



OVERVIEW

FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

ISSUE # 23

SPRING 2002

ANNUAL MEETING: WEDNESDAY JUNE 12, 7PM, AT ABC—REHEARSAL HALL 1 GOING !

Text and photos by Bruce Carroll

GOING!



Paint booth exhaust chimney on the back of the property right next to houses

The auto repair shop at 1845 Hyperion Ave. was denied a zoning variance after captioned photos presented to the zoning administrator by the FHRA clearly showed numerous problems and violations at the body shop. Its neighbors on DeLongpre and nearby streets had complained for for years.



GOING (too fast)

By Bruce Carroll

"He must have gone pretty fast." That's what Franklin Hills resident Alexandra Weiss thought when she surveyed the remains of her 1985 Volvo before dawn on April 4th. The hit and run accident, which rammed Weiss's parked car into another in front of it, happened on Franklin Ave. just across from the south side of median. It was the second overnight collision on the block within a week. In the earlier accident three parked cars were totaled including a brand new Hyundai and a Nissan. One neighbor reported the driver, who was arrested, "was going an estimated 70 miles an hour," according to police. These accidents are part of a cluster of apparently speed related wrecks in the area in the last six months. In one accident a mother pushing her child in a stroller at Franklin Ave. and St. George St. was knocked down, but luckily escaped serious injury..

One valuable piece of debris left at the April 4th accident scene was the offending car's front license plate. With it police were able to find the

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GONE!!

In May the "Welcome" sign was still up, but so were the chain link fences and plywood barriers designed to keep the Sunset Pacific Motel's unsavory characters from their longtime lair during what a hand lettered window sign calls "remodeling."

Sunset Pacific Motel

Called by the LAPD one of the most dangerous properties in the city, it was nicknamed the "Bates Motel" both for its location at Sunset and Bates and because in sheer numbers its horrors far outdid the motel in Hitchcock's Psycho.

In the past few years police have repeatedly found drug dealing, shootings, prostitution, gang activity and numerous other crimes in and around the motel where the coroner has had to remove three dead bodies.

350 area residents packed the King Middle School auditorium on January 29th for a community meeting. The crowd heard police explain that crime statistics showed "Bates" was a hub from which crime radiated to our community. The school is just 400 feet from the motel.

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GOING (Soon, we hope)

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Letter from the President

by Ricardo Gomez

Another year has gone by and we find ourselves at our annual meeting. The past year has seen a lot of changes for Franklin Hills as well as the rest of Los Angeles. We have a new mayor, a new city attorney and many new council people.

In Franklin Hills we have seen improvements such as street resurfacing, sidewalk repairs and attention to some of the nuisances that plague us. King Middle School continues its steady march towards improvement. More homes have been renovated, especially in the "flats" of Franklin Hills. We started this year again with another round of trees being planted. Overall, things are looking much better. We have you, the residents of Franklin Hills to thank for your continued community involvement and support of your association, the Franklin Hills Residents Association.

People who are familiar with Los Angeles politics often wonder why we need a mayor. In most circumstances, the mayor doesn't even hire and fire the police chief. Mayor Hahn did do something that benefits Angelenos in general and Franklin Hills residents in particular. He answered our requests to create an insurance program for volunteers who do improvement projects on city owned property. Previously the status of these volunteers was unclear if an accident happened. The city council would have to address each instance on a case by case basis to decide whether the city would defend and indemnify the volunteer against any lawsuits or liability. Thanks to the efforts of Board member Charley Mims, Vince Brook of the Silver Lake Improvement Association, Maryann Kuk of the Silver Lake Residents Association and myself, we now have a city insurance policy under which we can register tree planting projects, clean ups and adopted medians among other things. This insurance coverage will protect our median. A special thanks to Eric Garcetti of Council District 13 who introduced the motion to create the program.

Tom LaBonge is our new council person. He has been wonderfully responsive to our needs. We thank him for the recent trees planted on Franklin, Hyperion and Fountain avenues among other locations. His staff has been extremely helpful in getting our questions answered and has helped us on particular projects. Renee Weitzer, planning and zoning deputy, has appeared with Franklin Hills residents at critical zoning hearings and is continuing to help us abate unwanted nuisances. Jeanne Chang, field deputy for our area, keeps us informed of events and is always ready to direct us to the right resources. We thank all of the council district 4 staff. Tom can be reached at (213) 485-3337 if you need his services.

Although Franklin Hills does not lie within council district 13, Eric Garcetti and his staff have been extremely responsive to helping us solve problems that straddle both council districts. The south side of Fountain is within council district 13. In addition to strongly supporting the closure of the Sunset Pacific Hotel (he and Tom double teamed this effort), Eric has been very responsive to our efforts to clean up the Myra underpass at Sunset Boulevard. Like Tom, he is very tree friendly and has supported our efforts to plant trees in the Sunset, Fountain and Myra Avenue area.

King Middle School is on a "watch list" for academic improvement. Byron Maltez, the new principal, is moving forward with academic reforms. We are particularly pleased that he and assistant principal Dan Eckstrom, have shown a strong interest in improving the school's facilities. Unfortunately the LAUSD budget doesn't allow a lot of luxury in this area. Fortunately we have people such as Mary Rodriguez of the Los Feliz Improvement Association who are working tirelessly to improve the appearance of King. Call the FHRA hotline (323-664-7247) or email us FHRA@FranklinHills.org if you are interested in helping at the school in any way.

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FHRA TREASURER'S REPORT -2001

By Bruce Carroll

The FHRA continued its membership winning streak with 349 memberships paid in 2001. That's up slightly over 1% from the record set in 2000. And the Community Garden received \$2,250 in County and City grants plus \$1,115 from its gardeners. But elsewhere the revenue picture was not so rosy. Contributions from members beyond their dues dropped over 43% to \$605.

Also withering were contributions to the Franklin Avenue Median landscaping, our most visible asset; they dropped 71% to just \$65. While hard work by volunteers managed to reduce Median expenses by one-third, we still spent \$950 on plants, water and heavy labor last year. By the end of 2001 the FHRA had spent \$8,596.79 more on the Median than we received in Median donations since it was landscaped in 1995.

There were winners and losers too on the business side. Overview ad revenue was up almost two-thirds from the previous year. But our record \$5,190 in income was, as usual, eclipsed by expenses that totaled \$5,750. Sales of Franklin Hills T-shirts and historic photos dipped about 10% year-over-year to \$725. Although, because of sales from inventory, the expenditure for sale items was down even more, by 15%, leaving a net gain of \$525.

FHRA's thin investment portfolio showed a gain for the year. We started with 22 shares of ATT worth \$375 and ended with 22 shares of ATT plus 7 spunoff shares of ATT Wireless together worth just under \$500, a 33% gain. On the down side, dividend and interest income dropped 68% from \$14.87 to just \$4.64 due to ATT's decreased dividend.

