



OVERVIEW

FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Issue #46

Fall / Winter

2013

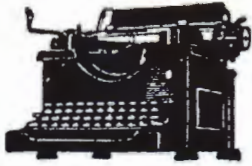


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President's Comments / *Chris Boutelle*

OVERVIEW



A semi-annual publication created and distributed by volunteer residents, neighbors, friends and supporters of the Franklin Hills Residents Association—a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization
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Have you ever wondered why one neighborhood seems to have a warmer, more cohesive feel than another? Often it comes from the neighbors themselves who have a passion for making something beautiful, be it large or small, for passers by to enjoy.

Koko Bakchajian owner of Hi-Tech Automotive on busy Fountain Avenue, has sponsored a small pocket garden designed by friends “Vinnie and Kathleen” at the north-west corner of Sanborn Avenue, across from his garage. He says that he did that and painted a scruffy wall behind it on a neighbor’s property (with permission) so that his customers and employees would have something nice to enjoy as they look out from his garage.

Craig Cowie of Baller Hardware and Baller Art Ware encouraged famed street artist Shepard Fairey to paint a colorful mural, “Make Art Not War” on the side of a Baller warehouse on Tracy Street near Hyperion Avenue this year. Mr. Fairey, who donated his time and talent for the project is noted for the Barack Obama “HOPE” poster and his work is included in the collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art in New York City and the Smithsonian in Washington DC, among others, according to Wikipedia. It joins several other murals in and immediately around Franklin Hills and is certainly a welcome addition.



◀ *Shepard Fairey's mural, "Make Art—Not War", at Tracy and Hyperion.*

▼ *Pocket garden at Sanborn and Fountain sponsored by Hi-Tech Automotive.*

▶ *Tracy Street residents' beautification parcel.*

But you don't need to be a commercial enterprise to beautify your neighborhood. In the fall of 2011, the Tracy Street Beautification Committee was formed by David Farmer, Kay Camphuis and other neighbors to clean up a 100-foot parkway on Tracy Street opposite David's home at 3824 Tracy Street. Although only about four feet wide, it spanned two parcels belonging to residences facing Aloha Street up the hill to the east.

With help from the City of Los Angeles, Meghan Shearer from LA Conservation Corps (a


partner in "Million Trees Los Angeles"), teacher Jay Benoit's

Environmental Studies class at John Marshall High School, Tomas O'Grady of Enrich LA and others including Toby Leaman, President of the Wattles Community Garden, the Committee started shrub, tree and ground cover plantings in 2012. Neighbors have watered and nurtured them ever since and the group has expanded to picking up errant trash alongside the sidewalks of Tracy and St. George Streets, especially near the high school during the school year.

Small projects can lead to greater beautification when neighbors get together with businesses, churches and schools to improve our enjoyment of Franklin Hills.


If you have a project in mind, contact the Franklin Hills Residents Association at FHRA@Franklinhills.org or Box 29122, Los Angeles, CA 90029 to see if we can help. ■





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FHRA Silver Anniversary Meeting

Text & Photos by Bruce Carroll

The FHRA celebrated its 25th anniversary at a meeting filled with informative dialogue between neighbors and representatives from Police, Fire, City Hall and the State Legislature punctuated by scenes from the neighborhood's silent silver screen days plus some raffles, an election and refreshments, as usual highlighted by the scrumptious desserts created by FHRA member Vivien Shea

Janet Campus, The Prospect Studios manager, welcomed all from the neighborhood and closed her remarks with "Please don't hesitate to call me or e-mail me with any concerns or questions."

Next up was the election for six seats on the FHRA Board of Directors. As there were exactly six candidates the process was quick. Newcomer Tim Cowell, an architect and Director of Design for Disney will be joining five re-elected directors: Aidia Rodriguez; FHRA Secretary, Elizabeth Richardson; George Grace; FHRA Treasurer, Bruce Carroll and FHRA President, Chris Boutelle.

Bruce Carroll gave the Treasurer's report noting that income was down slightly to a little over \$15,000 and we have "a little less than \$30,000 in the treasury." (full details in the Spring issue of *Overview*) He noted part of the decline was due to low interest paid by the bank, "We used to get about \$30 a month...now it's 42 cents."

LAPD Senior Lead Officer Lenny Davis has taken over most the Franklin Hills area following the spring retirement of Ofc. Al Polhonki. "I think he already has his motorhome and he's already travelling"

Davis reported about his partner for the last 6 years. Davis, who has worked the Northeast Division for 22 years, declared that he is "a big proponent of neighborhood watches" and said he's be sending out weekly crime update e-mails reporting the major crimes in his area. If you are signed up for our FHRAlerts we pass along those within the FHRA boundaries.

One of the continuing complaints of Franklin Hills residents is ongoing graffiti and LAPD Officer Molly Beall, who heads Northeast's graffiti unit, reported that tagging in our area has decreased in the last year. She asked for continued help in the battle by e-mailing her



photos and the location of graffiti at 32430@lapd.lacity.org. She said most of what she sees in our area is from taggers, rather than gangs, and they have arrested taggers as young as 11 years old. She advised "If it's happening around your home a lot I encourage people to get surveillance cameras" If you see it in progress call 9-1-1, don't confront the taggers. There is one big source of the problem where she hopes for improvement, "Marshall has a tendency to be a source of a problem for us and we're not getting a lot of co-operation from the school police when we are trying to find intelligence, but we're working on that with them." Since the FHRA meeting there have been meetings to foster better co-operation in this area.

FHRA Vice President Shirley Mims added to the graffiti fight reporting that at the citywide May Big Sunday volunteer day she and about 40 other volunteers in the area cleanup up 5 or 6 sites using FHRA supplied bottles of "Lift-Off" graffiti remover plus paint. Among the sites were the Franklin Ave. median and the Sunset Dr. stairway. She also reported on the twice yearly clean-ups of the garden under the Shakespeare bridge at the end of Monon St. and called for public pressure to reinstate the LAPD PACE program that required convicted taggers to paint out graffiti as part of their community service sentence.

