of Staff Carolyn Ramsey (left) with author Charles Fleming (right) and FHRA's Chris Boutelle (rear left), Adam Weisman (rear center), Charley Mims (rear right) are among the volunteers. (PHOTO BY Bruce Carroll)

or there, none of our Board members were aware of the extensive network of these stairways. Adam wanted to write an article and to highlight the public stairway system in our area. He was immediately named Chair of our newly created Stairway Committee!

Over the years Adam's discovery and active role in promoting our public stairway system resulted in many local residents having a heightened awareness of this unusual public transportation system right in our own backyard. Adam Weisman's voluntary leadership caused work parties to be formed for an occasional cleanup of sets of stairs on the hill. Adam Weisman (Phd, by the way!) continued to be active in our neighborhood. He became President of the Franklin Hills Residents Association and later joined the board of



LEFT *Sunset Drive stairway, Big Sunday Weekend, May 4, 2013. Karla and Gaby paint the stairway trim while Jacqui touches up the railing. Charley Mims is dragging down a heavy bag full of clip-pings, trash and dirt. (PHOTO BY Shirley Mims)*

LILA (the French School), on whose Board he now serves as Chairman.

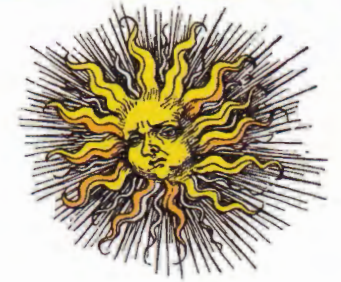
Adam's work has continued through the efforts of other FHRA neighborhood leaders. When I became President of the FHRA, we continued the stairway cleanup efforts started by Adam. We enlisted the adjoining property owners to encourage them to help with work cleanup parties and even to adopt their "own" stairway to maintain.

When the Mayor of Los Angeles started his Mayor's Day of Service, we participated by again organizing to cleanup more of our local stairways. Later this effort merged into "Big Sunday" another public service day. In 2006 the FHRA organized a Big Sunday event to clean up both Udell Court stairways and the Radio Walk stairway at Lyric Avenue. In 2009 we cleaned up the Radio Walk stairways on the west side of the hill.

Our efforts got our local City Councilman, Tom LaBonge, engaged. He organized a cleanup party on March 2nd of this year for the Radio Walk series of stairways on the west side of the hill. Members of his staff joined locals Bruce Carroll, Shirley Mims, Elizabeth Richardson, Adam Weisman, FHRA President Chris Bou-telle, and yours truly! Faith Ford from the Los Feliz Improvement Association (LFIA) and Andrea Iaderosa from the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council (GGPNC) also joined us in this cleanup. When we finished, the entire stretch of these stairs were cleared of overgrowing vegetation, dirt that had drifted down onto the stairs, and we even cleaned up graffiti that marred the area. Author Charles Fleming, who penned "Secret Stairs—A Walking Guide to the Stairs of Los Angeles", had copies of his book available and even autographed them. What a great community effort!

On March 16th a local group of dedicated stairway climbers got together with a few local residents and cleaned up the Udell Court public stairs and connecting hillside sidewalk. I donated two hours in the morning. When I returned from another meeting later that day, the hikers had completed the entire stairway clean-up! Udell Court is the longest continuous stairway between two streets in our hillside area of the Franklin Hills. They did an amazing and labor intensive job that day!

For this year's Big Sunday event on May 4th we cleaned up the public stairway at Sunset Drive with the help of local students and volunteers. Faith Ford (LFIA) and Shirley Mims (FHRA) organized this effort with the help of the Greater Griffith Park N.C.'s Andrea Iaderosa, who Chairs their Public Safety Committee. Brenda Kilbourne (FHRA Board member), who lives nearby on Sunset Drive brought lemonade, extra tools and trash bags for the workers. These local students and residents really helped make this accomplishment much easier. Neighbors working together can continue to make a difference in the quality of our community and our lives. ■



A Scorching, Sticky Summer?

