



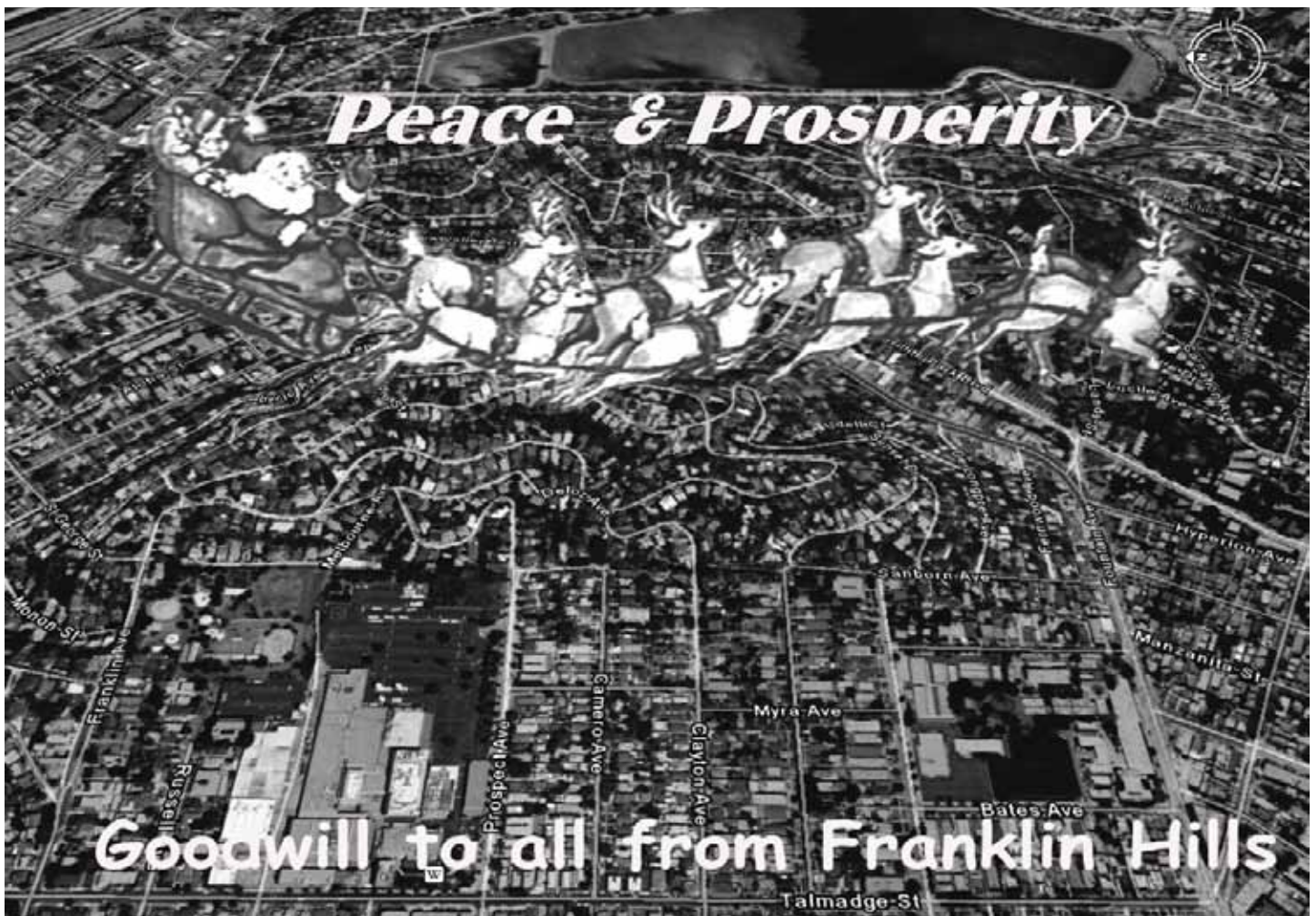
# OVERVIEW

FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

ISSUE # 36

FALL/WINTER 2008

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS



### WHAT'S INSIDE:

President's Letter . . . . . 2  
 Election Report . . . . . 3  
 Battling Crime . . . . . 4  
 Security Patrol . . . . . 5  
 LAPD: NE Division . . . . . 6  
 Property Tax Help . . . . . 7  
 Crossing Guards Needed . . . . . 8

Griffith Park . . . . . 9  
 Naming Stairways . . . . . 10  
 Vermont Triangle . . . . . 11  
 Fatal Accident . . . . . 12  
 How Radio Walk Got Named . . 13  
 FHRA Historic Photos . . . . . 15  
 Kids Page . . . . . 16 & 17

Coyote Tracks . . . . . 18  
 Griffith Park Relay . . . . . 19  
 Water Conservation Rules . . . . 20  
 Kids' Page Answers . . . . . 21  
 FHRA History . . . . . 22 & 23  
 Myra Mural Red Taped . . . . . 24



## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Well, it has been another interesting year in the Franklin Hills! The weather has been great and the neighbors hospitable. Although personal injury crime continues to remain low, property crimes (car and home break-ins) continue to be a problem. After investigating various security patrol companies, your FHRA Board agreed to a three month experiment with Post Patrols. So far enough of our neighbors have signed up for this service, that the monthly

rate offered is \$40.00 per household. My wife and I have signed up and we see the patrol come by several times a day. While it may not prevent break-ins, we just feel a little better knowing that extra security is around.

The annual meeting was again interesting and informative. We got to meet our new LAPD Northeast Division Captain William Murphy. Hopefully he will stick around for a while. Previous captains have either promoted or retired after a short amount of time in the division. Captain Murphy looks like he may stay with us for a while. I like his professional demeanor and openness.

Mary Frances Smith-Reynolds informs us that the Hoover Street mural project is approaching completion. The wall will soon be cleaned then the mural, which the artist painted in his studio on a plastic film, will be applied to the prepared wall. Along with the new homes built at the end of this street and the landscaping and rock walls we succeeded in getting the City to build, this area has undergone a wonderful transformation from the dumping ground that existed previously. Thanks are due to Jullian Harris-Calvin with Councilman Tom LaBonge's office and to Mary Frances Smith-Reynolds who has chaired this long term effort. Great job Mary Frances!

We are continuing to monitor the noise from the Prospect Studios lot. There have been complaints from neighbors about the back up warning devices on trucks that the studio brings in at all hours of the night. We have discussed this problem with Manie Ellis, the manager of the Prospect Studios lot. Manie Ellis has indicated his concern, but the problem continues on an intermittent basis.

Juli Kolb continues to oversee the maintenance of the median island near the Shakespeare Bridge on Franklin Avenue. She is currently receiving bids to replace the irrigation system so we can once again provide water to the plants that have been drying up due to the failure of the original irrigation system. Hopefully this will occur soon. If you would like to help defray some of these expenses, please send a check to the Franklin Hills Residents Association at our P. O. Box address. Any amount would be helpful to help keep up the median.

We hope all Franklin Hills residents enjoy a healthy and happy holiday season and a prosperous new year!

## FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

FHRA VOICEMAIL/FAX: (323) 908-6078

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President  
CHARLEY MIMS  
Vice President  
JULI KOLB  
Treasurer  
BRUCE CARROLL  
Secretary  
GEORGE GRACE

CHRISTOPHER BOUTELLE  
ERIC FRASE  
MICHELLE PARKINSON  
ANNE RICHARDSON  
CAROL SKINNER

### ACTION TEAM LEADERS

CRIME WATCH:  
Carol Skinner  
GRAFFITI REMOVAL:  
Eric Frase, Cindy Moreland  
WEBMASTER / E-MAIL:  
Bruce Carroll  
PLANNING & ZONING:  
Charley Mims  
WELCOME TEAM  
Eric Frase

## OVERVIEW

Editor, Layout, Typesetting:  
Carol Skinner and Bruce Carroll  
Current Photos  
are by Bruce Carroll  
unless otherwise identified  
Cover image Google Earth

Contributing Writers:  
Peter Bedard, Bruce Carroll,  
Eric Frase, George Grace,  
Juli Kolb, Dean Konno,  
Charley Mims,  
Michelle Parkinson, Al Polehonki,  
Anne Richardson  
Mary Rodriguez,  
Mary Frances Smith-Reynolds

Ad Sales & Distribution:  
Chris Boutelle, 666-5548  
The Franklin Hills OVERVIEW is published  
as often as possible. We invite readers'  
comments, submissions and opinions,  
and will publish as space allows. Please  
mail to:

Editor, OVERVIEW, P.O.Box 29122,  
Los Angeles, CA 90029  
or e-mail to FHRA@FranklinHills.org

## COMMUNITY PHONES

PROSPECT STUDIOS	(323) 671-5000
LOS ANGELES CITY SERVICES	
ALL SERVICES	311
ANIMAL CONTROL:	(888) 452-7381
Dead Animal Pickup	(323) 227-7179
BARKING DOGS:	(888) 452-7381
BUILDING & SAFETY VIOLATIONS:	888-LA4BUILD
COUNCILMAN TOM LABONGE,	
4th District	(213) 485-3337
200 N. Spring #480 LA, CA 90012	
FIELD DEPUTY Jullian Harris-Calvin	(818)755-7630
FHRA VOICEMAIL:	(323)908-6078
FHRA@FranklinHills.org	
FIRE DEPARTMENT:	Emergency 911;
Non-emergency:	(213) 485-6185.
HOMELESS, Food and Shelter	(323) 974-1234
INFO LINE (L.A. County Referral Service)	
323-686-0950 or 800-339-6993	
LOS FELIZ PUBLIC LIBRARY:	(323) 913-4710
ALL CITY SERVICES:	311
POLICE:	EMERGENCY ONLY: 911
ALL OTHER CALLS:	(877)-ASK LAPD
	(877-275-5273)
Spanish: (213) 485-4333; Asian: (323) 893-8100	
Northeast Division,	
3353 San Fernando Road, LA 90065:	
Front Desk:	(213) 485 2563
Community Relations:	(213) 485-2548
Gang Problems:	(213) 485-7538
Graffiti: Officer Colenzo:	(213) 847-0511
LAPD on the net:	www.Lapdonline.com
Los Feliz Outpost:	(323) 913-4683
Sr. Lead Officer Al Polehonki:	(213) 793-0763
Sr. Lead Officer Lenny Davis:	(213) 793-0762
Traffic Enforcement (Speeding):	(213) 485-2799
POISON CONTROL	(800) 876-4766
RAPE HOTLINE	(310) 392-8381
RESTRAINING ORDER	(213) 974-5587
SCHOOLS POLICE	
Marshall High	
Officer Chavez:	(323)-660-1440 x 240
Thomas Starr King Middle School:	
Officer Harris:	(323)-664-1176 x140
STREET SERVICES:	(800) 996-2489
TRASH RECEPTACLE INFO:	(800) 248-9726
Bulky Item Removal:	(800)773-2484
Missed Trash Pick-up:	(800) 773-2489
TREE TRIMMING (Hazards):	(800) 996-2489
WATER & POWER:	(800) 342-5397
WE TIP (Anonymous crime tips)	(800) 873-7283

## "Community Organizers" Still Needed

By Bruce Carroll

In addition to the Big One this year there were two elections very close to home. In June FHRA members elected 5 members to the FHRA Board. Among those selected were new-comer Michelle Parkinson and 4 returning board members: President, Charley Mims; Vice President, Juli Kolb; plus Eric Frase and Ann Richardson.



The second election in June was for the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council. District "E" of the GGPNC is sort of like FHRAland on steroids. It includes all of the traditional FHRA territory plus additional blocks to the west and south. When the votes were counted by the City Clerk I was re-elected as one of two District "E" representatives and there was a new face, write-in candidate Mark Mauceri campaigned hard and won as the other guy from District "E."



Mauceri, a TV programmer in real life, lives with wife Rita and 3 kids just west of Talmadge. Now an FHRA member (we have over 300 so far this year) he's taken an interest in the community he calls, "the best little neighborhood in all of L.A."

One of the issues he's helped out on is following up the FHRA and GGPNC request for a utility pole street light on Myra between Clayton and Cumberland. Residents of that area requested help to reverse the darkness after an attempted armed robbery and numerous car break-ins in the last few months.

Even though this year's elections are over, it's not too late to get involved. The FHRA board currently has two vacancies. Anyone who's been an FHRA member for 6 months is eligible. Please let us know you're interested in helping your neighborhood.

The GGPNC will also likely have a vacancy or two after the first of the year. Check the [www.GGPNC.org](http://www.GGPNC.org) website. This could be your first step toward the White House.



## Crime and the LAPD

By Juli Kolb

The Franklin Hills community has many concerns, however one that remains constant is crime. Over the past year, the FHRA has received reports of violent robberies, home burglaries, burglaries from motor vehicles, vandalism, truant students and most recently trespassing to take recyclables from blue bins.

Quality of life concerns, whether from the noisy neighbor, business or barking dog, also abound in our urban environment. The FHRA Board responds with information and assistance to the best of our abilities. After all, we're just volunteers and neighbors, working to keep the Franklin Hills a place where we all want to live.



To that end, the FHRA looks to City government for assistance with many of our needs. Fortunately we enjoy a positive responsive relationship with the Council District 4 representatives, Deputy City Attorney Donna Wong, and the LAPD Northeast Division.

LAPD Northeast Division is located on San Fernando Road, 3 blocks northwest of the 2 freeway. Northeast covers approximately 30 square miles and serves over 300,000 residents. As we have heard many times, LAPD resources are stretched very thin and our community is no exception.

At the FHRA annual meeting in June, a featured speaker was Northeast Division commanding officer Captain William Murphy. Captain Murphy was most recently commanding officer at the LAPD academy, and during his 20 year LAPD career has served in the Hollenbeck, Newton and the 77th Patrol Division. He discussed efforts to reduce crime by providing expanded car coverage, to involve the community in volunteer outreach efforts and most importantly to rely heavily on the Senior Lead Officer (SLO) program.

Franklin Hills has benefited greatly from SLO Al Polehonki and the recently retired Sam Salazar. Captain Murphy introduced Sam's replacement, SLO Lenning Davis, or "Lenny" to most everyone. He comes to Northeast from Highland Park and along with Capt. Murphy pledges to provide the support we need to address our concerns. We are lucky to have them both.



**Officer Lenny Davis**

To illustrate the importance of the SLO program, over the summer the neighborhood was experiencing a major increase in burglaries from vehicles. Our SLO's were on patrol, a call from dispatch alerted them to report of a car break-in, they spotted someone crouched between 2 cars and upon further investigation found that he was in possession of stolen items. He subsequently admitted to many similar crimes and his arrest cut the burglary from motor vehicle reports by 90%. However it is important to remember to remove all valuables from your car, including GPS devices. Unless your car is in a locked garage it's the same as leaving an invitation to steal when anything of value is left in plain sight.