In case you don't have a calculator handy our total revenue for 2001 was \$13,826.14, up 20% from the previous year. But expenses rose over 37%. In addition to major spending for the Median and Overview mentioned above, startup costs for the Community Garden dug \$5,390 out of the budget.

Other expense categories were much smaller. Spending for membership meetings and printing totaled \$359, graffiti abatement cost \$343, contributions we made were \$250, we spent \$245 to maintain the FHRA message line, \$207 went to the post office, \$188 kicked off the new Welcome Basket program, \$187 lit the Shakespeare Bridge for the holidays, \$96 went toward revitalizing the Neighborhood Watch program, and a mere \$20 fee kept us in the good graces of the California Secretary of State.

For the year we spent \$14,183.78. Those who are still keeping track will note that's \$357.64 more than our income. When combined with the gain in the value of our stocks we ended 2001 with a Net Loss of \$232.64 compared to a gain of nearly \$700 in 2000. . . and that's our red ink bottom line—maybe you can help with a bit of green.

Basket Cases

by Shirley Mims

New to Franklin Hills and didn't get a Welcome Basket? Maybe it's because we didn't hear about you. We learn about most of our new neighbors through local realtors and neighbor referrals. Unfortunately, several of the houses that are sold do not show up on the public listings and not everybody with a new neighbor calls us. We need you, our neighbors, to let us know if you have a new neighbor move in next door. What better way to greet them than to join us when we deliver a basket to them!

After the last Overview was published several people contacted us to let us know how upset they were that they did not get a basket. Be assured we included them in our next round. We don't mean to leave anyone out. Please don't take it personally if you didn't get a basket. Let us know if you have moved in recently and haven't heard from us. Until around February we had delivered a basket to every person we were told about (almost 50!) so long as they fit the criterion of being new to the neighborhood and not just moving across the hill. Also, please keep in mind that this program was only started in June 2001 and is relatively new. So no one who moved in before that date got a basket, including me! We appreciate your understanding.

The production of the baskets has slowed down since two of our three main committee members have taken on other personal responsibilities. Chris Boutelle started back to work after double hip surgery and I started back to school full time. That leaves Vi Weber to manage the program, and she can't possibly do it all herself. So we need YOU to come and help put these baskets together and get them out the door! It might be a while otherwise before the next set of baskets are delivered. We appreciate the help of a couple neighbors who have volunteered with us before. We now need someone committed to overseeing the program to be sure that the delivery of the baskets is continued on a regular basis.

PLEASE help us keep this great program alive. We're all turning into basket cases trying to keep up! Maybe

some of the new neighbors who have gotten baskets would consider being on the committee to share the wonderful feeling they had when they got their basket with other new neighbors when baskets are delivered to them.

As many of you know, the baskets are great. Many local merchants continue to donate lots of great stuff (Alberto Salon, Aloha Flowers, Baller Hardware, Discount Medical Pharmacy, Eastside Records, Opyan's Salon, Palermo Ristorante Italiano, Robeks Juice, Say Cheese, Sunset Nursery, Trader Joe's, and Video Journeys). There has been a *huge* demand for these baskets and the generosity of these businesses has been tremendous. Please thank them when you visit them. Several new businesses have joined the program: Skylight Books is providing gift certificates, Café Los Feliz is putting together a delicious box of pastries, and Penny Layne is giving a certificate good for a half hour massage. We'd like to give special thanks to Joseph and Joanna Lightfoot of DBL Realtors for making a donation for us to buy more baskets. All the free literature from the City of Los Angeles is wonderful, too: Library events, concert schedules, museum guides, City Services—the Bureau of Sanitation recently gave us a crate full of miniature blue recycle bins along with magnets and pencils. It's also fun. Please join us so the program can continue. Call one of us to volunteer: Violet Weber 323/663-6427, Chris Boutelle 323/666-5548, Shirley Mims 323/666-2520.

A New Franklin Hills Home(page)

By Bruce Carroll (webmaster)

There's a new address in our neighborhood. It's www.FranklinHills.org, the brand new website of the Franklin Hills Residents Association.

The site is still in it's infancy and runs on the theory that, if it takes a village to raise a child, it will take a neighborhood to raise our website to the level of informative usefulness that we hope to achieve. Please take a look and e-mail us (at our new address: FHRA@FranklinHills.org) with your suggestions, contributions, etc. for what you'd like to see in the future.



This is something like what you should see when you point your browser to www.FranklinHills.org. Except, of course, there you'll find things in living color.

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A GARDENERS' GARDEN PARTY

by Norm Harriton

Members of the Franklin Hills Community Garden gathered in the Garden May 5th to celebrate a very successful first year. They treated everyone to their favorite foods, many prepared with vegetables and herbs they had grown in the Garden. And there was another special reason for celebration. Just days before the party the long awaited chain link fence protecting the Garden from the adjoining school athletic field was finally installed. As Robert Frost wrote, "good fences make good neighbors" ...especially when the neighbors are playing soccer.

Funds for the fence were provided both by the City of Los Angeles thanks to Council member Tom LaBonge, of our 4th district, and by the County of Los Angeles thanks to District 3 Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky. At the party La Bonge said he "wanted to stop by to congratulate the Franklin Hills residents for doing what's right" in creating the Garden as a new resource for the community. After touring the garden Zev Yaroslavsky's Field Deputy, Adinah Solomon spoke of her desire to, "come back again next year and the year after to see what's going to happen because I think you've been very productive up till now and I can just imagine what will happen within the next few years."

School director Jean Michel Simonet, of the Lycee International de Los Angeles (LILA), also attended. The Franklin Hills Community Garden is a joint project of FHRA and LILA; LILA provided the site on its grounds and agreed

to pay the water bills, while FHRA donated and solicited funds and administered development of the infrastructure of the Garden. LILA is gradually beginning to use its plots to complement classroom instruction.

The improvements in the Garden over the course of one year are quite remarkable. As we improve the soil in the Garden plots by adding mulch and other organic material, plants and crops have responded by flourishing. Compost from our first compost pile just became ready for use after six months in process. The end product is topsoil loaded with humus that is just not available at nurseries. It was fascinating to see that corn stalks more than an inch in diameter had been totally decomposed and were nowhere to be found in the end product.

Our second compost heap is almost of sufficient size, and it will work its magic and be ready for use by the end of September. The plots are far more productive now than when we were building our first compost pile, since they'll generate more green waste suitable for composting. We can look forward to larger quantities of finished humus more often in the future.

Other good news at the Garden: the Jamaican Red Banana Trees donated by Wattles Community Garden which appeared to have died and were pitiful brown stumps for a three month period, are now beginning to sprout new green growth. Moral: Don't write off plants which seem dead but may only be taking a long siesta—Be patient!