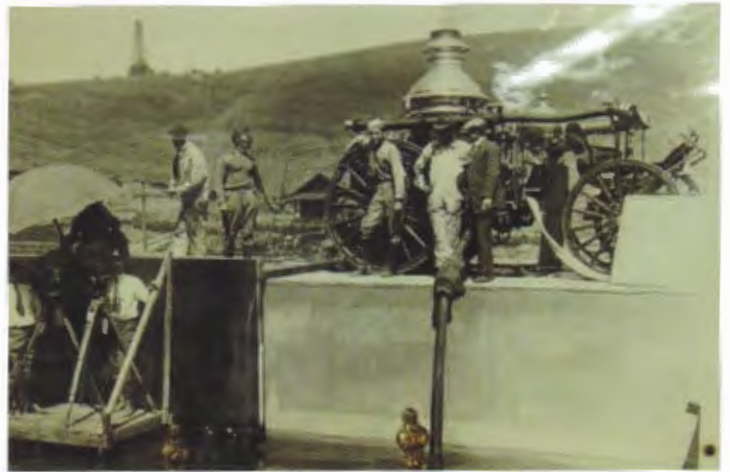
Franklin Hills neighbors also welcomed a newbie to the neighborhood, LAFD Capt. Lance McCloskey (213-485-6275) who just 3 days earlier had started his assignment at Fire Station 35 on Hillhurst. He is one of three captains who serve on a rotating basis. He told the crowd "we have an open door policy," come to ask questions or let your kids see the fire apparatus. He answered questions about brush clearance, noting that after inspection you won't be sent a notice unless there are violations, not if everything is okay, but stressing it's your responsibility to keep your property in compliance all year not just when you get a form to complete in the spring.



◀ LAPD Senior Lead Officer Lenny Davis and Officer Molly Beall updated neighbors on area crime and the battle against graffiti.

▶ Eager to hear from constituents, Councilmember Tom LaBonge responded to a plethora of suggestions. (See below)

▶ There was more movie history in displays set up by The Prospect Studios resident historian Galen Augustus who also noted some old photos show an oil well in the area (upper left in this photo) which one long time resident believes might have been on what's now the northwest corner of Hollyvista and Ronda Vista.



Sacramento was represented at the meeting by Assembly Member Mike Gatto's representative [Eric Menjivar](mailto:EricMenjivar@asm.ca.gov) EricMenjivar@asm.ca.gov who said his boss, who grew up in the Franklin Hills, regretted missing the meeting but is always eager to hear from constituents.

In addition to civic education there was the entertainment in the form of silent film clips from the 1920s by Vitagraph Studio (now Prospect Studios) stars who lived in the neighborhood. Norma Talmadge, who lived on Cedarhurst Dr. played a Chinese woman executed for her love affair with an American diplomat. Oliver Hardy, who lived on Talmadge, Russell, Clayton and Franklin, showed off his slapstick talents in a bakery and a sawmill. And Johnny Hines, who lived in the castle-like house at Franklin and Radio St., played a playboy turned hobo after thieves siphoned the gas from his car.

Even though the oil explorers didn't strike it rich, four current Franklin Hills residents won raffle prizes ranging from Laemmle Theatre movie tickets to a book on the life of former Franklin Hills resident, Walt Disney.

Q&A with Councilman LaBonge

Left turn lane at Riverside and Fletcher? – **We are looking at it.**

4 way STOP at Russell and Talmadge? – **Too close to other STOP signs.**

4 way STOP at Clayton and Talmadge? – **There is a study going on.**

Speed bumps on Myra near King Middle School? – **Speed Bump program has been suspended, but we'll look into it.**

Fixing concrete streets? – **An unsolved problem I'm working on.**

LaBonge lamented that **"The time it takes to get things done is often longer than you want."**

His final City Council term will end in 2015.

The Critter Report *by George Grace*

Coyotes in Franklin Hills Prompt Community Meeting

Following a number of e-mails to FHRA from residents who were concerned and frightened by coyote sightings, the FHRA organized a Coyote & Mountain Lion meeting last October in Griffith Park to discuss local coyotes and give an update on P-22, Griffith Park's resident mountain lion.

The 50 attendees got plenty of good advice and suggestions from the main speaker, L.A. Animal Services Wildlife Officer Greg Randall who gave a comprehensive overview of coyotes in Los Angeles, particularly in the Franklin Hills/Los Feliz area. Randall, ably assisted by fellow Wildlife Officer Hoang Dinh, set up a variety of educational displays, with a large number of sample products for deterring coyotes plus numerous informative brochures.

Officer Randall explained that L.A. Animal Services decided over 10 years ago that attempting to eradicate coyotes from urban Los Angeles was not only inhumane, but an impossible task. Consequently, the City established a "No Kill" policy regarding coyotes and other urban wildlife, meaning that Animal Services will not relocate, trap, or kill coyotes – or any other wildlife - in Los Angeles. The current Wildlife Program's mission is to help, and teach Angelenos to peacefully coexist with our wild neighbors – including coyotes.



Coyotes are a special case, because they pose a threat to our domestic pets, and create fear if they become too aggressive. Animal Services receives two categories of coyote complaints, those involving personal coyote encounters, and those requesting help in keeping coyotes out of designated areas – like yards. The recommended solution is to employ "Hazing" techniques – Active Hazing for face to face contacts, and Passive Hazing for keeping coyotes out of a designated area.