Be Prepared! \ Info and graphics gathered by Elizabeth Richardson

Much of the summer in LA is on the cool side. But we've had our fair share of triple-digit days. Furthermore the humidity is increasing in these hot days as nighttime temperatures are staying higher according to a study done by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography/University of California at San Diego. (See the likelihood of heat disorders as temperatures and humidity rise in chart below.)

With this in mind, here are some thoughts:

Children especially can quickly become dehydrated. They need to drink fluids frequently, especially water, and wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothes. Don't give them drinks that are heavily sweetened or contain caffeine. Check on the kids often, especially if they are playing outside in high temperatures.

Watch for alerts from the power company. In last summer's heat wave, LA residents were asked to moderate their AC usage to conserve energy in the system.

The symptoms of heat illness include heavy sweating, muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, nausea, weak but rapid pulse, and headaches. People with these symptoms should find shade, drink water slowly and make sure there is good ventilation.

Then there are the usual suggestions which may be *usual* but are very important nonetheless: Start drinking fluids (but not caffeine or alcohol) before going out. Take water with you. Don't leave anyone in a closed car even for a short time. Put on sun block. Wear a hat. Check on your elderly or ill neighbors. Do your jogging in the morning or evening. But most of all, take care of yourself, your family and your neighbors so you can have a wonderful summer! ■

(Texas Department of State Health Services)

NOAA's National Weather Service

Heat Index
Temperature (°F)

	80	82	84	86	88	90	92	94	96	98	100	102	104	106	108	110
40	80	81	83	85	88	91	94	97	101	105	109	114	119	124	130	138
45	80	82	84	87	89	93	96	100	104	109	114	119	124	130	137	
50	81	83	85	88	91	95	99	103	108	113	118	124	131	137		
55	81	84	86	89	93	97	101	106	112	117	124	130	137			
60	82	84	88	91	95	100	105	110	116	123	129	137				
65	82	85	89	93	98	103	108	114	121	128	136					
70	83	86	90	95	100	105	112	119	126	134						
75	84	88	92	97	103	109	116	124	132							
80	84	89	94	100	106	113	121	129								
85	85	90	96	102	110	117	126	135								
90	86	91	98	105	113	122	131									
95	86	93	100	108	117	127										
100	87	95	103	112	121	132										

Likelihood of Heat Disorders with Prolonged Exposure or Strenuous Activity

Caution
 Extreme Caution
 Danger
 Extreme Danger

According to composer George Gershwin, *Summertime* means “the livin’ is easy, fish are jumpin’, and the cotton is high”. This special season can also mean we need to protect our companion animals from extreme heat.

Keep in mind that when it is hot for you, it is even hotter for them. Dogs and cats do not sweat through their skin. They cool themselves by panting or rapid breathing, which means animals must work hard to stay cool.

Too much heat can be extremely dangerous or even fatal. If your best friend has a shorter nose, like Persian cats and bulldogs, he is more susceptible to heatstroke than breeds with longer noses.

If your dog or cat begins very rapid, noisy breathing, has trouble swallowing, and looks very distressed, she could be having a heatstroke. **Heatstroke is an emergency.** Get the animal out of the heat. Apply cold, wet towels to the back of the head. Place cold packs wrapped in towels or plain wet towels between the back legs and on the belly. Cool off your furry friend and then take her to the vet immediately. The best plan is to keep your dog and cat protected from the summer heat.

- ✦ Dogs and cats do sweat a little through the pads of their feet. The cats I know do not appreciate water added to any part of their body, but dogs often enjoy having cool water on their feet. Some dogs enjoy walking through or even lying in a child’s wading pool.
- ✦ It is dangerous to leave your dog or cat in a car for 5 minutes. If he cannot go inside at every stop with you, he is safer at home on hot days! Car interiors heat very quickly in the hot sun, even with the windows open. If it is 85 degrees outside, it will climb to 102 degrees inside your car within ten minutes. In half an hour, it will reach 120 degrees or more! If it is 90 degrees out, temperatures can top 160 degrees faster than you can walk around the block.
- ✦ While walking your dog outdoors, pay particular attention the hot pavement or sidewalks that make your dog’s lower to the ground walking space hotter and can even burn their feet. Early morning and later evening walks will be more comfortable for you both!
- ✦ Animals who go outside need access to shade. Dark coats absorb heat. Lighter coated animals, especially white ones, are at higher risk for skin cancer from exposure to the sun and they are more susceptible to sunburn.
- ✦ Longer coated dogs and cats who are brushed regularly have natural insulation from the heat. However, if the coat has gotten matted, a summer clip will make your buddy much more comfortable and allow you a new start at keeping him brushed. Remember, newly clipped animals can get sunburned.
- ✦ If your dog spends time in the yard, make sure she has access to shade. Shade trees, a covered patio, or a cool spot under the porch can help keep her comfortable. ■