Gardening is a lot of work, demands consistent attention, but is a lot of fun, and so good for the soul. The Garden is adjacent to a one block dead end street, with virtually no traffic, and probably has less city noises to contend with than any other Community Garden in Los Angeles. It's a peaceful setting where one feels removed from the mundane routines of living.

The plots in the Garden are all occupied, but we have established a short wait list. So if you are a gardener or would like to become one, get on the wait list by phoning Norm Harriton, Community Garden Coordinator, at (323) 663-9695.

photos by Bruce Carroll



Above:
Partying gardeners enjoy the fruits (and vegetables) of their labors protected by new anti-soccer ball defensive fence in the background.

Right:
Councilmember Tom Labonge, Community Garden Coordinator Norman Harriton and FHRA Chairman Adam Weisman pose among the posies...and lots of more edible plants all now protected by the Garden's new fence.



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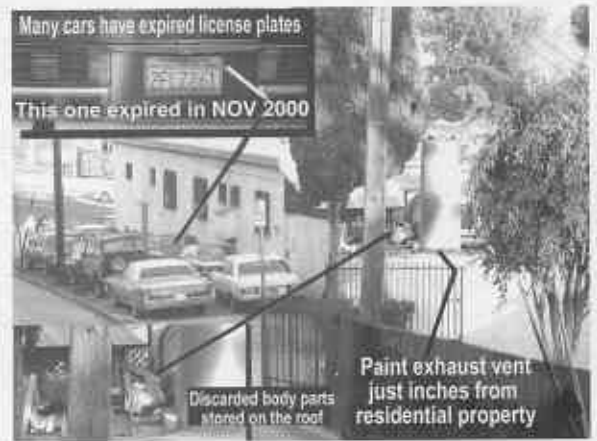
FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEMBER? YES NO

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Going: Auto shops

"It's a blight on the neighborhood." That's how Franklin Hills resident Chela Landau described the auto body shop located on the southwest corner of Hyperion and DeLongpre. Landau and several other Franklin Hills residents were down at City Hall on February 12, 2002, to give zoning administrator David Kabashima an ear full and an eye full and by suggestion even a nose full of just how much was wrong with the body shop.

FHRA member Landau, who lives just up De Longpre from the shop, alerted the FHRA to the zoning hearing. That enabled us to spread the word via-email to all the other residents offended by the noise, unsightly appearance and especially the paint fumes associated with the shop. Landau told the hearing the fumes were



so bad that "there are some days I cannot go outside" and that, even with her windows closed, on bad days "I can still smell paint seeping into the house."

That odorous theme was oft repeated in letters from neighbors presented by Franklin Hills resident Michael Miller. An experienced city attorney, Miller termed the auto repair shop, "a classic public nuisance in a residential area." Another FHRA member and also a city attorney, Stephanie Scheer, said her research uncovered that property owner Gary Rogers, who had applied for the a conditional use permit for his repair shop, actually allowed two or three other shops to operate on the small property in violation of zoning rules. The business even had the nerve to post private "no parking" signs on city property adjacent to the north side of the shop so they could store up to a dozen cars. Residents also complained that the shop's cars clogged the street, which already had limited parking, and sometimes even blocked entrances to houses.

In addition to Gary Rogers' attorney, who pointed out the shop had been a neighborhood fixture since 1953 and promised improvements, one long time FHRA member, Patty Miles, expressed a favorable opinion of the shop. She explained, "I'd like it to stay so I can get my car fixed there." Rogers' attorney also conceded that

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apartments on the second story of the shop building are no longer rented out because of concerns over paint fumes.

Councilman Tom LaBonge's deputy, Renee Weitzer, told the hearing that her boss remembered walking past the shop everyday on his way to school at Thomas Starr King. But, she pointed out, "times change", and "there was a reason why the zoning was changed" in 1986. That was because the current usage was no longer compatible with the neighborhood.

That incompatibility was termed an "eyesore and a health hazard," by Hyperion Ave. resident Lisa Henschel. And FHRA President Ricardo Gomez presented captioned photos showing just what a bad neighbor the shop was. Administrator Kabashima seemed most impressed with one that showed the paint fume vent almost on the property line shared by a house on DeLongrpe Ave. and pointed out unsightly auto body parts stored on the shop's roof.

When the comments were finished, Kabashima told those attending the hearing that he was going to deny the application in part because "I don't think there is any way to reduce the fumes." And from an aesthetic standpoint he noted that storing "parts on the roof show the owner's attitude" toward his neighbors.

In his May 3rd final decision Kabashima detailed all the problems and writes, "there are so many complaints about the existing uses and their operation that it is surprising that a nuisance abatement proceeding has not been initiated against the subject uses."

The shop still has the opportunity to appeal the decision and likely will continue to operate for some time. In fact by the time the decision was issued they had made some changes to the paint vent. It now points toward Hyperion, which moves the fumes only a few feet from adjacent homes. And they still had cars parked on the city land and too many inside their fence.

It's clear that the fight against unsightly, polluting businesses in our area is far from over, but just as clear is that as residents we can make a difference. Through coordinated efforts our words and images can have an impact down at City Hall and other citadels of power. We've won a battle, not the war. To continue with our effective strategy the FHRA needs to hear from you. When you get a zoning notice, see an unsafe condition, spot graffiti or other possible crime, e-mail us at FHRA@FranklinHills.org or leave a message at 323-664-7247. Please, let us know what's going on.



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**COLDWELL
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GOING--T00 FAST

car's allegedly uninsured owner who allegedly claimed an unfindable friend was the allegedly offending driver.

FHRA is exploring ways to get traffic to slow down on Franklin Ave. and other even narrower streets in our neighborhood. Please drive carefully and courteously on our increasingly congested streets.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH IS GAINING MOMENTUM IN OUR HILLS

By Mary Frances Smith-Reynolds

The basic ideas of Neighborhood Watch are simple and timeless ones: Neighbors knowing neighbors, neighbors helping neighbors, neighbors knowing and working with local police officers to help keep their streets safe, and improve their quality of life. Mayberry in 1955? Nope. Franklin Hills in 2002.

Over the last eight months there has been a growing effort in the Franklin Hills area to revive existing Neighborhood Watch groups and to start new ones. Many residents are expressing interest in joining or starting Neighborhood Watch groups. In addition to empowering every resident to become the "eyes and ears" of their neighborhood, another goal is to have a web of Neighborhood Watch groups throughout our area. The groups in this network can share information, strategies and successes. If you are interested in becoming a Neighborhood Watch Block Leader or joining a Neighborhood Watch group, call Mary Frances Reynolds at 323-668-9069 or e-mail at crandmf@aol.com.)