Active Hazing: Coyotes should always be hazed when personally encountered. This prevents "habituation" (losing fear of humans). Officer Randall recommended keeping a Wildlife Aversion Kit (WAK) with a variety of deterrent devices, and advised rotating their use. His WAK prototype included air horns, coyote rattles, storm whistles, an umbrella, pepper spray, pots to bang together, tennis balls to throw (you can also use rocks or sticks), slingshots, water guns with vinegar spray, and some others.

Passive Hazing: Keeping coyotes out of yards is often a matter of common sense.

Coyotes are omnivorous, and are particularly attracted to garbage, pet food, and fallen fruit. Making sure that none of these is available often solves the problem. For persistent coyotes, Officer Randall had samples and discussed several ways to keep coyotes away. These included rollers to attach to fence tops (which should be at least 6 feet high), motion detector devices to flash lights, make noises, or squirt water on anything that sets them off, placing ammonia soaked rags or cayenne at areas where coyotes enter your yard, spraying ammonia in your garbage cans, and closing off crawl spaces that coyotes can use for resting or denning.

The overall message was that it requires effort, but learning how to cope with coyotes and other wildlife is a requirement for living in our area.

After a question and answer period, there was a brief review of P-22's current status and the timeline of events that lead to his discovery. Presently, P-22 is living in remote canyons west of Griffith Park, and is likely to stay there. He is GPS monitored once during the day, and every two hours at night. Attendees received a list of Frequently Asked Questions that is available online at:

www.gmrnet.com/P-22.October.2013.pdf

Wildlife Officers Greg Randall, and Hoang Dinh, are the only members of the L.A. Animal Services Wildlife Program and do an excellent job with very limited resources. Angelenos, like me and my neighbors, regularly deal with many different kinds of wildlife issues - not just with coyotes. Hopefully, the City's finances will allow even more expansion of this essential program soon. ■

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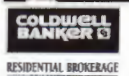
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Shakespeare Bridge Garden Turns "10" / by Shirley Mims

Photos by Elizabeth Richardson

On Sunday, November 17th, neighbors gathered underneath the Shakespeare Bridge to celebrate the Shakespeare Bridge Garden's ten year anniversary. Students from Lycee International de Los Angeles (LILA) read Shakespearean sonnets. Retired City deputy engineer Clark Robins discussed the architecture of the bridge. Local author and historian Don Seligman talked about the early history of our neighborhood and the development of Monon and Franklin Hills. Councilmember Tom LaBonge presented FHRA with a certificate and renewed his ongoing support for the bridge garden.

Dedicated on Nov. 15, 2003, the garden has seen both fruitful and challenging times. Two years ago, the garden was completely excavated in order to replace a sewer pipe deep underground. In early October, a trash truck backed into the backflow preventer which resulted in having to turn off the main water to prevent an otherwise unstoppable geyser from the break. FHRA board member Bruce Carroll found a replacement part on E-bay and was able to repair the backflow device. In the meantime, residents closest to the bridge generously used their own garden hoses and water to keep the roses watered. On the day before the event, the water was restored. More work needs to be done to stabilize the slope and to address other problems with the water system. We'll keep you posted as improvements progress.

The garden enjoys regular community work parties when we get together to pull weeds, pick up trash, and trim overgrowth. It is a great way for neighbors to get together and reconnect in a peaceful and pleasant place. We are extremely grateful to our neighbors along Monon and others who help to look after this beloved garden. If you'd like to receive notices about upcoming events, please email the FHRA. ■



Tom LaBonge, Chris Boutelle, Shirley Mims and students from LILA.



Clark Robins speaks to an attentive group about the architecture of the Shakespeare Bridge.

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ACADEMIC DECATHLON

by Joanne Erdos



The Academic Decathlon is one of the most successful programs in the history of John Marshall High School. Since 1981, when the California Academic Decathlon was established, Marshall has participated every year. From the beginning, Marshall finished in the top ten teams more than once under the coaching of Cheryl Lee, and later, Mary Sortino. The Decathlon has always consisted of ten events but over the years the subject categories were in flux. With the leadership of the United States Academic Decathlon, the subjects have solidified into the following: Art, Economics, Essay, Language and Literature, Math, Music, Social Science, Science, Speech, and Interview. The Super Quiz, the only event open to the public, became a “special event” in 2012 and now takes its questions from the subjects the students have studied each year rather than using a separate topic. The score is used for team placement when it comes to qualifying for State but it is NOT considered in individual scores, and team scores now are given with and without the Super Quiz scores.

The first six-member team in 1981 consisted of Mia Del Campo, Chris Mitchell, Ruth Wolfstein, Julie Wong, Parthenia Wong, and Tracy Yamamoto. Marshall won its first city championship in 1985, defeating a powerhouse team from Palisades High School. Team members were Ellen Ahn, Noemi Gutierrez, Carol Lin (later a news anchor on CNN), Greg Mitchell, Fred Upton, Eun Joo Whang, and Jeannette Woo. Marshall finished 3rd that year at the State Finals to cap the first of many successful seasons to come. In 1987, Marshall won its first National Championship under the coaching of David Tokofsky and a stunning performance by Varsity (“C” grade point average) student, David Florey, who scored higher than any other student in the competition. This amazing

team, in addition to David Florey, included Silvert Darbinian, Matthew Elstein, Gideon Javier, Ethan McKinney, Chris Nicholson, and Ben Wolf. This was the first of several national titles to be won by LAUSD schools. When Coach Tokofsky stepped down after his team’s spectacular win, the mantle of leadership went to Ron Wenderoff during the 1987 and 1988 competitions.

Coach Haruo Aoki assumed the Head Coach position for the next three seasons, but an unfortunate illness forced him to resign and, in 1992, Phil Chase took over the team. Under his leadership Marshall began to prepare intensely for the Super Quiz event, the only one of the ten events open to the public. Since then, the Marshall squad has placed in the top three Super Quiz spots at the city competition sixteen times. Led by superstar Honors (“A” GPA) Ann Rose Van, the 1994-95 team won their second National Championship with an amazing total score of 49,935 points out of a possible 60,000. This National Championship team consisted of Paul Auerbach, James Evrard, Doug Kleven, Elsie Lau, Sung Lee, Masaki Miyagawa, Steve Na, Linda Siu, and Ann Rose Van.

