



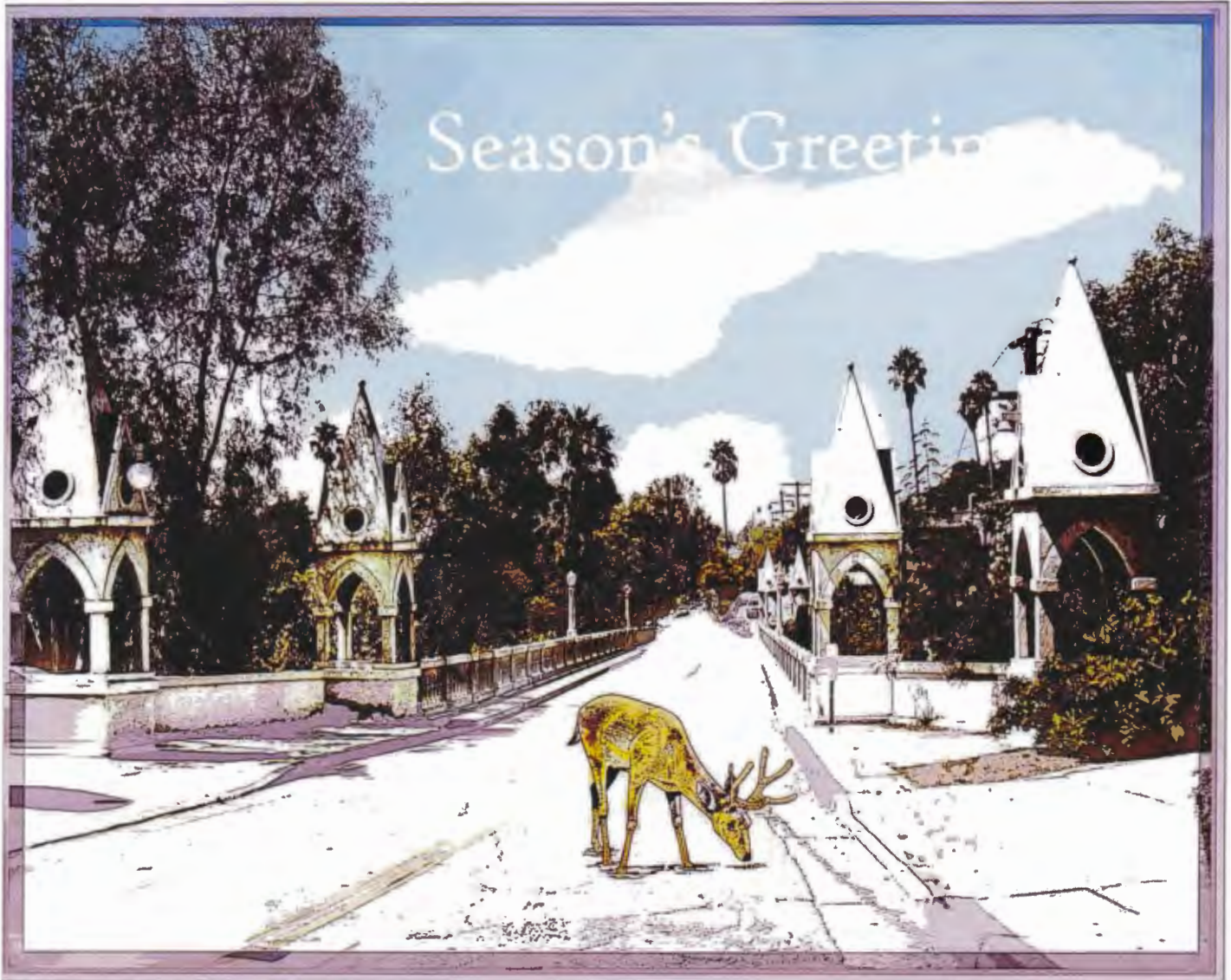
OVERVIEW

FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Issue #48

Fall/Winter

2014



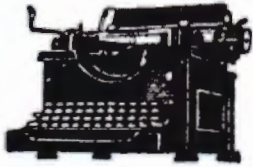
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message.....2
Water Rescue.....3
Annual Meeting.....4
Cable digging.....7

Bridge Garden.....8
Upcoming elections.....9
Community ID.....10
Misc. Library11

Summer Review.....13
Empty bowls project. .19
Rodenticides.....20
Yesteryear22

OVERVIEW



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Goodbye

By Chris Boutelle, FHRA President

Carol Skinner, longtime member of the Franklin Hills Residents Association Board of Directors passed away at home due to a stroke after a long illness on September 26 of this year. Carol had been Editor and Publisher of the Franklin Hills Overview from 1999 to 2008, designing and editing every issue and had contributed many articles and poems over the years.



Born in Riverside, Ca. on December 14, 1934 and having graduated from University High School in Santa Monica, she went on to receive her undergraduate and Master of Music degrees from the University of Southern California. Being passionate about music and having begun piano lessons at age three, she continued studies in musicology throughout her life and became an inspiring and dedicated teacher with the L.A. Unified School District for 35 years, specializing in Choir and orchestra at Van Nuys, Jefferson and Mt. Vernon high schools. Carol enjoyed performing as a mezzo-soprano, singing in University Choir, Madrigal (chamber choir) and a large choir that became the Roger Wagner Chorale. She also sang at weddings and events and was an active member and past president of the Mu Phi Epsilon co-ed music fraternity and the Dominant Music Club, a one hundred year old organization honoring women in music.