Neighborhood Watch is frequently mentioned as an effective grass roots crime prevention group. In addition, Watch groups are a way to build community bonds, keep citizens informed about events and problems in their neighborhood and to give a voice to those who have energy and ideas for improving their streets.

Neighborhood Watch groups always work in cooperation with local law enforcement. In our community we are lucky to have proactive, dependable

partners in our LAPD Senior Lead Officers Al Polehonki, Sam Salazar and Stacy Miyamura, as well as the many other officers who have come to our events and supported our community.

In addition to the monthly and start-up meetings being held in homes throughout our area, members of Neighborhood Watch groups helped to organize the January 29 Community Meeting at King Middle School attended by 350 people, and the March 20 "Light Up the Night Walk," which drew 100 neighbors. Both of these events brought people together to address problems in our area. City leaders and officials, present at both events, have been very responsive to the



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outpouring of community activism and concern. For example, the City Council voted unanimously to uphold the Zoning Administrator's closure of the crime-ridden Sunset Pacific Motel. In addition, the nearby, dangerous Sunset-Myra stairwells are being concreted over. Both of these issues were addressed at length at the January 29 meeting. Now the City's Bureau of Street Lighting is working with us to improve lighting in our neighborhood, a concern raised repeatedly at the January 29 meeting, and focused on explicitly during the March 20 walk.

Neighborhood Watch groups are an easy way to make a difference. Consider starting one or joining one on your street.

In the meantime, please remember and practice these eight simple suggestions:

1. Lighting is repeatedly emphasized as a crime deterrent. Use all lighting on the outside of your house at night; add lighting to any dark areas.

2. If you see something suspicious, get as accurate a description as you can of the people and/or vehicles. If possible, write it down. Take note of physical characteristics, clothing, car make and colors, license number, etc. Every descriptive detail is significant. If it is a crime in process, call 911. If it is something that is not an emergency, but doesn't look or "feel" right, trust your instincts and call the LAPD non-emergency response line at 1-877-275-5273.

3. Exchange the following information with your immediate neighbors: Phone numbers; information on children, pets and any immobile members of your household; vacation plans; updates on contractors at your house; and all other relevant information.

4. Keep your eyes and ears open and be extra-observant at all times. Don't put off a call to the LAPD; Report crimes or observations on suspicious activities immediately. Trust your instincts, but don't put yourself in harm's way. Try to be "stealthy," do not attempt to intervene or confront.

5. Calling in suspicious or recurring problems really can help. A higher volume of calls on particular areas brings more

attention to these trouble spots.

6. We have been advised by the LAPD to be very careful and watchful for door-to-door solicitors in our area. There are a variety of scams, from magazine sales to people seeking sponsorships for overseas study programs to "Does so-and-so still live here?" These are often people casing houses for themselves, or sometimes for address lists that are compiled and then sold to other criminals. Call the LAPD non-emergency response line if you're visited by a suspicious party. (1-877-275-5273.)

7. I.D. all of your valuables with an engraver. Mark your valuables with your driver's license number, your birth date or some other identifying mark. Keep a list of the serial numbers and model numbers of your valuables. These practices are helpful for the recovery of your property, should it ever get stolen, and for insurance purposes.

8. Get to know the folks who live around you. Introduce yourself. Start a Neighborhood Watch group and invite the people on your street.

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COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PUSHES FRANKLIN HILLS GRAFFITI CLOSER TO EXTINCTION

by Eric Frase

As the amount of graffiti vandalism continues to diminish in and around our neighborhood, the Franklin Hills Graffiti Abatement Committee would like to enlist the help of additional eyes (and cell phones). This assistance is necessary to counteract the perception by taggers and gang members that their brash acts of vandalism committed in broad daylight (before and after school, especially) are dismissed by witnesses as "just another part of living in the city." To those of you who may have seen youth spray painting or marking our neighborhood's garage doors, bus benches or stop-signs, and weren't sure what you should do, read on!

In January of this year, the Los Angeles City Council voted to increase, from \$500 to \$1000, the reward "for information leading to the arrest and conviction of graffiti vandals." When contacted for clarification, Council District 13 Chief Field Deputy Benjamin Fiss responded: "The City is careful about publicizing this program because we do not want to create a system of bounty hunters working on commission. If you see someone using spray paint, markers, acid or etching implements to vandalize, you should contact the LAPD immediately and report as much information as possible. If they capture that vandal you can immediately apply for the reward. It takes some time for the case to clear the courts, but once there is a conviction the City can begin to process the reward application. The City does also take some time, but eventually you can get paid for simply making a call to the police."

Last summer I witnessed some youth tagging near Thomas Starr King Middle School and grabbed my cell phone to speed-dial the pre-programmed number for the LAPD Northeast station. I soon learned that having to scroll halfway through my phone list was not the most efficient process! If you'd like to have our local police stations number handy, it's 213-485-2563, and you may want to label it "A-POLICE"

For those of you who may get a perfect view of the face of someone tagging on his/her way to or from school, simply contact school security (Marshall High — 323-660-1440 or King Middle School — 323-664-1176) and ask to see a recent yearbook to identify the student. It's this type of community involvement that makes a big difference in how visible students think they are when they walk throughout the Franklin Hills.

I'm convinced that graffiti vandals feel they are most welcome in a neighborhood where they feel that residents "just don't give a damn" (Visual clues: litter, discarded furniture at the curb, graffiti that lingers, neglected yards and properties, etc.). We all know that Franklin Hills is NOT that type of community. In fact, I'd bet that anyone who reports someone tagging in our area to the police does so because they care about this neighborhood, not because they want to collect a reward. But if a check from the City happens to come your way, we know of some schools and a nearby library that could do wonders with a thousand dollars!

(Eric Frase is the chairperson of the FHRA Graffiti Abatement Committee. For assistance or questions regarding graffiti in the Hills and vicinity, he may be reached in care of FHRA@FranklinHills.org)

Is this the set for a new ABC-TV "Survivor" type reality show where contestants have to extricate themselves from the rubble before the last commercial...or just part of Disney's plan to transform ABC-TV Center into the Prospect Studios? The vanishing building is from the studio's Vitagraph days and can be seen in FHRA's 1923 photo of the studio.

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Los Feliz Branch Library NEW AT THE LIBRARY

*Pearl Yonezawa
Senior Librarian*

Our library has begun carrying popular movie DVD's and a limited selection of instructional DVD's. We also continue to expand the Books on Tape and Books on CD collections with the support of the library budget and the Los Feliz Library League donations. Beginning in the Spring we have increased our purchase of new browsing fiction books. Best selling titles can still be put on request through the computer or at the information desk.