In 1997 the California Academic Decathlon initiated an invited teams program (“wild cards”) and since that time, Marshall has competed in the State Finals in all but one year (1997-98). In 2001, new co-coaches Michael Jones and Larry Welch took over, and in 2003, when Coach Jones stepped down, Coach Welch assumed the position of Head Coach and assembled a staff of assistant coaches which included teachers and former Decathletes. Coach Welch continues as Head Coach currently and has expanded the Aca-Deca Program to include not only an “A” team but a “B” team and a Junior Varsity squad.

The 2009-10 season was another championship year for the Barristers as they captured their fourth City title, the State Large School Championship (with a record-breaking team score of



◀ 1987's team wins Marshall's first National championship. From left, in approximate order: Principal Don Hahn, Ethan McKinney, Mayor Tom Bradley, Coach David Tokofsky, Silvert Darbinian, Co-Coach Ann Choi-Rho, Gideon Javier, Chris Nichelson, Matthew Elstein, David Florey, David Chan.

(Photo from: www.lapl.org)

the National Large School Online trophy. Also, Anastasya Lloyd-Damjanovic crushed Ann Rose Van's long-standing scoring record with an astounding 8933.6 (of 10,000) as she led her team to victory in all these contests. Eight of the nine team members qualified for the Marshall HS Aca Deca Hall of Fame (8,000 points or higher in competition).

The 2010-11 year picked up where the 10-11 team ended. The Barrister Decathletes repeated as the State Super Quiz Champions and took home another Large School State Championship. Led by Yeah Moon Hong and Marcos Chinchilla, this team was unstoppable! And for the first time in history, all nine of the team members qualified for the Hall of Fame!

In 2011-12, Marshall returned to a traditional calendar after seventeen years as a year-round school. The Academic Decathlon coaching staff expanded with the addition of former decathlete Brandon Schwartz to help with music and science. Once again the Barristers made an impressive showing at City with a 2nd Place win, and went on to place 3rd in the State Finals.

At the 2012-13 City competition, Marshall, Granada Hills, and Franklin were way out in front of the field of 65 schools. All three schools broke scoring records with more than 51,000 team points (of 60,000). As of this year, the 2013 Acadeca Team is the highest scoring team in Marshall History! With an overall total team

score of 56,445, the nine students of the 2012-13 team won 2nd Place in the LAUSD Academic Decathlon, and qualified for the State Championship contest held March 14-17 in Sacramento. The total possible is now 65,400 points. The point structure changed this year from the previous 60,000 points; according to that structure, our team had 51,420 points, also a record. This beats our previous highest score, 50,029.8, earned by the 2009-10 team. The team competed at the State Finals in Sacramento and finished in 4th Place in a very tight race. There were 61 schools competing at the State Finals and our kids won individual medals in most of the events.

Coach Larry Welch is justly proud of his 2012-13 team members: Aninda Bhowmick, Natasha Boyd, Ashley Cruz, Jose Herrera, Julio Lopez, Kevin Martinez, Marvin Papparisto, Amy Tan, and Angelica Tecson. Additionally, the team tied for 1st Place in the Super Quiz with overall winner Granada Hills Charter High School, and won team awards in 9 of the 10 events. Also, individual awards were won by team members. Natasha Boyd won the Larry McCormick Award for the highest scoring student in the Language and Literature category, and Marvin Papparisto won the Perryman Award for the highest scoring student in Economics. *(Continued on next page -)*

(Continued from previous page) Marvin, a junior, was the highest scoring student in the entire LAUSD competition with 9,253 points of a possible 10,000. He beat out Marshall's previous highest scorers, David Florey of the 1987 National Championship Team with 8,500 points, and Ann Rose Van of the 1995 National Championship Team with 8,750 points. In 2010, Anastasya Helen Lloyd-Damnjancovic beat Ann's record with an astonishing 8,933.6 points. Now, Marvin holds the title of Top Scoring Student in the City. He intends to break his own record this year!

The topic this year is *World War I* and the students will be tested in American and European literature, art, music, science, and social science. Tests will be given in Math and economics and every student will write an essay. Additionally, they will give prepared and impromptu speeches, and will be interviewed by a panel of judges. The novel this year is *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway..

If you would like to help the team to victory, please send your donation to the John Marshall High Alumni Association, PO Box 39847, Los Angeles, CA 90039. Please mark "Aca Deca" in the memo section. You may pay online using PayPal if you have an account. Go to www.paypal.com and send your payment to johnmarshalla@gmail.com with a note in the comment box that the payment is for ACADECA. The Alumni Association is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductible. ■

Thanks to Assistant Coach Terry Colberg for his contributions to this article.

IMPROVEMENTS AND CHANGES AT LILA

By Thibeaux Hirsh, 5th grade

There are as many things going on at Lycée International de Los Angeles (LILA), our French-American dual immersion school on Russell Avenue in Los Feliz, as there are nationalities of students.

This fall, the Los Feliz campus welcomed back the pre-K through 5th graders to a much improved and more spacious campus. The Los Feliz campus went from having 505 students to just 317, as the sixth to twelfth graders moved to their own brand new campus in Burbank. This means almost all the classrooms are twice the size they were before. Teachers and students alike are enjoying the change. Fifth grader Paul Simon says, "I'm very happy the classrooms are bigger, and now there's more room to run around."

Also, Najiba Medjaoui, Playground Supervisors Coordinator, and a team of parents, are leading the effort to revitalize the school's garden. The group is hoping to teach the younger students to plant crops and grow plenty of vegetables for the school to use.