Too bad it's this way, but the police can only do their job with your help. In conclusion, crime isn't going away. As a community we can do much to improve the situation. If you see something amiss call and report it. If you are the victim of a crime, no matter how much you'd rather just forget about it, report it. Every report gives us more attention from LAPD and helps to prevent a reoccurrence.

911 for emergencies, LAPD non-emergency 1-877-ASK-LAPD(275-5273) or 311 for graffiti paint-out, bulky item pick-up or most other concerns.

## The holiday gift that fits to a T.

FRANKLIN HILLS



The Franklin Hills classic T-shirt, a neighborhood favorite for 15 years, is available again this holiday season.\*

Printed in front on quality 100% cotton in sizes M,L,XL,XXL.

Original 1-color on white \$12 (2 for \$22)

Full color on white \$15 (2 for \$28)

Postage & Handling \$2 for 1st item / add \$1 per addtl item

Mail checks payable to Franklin Hills Residents' Association (No cash please)  
Mail To: Franklin Hills T-shirt, P.O. Box 29122, Los Angeles CA 90029  
Allow 2 weeks for delivery

\*shipping not available to North Pole

# Franklin Hills Security Patrols

By Anne Richardson

In June and July, 2008, Franklin Hills experienced a disturbing rise in property crimes, including cars being broken into and shopping bags stolen. The FHRA Board, spurred by proactive neighbor Erika Gjovik, looked into security patrols in our neighborhood and implemented a pilot program to have private security cars patrol the neighborhood for a three month period. Whether the patrols slowed the crime, or the thieves decided to move on, we have had many fewer reports of crime since then. However, residents need to remain alert and call the police to report any crime, major or minor. Remember that filing a police report will increase our visibility to the LAPD and could result in more resources being dedicated to our area.



FHRA also negotiated a reduced rate from Post Patrol for residents who seek to continue to have patrols drive round their house 6-9 times per day. We sent out a flyer in August to let people know that if at least 10 residents signed up, Post would reduce its fee to \$40 per month for 6-9 random patrols past the resident's home per day (two to three per eight-hour shift). Residents can sign up even if they have a security system with another vendor; the patrolling is an additional service. Unfortunately, Post does not permit neighbors to "share" the expense, in the sense that Post will only patrol the one house that pays the freight.

We did have slightly more than 10 people who agreed to sign up, and the new security patrols started as of November 1. Let us know if you want to sign up for the service or if you have other suggestions or ideas. We welcome your comments at [FHRA@FranklinHills.org](mailto:FHRA@FranklinHills.org).

If you are not already on our FHRA e-mail list to get FHRAAlerts when there are important community events or crimes in the neighborhood why not join now. Just send us an e-mail at [FHRA@FranklinHills.org](mailto:FHRA@FranklinHills.org) asking to be added to the FHRAAlert list.

## HOW TO AVOID

### BEING THE VICTIM OF PROPERTY CRIMES:

- LOCK doors, windows, garages, and cars
- DO NOT KEEP VALUABLES in your car, such as cell phones, GPS units, briefcases, computers coats, or any items that either are, or might be thought to be, valuable to a thief
- KEEP CARS IN GARAGES, if possible
- INSTALL LIGHTING around the outside of your home to turn on at night or with movement detectors
- THE POLICE DISCOURAGE YARD SALES or garage sales as they can attract thieves

### WHAT TO DO IF YOU OBSERVE OR ARE THE VICTIM OF A PROPERTY CRIME:

- If you observe suspicious activity or a crime occurring, do not attempt to intervene. Rather, call 911.
- If you are the victim of a property (or any) crime make sure to file a police report. The number of police reports filed is tracked and will influence the amount of police resources that are allocated to our neighborhood. You can either call 311, the Northeast Police Station at 213-485-2563 or one of our Senior Lead Officers, Al Polehonki at 213-793-0763, or Lenny Davis at 213-793-0762

## 1 Good Neighbor + 2 Good Cops + Good Luck = Bad Guys - 1

By Bruce Carroll

On a Tuesday afternoon late in September a resident in the 2100 block of Lyric Ave. noticed a prowler in the back yard and called 911. The radio report was received in the patrol car of the LAPD Senior Lead Officers (SLO) assigned to the Franklin Hills area. Al Polehonki and Lenny Davis just happened to be patrolling the area along Lyric near Hyperion. The reporting resident was still on the cellphone and waved to the officers as they passed heading downhill. Then they heard the radio give the description of a shirtless, heavily tattooed, male Hispanic, 5'10" 200lbs, and they spotted him also heading down the hill.

When he saw the police car he began to run and was arrested after a short chase ending a few blocks away along Griffith Park Blvd. This obviously wasn't his first police encounter. Officer Polehonki reported the suspect's rap sheet is 50 pages long with arrests for drugs and burglaries and he was a "parolee at large" meaning he had failed to report to authorities as required.

continued on page 6

It's great example of what can be done with timely team-work between observant neighbors and patrolling police. Without putting yourself in danger, the advice from the SLOs is to make yourself a good witness. Make a mental note of the suspect's physical description, license plate/vehicle description, etc. so that the info you report has a higher chance of leading to an arrest and making our neighborhood a safer place.



**Got a Vacant Unit?**  
*Call The Rental Girl!*

- She'll find you qualified tenants FAST!
- She'll do all the work - from advertising to lease signing!
- She comes highly referred!
- She'll save you time and money!
- She is affordable!
- Pay a one time fee once the unit has been rented!

*Los Feliz \* Silver Lake \* Echo Park*  
**323.913.1443** TheRentalGirl.com

## NorthEast Division News by: Senior Lead Officer Al Polehonki



As the holiday season approaches most of us tend to rush around even more and leave valuables in our vehicles. Vehicle burglaries continue to be our most frequently reported crime with portable electronics being the items of choice. I-Pods, cell phones, lap tops and GPS devices are popular and easy to resell. As these items are purchased, record their serial numbers on the sales receipts. Long after a consumer throws away the items packaging, a sales receipt will be saved as proof of purchase for warranty work or replacement. Removing the items from your vehicle is the best way to prevent their theft of course. Having the serial number available if the item is stolen will increase the chances that it can be returned to you if found. Our detectives will also be happy about returning the items to you and putting a thief in jail.

This year many crimes were solved by help from the community. Tips on strange or suspicious activity, license plate information and various other clues are greatly appreciated. By no means have we eliminated crime but as we work together in partnership we move toward that goal. Please continue to use the 311 system to report the need to repair damaged or broken street lighting and signs, and to have those bulky items picked up. If you are not aware of it yet, Los Angeles County has a help number as well. Dialing 211 can give you access to county service information, food and shelter assistance, help with landlord / tenant issues, help with care for the aging, parenting resources, and more.



**LOS FELIZ LODGE**  
a local hotel alternative

[www.LosFelizLodge.com](http://www.LosFelizLodge.com)  
**323-913-1443 tel**

Many scams are perpetuated each year by people posing as utility workers, telephone repairman and the like. There is no reason for them to enter your residence unless you ask them to come in. If you have utility wiring in your back yard that can be accessed by a side gate or alley, there is no need for them to enter your residence. When in doubt, deny access and call the company that they work for to verify their work order.