Carol moved to her Hollyvista Avenue home in 1968 and married Donald Odell Skinner in 1970. She enjoyed traveling throughout the world, sampling the local cuisine and attending art and musical events, cooking, camping and attending USC football games with her late husband, Don. As a member of the Community Police Advisory Board, representing the FHRA, she worked as a liaison between the police and the Franklin Hills community. She was very talented and generous with her time and made valuable contributions in many areas as evidenced by the numerous awards and recognitions bestowed upon her by education, music and civic organizations. She will be greatly missed.

Water

Saving Water With Your Phone Number?

By Bruce Carroll


In addition to asking for your community interests the FHRA membership form asks the usual questions; name, address, e-mail, and phone numbers. But unlike some other charities we don't use the info to bombard you with endless calls for donations. If we never call asking for money, why do we need your phone numbers?

An excellent example arose last summer. A resident of the 3900 block of Prospect noticed a mini river running down the hill. Not deep enough to need a kayak he walked up the hill a few houses and discovered the source of the stream. Finding no one home, he contacted FHRA to ask if we knew how to contact the resident. Because our database has separate columns for the street name and the address number it was easy to find that that neighbor was indeed in our FHRA membership database and I was able to leave a voicemail message alerting her to the problem. I was also able, using Google Earth, to see that the house did not have a pool...so draining a swimming pool was not the cause.

Having not gotten a quick call back and being curious about the problem, I drove up Prospect to see


whether the flow had stopped. It had not. But I met the good neighbor who had called FHRA. We found the main water valve and shut it off. After a few minutes the flow had been greatly reduced. I left a message by the front door and called again to leave another voicemail so the resident would know which valve we closed and that it had worked to control the flow.

It turns out the cause of the mini river contains a lesson in itself. The resident had been using a garden hose with a trigger nozzle that automatically shuts off when you let go, exactly the kind recommended to save water, but this time it had unintended consequences. She had forgotten to turn off the water at the faucet and eventually the pressure built up and the hose popped open with the runoff going down the garden drain to the street. The resident thanked FHRA for being "very helpful" because she was "all the way across the city" when we called. And being able to stop the unintended flow she said, "saved me at least some water."




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Facts Humor Raffles Annual Meeting 2014

Text and Photos By Bruce Carroll

With the FHRA in its 25th year and The Prospect Studio lot in its 100th year nearly 100 neighbors met on June 21, 2014 for the FHRA's Annual Meeting. Studio Production Manager Janet Campus welcomed the crowd saying "we're happy to have you...thanks so much for putting up with our mess." She was referring to the ongoing construction that had cancelled the planned studio tour. But FHRA President Chris Boutelle pointed out that long time ABC employee Galen Augustus had "put together a marvelous display of the history of the studio." Highlighting the last 65 years that it's been ABC-TV's west coast broadcasting headquarters.



Although this year's studio tour had to be cancelled, in its early days studio tours could be had for 60 cents.

As noted in this ad, the size of the lot instantly made Channel 7, originally known as KECA TV, the "world's largest television station."

It was the last of the seven VHF stations to go on the air in Los Angeles on Friday, September 16, 1949, broadcasting just five nights a week to an estimated 80,000 TV sets.



Next was the treasurer's report from Bruce Carroll who said membership and donations were running slightly behind 2013. Carroll then moved to make election of the five nominees for the five FHRA Board of Director positions official without the need to count the ballots. Re-elected were Overview Editor, Eric Frase; Brenda Kilbourne; Chairman, Charley Mims; and Vice President, Shirley Mims they are joined by board newcomer Carol Nese who lives in the FHRA territory north of St. George added two years ago.

Our FHRA coyote/wildlife guru George Grace pointed out that August to November is the coyote season when young coyotes are being taught how to hunt by their moms and pops "it's this period of time we get all kinds of panic stricken reports about packs of coyotes and some people are very terrified. Well you don't have to be." He pointed out the need to have a deterrent when walking your pet like the coyote whistles that FHRA was giving away at the meeting, and he discussed other pet safety measures.

The first two raffles were next on the agenda with donated prizes of Laemmle Theatre passes, and a succulent planter from board member Brenda Kilbourne, which was won by Robert Shea, husband of Vivien Shea, who as usual donated mounds of delicious home baked goods that caught the attention of the next guest, LAPD Northeast Division Captain Jeffrey Bert. He started his remarks by asking, "Who is Vivien Shea? I'm a little annoyed with her. I just ate 19 cookies."



FHRA Chairman Charley Mims thanked Capt. Bert not only for his law enforcement efforts but for the hard work he and his senior lead officers put in clearing weeds under the Shakespeare bridge and at the FHRA Hyperion Ave. cleanup. Capt. Bert said he was happy to be part of the cleanup...and noted he's worked all over the city and is "enthralled by this neighborhood. It's beautiful...it just doesn't happen on its own. It certainly doesn't happen because we arrest everybody. It happens because the community says we care, we care enough...people think beyond their fences, beyond their ivy walls and quite frankly it's rare and it's what's keeping this neighborhood safe."

Getting into crime stats, Capt. Bert reported we've done a good job in reducing violent crime and most property crimes, but the biggest challenge is theft from motor vehicles. He pointed out that about half resulted from people not locking their car doors and cautioned against leaving cell phones and other valuables in sight. He also touched on the problem of abandoned houses pointing out often it's people who live in such places that break into the cars.

He was asked about the problem of people living in motor homes parked on Hyperion and other streets and said the LAPD's ability to limit such activity had just days before been limited by a federal appeals court ruling. Court rulings have also limited what police can do to dislodge homeless encampments like those under the bridge on Myra.