This info is courtesy of City of L.A. Animal Services and Councilman Tom LaBonge

Gail's Lemon Bars

(Vivien Shea's lemon bars are created with her sister, Gail's recipe.)

CRUST

- 1 cup butter
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- Dash of salt
- 2 cups flour

Pre-heat oven to 350. Spray a 9x13 pan with PAM. Beat butter and powdered sugar until creamy. Add salt and flour and beat until well combined. Pat mixture into bottom of pan as evenly as possible. Bake for 15 to 18 minutes. Let cool slightly. Meanwhile, prepare lemon filling.

FILLING

- 4 eggs
- 2 cups sugar
- 1/4 cup flour
- rind of 2 lemons
- 1/2 cup lemon juice

Beat eggs and sugar until smooth. Add flour and continue beating until well combined. Add rind and lemon juice and beat until smooth. Pour onto crust and return to oven for 25 minutes, or until set. Let cool completely before cutting into bars. Dust with powdered sugar when cool.



**3220 Lyric Avenue
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What People Who Live in Glass Houses Know

The Lehrer House, Michael Lehrer, FAIA, architect, 1980. Renown architect, Michael Lehrer's first realized residence rises far above the usual stucco box of its era. Planes shot with apertures slice the space to create a witty sense of procession from the entry bridge, through the house, to the panoramic canyon, city lights and mountain views beyond. Over-scale interior volumes with canted ceilings catch and bounce the light throughout. On the main floor, interlocking partial walls cleverly define the flowing plan of living, dining, kitchen and family room. Balconies and decks let the house live even larger by annexing the outdoors. Hardwood flooring; newer, natural wood tone and stainless Euro-kitchen; fireplace; 4 bedrooms; 2.5 baths; 3,003 square feet on a 7,034 square foot lot, per public records. Impeccably-maintained; sleek; sophisticated and serene. Fourth bedroom/studio is ideal for the work-at-home professional.

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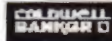
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FRANKLIN HILLS, B.C.

TEXT & PHOTOS

BY SHIRLEY MIMS

What do Franklin Hills, the ocean floor, and time have in common? Monterey Shale. In geologic terms this means that in some places there is shale visible at the surface in the Franklin Hills that is part of the Monterey Formation.

The Monterey Formation is a series of sedimentary rock layers that includes shale, sandstone and some limestone. Found throughout Southern California, it is evidence of an ancient ocean floor that has since been uplifted. The tilted beds of the Monterey Formation are most noticeable along California's coastal cliffs. Once you recognize it you will see its distinct strata throughout Los Angeles: on our own streets in Franklin Hills (see photo,) along Riverside Drive in Griffith Park, and even along Sunset Blvd.

Shale deposits occur mostly in calm waters of ocean basins and lakes. Shale is a sedimentary rock made up of compressed silt, mud and clay. Thin layers of cobble (rock pieces) between thicker deposits of fine grained shale are possible indicators of earthquakes, either from fault movement or volcanic activity, which shook loose debris and produced under water landslides.

During the Miocene epoch some 16 million years ago, the land beneath our homes was in a flat basin under ocean water. The climate on Earth was transitioning from warm to cold during a series of Ice Ages. As ice sheets grew, sea level fell. Grasslands were forming making for better survival of grazing animals on land. Whales swam in the seas. Dinosaurs were extinct. Relative to this timescale, humans only arrived in the Franklin Hills this morning.