We hope that those of you who came to check out our improved and beautiful campus at the November 9th community open house enjoyed and learned from the experience. ■

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The Magnificent Magnet Middle School

By Brenda Kilbourne

(Photo courtesy LAUSD)

Thomas Starr King Middle School is located in the Franklin Hills on Fountain and Myra (near Sunset) and has been around since 1926. Back in the '80s, when King Junior High was considered an urban school, my friends sent their daughters to the private girls' school down the boulevard. I stayed with King because of their great orchestra, the science classes taught by a Ph.D and one of the finest counselors (Nancy Carlson) I've ever known.

Now King has developed into an outstanding magnet with three schools in our own Franklin Hills. As a full-school magnet, King is able to expand boundaries and offer quality education to any student who resides within LAUSD. The Gifted/High Ability Technology & Arts Magnet has existed since 2001 (13 years), the Environmental Studies Magnet is in its third year (since 2011) and the Film and Media Magnet just opened this year (2013).

The **Film and Media Magnet** is the "neighborhood school," so those who live in the area are given priority selection to this program. The **Film and Media Magnet** hosted an inaugural Mini Film Festival to kick off the new magnet. There were several dignitaries present. The LAUSD Instructional Director for ESC. East, David Downing, introduced Board Member Bennet Kayser, who presented the principal and student filmmakers with certificates. The Deputy Mayor was also there to present the school with a certificate. For more information on this event, go to <http://friendsofking.org/category/fam-news/>.

The **Environmental Studies Magnet** is an urban oasis offering environmental literacy and community involvement. You have seen the ESM in the news. <http://friendsofking.org/students-teachers-inspire-laUSD-to-take-action/>. Students led a district-wide ban against Styrofoam last year. (Click above the picture where it says "Read More Here") Just recently, they were in the news again, launching a food bank program to end hunger. <http://friendsofking.org/middle-school-students-launch-food-bank-program-to-end-hunger/> Click above the picture where it says "Read More about it Here"

The **Gifted/High Ability Technology & Arts Magnet** incorporates creativity and innovation in the classroom by infusing technology and the arts throughout a rigorous core academic program. The Magnet enthusiastically embraces a project-based approach to learning and strive to nurture the next generation of 21st century scholars. Some cross-curricular projects include the Bizarre Bazaar Discount Festival and Math Game Board Day (6th grade), Renaissance Faire and Soopalooza (7th grade) and Rube Goldberg Project 9th grade). The students' work throughout the year is highlighted in a culminating Art & Technology Showcase at the end of the year.

King's motto is "Achievement with Honor and Pride," and is proud of its many achievements. Just before the school year started, King was cited in the Los Angeles Times, where Superintendent Deasy singled out the middle school for its impressive improvements. Its AP test scores have increased by over 200 points in the last six years and is currently 843.

Part of the reason King has been so successful is the increased parent and community involvement.

"Friends of King" is a 501c3 non-profit organization of volunteer parents dedicated to enriching education and fostering community at Thomas Starr King Middle School. FOK has become a well-oiled machine, taking on the needs of the school to enable the students to compete with the wealthier schools. "Friends of King" provides an opportunity for the families that make up King Middle School's diverse student body, to come together and ensure that all of our kids receive the high-quality 21st century education they deserve. (Continued on page 18)

Summer Picnic Wrap Up / *by Shirley Mims*

One of the nicer things about summer in the community is getting together with neighbors to simply have a good time. We did just that in August when the Franklin Hills Residents Association (FHRA) hosted the annual summer picnic that Dave Farmer started for the Marshall Area Neighborhood Watch (MANW) a few years ago.

This year's picnic started off with delicious potluck from neighbors including Vivien Shea's wonderful cookies and Tim Cowell's "famous" mac 'n' cheese and hot dog wraps, food donations from Trader Joe's and pizza from Tomato Pie. Other businesses made contributions to help support our event. Baller Art Ware donated face paint and Friends of Los Feliz Library gave us several children's books to hand out to the kids. Collar & Leash, Mind-Body Fitness Pilates Studio, and Casita del Campo provided gift certificates for our raffle which helped us to increase our funds and memberships. Tastee BQ not only gave demonstrations with their new California Gold BBQ Rub, they also donated a bottle for the raffle. Also, a couple lucky winners won FHRA t-shirts.

We estimate that 75 to 100 people came over the course of the day. Participants were treated to Bruce Carroll's display of historic photographs of the Franklin Hills. Children painted with water colors, had their faces painted and played with toys and games. Several people brought their dogs and enjoyed sitting under the trees while listening to the live music. Many neighbors gathered around the picnic tables, graciously provided by Councilman Tom LaBonge's office, and enjoyed good conversation and lunch with old and new friends. We were delighted that retired Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Al Polehonki came with our new SLO Lenny Davis. Tom LaBonge and his staff also came and made presentations to community members.



The highlight of the day was all of the wonderful music. Primarily organized by Jane Cantillon, the Dick and Jane Family Orchestra and the Melrose Hillbillies played an eclectic mix of bluegrass, jazz, folk and more. Ed Aguero graced us with his phenomenal flamenco guitar for a short while. And committee chair Shirley Mims hosted a drumming circle where kids and adults alike banged out their own personal rhythms.

The FHRA recently expanded its boundaries to include the Marshall area after Mr. Farmer decided to no longer continue the MANW. FHRA continues Farmer's legacy of community spirit to improve the neighborhood with annual gatherings, garden clean ups, and neighborhood watches. If you would like to be more involved, please consider signing up for membership. Email us if you want to participate in one of our events or let us know if you have any concerns or want to start a project of your own. It is because of neighbors like you that our community thrives strong and is a friendly place to live. Thank you for participating with us!! ■

Photos by Shirley Mims and Bruce Carroll. For more, go to the FHRA website at <http://www.franklinhills.org/picnic-2013/picnic.html>.