As a final reminder, far too often we hear of tragic fires that occur in homes that have no smoke detectors or detectors with dead batteries. Most are easy to test and to service or replace. Please check the detectors in your home and try to remind several of your neighbors to do the same.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.  
Officer Polehonki #22869

# The Upside of Declining Home Values:

## Property Tax ABC's

By Michelle Parkinson

It has been widely reported that the property values of single-family homes and condominiums throughout most of the State have been declining. The declines in Franklin Hills have not been as dramatic as those in other parts of the State, yet we have seen a decline all the same. Standard and Poor's found home prices have dropped an average of 14% in Los Angeles since March 2007 and as much as 20% since the peak values in June 2006. Despite the declines, you most likely recently received a property tax bill with an increased amount due over last year.

The first thing to understand about your property tax bill is the terminology. Many people look at the tax bill and see a bunch of numbers that have no meaning to them. In reality, they do have a special meaning. If you do not understand what the sections on your property tax bill mean, you might not know if this bill is accurate. Here are some terms that you need to understand when looking at your property tax bill.

*Fair cash value* is what the property can be sold for between two parties without any duress. The *assessed value* of the property is typically the most recent sales price plus any increases (maximum 2% per year). This is what the city or county deems a fair assessment of what the property is worth.

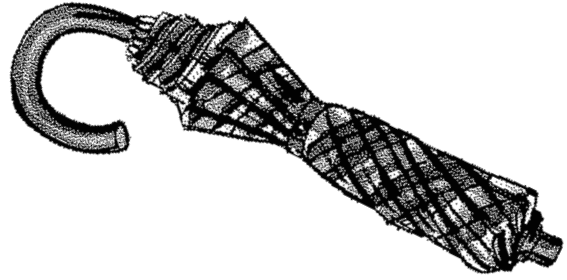
*Exemption* means the removal of said property from the tax base; this is only a part of the assessed value of the property. This might hold true for a church that is only used for religious activities. It may also be due to a homestead exemption. When you look at the property tax bill, you will also see the tax rate. This is the tax due on the property after being calculated with percentages of the tax base.

Once you understand the bill you can determine if your property is being overvalued. Under Prop 8 you may request a tax reduction based on the current value. By some estimates, 60% of private property in the United States is overvalued for tax purposes, usually because owners are uninformed or think they don't qualify.

When was the last time your home was assessed? Do you know the current market value of your property?

You can answer these questions in a few simple steps without hiring a service. Start by contacting the LA County Assessor and request an Application for Decline in Value Reassessment form (RP-87) (Download at: <http://assessor.lacounty.gov>). The form must be submitted no later than December 31st and must include three recent comparable sales from the area. This information may be obtained from a realtor or internet websites such as Yahoo or Zillow and numerous others.

continued on page 8



## May I fold your umbrella?

**T**he news lately might lead some folks to think rainy days are here. True, the market is not what it used to be, but it's probably a lot better than you think. Lenders are still lending, and our neighborhoods have not seen chaotic adjustments.

This year, my clients are finding much opportunity and success. This path, however, requires a steady hand, correct instincts and a clear perception of reality. Misguided hope, especially regarding pricing, is a wrong-headed sales strategy.

If you're not sure whether now is the time to buy or to sell, call me. I just might convince you that the sun still shines.



**Richard Stanley**

#1 Agent • Los Feliz Office since 1995  
 (323) 906-2417 office • (213) 300-4567 cell  
[www.richardstanleyrealtor.com](http://www.richardstanleyrealtor.com)



©2008 Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corporation.  
 Coldwell Banker is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corporation.  
 An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Owned and Operated by NRT Inc.



The whole process of revaluation can take months, depending on the volume of applications. In the meantime, property tax payments are coming due. What should you do?

Answer: Pay the taxes, then challenge.

Be wary of companies offering tax reduction services. These companies typically charge a fee ranging from \$30 to a several hundred. Counties are warning homeowners to watch out for official-looking mailers demanding fees for tax services the counties offer for free. They say the scheme preys on homeowners' concerns about declining home values and unfamiliarity with how counties handle assessments in a slumping market. New companies -- some without a phone number or physical address-- have been mailing solicitations formatted to resemble bills and official government notices and promising to lower recipients' taxes.

The mailers offer to obtain new county assessments on homes as well as homeowners' tax exemptions but the county provides these services at no charge and readily supplies the required forms along with assistance filling them out. The letters include disclaimers that the senders are not government agencies but the writing tends to be miniscule and not obvious. Don't be fooled you can do it yourself and realize a significant savings on your property taxes.

## Schools Seek Crossing Guards

By Mary Rodriguez,

Education Deputy for Councilmember LaBonge

In September, Franklin Ave. Elementary started off the new school year on a wonderful note except that their longtime crossing guard, Eva Turpin, was not at the corner of Franklin & Commonwealth where she has safely escorted children to and from school for 11 years.

Shortly after school began they received a little note from Eva stating that now that she is 79 years old it is time for her to retire. Quickly the parents and principal realized how very important a job Eva had held especially, when one morning at the end of October a first grader was almost hit by a vehicle making a quick turn onto Commonwealth Ave.

Numerous calls and e-mails were sent to Councilmember Tom LaBonge urging him to help them get a crossing guard to replace Eva and on Oct. 31st the school was assigned a permanent guard.

Likewise, the administration and teachers at Thomas Starr King Middle School have requested a crossing guard to help them assist students across Fountain Ave. Unfortunately, the City of LA's Crossing Guard Program does not extend their service to middle schools, only elementary schools. Yet, many of the middle schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District have been identified as needing this service because the schools are located on very busy major transit corridors.

Councilman LaBonge made a motion to the City Council's Transportation Committee to extend the Crossing Guard Program to Middle Schools and it is in the process. The approximate cost for a part-time crossing guard for one school year is \$10,000.00, this includes training by the City.

All of this makes me appreciate the years of service that Eva Turpin devoted to our community. Escorting thousands of children to and from school everyday for 11 years is a true gift of dedication and we sincerely thank Eva and wish her the very best in her retirement.

**\$10 off any service**  
with \$50 minimum purchase.

Open Tue-Sat 9-7

*Alberto*  
**SALON**

2115 Hillhurst Ave.  
323.666.8850  
Parking in rear

cuts • highlights • perms • facials • manicures • pedicures • waxing

OPEN DAILY 11:00 a.m.  
NOW SERVING BREAKFAST  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
CLOSED TUESDAYS

# PALERMO

## RISTORANTE ITALIANO

Delicious Italian Cuisine In The Old World Tradition

HOME DELIVERY

1858 N. VERMONT AVENUE • LOS FELIZ, CA 90027 • 323/663-1178 • FAX 323/660-0284



# Griffith Park Historic Monument Designation ... and More

by George Grace

In May of this year, the Griffith J. Griffith Charitable Trust, led by Colonel Griffith's great grandson Van Griffith, filed an application with the City of Los Angeles to designate all of Griffith Park a City Historic-Cultural Monument. Subsequently, at a well attended, lively June 2nd Cultural Heritage Commission meeting, the Commissioners agreed to tour the Park to determine if it merited Historic Monument status. Monument Status recognizes the site (including existing structures, landscape, plant life, hiking trails, etc.) as important to the history of Los Angeles, and would help protect the Park - especially the remaining open-space - from development. FHRA joined many other organizations in actively supporting the application.

On October 30th, the Cultural Heritage Commission announced their decision to recommend granting Monument status to the City Council, which has the final vote. It is essential that we let our Councilman, Tom LaBonge, and all other Council members know that we support protecting and granting Monument status to all of Griffith Park.