The third raffle prize was dinner at Palermo on Vermont. As Boutelle pointed out, "Tony Fanara, the owner, is a great booster for us and other community projects."



The next guest speaker, Kristy Noochlaor, is Councilmember Tom LaBonge's new field deputy for our area. She introduced herself as an LA native who grew up in the district. She mentioned that on Wednesday she had done a ride through the area with Boutelle to 17 sites where streets most needed fixing. Boutelle noted that one site with a big pothole had already been repaired by Thursday. Noochlaor heard concerns about the need for better signs to slow traffic on St. George near Ronda Vista, bad concrete at Monon and Tracy and other street problems, but she explained the final say on repairs is up to the Bureau of Street Services.

Franklin Hills Community Identity Signs
Text and Photo by Shirley Mims

A new Franklin Hills community identity sign at the corner of Tracy Street and Talmadge Street will commemorate the extended boundaries of the Franklin Hills. This eighth sign will complete the perimeter of the Franklin Hills.



The Franklin Hills was extended to incorporate the area north of Franklin Avenue to Tracy Street and West of St. George Street to Talmadge Street, after the Marshall Area Neighborhood Watch (MANW) disbanded and asked the FHRA to assume its membership in 2011. The new boundaries were approved unanimously at the following FHRA annual meeting in 2012.

The Franklin Hills Residents Association (FHRA) has been serving this area for more than two decades. Projects include the Franklin Avenue median which was started in 1990, traffic mitigation for the Shakespeare Bridge earthquake retrofit project in 1996, the Shakespeare Bridge garden in 2003, and traffic safety and neighborhood watch issues throughout the years. The Franklin Hills Overview has been delivered to the entire Franklin Hills community for many years. Lastly, the FHRA has taken responsibility for hosting the summer picnic for the local community since the MANW disbanded.

Following a lengthy process of making sure that neighboring organizations are in agreement and gathering an excess of the requisite petition signatures, a formal application for the community identity sign was submitted in June 2014 to the Los Angeles City Clerk. As part of the process, several City agencies are asked to weigh in, including the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council which may or may not decide to hold a hearing on the issue, after which the matter will go to the Education and Neighborhoods Committee for recommendation to the City Council. Councilman Tom LaBonge is on board to place and pay for the sign.

The FHRA looks forward to unveiling its eighth and last Franklin Hills community identity sign at the summer picnic in 2015!

Curious about the neighborhood where you live? Curious about what authors lived in our area? Curious about books that are set in our neighborhood? A trip to the Los Feliz Public Library will more than satisfy your curiosity. Walk into the main library, walk straight ahead through the stacks and then turn left for a step or two and there it is on your right against the wall, a treasure trove of books about our locality.

And as you can see from the picture, these books have been heavily browsed, often taken out, and re-shelved with great enthusiasm. Mysteries, fiction, non-fiction, self-help books, biographies of local actors, architects, etc.

A browsing feast awaits you!

Text and photo by Elizabeth Richardson



"I have been connected to the library practically my entire life. My family became acquainted with (librarian) Pearl Yonezawa when I was very young, so the whole scene has been familiar for as long as I can remember. Growing up, my favorite thing about the library was the wide range of stories available. It seemed like the world of novels and comics was far less restricted than T.V. and movies, and I loved the darker stories like "Harry Potter" and "Coraline" (pretty light stuff, but the best I could get as a nine-year-old.) As time went on I became more interested in the library's extracurricular activities like art classes and the Anime and Book Clubs. It was an amazing revelation to discover I could make friends and talk with people in a completely unrestrained manner about things that really mattered to me.

I applied for an internship as soon as I legally could at the age of 14. The job was fairly easy to learn (shelving books, setting up chairs etc.) and working with familiar people was much more comfortable than entering a workforce with strangers. When I was younger I wanted to be a librarian, assuming I could read books all day long in a silent building. Obviously working in a library is not like patronizing it, and I no longer want to be a librarian as a career, but I still enjoy it. I'm definitely more comfortable in a professional setting now than when I began interning four years ago, and the connections I've made have vastly improved my resume. Even if I never work in a library full time, they will always be a refuge to me. A place I can sit, relax, and lose myself in someone else's thoughts."

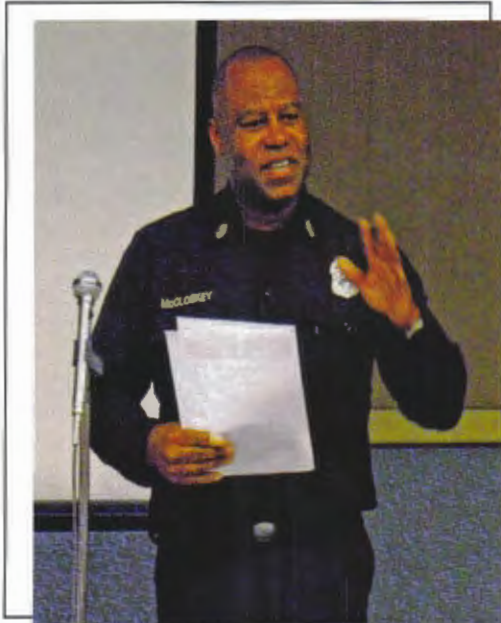


Shea Donato - Los Feliz Library Intern

Overview #48—Fall/Winter 2014

(Continued from page 5)

Eric Minivar was on hand to represent our Assembly Representative Mike Gatto and said that constituents with concern could call Gatto's field office at 818-558-3043. FHRA Board Member Tim Cowell put in a pitch for water conservation mentioning several strategies that can be found on the website www.bewaterwise.com. That was followed by another raffle with the lucky winner getting Laemmle movie passes procured by FHRA Board Member Eric Frase. FHRA Vice President Shirley Mims spoke of the many community improvement projects and ways to volunteer in the community, like Neighborhood Watch, the Big Sunday annual clean-up, and the newly created "3rd Saturdays" where FHRA has joined with other local groups to do monthly community projects. She also noted that FHRA had graffiti fighting kits with paint, cleaners etc. available for those attendees who wanted them. There were also other giveaways such as free grocery bags, Neighborhood Watch stickers and city services related info.