The Earth is constantly in flux. The outer layer is broken up into several large sections called plates. These plates move around on the surface and physically change the size and shape of our continents and oceans over time. Los Angeles, Baja and Northern California are on the uplifted portion of the Pacific Plate which is sliding ever slightly northward against the North American Plate along the San Andreas Fault. When the Pacific Plate collided with the North American Plate our mountain ranges were formed and the thick beds of sediments deposited on the ocean floor were pushed up into the hills of our local landscape.



ABOVE A strong wind storm in 2012 loosened tree roots and caused this part of the hillside on Lyric Ave. to fall into the street.

Imagine a cat skidding on a rug that hits a wall (not the cat, just the rug!) The part of the rug closer to the wall will have steeper folds while the part furthest from the wall will lie more flat. That's kind of how the Franklin Hills were formed. Notice that the hills of Silver Lake are a little higher than Franklin Hills, and Mt. Washington is even higher. The mountain ranges are analogous to the wall.

Over substantial geological time, the ancient ocean floor beds of the Pacific Plate are skidding up against the North American Plate towards the east. According to the Dibblee Geological Foundation Map (#DF-30,) the layered rock beds of the Monterey Formation in our neighborhood generally dip gently toward the west. Consequently, the slopes are steeper to the east along Hyperion Ave., in the direction of the San Gabriels. As you get closer to the mountains, the folds of the land get steeper.

Tectonic forces build up the land. Erosional processes bring it down. When a significant amount of time has passed, simple natural phenomena such as wind and rain can play a big role in changing our landscape. Wind storms can uproot trees which loosen the rock and disturb hilly landscapes (see photo.) Canyons are carved by streams and rivers. For instance, it is likely that a stream once flowed down Hyperion Avenue before the streets were paved in concrete.



ABOVE Charley Mims demonstrates the scale and tilt of Monterey Formation shale beds on Lyric Ave.

Left undisturbed by humankind, hills naturally become rounded by erosional processes. Rocks get knocked around by wind, rain and critters which break down the rock pieces into smaller pieces and eventually smooth them out. The erosional fragments provide topsoil and nutrients for plants to take seed and grow. The plants, dirt, houses and paved streets cover the basement rock of our hills. We generally don't see the rock layers. However, in some places like on Lyric Avenue and on Mayview Drive there are steep road cuts that expose them.

Given enough time, erosional factors will ultimately level out our hillsides, and the flattened landscape will flow gently toward the Pacific Ocean. In the meantime, these hillsides will continue to exist for millions of years more and we shall continue to enjoy our magnificent views for lifetimes to come. ■

FHRA Annual Mtg. / Sat. June 15 Noon-2pm / The Prospect Studios / see Page 10!

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Median Clips / *Text & Photos by Shirley Mims*

On Big Sunday Weekend this year a crew of nine students and adults picked up trash from the Franklin Avenue median. Motsenbocker's Lift Off graffiti cleaner was provided by FHRA to Big Sunday participants. Paint was provided by the City of Los Angeles, and paint cans, brushes, bags and other supplies were provided by LFIA. We gathered trash in three garbage bags before heading over to Sunset Drive stairway for phase two of our work that day. Our crew also did a great job cleaning off graffiti from the signs at each end of the median and along the guard rail.

The Franklin Avenue median has received a lot of attention lately thanks to the efforts of FHRA board member Armida Bolton. Armida was involved with the original plans for the median about 20 years ago and currently chairs the committee for maintenance of the median landscaping. She has helped to direct gardener service to keep the median trim and worked with FHRA and contractors to install a new water system. She has also hosted clean up days where community members get together to help pick up trash that accumulates on the median.

Last April 2012, FHRA resident Melinda Taylor was honored with an award by the Hillside Federation "For contributing to the Federation's mission of preserving the natural topography of our hillsides." The Hillside Federation serves to protect the quality of life of hillside communities in Los Angeles and has representatives from 40 organizations including FHRA. The Federation meets monthly to address issues that affect hillside residents such as the Millenium Project towers, helicopter noise, billboard signage and more.