(Continued from page 15-)

Another reason King is so successful is their school structure. Yes, they are a large campus, but they are set up as three magnets, where a core team of teachers is able to provide a personalized learning environment for each student. So it's really like a small school within a school.

All of the teacher teams have equal access to:

- * Apple 1 to 1 Program
- * Diverse Electives
- * Special Ed/Student Support Programs
- * Programs for English Learners
- * Honors Program

Apple 1 to 1 Program for all 6th graders: This program is a true testament to the District's motto: "College and Career Ready in the 21st Century." Students are assigned their own laptop to use in the classroom. With the laptops, the students are producers instead of consumers of knowledge. This allows for project based learning. In the 6th and 7th grade, there are laptop carts available throughout each department.

Diverse Electives: Between the three magnet programs and the wide variety of electives there is something there for everybody. In the 7th and 8th grades, all electives are open to all students, regardless of which magnet program they are enrolled in. In 6th grade, for example, students can take Music for an entire year, or they can do a 10-week Elective wheel with classes that are specific to their magnet.

For more information on each magnet, please check out King's websites, kingms.org (and click on the right column to learn about each magnet) or friendsofking.org (and click on "Magnets" on the top). ■

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Keeping Informed with Neighborhood Watch / by *Carole Nese and Shirley Mims*

Welcoming Senior Lead Officer Lenny Davis after Al Polehonki and Sam Salazar retired, we are working to strengthen neighborhood watches across our hill.

We recently had a very successful meeting in our first efforts to reinvigorate neighborhood watch in our community. The meeting took place at John Marshall High School (JMHS) with the Principal Dan Harrison, School Police Officer Lee, LAPD Senior Lead Officer Lenny Davis and Vice Principal Robin Lee-Ramirez. Following are some of the highlights.

Graffiti: The success of the Graffiti Project with the school and the community was given high praise by Mr. Harrison. This program was started two years ago through the efforts of the Marshall Area Neighborhood Watch (now part of FHRA). In one instance, graffiti was reported in the morning and the student was arrested by noon that same day! Residents are asked to keep up the good work by documenting any graffiti activities that they observe. If you see graffiti, please take a photo and email it to Northeast LAPD Officer Beall (see insert). If you see graffiti being done in action, please call the numbers in the insert for school police and LAPD. LAPD will work with the school and FHRA for follow up and to catch the perpetrators. We have enjoyed relatively graffiti-free streets for quite some time. Let's keep it up!!!

Food Trucks: The program to eliminate food trucks and carts around JMHS through the cooperation of the police, the school and the neighborhood has also been a great success. Off-campus food carts are illegal and not allowed within several hundred feet of any public school. We haven't heard about food trucks in a while. If you see any starting to gather around the school again, residents are asked to email FHRA and let LAPD know. Most importantly, do not buy anything from them!

Dogs: All residents in the area are asked to walk their pets on the sidewalk around the school. Please do not use the grassy areas of Marshall High as a dog park. Under City ordinance, all dogs must be on a leash. And, as always, please pick up after your animal! Consider that it is not pleasant for school kids and staff to unexpectedly sit or step in someone's dog poop that was left on the ground. It also destroys property, grass and plants, smells bad, and is not healthy for the environment. (Continued on next page, top)

(Neighborhood Watch -continued)

Truancy: If residents see any students loitering around the streets or public stairways during or after school hours please let us know. If this is an ongoing problem for a certain area, we can help you work with LAPD and school police to keep the area safe. If there is an urgent matter, you are encouraged to contact our SLO Lenny Davis and can also call the LAUSD school dispatch (see insert.) Keep in mind that they may not be Marshall students, they could be students from other schools and they may not even be school students

Track and Field: Staff permitting, the JMHS track is opened to the public almost every weekday, from about 6 to 8 a.m. before school begins, and after school until dark (unless there are school games, practices or trainings.) The track is opened on the weekends only for groups who pay for permits to use the facility. It is at their discretion as to whether they allow others on the track during their time. Please be courteous and ask before using. Also, no pets are allowed on the track at any time.

Events: JMHS schedule of games and school events is posted on their school calendar website. They recently had their homecoming. To see what else is happening, visit their website at <http://www.johnmarshallhs.org/>. You may even want to cheer our students on and attend a football game or other sports event.

Safe Passages: Once a month, the Northeast LAPD station hosts a Safe Passages meeting where school representatives and police meet with LAPD officers and community members to exchange information about events, crime and safety around our schools. FHRA is committed to attending these meetings to share info that affects Franklin Hills. Let us know if you have an issue that you would like to discuss.

Neighborhood Watch: If you would like to participate in the neighborhood watch program, please let us know! We are happy to assist you. ■