Please write Councilmembers at 200 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. You can also register your support and leave comments that will be delivered to the Mayor and all City Council Members at:

[www.friendsofgriffithpark.org/GPMonument.html](http://www.friendsofgriffithpark.org/GPMonument.html)  
The future of the Griffith Park we all know and love is in your hands. Please take action now.

# Griffith Park Natural History Survey

Cooper Ecological Monitoring's contract with the City to survey Griffith Park wildlife and write a comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan was completed in September. With the City in financial crisis, no further funds are presently available to implement the continuing wildlife surveys recommended in the Wildlife Management Plan.

The FHRA-supported Griffith Park Natural History Survey (GPNHS) commissioned the first mammal/herptile wildlife surveys in Griffith Park in March, 2007, and is working with Cooper Ecological President, Dan Cooper, on separate projects to continue implementation of the Plan's wildlife surveys for Griffith Park herptiles, mammals, birds, and bats. Tracking wildlife populations provides essential information for measuring the health of, and sustaining the Park's ecosystems, which are arguably already being challenged by global climate change.

GPNSH is dedicated to helping maintain a sustainable Griffith Park for future generations of Angelenos, and will be taking a lead in raising funds to continue wildlife tracking. You can learn more about the Griffith Park Natural History Survey and how to make a tax deductible donation at:

[www.friendsofgriffithpark.org/GPNHS/Griffith.htm](http://www.friendsofgriffithpark.org/GPNHS/Griffith.htm)  
You can learn more about the Wildlife Management Plan at the plan website: [www.griffithparkwildlife.org](http://www.griffithparkwildlife.org)



**SUNSET BLVD. NURSERY**

COMPLETE LINE OF

- TROPICAL & HOUSE PLANTS
- TREES & SHRUBS
- GARDEN SUPPLIES
- INSECTICIDES
- FERTILIZERS
- POTTERY & PLANTERS
- FOUNTAINS, WATER PONDS & SUPPLIES

OPEN 7 DAYS

CALL **323 661-1642** DELIVERY AVAILABLE

CORNER OF SUNSET & FOUNTAIN  
4368 W. SUNSET BL. LOS ANGELES

VISA  
MasterCard



**DRESDEN**  
RESTAURANT

... a Los Feliz tradition for over 60 years

*"Home of Certified Angus Beef"*

---

**Dinner Served: 4:30pm - 11pm**  
**Sunday Dinner: 4:30pm - 10pm**

---

[www.TheDresden.com](http://www.TheDresden.com)  
1760 N. Vermont Avenue  
**(323) 665-4294**

Marty & Elayne  
at the piano bar



Valet Parking in Rear

# Baller Hardware

2505 Hyperion Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90027

323-668-7420

Proudly serving our community  
for four generations.



BALLER HARDWARE  
since 1959

Open 7 days  
Mon-Sat 8:00-6:00  
Sun 9:00-3:00

*True Value*  
START RIGHT. START HERE.

GRIFFITH PARK -- continued from page 9

Over the past few months, exciting things have been discovered by project leader Stephanie Remington and a dedicated group of neighborhood volunteers. Here are some of her comments about the October survey:

"We recorded four species from our survey earlier this month. Mark and Craig picked up three of them – pips, big browns, and hoarys up by Bronson. Mary and Gerry also got pips and hoarys, and found a rattlesnake to add to the excitement in Brush Canyon. Susan and Carol recorded pips and Mexican free tails over by the Old Zoo (unfortunately the external volume on their Anabat was turned down too low to hear the calls). Alec and I got straight pips and heard another poorwill and great horned owl near Bee Rock.

"Although some of you may be getting to think of pips as too common to get excited about, this is one of the only urban parks where I've found them at all, much less often. And you all are doing a great job of following individuals and recording excellent sequences – with search and approach phases, and feeding buzzes. There is some good roosting and foraging habitat for pips at GP and that's great to know."

If you'd like to join the fun you can register for wildlife surveys teams at the GPNHS Volunteer webpage at: [www.friendsofgriffithpark.org/GPNHS/GPNHSVolunteerRegister.html](http://www.friendsofgriffithpark.org/GPNHS/GPNHSVolunteerRegister.html)

You'll be participating in a fun and history-making effort.

Griffith Park still has a long way to go to recover from the May, 2007 fire, and to be granted Historic-Cultural Monument Status. Please do what you can to help.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Franklin Hills Public Stairways-- All Need Names for Our Safety

By Dean Y. Konno

I have noticed that some of the public stairways in Franklin Hills have names where others do not. There are just a few with names. Like Prospect Walk, and Radio Walk.

Also the names given to the public stairways are not named for the street at the base of the stairway. I just wonder why a systematic way to give names was not done before names were given. Prospect Ave. is at the base of Prospect Walk. But Radio St. is located at the top of Radio Walk. Looking at my Thomas Guide the only public stairway plotted is Radio Walk. Just with the word "walk." Even the historically marked public stairway, Hoover Walk in East Hollywood, is not plotted in the Thomas Guide.

My suggestion to give names to, all the public stairways on Franklin Hills is for the safety of the residents living near them. In case of a fire or other emergencies in the area that LAFD or LAPD have to be directed, by giving the location of the public stairway. Officers like our LAPD Lead Officers know the locations of these public stairways that have no names. But when calling 911 or LAPD NE Station many other officers that are not familiar with our neighborhood do not. So trying to give these officers directions becomes very difficult.

For example the public stairway that goes from Sanborn Ave. cul-de-sac to St. George St. above. Should the City name it Sanborn Walk or St. George Walk? There is also a public stairway between Sanborn Ave. and Clayton Ave. on the south side of Franklin Hills. Should that public stairway be named Sanborn Walk or Clayton Walk? This is where it becomes difficult naming our public stairways without a systematic way of giving them all names.

Our first step is to see if we can get names recognized officially by the City of Los Angeles for them all for our safety.

So if you live near a public stairway without a name please contact the editor of the Overview with your suggestions or comments on this topic.

Then I propose we get companies like the Thomas Guide

and AAA to recognize their locations and names, to plot them on their maps. All in order to make it easier to locate a public stairs on maps in case of an emergency.



Photo by Dean Konno

## Vermont Triangle Make-Over Finished After Decades of Decay, Years of Planning, Months of Construction



Senior Lead Officer Gina Chovan (left) joins City Councilmembers Tom Labone and Eric Garcetti along with GGPNC Neighborhood Improvement Chair Nyla Arslanian, Project Architect Pat Smith (an FHRA member) and Kip Rudd from the Community Redevelopment Agency, in celebrating the completion of the \$800,000 project. Input from FHRA members helped keep the project from expanding to close off the portion of Prospect Avenue west of Vermont which would have made area traffic even worse.



A California Bistro

Bistro fare with a California flare

Slow Food

Featuring  
Small lot California Wines

Intimate Dining

2360 Hyperion @ Griffith Pk Blvd  
Ph. 323.664.7979  
[www.sila-bistro.com](http://www.sila-bistro.com)

Hours: 5-10 Tues - Sunday  
& 10:30 on Friday & Saturday  
Closed Mondays  
Open for Lunch soon.

# A Sad Loss in Service to Franklin Hills Residents

By Bruce Carroll

About 11:40am on Tuesday, June 24th, the overturned postal delivery truck was coming down the hill on Lyric, making a left onto Hyperion and was hit by the car at the far right of the photo. Maria F. Gutierrez, 30, who'd been a letter carrier for 2 years, was thrown from the truck which landed on top of her. She died at the scene.



Police say witnesses saw the postal vehicle coming down Lyric at a high rate of speed and go through the red light. She was not wearing her seatbelt. The other driver was treated for non-life threatening injuries.