Capt. Lance McCloskey from fire station 35 on Hillhurst spoke about the even more urgent need this year for vigilance in brush clearance, reminded everyone to make sure their smoke detectors are working, that they have prepared a plan and supplies in case of an earthquake, and that cars are not blocking our narrow streets especially "around the turns" where the hook and ladder may need extra space. He also gave an alternate number, 800-688-8000, to speak directly the LAFD fire dispatch in an emergency when 9-1-1 is busy. Then his unit got a call and he had to leave.



Chairman Mims did a review of 25 years of FHRA history from its founding over fears of ABC studio expansion in 1989 to disaster preparedness efforts in the early 1990s, landscaping the Franklin Ave. median in 1995, working on smooth coordination of the Shakespeare Bridge retrofit and the huge reopening party in 1998 with attendance in the thousands. Followed by our efforts in the 21st century working for the new library, aiding King and Marshall schools, plus the Myra Ave cleanups and murals, all detailed in past issues of the *Overview* which can be found at the Los Feliz Branch Library and on our website.

Board Member Cowell followed with a bit of studio history and a studio trivia quiz with the winners getting Disney related prizes ranging from mugs to T-shirts, lithographs, a travel bag and gift card. These were followed by clips from two of the earliest surviving kinescopes of shows produced shortly after ABC bought the studio. "Space Patrol" where an awkward live TV fist fight between good and evil brought laughs, and "The Ruggles" an early situation comedy from 1950 where one of the key props was a phone book...does anyone still look at them?

Cable Digging

By Bruce Carroll



Almost everyone has complained about their cable service or the cable guy, but residents along Franklin Ave. recently had something else to complain about. One neighbor wrote to the FHRA, "The noise is deafening!" about workers from Pyramid Network Contracting jack-hammering early one November morning. The work, according to supervisor Javier Perez, was being done to lay underground fiber optic cable to upgrade Time Warner Cable's service in our area.



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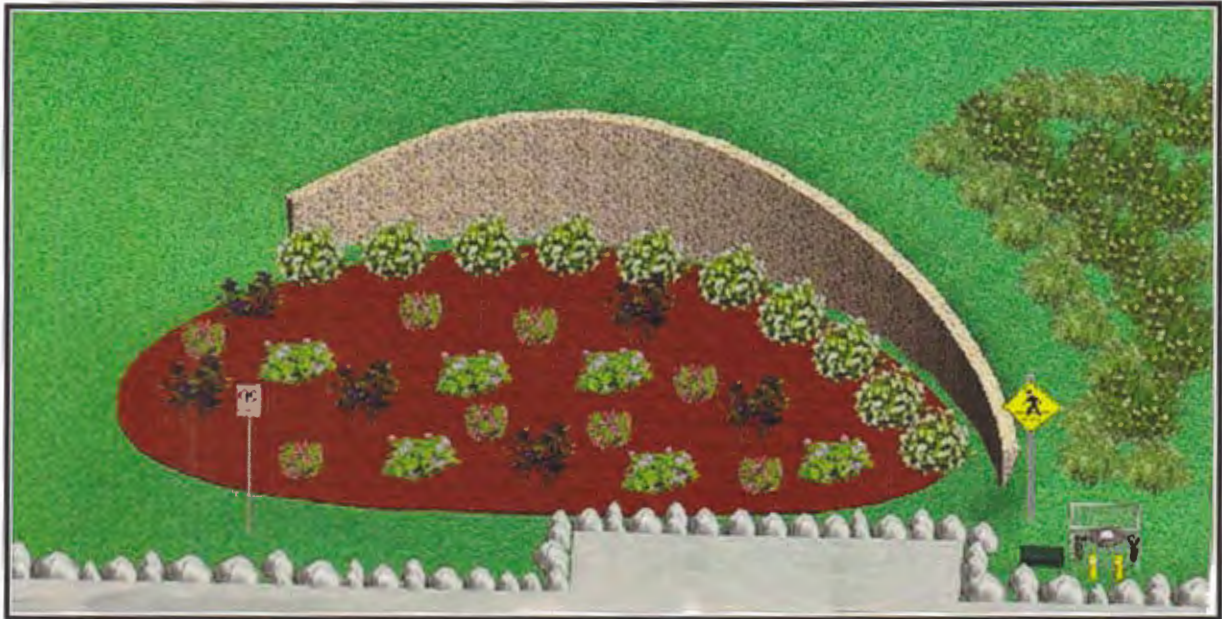
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New Designs for Shakespeare Bridge Garden

By Shirley Mims



Engineer's draft rendering for the Shakespeare Bridge Garden.

The garden under the Shakespeare Bridge has taken some hard hits since it was established over ten years ago. First, the landscape was changed when the Bureau of Sanitation excavated the garden slope when they needed to make emergency repairs to a sewer line under the garden. Then, the water supply was severed after a trash truck backed into the backflow prevention device a second time and broke the main water pipe. Now, California is suffering from long-term draught and has had several heat waves. Consequently, the roses in the garden are dying.