Also new will be a Wednesday morning adult discussion group; *Deja vu: all Over Again*, which will meet once a month to share ideas, comments and reflect on current and historical events. Information on the up coming topic and meeting date will be at the library information desk.

The annual reading program for children *Pop Up For Reading* and the teen, *The Rhythms of Reading* will be starting in June and July. Participants can earn small toys, bookmarks and other incentives for reading. Children's Librarian, Saralyn Otter will have regular story times and programs, including Laura Stickney from Barnsdall Jr. Art Center's monthly art class for children 7 years old and up.

Summer programs are in the planning stages. You can call the library for specific information.

The Teen Chess Club, open to all ages, continues to meet on rotating Fridays, and the Scrabble Club meets on the second Saturday of each month from 1:00-4:00. L.A.C.C. Career Counselor, Bob Kort, is also available most Tuesday nights, Saturday afternoons and by appointment to help guide students of all ages through the college experience. You can make an appointment by calling (323) 664-4967.

Adult computer classes continue to be offered by Adult Librarians Catherine O'Connor and Michael Leonard. In addition, there are a monthly book discussion group, an occasional meet the author series, monthly Los Feliz Library League Architecture lectures, a series of Los Angeles Opera presentations and other special programs. For information about these and other programs call the library at (323) 913-4710.-

Also of importance is the support from our newly elected Councilman, Tom LaBonge. Councilman LaBonge has always been a strong supporter of the library, and his office is currently working to help solve some of the parking issues that effect the library.

If you would like to receive notification about up coming library programs, join our email list by sending us a message at lfeliz@lapl.org and ask to be added.

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Stairs, Studios and a Spired Span

By Bruce Carroll

Unless you're a paleontologist, the history of the Franklin Hills pretty much begins with the construction of the Franklin Avenue Bridge in the mid 1920's. For less than \$60,000 the city spanned a ravine to create the only non-meandering east-west route through the Franklin Hills, and a fanciful Gothic landmark that opened the way to residential development of the neighborhood.



Shakespeare Bridge construction lasted from 1924 to 1926. This view is from the north side. The original construction cost just \$59,960. The 1997-8 seismic strengthening cost over 2500% more—about \$1.5million.

Although bridge designer J.C. Wright modeled his creation after a bridge in France, as far back as anyone can remember the neighborhood called it the "Shakespeare Bridge," imagining its eight towering turrets transported back to Elizabethan times playing the role of some castle or battlement of the Bard's creation.

In 1974 the City of Los Angeles recognized the Shakespeare Bridge as an historic cultural monument. In 1995 the Franklin Hills Residents Association landscaped the median just west of the bridge and in 1998, to celebrate the

bridge's reopening after earthquake safety retrofitting, the FHRA threw a party on the bridge that attracted thousands...including an unplanned appearance by an actor dressed as Shakespeare.

Actors are not strangers in the neighborhood. The bridge is often used as a location for filming and in the past was sometimes referred to as the "Disney Bridge." Before the bridge was built Walt had a small studio in the back of a real estate office on Kingswell near Vermont and lived just a block from what is now ABC. But in 1926, the year the bridge was completed, he moved his studio to Hyperion and Griffith Park Blvd. That's where Mickey Mouse was created. In 1927 Walt and brother Roy Disney built mirror image houses on the southwest corner of Lyric and St. George.

Even though Mickey and his creator abandoned the neighborhood in 1940 for a bigger studio in Burbank, the area is still home to two of the oldest studios whose roots date back to 1912. Ironically Disney ownership returned to the Franklin Hills when the company bought the ABC Network and its studios at Prospect and Talmadge in 1996. The ABC-TV Center began as the Vitagraph Studio, was sold to Warner Brothers in 1925, used by the Army Signal Corps in WWII and in 1949 was converted by ABC to produce that new fangled form of entertainment...TV.

The red brick studio at Sunset and Hoover has changed names nearly a dozen times in 90 years. It was originally Lubin, then Kalem, later Monogram, Allied Artist and currently the home of KCET. The area across Sunset from KCET also has a place in movie history as the site of DW Griffith's mammoth Intolerance set, parts of which have been copied in the new

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Hollywood/Highland mall. The original set can be seen in the background of 1917 photos of the southern edge of the Franklin Hills that were taken for the real estate developer who owned the property.

In those early years, when not everyone had a car, living in the hills could be difficult. But that difficulty was lessened by the network of public stairs constructed in the Franklin Hills about the same time as the Shakespeare Bridge. The 14 separate public stairways were designed to get hillside residents down to Red Car transportation and jobs at the studios below. Indeed the longest stairway, three flights totaling over 300 stairs, descends from near the summit of Franklin Ave. to Prospect Ave. just above the ABC studios. When public funds for properly maintaining the stairways dried up after the passage of proposition 13 many of the stairways fell into disrepair. Some were so overgrown you needed a machete to clear the path. That set the stage for the FHRA's Adopt-a-Stair program which has kept the stairways clean and helped bring the neighborhood together.

The Franklin Hills historic troika...Stairs, Studios and a Spired Span...has continually exerted a cohesive force on the neighborhood. The Franklin Hills Residents Association originally brought the community together to discourage overbuilding on the ABC lot. And projects such as the stairway cleanups, landscaping the median and celebrating the historic character of the Shakespeare Bridge and lighting it for the year end holidays continue to provide diverse elements of the community good reasons to work together as a neighborhood.

continued to page 24



Walt Disney lived in this house on Kingswell near Commonwealth with his uncle and started making cartoons just a couple of blocks down Kingswell at Vermont.

Walt Disney built this house at Lyric Ave. and St. George St. and was not only close to his new studio at Hyperion and Griffith Park Blvd., but even closer to brother Roy Disney who built the mirror image house next door (left).



In 1917 Fountain Ave. (left) was still unpaved, Sanborn Ave in the Franklin Hills was just a dotted line, and houses stood on land that became King Middle School. But by far the most impressive structure was the Intolerance set (upper right) left over after filming in 1916.

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Certain body shops along Hyperion continue to be smelly nuisances to our neighborhood. Some of them appear to be illegal or, at best, an overuse of the facility. Either way some of them are nuisances that imperil our health from the chemical fumes and make life miserable for many Franklin Hills Residents. Call the hotline or email us if you can help us on this issue.

Mary Frances Reynolds, Shirley Mims and others are actively promoting neighborhood watch. Given the shortage of police officers, neighborhood watch is very important. It may be the only "first line" of patrol you get. If your street doesn't

have a neighborhood watch, call or email us, and we will help you get started. Some of our most persistent crime problems have been solved by our neighborhood watch activities. Part of neighborhood watch is our graffiti paint out program. Eric Frase has aggressively promoted anti graffiti efforts in the Franklin Hills. Controlling graffiti is key to controlling crime since they seem to go hand in hand. Contact us if you want to help fight graffiti.