Our condolences go out to Ms. Gutierrez's family, friends and co-workers.

Ms. Gutierrez delivered to route #03, which other USPS carriers have said is the "worst route" in 90027. It has been reported to the FHRA that completing the route on time is almost impossible due to winding streets and heavy mail volume, often requiring carriers to skip lunch to complete their task in the mandated eight hours and they "are chastised for not completing it in time." Even 90027 station manager, Rick Perez, confirmed the route "is difficult."

Continued on page 18





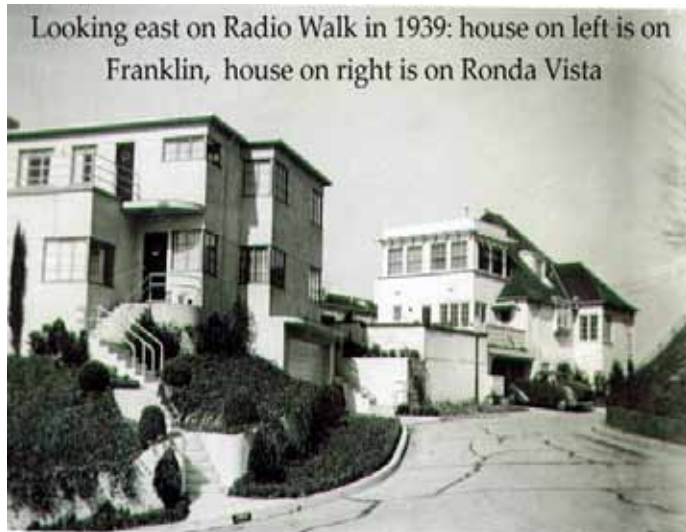
## Ronda Vista in the Thirties and Forties: How Radio Walk Got its Name

By Anne Richardson

FHRA received an intriguing e-mail from a former resident of Franklin Hills, and I called and spoke to him about his memories. George Phelps was born in 1931 at Hollywood Presbyterian on Vermont. His family moved to 2301 Ronda Vista in 1936. He lived there until 1943, when he was 12 years old. His father, G. Allison Phelps, was a well known radio personality of his day, who broadcast live on KFWB radio from their home at the intersection of Ronda Vista and Radio Walk from 1 to 2 p.m. everyday. In fact, Radio Walk was so named because of Mr. Phelps' broadcasts.

In many ways, Franklin Hills was just the same then as it is now, a community largely made up of people who made their living in Hollywood, mixed with teachers and other non-entertainment professionals. The Phelps family knew many of their neighbors, including Johnny Hines, a movie producer/director. Then as now there were lots of kids. And they repaved with asphalt rather than concrete!

Some things, however have changed. For one thing, George remembers little traffic and few cars parked on the street. People typically had one car and actually used their garages. And there were



lots of vacant lots and few trees, as can be seen in the accompanying photos.

Then there's the fact that the Phelps family paid \$7,500 in 1936 for their lovely home (now on the market again with an asking price of nearly a million dollars).

In 1936, Los Angeles was a booming metropolis of over a million people. George remembers riding his bicycle on Franklin Ave., Ronda Vista, Commonwealth,

and Los Feliz, delivering the Hollywood Citizen News. But it was also the time of the Great Depression, and George's father held food and clothing drives and founded the Over the Hump Club, to give money, clothes and food to thousands who had trouble making ends meet. G. Allison also wrote several books, one of which is excerpted on page 14 with a clear reference to the view from



Ronda Vista. Phelps' father was against going to war in Europe and was accused of being anti-Semitic and a member of the America First organization. His radio program was eventually taken off the air around 1941 because of his views.

During the war, George remembers several air raid scares, and hearing stories that several two-man submarines had surfaced off the coast. He remembers searchlights throughout the city and standing out on the balcony from high up on Ronda Vista searching for enemy aircraft in the night sky.

His oldest sister, Mimi, made headlines when she eloped and ran away to Hawaii. After she returned, and had her marriage annulled, her family bought her the Studebaker pictured here in the hopes of keeping her happy at home.



The Phelps family moved from Franklin Hills in 1943 to a 3 acre property in Glendale.

continued on page 14

PHELPS continued from page 13



As a kid George attended the Black Fox Military school at Melrose and Wilcox. Later he served in Japan and Korea during the Korean War and then, as an Engineer in the Space Program, worked on the Saturn V program and the Space Shuttle, among other things.



He's now retired and lives in Texas. He says he still has fond memories of the Franklin Hills, and recently sent the current owner a letter about his memories of the house. We are grateful to him for sending us an e-mail too, and encourage any other home owners with knowledge about their homes' prior residents to send us missives at [fhra@franklinhills.org](mailto:fhra@franklinhills.org).

### Excerpt from "Tides of Thought"

by G. Allison Phelps (c) 1937

"The city spreads before me like a robe of velvet on which a million jewels have been sewn. At night there are flashing, changing color neons. There are streets lined with homes and main arteries containing business blocks and roaring street cars. Thousands of people ride or walk along. Horns honk. Bells ring. Gongs clank.

I am above it all with only a monotonous hum to remind me that a city lies below me; and only the flash of countless lights in the evening to assure me that life surges beneath me in the sea of the night."

## Box Brothers Goes Hollywood



**Ebay Consignment Specialists**

*Bring us the items you want to sell  
We do all the work and you get paid*

### Let Us Walk You Through Your Holiday Shipping

*We offer a wide variety of services designed to meet all your shipping and packing needs*



Moving Boxes  
Shipping Boxes  
Packaging Supplies  
Packaging & Shipping  
Copies  
Faxes  
Scanning  
Document Shredding  
Mailbox Rentals  
Pick up & Delivery available

#### NEW! HOLLYWOOD

5629 Hollywood Blvd - 323-464-9200

#### ATWATER

3154 Glendale Blvd. - 323-661-4100

#### LOS FELIZ VILLAGE

1954 Hillhurst Ave. - 323-662-9000

<http://boxbrosla.com>



**BOX BROTHERS®**



The barren look of the Franklin Hills in the 1930s, as described by George Phelps, can be seen in this 1932 photo from the FHRA collection.

<<<<<<<<

The arrows point to the area at Radio Street and Ronda Vista where the Phelps house would soon be built.

Franklin Hills Historic photos make great gifts. The one above was taken by the Army Signal Corps from a plane that was based at the Griffith Park Airport. The area now is part of the zoo parking lot. To take a look at all the FHRA photos go to [www.FranklinHills.org](http://www.FranklinHills.org) and click on the "Historic Area Photos" link or you can call or write us for an order sheet.

## CARMASTERS

Complete Auto Repair, Smog,  
Diagnostics and much more....



Best Service, lowest prices since 1977



4120 Fountain Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90029  
Across from Thomas King middle school  
X-str. Myra.  
Tel: (323)660-4257, (323)660-4258  
[www.carmasters.com](http://www.carmasters.com)

Open: M-F 7:30 am to 5:00 pm  
Sat. 7:30 am to 2:00 pm

Chosen by **FOX 11**  
LOS ANGELES  
As "The most honest mechanic shop"

*We perform the following services:*

- Brakes
- Tune-Up
- Oil change
- Computerized diagnostics
- Engine overhaul and rebuild
- Fuel Injection system cleaning
- Cooling system flush and repair
- Transmission overhaul and rebuild
- Regular scheduled maintenance and repair
- Official Smog check and certification
- Official Brake and Lamp inspection and certification
- Emission related advanced diagnostics and repair
- Check engine light diagnostics and repair
- And.....much, much more.