The Franklin Hills Residents Association is working with neighbors and several City agencies to remedy the situation. The Bureau of Sanitation will pay to repair the water system and for improvements to restore the garden. Accordingly, the Bureau of Engineering is drawing up plans for the re-design of the garden and water supply based on input from nearby neighbors. Also, Councilman Tom LaBonge's office is lending to us the expertise of their landscape supervisor for the design and implementation of the plants.

California natives and drought tolerant plants are being considered. The retaining wall shown in the above diagram will be faced with river rock. Construction is expected to begin in early 2015. Concurrently, a new water system will be installed. After that we can start putting in the plants! Stay tuned for our next work party. We look forward to having you help. If you'd like to get involved or for more information, please contact Shirley Mims at Shirley@franklinhills.org. Also, for previous articles on the garden, go to the Franklin Hills website at <http://www.franklinhills.org/>, then click on the link for the "Shakespeare Bridge Garden."

"All Politics is Local" - former U.S. Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill

By Elizabeth Richardson and Carole Nese

There is a very, very important election coming up this spring. All of Franklin Hills is in Los Angeles City Council District 4. LA has a strong City Council and 'relatively weak' Mayoral system of government. This makes our decision on whom we elect to represent us extremely important. Not just for litter pickup and potholes which are frequently our biggest gripes, but for zoning, budgeting, policing issues. For three terms plus a vacancy appointment, we've been represented by Tom LaBonge who has been our booster extraordinaire for all those years.

First: Educate yourself about the candidates. They will be doing all they can to reach you with their 'message' so you'll be inundated with information from all kinds of media. Look behind each candidate's carefully scripted 'message'. Go to candidate forums and form your own impression. Check out their resumes. Find out who their supporters are and figure out which of those supporters you trust.

Second: Vote in the March 3, 2015 primary. As of the end of October, there were 14 candidates who have indicated an interest in running in the primary: Tara Bannister, Jay Beeber, Teddy Davis, Sheila Irani, Step Jones, Wally Knox, Fred Mariscal, Tomas O'Grady, Joan Pelico, John Perron, Carolyn Ramsay, David Ryu, Steve Veres, and Oscar Winslow. This list may change as others announce or withdraw (the last day to withdraw is December 8th).

Third: Vote in the May 19th general municipal election. With the list of candidates whittled down by the primary to two, expect even more attention. Don't despair, it will be over soon but it's too important to turn off because of the hullabaloo.

Fourth: There are two other elections: ¶ District 5 of the Board of Education of the LA Unified School District The incumbent is Bennett Kayer. ¶ Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7 are open on the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District. Candidates run for specific district seats but they are elected at large. *(Continued, page 16)*

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2015 Rockford Rd. - Silver Lake - SOLD

3703 Glenfeliz Bl. - Atwater Village - SOLD

1971 Rodney Dr.; #204 - Los Feliz - SOLD

4411 Los Feliz Bl.; #702 - Los Feliz - SOLD



Richard Stanley
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The next time you are at the Los Feliz branch library, go into the teen room and look up. The ceiling is painted with ribbons of wish statements from local community members and quotes from famous authors. The ribbons were architect Barton Phelps' idea to inspire visitors to reach their dreams. A few of the wish items include the following...

I wish I could speak fluent French.

I wish to be joyous and free.

I wish to be an artist.

I wish there was respect, acceptance, and equality for gay people.

I wish all people believed in the beauty of their own dreams.

I wish I could help all sick people in the world including my grandmother who has a broken leg.

I wish my dad could stop drinking.

I wish the rest of my family could come to the US faster.

I would like to help all my friends go the right way in life especially my brother.

I wish to become a scientist & make new discoveries without harming nature.

I wish the end to pollution.

I wish there were no more gangs.

I wish that my first wish will come true.

I wish that every child could read and write.

I wish people would stop abusing drugs.

I wish I had a house, love and money.

The domed ceiling is capped with a skylight to bring in natural light. Around the rim are stars and constellations through which dreams and wishes can soar. Go and cast your wish, and applaud those for wishes come true.

Text by Charley Mims—Photo by Elizabeth Richardson

A Long Summer, Briefly in Review
By Shirley Mims

Summer 2014 was busy for the Franklin Hills! Here are some photos from several of the events we participated in and helped to organize. We hope that you enjoyed them as much as we did. Thanks for coming out and showing your support!! Let's do it again next year!

Relay for Life of Griffith Park Communities– June 28th and Summer Picnic– July 20th



Charley and Shirley Mims with Jane Cantillon



Happiness is the Franklin Hills Summer Picnic!

National Night Out– Aug. 5th



Walking group (photo by Kristy Noochlaor)

Third Saturdays – monthly



Volunteers cheer Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf

Squatters On the Hill

Text and photos By Andrew Farrington

The house behind us, 1915 Myra, has been abandoned for over five years now. For the first couple years, it was a non-issue for me since one of the other neighbors watched over it, calling abatement to take care of the half-filled pool when the mosquitos got too bad. The house overlooks my yard where my kids play. In September 2012, the neighbors told me that a "creepy" man was found sleeping back there. So began our journey to try and figure out what was going on with the house. At some point it was considered bank owned and then foreclosed and now the foreclosure is pending a bankruptcy. This is all the bank can tell us, so they say.

In May 2013, I heard hammering coming from the house. I thought that the bank was finally going to fix it up and sell it. My daughter and I walked up the street to see what was going on. As I approached the house, I saw two trucks, one already had the Viking stove loaded on it and there were two men hauling down the Subzero fridge. I noticed the men took a break and ducked their heads when they saw me walking up the street. With my daughter in hand, we kept walking. I later called LAPD and walked up there with one of the officers. The door had been kicked in, but the problem was that I didn't own the property, so police couldn't say whether a crime had been committed. This would be an ongoing issue.