Melinda designed and oversaw the planting of the Franklin Avenue Median Project. Completed in 1995 with cooperation from the City and help from the community, the asphalt laden eyesore was transformed into a beautiful living garden. FHRA maintains the median which contains draught tolerant native plants selected by Melinda and added to by neighbors over the years. With the work that Melinda, Armida and many others have contributed, the median continues to thrive and delight us with seasonal change and color. ■



ABOVE FHRA Board members Chris Boutelle, Bruce Carroll, and Armida Bolton meet with contractors to discuss the new water system for the Franklin Avenue median.



ABOVE Big Sunday Weekend May 4, 2013. Volunteers Jacqui, Sugely, Erwin and Luis pick up trash and clean off graffiti from the guard rail along the Frank-

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Do you see your house?



FHRA has a large collection of Historic Photos of our neighborhood dating back to 1917. If you'd like a piece of this history check out our collection at the Annual meeting or at <http://www.franklinhills.org/fh-historicfotos.pdf>

This aerial photo dates from 1932 and was taken by an Army Signal Corps plane that flew out of the Griffith Park airport.

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Community Activism: A Staple of Franklin Hills

By Shirley Mims and Elizabeth Richardson

What is outreach? In one definition it is a systematic attempt to provide services beyond conventional limits, as to particular segments of a community. The Franklin Hills Residents Association (FHRA) strives to bring our members information and services that affect our community. We do this by outreach through our meetings, newsletters, email blasts, and committees.

FHRA meets regularly and has a group of committee chairs who consistently host projects in the neighborhood. Our projects include this newsletter, our website, public stairway clean ups, graffiti paint outs, median island clean ups, Shakespeare Bridge garden maintenance days, a community garden, welcome packets, neighborhood watch groups, a traffic committee, mural paintings, and more.

Committees are key to developing a volunteer base and getting people connected. Often, when someone comes to us with a problem we find that this person has the energy to solve the problem but that they don't have the knowledge or resources to follow through. We then create a committee to address the problem, name this person chair of the committee, and provide them with resources and necessary contacts to solve the problem. Throughout this process, the FHRA supports the committee to meet its desired goals.

For example, when Norman Harriton wanted to create a community garden in our neighborhood he proposed his idea at an FHRA meeting. There were lots of factors to consider: location, size, cost, liability, who will participate, maintenance, etc. The board offered suggestions and each month Norm would return with progress updates. Eventually, after lots of hard work on Norm's part and others who wanted to join the garden, the community garden became a reality. Even after his passing our community enjoys the long-lived efforts of Norm's work on the grounds of the LILA school.

The chair of each committee leads the way for others to participate. Every project invites neighbors to join in and encourages members to start their own committees. Out of these committees evolve new ideas and new leaders to chair their own projects. This is the way in which outreach and volunteerism progresses and grows.

Longevity brings recognition, stability, and stewardship to an organization. Founded in 1989, the FHRA has a long track record of turning people out for events, meetings and activities. We are just one example. The Griffith Park Resource Board founded in 1988 by Tom LaBonge is another. At their recent meeting over 60 people attended from myriad groups across the City to discuss issues that impact Griffith Park. About 100 representatives attended Tom's Community Leaders meeting earlier in the year to address issues that affect L.A. City Council District 4. The Los Feliz Improvement Association is approaching their 100 year anniversary and the Hillside Federation has been watching out for hillside communities for over 60 years. Each of these groups is comprised of several community leaders and has a large foundation of volunteers.

There is no substitute for getting out into the community and doing hands-on work with your neighbors. In our experience, there has never been a time when we were the only one who showed up for an event. Thanks to the many wonderful neighbors who volunteer in our neighborhood we've gotten a lot done together over the years.

As we are well into 2013 it is amazing to see another market cycle in full swing. Since the peak in prices over six years ago we have witnessed a complete metamorphosis.

We saw values fall, and foreclosures and short sales became the conversation of the marketplace. As in no other time in our 33 years in the business, we are seeing an extreme lack of inventory of homes on the market, accompanied with a huge pent up demand for buyers who are sitting on the sideline. When we started selling real estate, interest rates were above 16%. Today, the interest rates have held extremely low and multiple offers are becoming the new conversation of the day.



If you are thinking of selling or know a friend or neighbor who is, please contact us. We are your Franklin Hills experts.



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