Thanks to the vigilance of Peter Bedard our neighborhood tree planting efforts continue at a steady pace. There are different programs with free trees available for public and private areas. Contact us and we will help you find the right source for a tree.

Finally, I will be retiring from the Board this year. It has been a pleasure serving all of you and I will stay involved in neighborhood improvement here in the Franklin Hills. We will have a total of 3 board seats open this year. Consider running for a seat and help improve your neighborhood. If you can't serve on the Board, we still can use your help. Tell us what you are interested in. Just being a member of FHRA helps greatly. Your dues are put to good use. They help fund landscaping and other neighborhood improvement projects. Your dues provide a matching funds source for community projects. For example, our new community garden was partially funded by your dues. Stay involved in your community even if for only a few hours a year. Your efforts make a tremendous difference and cause the city to pay more attention to our community.

Not MY Dog

by Shirley Mims

"It's not MY dog!" is a too-common statement we have all heard from our neighbors. "My dog doesn't bark!" they tell us — sure, when they're home. But when they are not home it's a different situation. When they finally acknowledge that it IS their dog, they often retort "Well, dogs bark, so what do you want ME to do about it?".

There is plenty that can be done about it. I'm sure that the dog owners have many of their own ideas since several have been able to quiet their dogs. Taking responsibility for their pets comes to my mind. When that doesn't happen, this is what works for me.

There is a very effective City service that I will tell you about later. But first, I want you to consider relations with your neighbor.

A few years ago at one of our annual meetings, the issue of dog barking came



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up. It was suggested that the complainant file a claim against the noise-makers. A young woman stood up in protest. With all her heart she pled to the audience to first let the caretakers of these dogs know about the problem before calling animal services. She unshakably said that as a dog owner she would want her neighbors to tell her about any problem so she could have a chance to take care of it first. This woman's conviction touched me. I made an internal commitment to deal with problems I have with my neighbors first directly with them before calling in any authority.

And boy have we had plenty of opportunity! Of the 8 houses that immediately surround ours, 5 have dogs that either do bark or have barked uncontrollably. Am I cursed, or what? Fortunately, we have been blessed for the most part with good neighbors to deal with. While at first we often hear "It's not MY dog", soon enough they realize that it is and they willingly take care of the problem. Reminders from time to time when their dogs act up here and again have been necessary, and it is worth it to keep the peace.

Sure, it is stressful to have to confront your neighbor, even politely, especially when they don't want to hear about a problem they or their dog are causing. But it beats the alternative — to call the City on them, file a claim, and lose relations with them forever. Of course, if it continues to be a problem even when they say they are doing something about it, there is little other choice than to file a complaint if you want the barking to stop.

It's one thing for dogs to bark when they are disturbed or even excited. As long as they are quiet within a reasonable period of time, I won't complain about that! It's quite another story when they bark incessantly for long periods of time or even intermittently every few minutes throughout the day or night.

If you have tried to work it out with your neighbor and still have a problem, City services are very effective. I heard of one neighbor with a dog who had a complaint filed against him by one other neighbor and regardless of several other neighbors' testimony that the dog was not bothersome to them, the dog owner was sentenced to keep his dog inside. Other resolutions include citing the owners and removing the dog from the premises. If you need to do something similar, contact the City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services at 213/473-8253 or at 419 S. Spring Street, Room 1400, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

The system works. Whether you work it out yourself with your neighbors or need to file a complaint, problem dog barking can be resolved.

As I write this there is a dog in the near distance barking. It has been barking for the past hour. I commiserate with the neighbors who live by it (and am in some respects relieved that not just I am cursed with this problem). One thing for sure is — It's NOT MY dog. We have a cat.

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Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council

By Charley M. Mims

On Tuesday, June 11, 2002 the Steering Committee for the GG:PNC will make a presentation to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment's Commission regarding our application for certification as the City of Los Angeles approved neighborhood council for our area. We will cover such information as to describe how we started the process of organizing, through all the community meetings held over the last two years, our outreach to neighbors, the development of our bylaws, the consultation and negotiation with other nearby groups hoping to form their own neighborhood council, and the always interesting and sometimes daunting task of interacting with the City in moving our Neighborhood Council to fruition.

In the beginning of this process we sought to be inclusive by inviting our neighbors from Silver Lake and from Atwater Village to join with us in creating a powerful community based and representative neighborhood council. We decided to call our council the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council, GGPNC, to be both inclusive and to recognize the wonderful natural resource that forms the heart of our neighborhood, Griffith Park. This name was chosen by consensus after many community meetings. It took on added meaning after first Silver Lake, then Atwater Village, decided to go their own ways leaving East Hollywood, Los Feliz and Franklin Hills to form the GGPNC!

Approximately 45,000 residents are within the final boundaries of the GGPNC. This qualifies us as well within the 20,000 mandated by the DONE regulations. It also allows for our GGPNC to represent the old Los Feliz Rancho historic area. We consulted with organizers in surrounding areas and reached agreement on our current boundaries without overlap with groups forming adjacent neighborhood councils. We did agree to share the public and private hospitals with NC's on our southerly perimeter and to share Barnsdall Art Park. This effort took some outreach effort on the part of GGPNC organizers, but we were successful!

The long term volunteers helping to form our GGPNC are Ricardo Gomez, Charley M. Mims, Charlotte D'Armond, Dennis Chew, Mark Siegel, and the indefatigable Cameron Flanagan to name but a few. We have worked to form the GGPNC to provide for a unified voice for our community in the decisions made by the Mayor, Council, Commissions and departments of the City of Los Angeles that so much affect our daily lives in this wonderful neighborhood. We have reached out to Armenian and Spanish speaking people in our efforts to achieve a broad based group that truly represents our neighborhood. We have attracted activists from residents associations, businesses, unions, local schools, the religious community and just plain folks.

Anywhere from thirty to over a hundred neighbors have

continued on page 17

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New Property Assessment?

by Carol Skinner

We—FHRA—belong to several umbrella organizations, such as the Neighborhood Council (p.16) Community-Police Advisory Board and the Federation of Hillside & Canyon Associations (39 member groups, from Pacific Palisades to Mount Washington.) The Federation has just sent a letter to all member associatins with the following information:

The Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy has proposed a Benefit Assessment District (BAD; we refrain from comment) to be placed on all properties from Griffith Park to the 405, from the 405 to Calabasas, from Ventura Blvd. over Mulholland and down to Sunset Blvd. That clearly includes us. The assessment will be placed on each owner's property tax bill. The assessment—if it happens—will be \$40 per parcel.

The City Council will have voted on this assessment by the time you read this. If approved, after June 15 each of the approximately 60,000 property parcel owners will receive a ballot by mail, to be returned by the end of June. 50% + 1 of the ballots returned will decide the issue.