I attended an FHRA meeting at The Prospect Studios with a neighbor and expressed my concerns to Councilmember Tom LaBonge. A month or so later, the house was boarded up. Unfortunately, once the house was boarded up it let everyone know that it was empty. Nearly a year later, people moved in. Neighbors approached the young couple and they said that they were working with the bank to fix up the place. The neighbor called the bank and they stated that it wasn't being rented. Somehow the squatters were able to get the water and electricity turned on. I noticed various men come and go from the house with multiple bikes. They

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had dogs that were never let out of the house to use the bathroom. On more than one occasion LAPD was called, but there was nothing they could do since no one answered the door. One Sunday I noticed one of the men riding up and down Franklin looking into car windows. I followed him up the street to the house and confronted him. He told me that his friend was renting the place and they were fixing it. There was dog poop all over the inside of the house and I could see their LADWP bill crumbled up on the front steps. I followed him up the street to the house and confronted him. He told me that his friend was renting the place and they were fixing it. There was dog poop all over the inside of the house and I could see their LADWP bill crumbled up on the front steps.

That night, I sent an e-mail to LaBonge's office and copied a few neighbors, who then added their experiences with the house (syringes in the street, people using a bucket for their toilet, etc.) and copied in more neighbors and the FHRA. We had to wait over a week before the city could declare the place uninhabitable and remove those from the premise and re-board it. During this time,

word on the street was out that these were the people ripping off the neighborhood, yet LAPD could do nothing about it since the occupants would never answer the door and there wasn't probable cause. On one occasion, during the waiting period, the woman came out of the house screaming about how someone put a gun to her head in the middle of the night. She assumed it was someone from the neighborhood and let us all know she had a gun too. The night before LAPD was going to evict the residents and board up the house again, the occupants packed up their cars and left.

It didn't take long before someone else would try to move into the place. Although the Dept. of Building and Safety requested to have the power and water shut off after they boarded it, it didn't happen. I spoke with LADWP who told me they needed to be ordered by LAPD and LAPD telling me they can't force LADWP to shut off the power. During this time, I noticed all the blue locks the city put up were replaced by red locks. The new squatters even left the cut blue locks on the steps. I tracked down Jeffrey from the Dept. of Building and Safety who boarded the house the first time. He contacted Lenny Davis, our Senior Lead Officer, and they boarded the house for a third time. Officer Davis was finally given access and legal power of entry to enter and remove any occupants. The DWP even came out and removed the electric and water meters. That was July 2014.

Early in November I noticed someone's mail package behind the gate at the abandoned house. The owner's address was ripped off. I walked up to the front door and noticed that the multiple locks were busted and the door had been pushed in. And so begins the next chapter. The LA Times *(Continued on page 17)*



(Continued from page 9) If you want to Register to Vote: Use the California Online Voter Registration web site at <http://registertovote.ca.gov/> For more information, call (800) 481-VOTE, (562) 466-1310 or (562) 466-1323.

We will be voting for a new city council member for our area in about four months FHRA is asking area residents to send us a list of questions for candidates running for City Council in Council District 4—the seat vacated by termed out councilman Tom LaBonge.

This will be the opportunity to ask candidates the pertinent and hard questions regarding the future of our neighborhood, our community and our city. What are your concerns? Do you have any thoughts or ideas that you believe would improve our great city? What's on your mind? Now is the time to speak up.

We will send the top five questions to all the candidates and ask them to reply. If you would like to be a part of a candidates question committee, please contact us at:

Candidates@franklinhills.org

We'll keep everybody updated on the process at Franklinhills.org and via our FHRAAlert e-mails (To receive alerts, send your name and contact info to FHRA@franklinhills.org)

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King Middle School—Main#.....(323)644-6700

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City Services..... 311

Animal Services.....(888) 452-7381
Dead Animal Pickup.....(888) 452-7381x2
Lost Animals.....(888) 452-7381x2
Barking Dogs.....(888) 452-7381x3

Building & Safety Violations.....(888) 524-2845
Councilmember Tom Labonge

4th District213) 485-3337
email: councilmember.labonge@lacity.org

Field Deputy: Kristy Noochlaor
.....(213) 473-2344

e-mail: kristy.noochlaor@lacity.org

FHRA Voicemail.....(323) 908-6078
e-mail: FHRA@franklinhills.org

Fire Department:

Emergency.....911
Non-Emergency..... (213) 485-6185

Homeless Services.....211

LA Info Line.....211

Los Feliz Public Library..... (323) 913-4710

Police:

Sr. Lead Officer Lenny Davis.....(213) 793-0763

Sr. Lead Officer Craig Orange.....(213) 793-7062

Non-Emergency.....311

Northeast Division..... (323) 344-5701

Gang Problems..... (323) 344-5754

Graffiti..... (213) 847-0511

Parking Enforcement..... (213) 972-8470

Poison Control..... (800) 222-1222

Rape Hotline..... (310) 392-8381

Restraining Orders..... (213) 974-5587

Street Services..... (800) 996-2489

Trash Services... .. (800) 996-2489 x2

Bin Replacement..... (800) 773-2489 x1

Bulky Item Removal..... (800) 773-2489 x1

Continued from page 15—Squatters)

reports there are as many as 4300 foreclosed homes in the city of Los Angeles creating inviting opportunities for squatters whose only concern about the neighborhood may be how much they can steal.