**Just ask.**



# Kids' Page!

## WordFind – Streets in Franklin Hills

<b>C</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>U</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>E</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Z</b>
<b>V</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>P</b>

These street names can be found up or down, sideways, or diagonally

BATES  
CAMERO  
TALMADGE  
LYRIC  
FRANKLIN  
CLAYTON  
MYRA  
SUNSET

CUMBERLAND  
PROSPECT  
CLAREMONT  
TRACY  
UDELL  
MAYVIEW  
SANBORN

ANSWERS ON PAGE 21

SERVING THE FRANKLIN HILLS

## HI-TECH AUTOMOTIVE

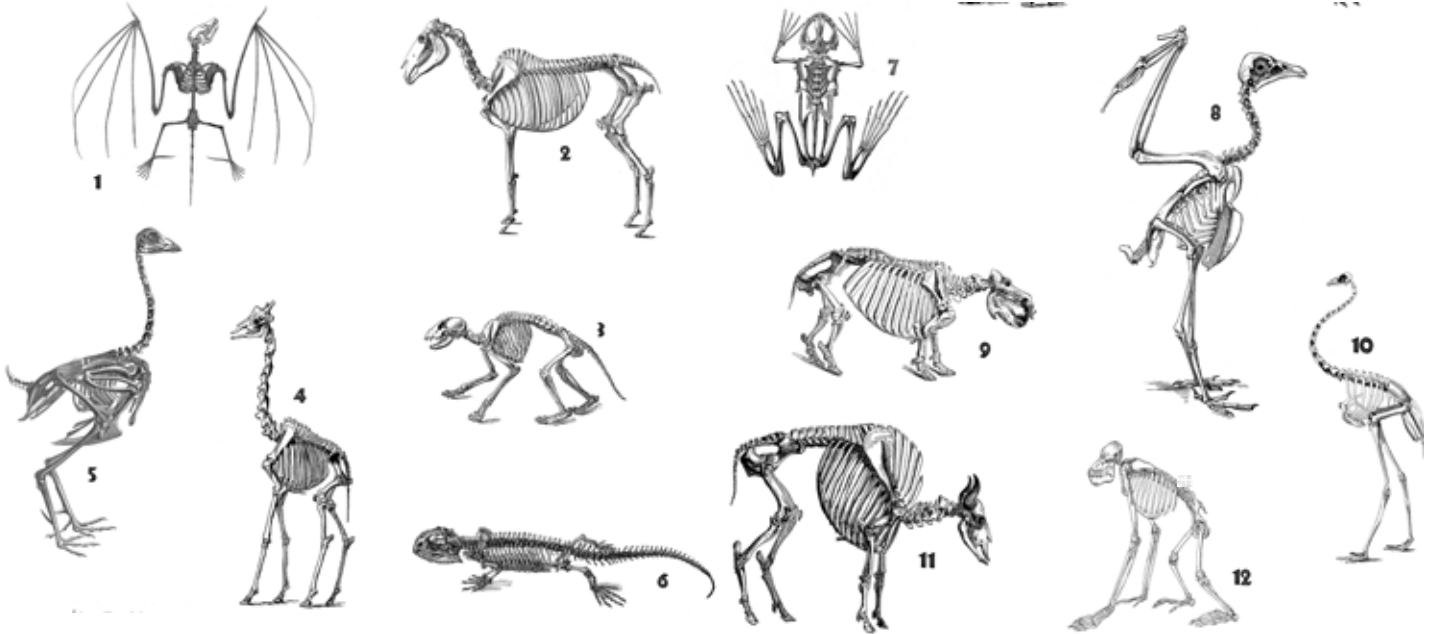
SPECIALIZING IN FOREIGN & DOMESTIC AUTOMOBILES

4000 FOUNTAIN AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90029  
PHONE: 323-661-2788 - FAX: 323-661-0058



# Kids' Page!

## FHRA's Wild Kingdom



Many different animals and birds are part of our neighborhood. Some live in Griffith Park. Some live in the L.A. zoo or along the L.A. River. Others can be found in our backyards or on nearby farms.

Can you match the creatures listed below with their skeletons?

**HORSE**  
**BAT**  
**RACCOON**  
**ORANGUTAN**  
**CHICKEN**  
**GIRAFFE**  
**HIPPOPOTAMUS**  
**FROG**  
**LIZARD**  
**BISON**  
**VULTURE**  
**FLAMINGO**

ANSWERS ON PAGE 21

### LOS FELIZ LOCK & KEY SERVICE

24 Hour emergency service • Auto lock specialists •

Locks installed

Combinations changed • Master Keying  
 Residential • Commercial

AFTER 45 YEARS AT THE SAME LOCATION  
 WE HAVE MOVED AROUND THE CORNER TO

4655 Russell Avenue, South of Franklin Avenue

**(323) 663-8351**



*Artisan Tree Company*

2658 Griffith Park Blvd., #178  
 Los Angeles CA 90039  
 Professional Arbor Care  
 Diagnosis  
 Treatment  
 Deep Root Fertilization  
 MARK BRUNA  
 IS a Certified Arborist WC - 5298

Pruning  
 Removals

ACCIDENT - continued from page 12

The FHRA has received messages of concern over the death. One St. George Street resident wrote: "We LOVED Maria when she was our carrier. What can we as individuals do?" 90027 manager Perez says that messages for the family can be sent to: Postmaster 90027, c/o Maria Gutierrez LA, CA 90027 and they will be forwarded to the family. It's not even necessary to attach postage, he said. If you wish to send money to Maria's family, checks should be made to her mother Maria Sosa. The FHRA will forward any messages we receive. Perez went on to say that he and his staff have been heartened by the response from many in the neighborhood. "It's really good to hear from the community. It goes to show the make up of the community."

And we've heard about the long standing problems with speeding traffic on Hyperion. One resident wrote: "I will never forget awakening to the screams of the woman who saw her sister killed in the passenger seat after a traffic accident in almost the same place as the mail carrier. The debris from traffic accidents on Hyperion is a weekly occurrence."

Another wrote: "There are ongoing accidents along Hyperion nearly daily. Usually all of them are major accidents because of the many blind curves in the road and the speed of the drivers. In the past year I recall 3 deaths, two telephone pole replacements, three bus stop benches/shelters destroyed, and two building structures being hit, all due to high speed accidents along Hyperion."

The FHRA along with the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council have called on the city's Department of Transportation to conduct a full study of Hyperion and Fountain to identify what changes can bring more safety.

## Discount Medical Pharmacy

most insurance plans accepted  
free delivery in local areas

Phone: 323-661-8366

Fax 323-661-0538

2716 Griffith Park Boulevard  
Los Angeles CA 90027

## Lyric Preschool

2328 Hyperion Ave • 323. 667.2275  
www.lyricpreschool.com

- nurturing environment
- creative play
- home-style lunches
- serving silverlake & los feliz since 1965



## Coyote Tracks - Fall, 2008

by George Grace – e-mail: gmrnet1@gmrnet.com

Report your coyote sighting at: [www.gmrnet.com/Coyotea.html](http://www.gmrnet.com/Coyotea.html)

The Los Angeles Times' October 8th report that a jogger in Griffith Park was bitten by a coyote illustrates the hazard created by park visitors who deliberately feed coyotes, or leave garbage behind when



they leave the Park. Quoting Chief Park Ranger Albert Torres about the incident: "the coyote was responding to feeding by other park patrons," he said. "The coyote expected to get fed." Over the past few months coyotes have been becoming bolder because people have been feeding them, which is "actually changing their behavior," Torres said. Humans "are not doing the coyotes a service" by doing so, he said. The 25 year old woman was not seriously injured. We should all keep in mind that feeding coyotes in the Park and in the neighborhood hurts coyotes and us as well.