Community Contacts

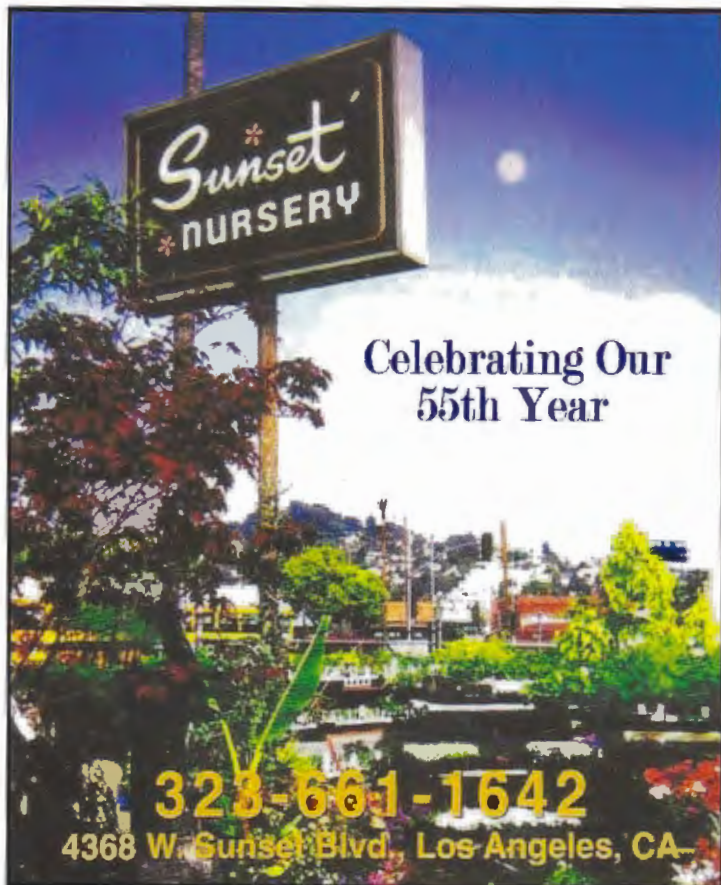
Graffiti: LAPD Office Beall, email photos and descriptions to: 32430@lapd.lacity.org

Urgent police matters: Senior Lead Officer Lenny Davis, email: 26028@lapd.lacity.org; phone: 213-793-0763

School Police matters: LAUSD school police dispatch: 213-625-6631

Neighborhood watch: Carole Nese and Shirley Mims, email: Shirley@FranklinHills.org

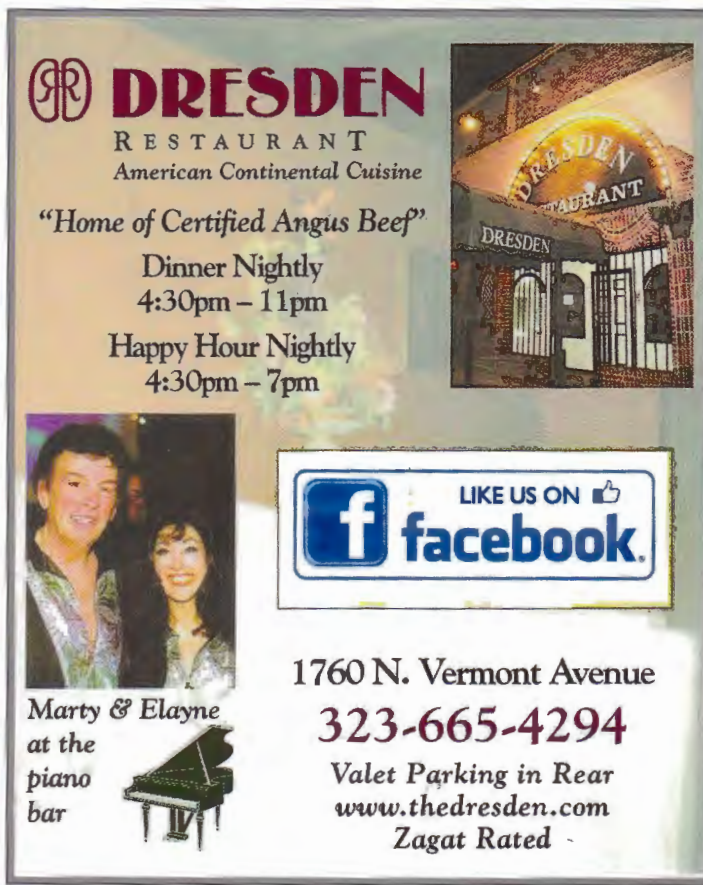
Community solutions: Franklin Hills Residents Association, email: FHRA@franklinhills.org



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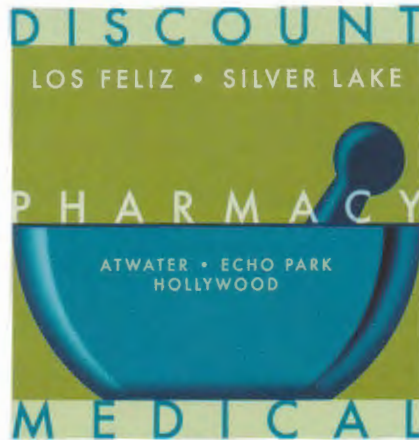
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National Night Out

By Andrea Iaderosa



What is one of the best ways to keep our neighborhoods safe?
What can we do as a community to help us prepare for a disaster?

If you ask public safety personnel these questions, they will tell you that one of the best things one can do is to get to know your neighbors. Neighbors looking out for each other can help to deter crime. In the event of a disaster, neighbors working together to help each other is what will ultimately be the crucial element in determining how quickly the community gets back on its feet. Getting to know one's neighbors becomes increasingly difficult in our society, as we all lead very busy lives and communicate more via e-mail than we do in person. For this reason, National Night Out was created. National Night Out is an event that happens once a year all across the United States with the goal of getting everyone out of their homes and into their neighborhoods to simply talk to each other and interact in their communities.

This year, I, along with community members Shirley Mims, Charley Mims, Michael Hain and Amber Hain organized a National Night Out event in Los Feliz Village.

Our idea was to meet at the Vermont Triangle and walk through Los Feliz Village, stopping at various points along the way. Shirley Mims enlisted our Area Senior Lead Officers to assist with the walk. Skylight Books allowed us to set up a table in front of their bookstore, and they became our first destination stop of the evening. We then moved on to the Los Feliz Public Library. Senior Librarian Pearl Yonezawa was instrumental in assisting us with publicizing the event, and allowed us to set up a table outside the library for our second destination stop. The library also set up a table of their own to issue library cards and talk about upcoming events.

The next stop of the evening was at our community fire station, Station 35 on Hillhurst Avenue. Here, the public was treated to a tour of the fire station, a demonstration for the kids of fire fighters sliding down the fire pole, and many great photo opportunities for parents to take pictures of their children (who, at this point were sitting in the fire truck, pretending to drive off to a fire.)