I have to admit, I have spent more than a few nights on the couch half-awake staring at that house. It's even hard for me to tell my story, because I'm tired of putting any more energy into this, but I have no choice. If there is any upside to this it has been that I've fallen even more in love with our community, and our neighbors, some of which I have never even met. It has been a group effort by all of us on our 1915 Myra e-mail chain and the FHRA. I also have nothing but great things to say about Jeffrey in the Dept. of Building and Safety and the LAPD. Lenny Davis, our Sr. Lead Officer even came out on his day off to check the place out. Unfortunately, I wish I had some advice on how we can resolve this, but we haven't. So if your Christmas gift goes missing or someone breaks into your car, the guilty party may just be at 1915 Myra! Whether you are next door or blocks away, we are all in this together and we welcome any help we can get in resolving this.

(Editor's note: Since receiving this article, the FHRA has stepped up its efforts to work with LAPD and the neighborhood prosecutor's office to clean up the property and pressure the bank into selling the house to let new neighbors buy it and move in. All City agencies are taking this issue seriously and are working together to bring resolution to the problem.)

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DWP Work Continues
Shirley Mims

The DWP is making its way across the Franklin Hills to replace the water main lines. As reported in the last issue of the Overview, the four inch main is being replaced by a six inch pipe to accommodate greater flow and volume. With all the water mains that are breaking around the City, we are in good shape having ours replaced now before one breaks in our neighborhood.

At this writing, the DWP finished with Lyric Ave. and are almost done on Monon St. Next, they are headed to St. George St. then up Franklin Ave. and around to Ronda Vista.

Parking and access can be a challenge when the work is being done in front of your house, especially on our narrow streets. We have experienced that the DWP crew will work with you as needed so you can come and go from your driveway. Just talk to the crew in the morning or on the day before and work out your plan with them. If you have trouble, contact the DWP crew supervisor.



Happy Holidays
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YUCA'S EMPTY BOWLS PROJECT

Ceramics Sale/Tasting Event to Benefit L.A. Kitchen

The Fundraiser takes place on Sunday, December 7, 2014 from 5-8pm

4652 Hollywood Blvd, (gated parking lot), Los Angeles, CA 90027

FILL THOSE EMPTY BOWLS! Join Yuca's and other popular local area restaurants on Sunday, December 7, 2014 for an evening of soup tastings utilizing keepsake handmade bowls donated by local artists and students from Cal Arts, Loyola Marymount, Citrus College and USC Ceramics. The Los Feliz Branch of the Los Angeles Library will provide fun activities for children. Additionally, the famous MicheMobil will provide an ambulatory DJ and beer on draught! Join us and make this inaugural event a neighborhood success!

All proceeds from YUCA'S FILL THOSE BOWLS! will benefit the nonprofit organization, L.A. Kitchen, whose mission is to ensure that neither food nor people should ever go to waste. Founded by Robert Egger and supported by notable board members such as Chef José Andrés, L.A. Kitchen recovers healthy, local food that would otherwise go to waste and transforms it into nutritious meals and snacks that strengthen the L.A. community. L.A. Kitchen currently runs a culinary job training pilot program working with young adults aging out of the foster care system and older adults returning home from prison at St. Vincent Meals on Wheels.

Dora Herrera, Yuca's Restaurants

- Robert Egger, President & Founder of L.A. Kitchen
- Sponsors: Silver Lake Conservancy of Music, Chase Bank, Council District 13, Taste of México Association, Los Feliz Library, Los Feliz Village BID, Metropolitan Community Church
- Over 150 local supporters, artists and guests

Yuca's Restaurants is reaching out to their restaurant family, local artists and community leaders to help create a community of "caring through giving," rooted in the idea that change is accomplished one neighborhood at a time. This first Empty Bowls Project is designed to bring the community together to address and devise ways of alleviating local hunger issues.

L.A. Kitchen believes that neither food nor people should ever go to waste, and uses food to empower, nourish, and engage the community. L.A. Kitchen's 15-week culinary arts and nutrition advocacy training program breaks systemic patterns of poverty and recidivism by connecting those who face the greatest barriers to success to employment opportunities.

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Wildlife

Rodenticides Threaten Food Chain

By George Grace

When Griffith Park's iconic resident mountain lion P 22 was captured to replace the battery and his GPS radio collar in March 2014, National Park Service scientists made a shocking discovery. P-22 was severely ill with notoedric mange, a parasite of the skin and hair that is ultimately fatal. They treated him for the disease and determined that the likely cause for his condition was his exposure to anti-coagulant rodenticides in his prey. Recent photos - one from late September - show that his condition has improved. Unfortunately, his prognosis is not good. According to Dr. Seth Riley the NPS scientist in charge of the Southern California mountain lion tracking project, "he could certainly contract mange again, given that he still lives in the same area and is presumably exposed to the same things in the environment that he was when he contracted it the first time." There are presently no plans to recapture P 22 or to treat him in any other way.

Rodenticides are extremely toxic poisons that accumulate in the bodies of those animals that consume them, and are passed on to other animals higher in the food chain. Natural predators such as bobcats, coyotes, raptors - and cougars like P-22 are all victims. In fact,



(Above) Griffith Park's resident mountain lion—P22—severely ill with mange.

Studies of Los Angeles area bobcats show that 80% have dangerous rodenticide levels in their bodies.