Neighborhood Council

come to our organizing meetings. We have obtained a thousand intrest cards of stakeholders interested in helping us form the GGPNC. We continue to reach out through flyers posted at local businesses and home delivered. Our governing board will be majority elected by local stakeholders and partially selected to achieve widespread diversity of stakeholders. We will continue to work with the staff at DONE to achieve a viable neighborhood council. We have the support of our new City Councilman Tom LaBonge and continue to work effectively with other City staff.

Please attend the meeting of the DONE Commission on Tuesday, June 11th to support the certification of our new Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council. The meeting will be held at Mother of Good Counsel church on the east side of Vermont between Los Feliz and Franklin.

The money raised is to be dedicated to good things: acquire & preserve open space, wildlife areas and natural land in the Santa Monica Mountains; brush clearance, creating new parklands and trails & protecting habitat and wildlife corridors in the S.M. mountains.

As you must realize, there has been no publicity nor any public input on this question. No information offered by the Conservancy. We don't know, as yet, how funds will be disbursed, what oversight will be empowered, what kind of problems may arise over the 30-year life of this BAD; whether this is in accordance with California law, nor why the big hurry? I truly don't know how I will vote, but we all need to know more about it. The Federation suggests requesting more information from our Council offices before this election and that we share this information with anyone who may be concerned—who lives in the hills and mountains of our city.

Motel: Gone

continued from page 1

Councilmen Tom LaBonge and Eric Garcetti both pledged at the meeting to get the City Council to close the motel after its owners appealed the decision of the Chief Zoning Administrator who earlier had ordered, "discontinuation of the motel use effective immediately."

As if to punctuate the need for action there was another shooting in front of the motel three weeks after the meeting. Three weeks later, on March 13, the City Council voted unanimously to shut the place down.

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The Fundraising-Stock Season Is Here!

Adam M. Weisman, Chairman

If you are already an FHRA member, you should have received an invitation to our annual meeting and an appeal for dues and contributions. If you just picked up this newsletter for the first time, "I beseech you, good neighbor, please help our modest village!" For years, your Board of Directors has been acutely aware of the very small amount requested for membership. Many of you have given more than the minimum amount, and we appreciate this. FHRA is working hard to run a tight ship! We are funding many projects and ongoing concerns with your continued help.

In February 1999 FHRA was given a unique gift and opportunity. One of our neighborhood's long time residents, Phil Lyons, made a donation to the Association of 25 shares of MediaOne stock. Many of us were truly baffled. While we were tickled about the gift and had delusions of stock splits and a million-dollar endowment, most of us simply did not know what to do. At one point we thought about cashing out the stock and moving the money to a mutual fund. But as you know, in the late 1990s the stock was hot and quickly increased in value, so we kept it in the association vault.

Then suddenly the stock went through a series of transmutations. Twenty-five shares of MediaOne became 22 shares. Then suddenly the stock went through a series of transmutations.

Twenty-five shares of MediaOne became 22 shares of ATT and plus nearly \$1000 in cash. Within another year ATT's value had spiraled down, they spun off their wireless division, and the association received 7 shares of ATT-Wireless. At present the value of the "Lyon" shares and cash has dropped by approximately 3% (not an uncommon story for many of you). Actually, the cash has remained.....cash, while the stocks have sunk! The cash moved to the general fund and the stock is still in the vault. For many on the board the securities donation has been more educational than profitable. And now, to boost the price of its shares, ATT plans to have a reverse stock split and turn our 22 shares into just 4 shares plus some cash. So from 25 shares we will have 11 shares, and the cash sits in the operating account.

It is in this spirit of self-flagellation that FHRA seeks more stock donations. Since May 1996 FHRA has been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax exempt charity. This means that all of your donations, whether monetary or in security form, may be deductible.

Believe it or not, there are tax advantages of donating securities to FHRA. Donating long-term appreciated securities provides a greater income tax benefit than a gift of cash. For example, a gift of \$3000 (oh we wish!) cash gives you a tax deduction of \$3000. The Federal income tax savings (@ 36%) would be \$1080. By my computations your total gift cost would be \$1920.

However, if you invested \$1000 in a security and the current value is now \$3000, your tax deduction would be \$3000 (thank you!). As mentioned before, the income tax savings (@36%) would be \$1080, however the capital gains tax savings (\$2000 gain @ 20%) would equal \$400. Therefore, your total tax savings equals \$1480 and your gift cost = \$1520, because you pay no capital gains tax on the appreciation.

Even stocks that have dropped below their original cost can be sold and the proceeds donated to also realize income tax benefits (e.g., Enron, Global Crossing). In this scenario you would sell the stocks and donate the proceeds, claiming a charitable gift tax deduction and then claim a capital loss deduction.

Either way you win and so does FHRA. FHRA is not choosy. It is hoped that over time FHRA will be able to use the portfolio of securities to establish an endowment. Such a financial foundation will help fund ongoing concerns and free up more of your membership dues to develop new projects in our neighborhood.

To donate appreciated securities, contact the FHRA Treasurer, Bruce Carroll, at 323-467-8703 or call the Hot Line: 323-664-7247. If you are gifting electronically held securities, contact your broker in writing with instructions to transfer (not sell) the specified stocks to the Franklin Hills Residents Association, and include:

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If you are gifting securities in certificate form, contact Bruce Carroll to arrange delivery.

FHRA appreciates all the contributions, large or small, that have supported the organization since its inception. We believe your investment in us has provided the dividends of neighborhood quality and spirit you expect. And hopefully with additional investments, including even securities, your neighborhood will prosper.