Our final stop of the evening was at Yuca's on Hollywood Blvd., where Dora (Yuca's owner and community supporter) gave participants hot chocolate, and made her outdoor patio available to us for more post-walk socializing.

Approximately 60 people walked the walk with us – not bad for a Tuesday night in Los Angeles! Councilman Tom LaBonge's office helped us by supplying the tables and chairs, and Councilman LaBonge's former Field Deputy, Mary Rodriguez, loaned us her own personal National Night Out banner that we displayed over our tables at the Vermont Triangle. Councilman LaBonge made an appearance (he was a VERY busy man that night!), and his new Field Deputy Dan Halden and Case Worker Seth Fowler both walked around with us. Also providing assistance that night were members of the Franklin Hills Residents Association (FHRA), and the Los Feliz Improvement Association. Starbucks donated coffee for the event. One appearance that I had not anticipated was that of Congressman Adam Schiff. Unbeknownst to me, Congressman Schiff had seen our event posted, and he stopped by to support the community efforts, and speak to those in attendance.

Those who participated learned more about community public safety from the Area Senior Lead Officers, learned more about fire safety and the Community Emergency Response Training that is available when they stopped by Station 35, and received First Aid Kits, LED flashlights, and refreshments along the way at the other table stops that were generously donated by the Franklin Hills Residents Association.

Most importantly, the event accomplished its goals. We all got to know each other a little better, talked about the importance of watching out for each other, and took a walk together around our little neighborhood, enjoying its sights and sounds on a lovely August night. ■

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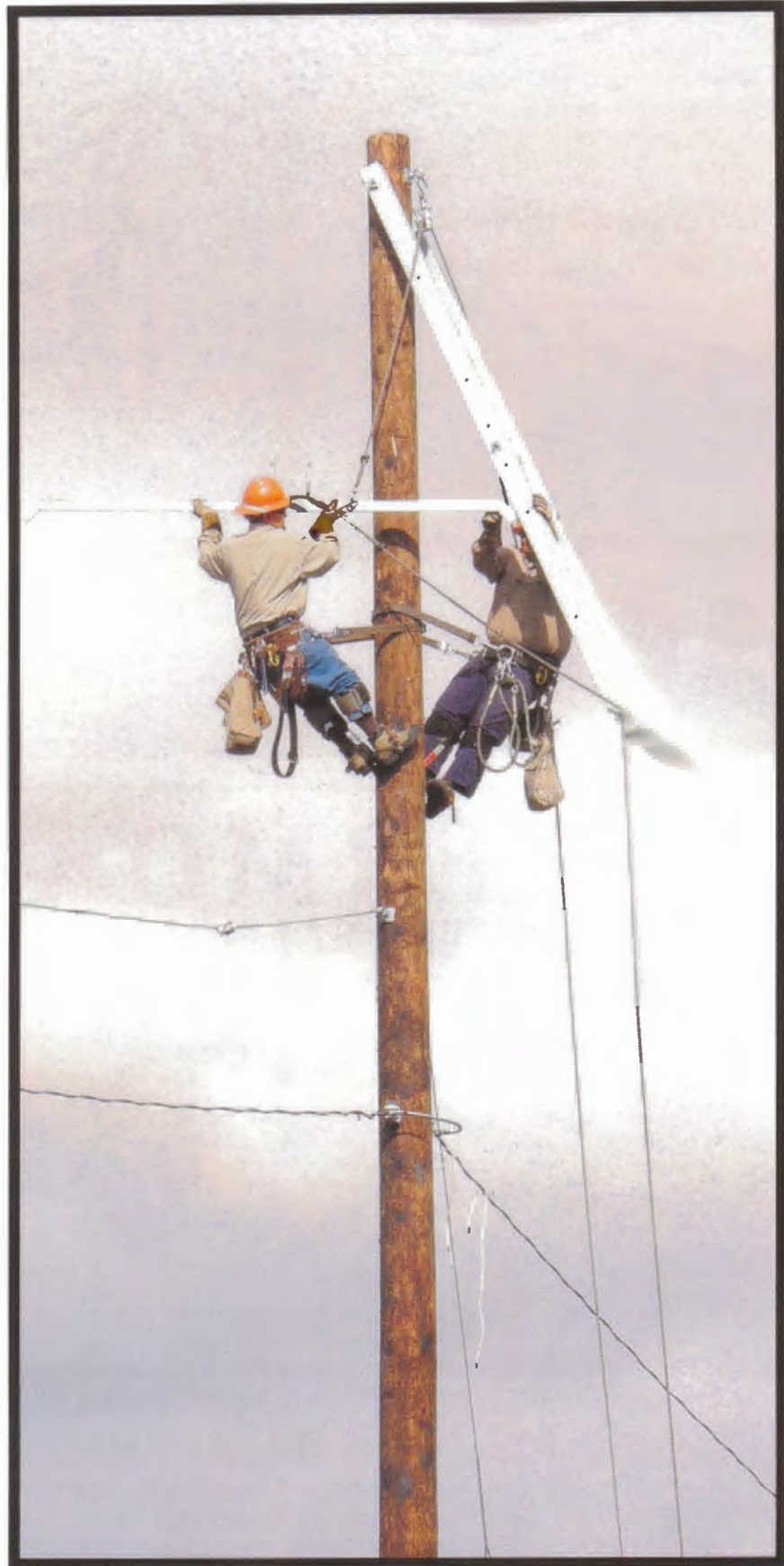
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The DWP has been replacing the power poles along Talmadge St. north and south of Franklin Ave. And it looks like this fearless pair of pole climbers might be ready to audition for Cirque du Soleil.

A
Bruce Carroll
Photograph

Wishing all the residents
of the Franklin Hills

a Happy Holiday Season



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