Publication of P 22's photo caused an outcry from the public and many organizations demanding a ban on rodenticide use in Los Angeles parks. Subsequently the L.A. City Council Park's Committee directed the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to investigate the feasibility to eliminating them for pest control in all City parks. RAP presented their report on October 27th. The report stated that the LA County Health Department mandates controlling

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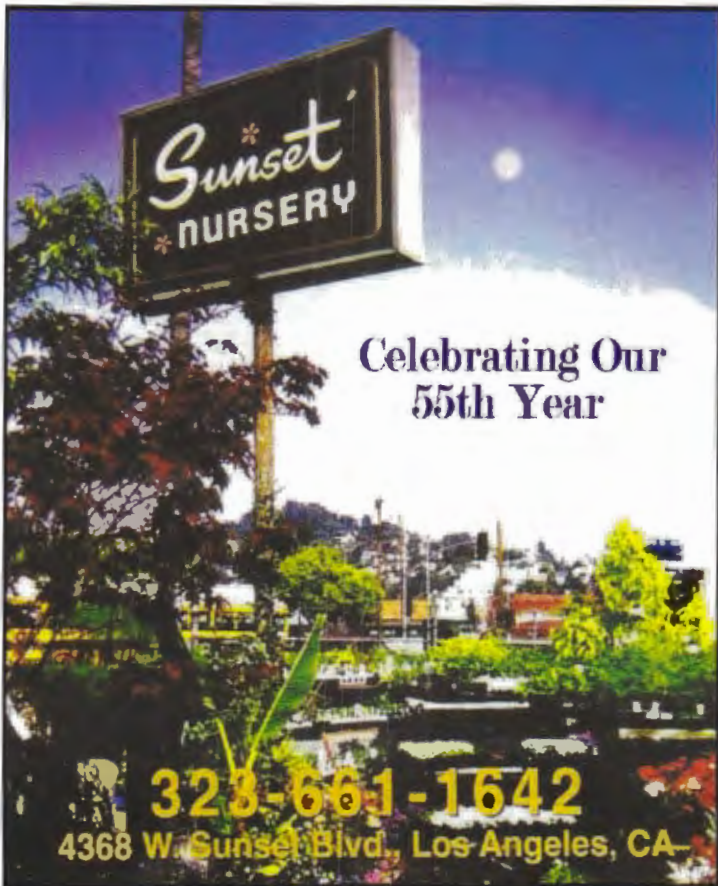
ground squirrel/rodent populations to protect Park users from diseases such as bubonic plague. It went on to say that lacking any viable alternatives Type 1 rodenticides will continue to be used in the 13 City Parks – including Griffith Park – that have significant ground squirrel infestations. Commendably RAP reported that they no longer use the most toxic Type 2 anti-coagulants. Nevertheless, Type 1 use still guarantees that natural predators will continue to be exposed to these dangerous poisons.

Optimally rodenticides should be eliminated from use in all parks and open spaces, and RAP maintains that it is continually looking for a solution that would do just that, but without a change in the County’s policy, or availability of a rodenticide that will not affect natural predators higher up the food chain, our wildlife will continue to be at risk. Hopefully, one or both of these solutions can be realized soon, and our urban wildlife protected from these insidious and deadly substances.

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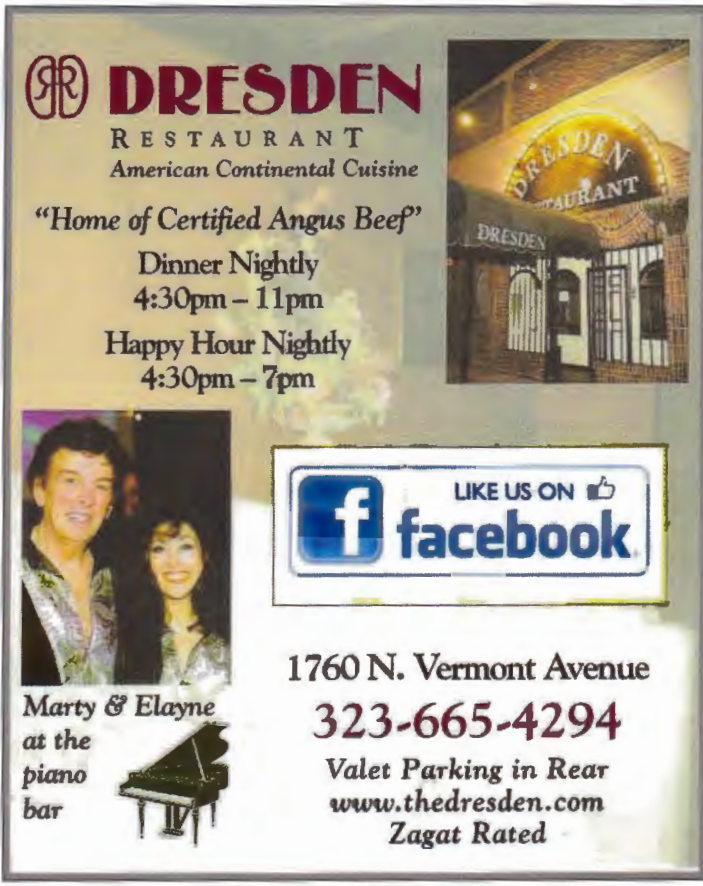
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Los Feliz Theatre



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2014

In the past several decades, the Los Feliz and Silver Lake areas have become ground-zero for L.A.’s hipsters. Vintage Cinemas give the nearby VistaTheatre a stunning makeover and then attempt a similar remodel of the Los Feliz. While many are disappointed by the tri-plexing of the 700 seat theatre, locals appreciate the convenient location and slightly-cheaper-than-other chain’s ticket prices.

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This featured property was owned by Carol Skinner for 46 years. We would like to pay a special tribute to Carol, who worked tirelessly for the FHRA for years. She was an integral part of the association and editor of the Franklin Hills Overview.



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