



OVERVIEW

NOW ITS MY TURN

SAYING GOOD BYE, THE HARD WAY

By Elena De Vos

I'm that rarity, an L.A. native, direct from this neighborhood. Every street brims with memories of three generations of my family.

My grandparents and parents regularly took me to the pony rides at Griffith Park and to ride the trains at Travel Town and to visit the Old Zoo, full of its cages and dank walkways, smelling the way a kid thinks a zoo should smell. Friendship Day Camp met at the big fountain by the tennis courts on Riverside Drive; it was there I caught my first frog in the L.A. river. I rode the merry-go-round hundreds of times as a child and attended (what only can be called) love-ins at the same spot in my late teens.

I strolled with my mother through shady Fern Dell when you could do so safely. My brothers held their Cub Scout picnics at the barbecue grounds by the Greek Theater where our family would come for the hot-dogs and sunsets. My Saturday art lessons in elementary school were at the Barnsdall Art Center, topped off by pastry and singing at Sarno's.

Sometimes my father and I would go to Thrifty's together to buy nickel ice cream cones and look at the magazines at its newsstand. At 16 I learned to drive on the streets winding up to the observatory, my teenage haunt. Yes, this is home.

When I returned to L.A. after finishing graduate school and ending my marriage, I gravitated here, leasing a house on Hollyvista where I convinced the owners to sell to me at the peak of the housing boom. By not using a broker, I saved a bundle, but I still paid a small fortune, "After all," I told myself, "If I don't buy now, when will I be able to?"

The former owners cleared over a quarter of a million dollars after living in the house fourteen years. Unfortunately, I did not do so well, by any accounting method, creative or otherwise.

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Tree planters applaud John Yingling of ABC-TV. The studio provided everything from parking to T-shirts, from restrooms to lunch

FHRA'S "GREEN FOR A DAY" DRIVES URBAN UGLIES AWAY

By Bruce Carroll

What do Socrates, KABC weatherman Dallas Raines, and Lila the cat have in common? If you weren't wielding a shovel along Prospect and Talmadge Avenues on Saturday morning, March 27th, you probably haven't a clue...so read on.

That was the day when over 200 volunteers recruited by the FHRA, the Los Feliz Improvement Association and ABC-TV planted 58 trees to beautify the neighborhood. The group assembled at 8 a.m. in the ABC-TV parking lot where a last-minute refueling on donuts and coffee, plus a commemorative t-shirt were provided by ABC. Under the slogan "Green for a Day," the mostly green (in experience) volunteers were tutored by the very green (in clothing) troops from the Los Angeles Conservation Corps. All the trees, tools and a mighty amount of assistance were provided by the LACC.

Project manager Peter Lassen, who headed the LACC staff of 20 youthful workers, rated the planting "among the better ones." Lassen, who spends several days a week turning novices into tree planters, praised our "good turnout and good workers." Noting we planted "very fast"—58 trees in about three hours—Lassen indicated

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