Write for the Overview!!
Overview 24 will be out in December
 Share your thoughts & concerns
 All material due by November 1 (or sooner)
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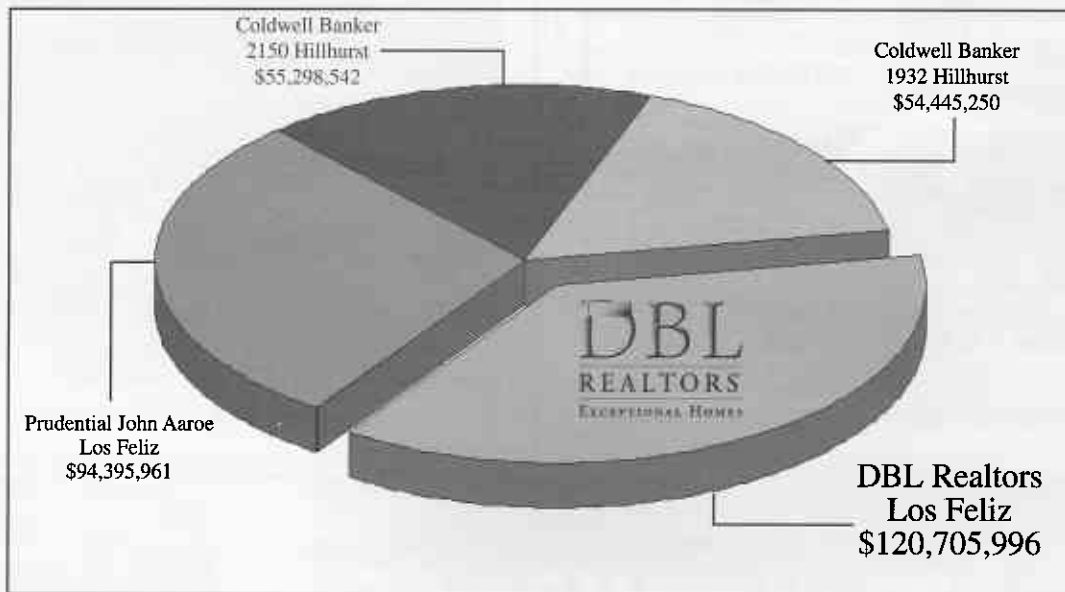
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Bridges Between Communities

By Ricardo Gomez

There has been an on-going effort for sometime to improve the area in and around the Sunset Boulevard bridge over Myra Avenue just south of King Middle School. There have been several community clean ups, a tree planting and recently the underground passageway was sealed to keep out a variety of troublemakers. This was done simultaneously with the closing (finally) of the Sunset Pacific Motel at Bates. All of these efforts were accomplished with the help of many Franklin Hills, Silver Lake and Los Feliz community members.

I have been working with FHRA Board member Peter Bedard and Mary Rodriguez of Los Feliz Improvement Association (she handles King Middle School improvement issues) and Senior Lead Officer Al Polhonki to keep up the pressure on City Officials to improve the area around the bridge. Our persistent efforts along with help from Eric Garcetti's office resulted in the pedestrian tunnels finally being sealed shut after years of complaints from community members.

The Myra underpass is a gateway to many Franklin


Hills residents who drive to work downtown. The Sunset Boulevard overpass is a gateway from Hollywood to Silver Lake. The bridge, if properly renovated, improved and landscaped, would become a community landmark for all. Many bridges in Los Angeles have been restored to their former splendor and in some cases have been improved architecturally with enhanced period lighting. Two examples: locally, of course, our own Shakespeare Bridge, and then there is the bridge where North Broadway crosses the L.A. River (north of Chinatown).

Often there are state and federal funds available for these kinds of projects. Anyone who is interested in this project should call me at 323-661-8927 or email me at nedster@pacbell.net. I would not even attempt to start this project by myself and it would not be successful without strong participation from the Franklin Hills and Silver Lake communities. For starters, does anyone know about the history of the bridge? Let's see if we can get this going. I for one am tired of looking at an eyesore when I drive down Myra Avenue to get to the Hollywood Freeway or downtown.

Photos of Community Crime Meeting on January 29



(Above) At the Crime meeting on January 29 a large audience listens to Councilmembers LaBonge and Garcetti, shown in the foreground.



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Above: Senior Lead Officer Al Polhonki addresses the audience at the Crime Meeting. King Middle School Principal Byron Maltez and Councilmembers Tom LaBonge and Eric Garcetti are seated behind him (Left to right.)



Above right: Eric Garcetti (CD 13) and an animated Tom LaBonge (CD 4) are seen at the podium,

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WANTED: MEMORIES

by Deb Mitchell

Have you lived in the neighborhood for many years? Have you talked to neighbors who have lived here for many years? Perhaps you would like to share those memories.

FHRA would like to gather personal history of the neighborhood. Do you have photos of what the neighborhood used to look like? Or photos of your own home many years ago? Do you remember any notable people who used to live here? Or perhaps still do? Do you recall major events happening in the neighborhood?

We want to share those memories with the current residents of the neighborhood, as well as archive them for future generations to learn about the history of the Franklin Hills.

I recently spoke with my neighbor, Hiroshi "Bill" Asano. He moved to the neighborhood in the 1960's. He bought his home for \$34,000. Do you suppose the value has gone up? He and his wife raised two children who went to King Jr. High and Marshall High School. Inter-

estingly enough, his recollection of the 60's is that the neighborhood was actually pretty much the same as it is now.

Bill recalls that the Franklin Hills were always a bit above the smog and pollution of L.A. One of the main reasons his family moved here from View Park was because his son had asthma. Indeed, after a month here, his son's asthma disappeared. He says that the pollution in L.A. used to be worse — when people were still burning trash in incinerators, and before anti-smog regulations.

I'd love to sit down and talk with anyone who would like to share any history they have of the Franklin Hills. If you have photos you would like to share, we would be happy to make copies and return the originals to you. I plan to have an article in all the future Overviews. Not only will the stories be interesting to the current residents, think how much future residents will appreciate knowing the history of their neighborhood !!

I can be reached at 666 242 0 or
Deb728@hotmail.com.

I hope to hear from you !

Deb Mitchell



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Bylaws Changes

The FHRA Board is putting two By-laws changes to a vote at the annual meeting. The first deals with boundaries; currently the north half the Shakespeare Bridge and the median are technically outside FHRA territory. The second deals with dues, which have not been raised for over a decade when we had far fewer projects and responsibilities.

1) The proposal would DELETE the final line of Article 2: "The boundary shall be the center of the streets named."

And replace it with: "The Board of Directors may adjust the Association's boundaries subject to the approval of a majority of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting"

2) The proposal would DELETE the current language in Article 10 section 1: "Dues of this Association shall be \$10/member, except that the Board may, upon request, waive or adjust an individual's dues based on ability to pay."

And replace it with: Dues of this Association shall be set by the Board subject to the approval of a majority of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting, except that the Board may, upon request, waive or lower an individual's dues based on ability to pay "

For more detail on these By-laws amendments go to the official FHRA website: FHRA@FranklinHills.org



This recently uncovered illustration, believed to be the founding of the FHRA, shows that the By-Laws may indeed be due for some updating.

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Larger contributions are extremely welcome. Thank you for joining FHRA!

Stairs, Studios and a Spired Span



In 1932 the stairways stood out clearly in the nearly treeless, houseless Franklin Hills landscape. The Franklin/Sanborn stairway is next to the number 1 just east of the Shakespeare Bridge. 2 marks the Radio Walk stairs from Franklin, past Hollyvista, down to the intersection of De Loz, Melbourne, and Prospect.

NOTE: This Franklin Hills history was originally written as part of the application for the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council. But we thought Franklin Hills residents might find it even more interesting than the bureaucrats.



Greg Nelms

323.671.1213

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