17 new coyote sightings have been posted on the FHRA website since May 20, 2008. 12 of these were in Griffith Park. There was one sighting recorded from the Franklin Hills area. Personally, I haven't seen a coyote on the Hill in several months, but I'll bet that some of you did. Please share your sighting with us. The FHRA coyote sighting site is the only place in Los Angeles that collects information about local coyotes and reports it to the neighborhood. Your anecdotal data tells an interesting story of coyote/human encounters in an urban setting.

Here are reports of some reported sightings:

05-19-2008 – 7PM. Griffith Park (Canyon Drive entrance). There were 5 coyotes next to the parking lot, crossing the road. They looked really thin and it seemed they were looking for water/food.

06-21-08 - Griffith Park Drive and Mineral Wells Road. The sighting occurred at approximately 7:30PM. The coyotes were rummaging through trash, one appeared to be carrying a food bag.

06-28-08 - Crystal Springs Drive and off street parking lot near merry go round.

(continued on page 19)

COYOTES - continued from page 18

We saw 1 coyote just hanging out in the parking lot. Very calm. Healthy looking. We left and heard a pack of screaming coyotes on Griffith Park Drive in between 5 S/N Fwy and Los Feliz

07-01-2008 - On zoo drive just west of Victory. I have seen this coyote every morning for the past three weeks. I cut through this small section of the park and it is always there standing by the side of the road. Today I decided to pull over and take a picture of the coyote. It came running right up to my car. I can only assume people have been feeding it. I don't think it will hurt anyone but I'm worried it might get hurt.

08-03-200- Upper Merry-go-round parking lot. 9:00 - 9:45pm 4 adults and 2 pups. 1 pup appeared quite small, the other was a "teenager." They went back and forth from the brush above, to the parking lot, down to a lower parking lot. They ignored us and we were fascinated by their activities. The middle-sized one looked over the guard rail to observe something in the lot below. Mom maybe? This area was clearly their turf.

09-20-2008- 2650 N. Commonwealth Ave. The Commonwealth Nursery cul-de-sac. 1:20pm He was standing at the edge of the cul-de-sac howling away for around 15 minutes. He was apparently bothered by a neighbor's dog who was accidentally locked outside his gate.

09-24-2008 - Was visiting the Griffith Observatory on 09-24-2008 I howled at him and he returned the gesture (No Kidding). He was running on the sidewalk.

What I read in most of these reports is pretty simple. Our coyotes are hungry, opportunistic, and look pretty sad when begging for a handout. Even so, resist the temptation to feed them. Let's hope for a decent rainy season that will restore burn areas, and create habitat to sustain all Griffith Park wildlife.

For more information on urban wildlife, visit Los Angeles Animal Services website. You can read or download brochures that describe our local wildlife, and provides invaluable information to make us wildlife (and coyote) literate. [www.laanimalservices.com/aboutani\\_wildlife.htm](http://www.laanimalservices.com/aboutani_wildlife.htm)

We should keep in mind that times are tough for coyotes and all Griffith Park wildlife. You can volunteer to help restore the wildlife habitat that was lost in last year's fire. Send me an e-mail at [gmrnet1@gmrnet.com](mailto:gmrnet1@gmrnet.com) and I will forward information about how you can help.

## The Griffith Park Communities Relay For Life is Coming in June

By Mary Frances Smith-Reynolds

Griffith Park, our neighborhood's beloved backyard, will be the site of the Relay For Life - Griffith Park Communities on June 6 and 7, 2009. Relay For Life, a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, will take place from 8 am Saturday to 8 am Sunday.

Teams participating in this non-competitive walk and camp-out, will have members walking in shifts for 24 hours, as a reminder that cancer never sleeps. Participants will celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer; remember loved ones lost to cancer; and fight back against a disease that continues to affect millions.

Since 1985, Relay For Life events have sprung up in 20 countries around the world. Just in California this year, Relay For Life took place in 313 communities and raised over \$28 million. Relay For Life is the largest annual not-for-profit fundraising event in the world.



### IF YOU CAN PERSONALIZE YOUR HOUSE, SHOULDN'T YOU BE ABLE TO DO THE SAME WITH YOUR INSURANCE?

With our new Farmers Next Generation<sup>SM</sup> Homeowners Policy, now you have the options to tailor your coverage to fit your particular needs. After all, we believe you deserve a policy that's as unique as you are. To find out more about the benefits of our new policy, contact me today.

Rodney Middelkamp  
Insurance Agent  
Middelkamp Insurance Agency  
323-660-6433

[insurenwla@aol.com](mailto:insurenwla@aol.com)



**FARMERS**

Gets you back where you belong.<sup>SM</sup>

# Water, Water Everywhere? But Not a Drop to Waste

By Bruce Carroll

Although we are heading into the rainy season and last year LA had nearly normal rainfall, drought conditions continue in the areas from which the L.A. Department of Water & Power imports most of its water. So in August the city imposed restrictions on water use that should change at least some of the habits of many Franklin Hills residents. Listed below is what the city calls Phase I of the water use plan. You don't want to sink to Phases II & III which have much more restrictive rules. But if you want to see what happens if the rules below don't work you can go to [www.FranklinHills.org](http://www.FranklinHills.org) and click on "water conservation."

## Among the practices that are now illegal:

### Don't wash your driveway or deck...

*"No customer of the Department shall use a water hose to wash any hard or paved surfaces including, but not limited to, sidewalks, walkways, driveways, and parking areas, except that, flammable or other dangerous substances may be, if otherwise permitted by law, disposed of by direct hose flushing for the benefit of public health and safety. This section shall not apply to Department-approved water conserving spray cleaning devices. A simple spray nozzle does not qualify."*

### Adjust your sprinklers...

*"No customer of the Department shall water or irrigate lawn, landscape, or other vegetated areas between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Sprinklers shall be limited to no more than ten (10) minutes per watering day per station. Exempt from these landscape irrigation restrictions are irrigation systems using very low-flow drip-type irrigation when no emitter produces more than 2 gallons of water per hour."*

*"No customer of the Department shall water or irrigate any lawn, landscape, or other vegetated area in a manner that causes or allows excess or continuous water flow or runoff onto an adjoining sidewalk, driveway, street, gutter or ditch."*

*"No customer of the Department shall irrigate during periods of rain."*

### Car washing...

*"No customer of the Department shall wash a vehicle with a hose if the hose does not have a self-closing water shut-off or device attached to it, or otherwise allow a hose to run continuously while washing a vehicle."*

### Plumbing leaks...

*"No customer of the Department shall permit water to leak from any pipe or fixture on the customer's premises; failure or refusal to affect a timely repair of any leak of which the customer knows or has reason to know shall subject said customer to all penalties provided herein for a prohibited use of water."*

Penalties for failure to follow the rules range from a warning notice for first time violations to surcharges on your water bill starting at \$100, up to \$300. After the 5th violation within a year "the Department may install a flow restricting device of one gallon per minute capacity...or terminate service," but only after a hearing.

Let's all do our part to conserve...and perhaps pray for lots of rain and snow in northern California and the Colorado River basin where LA gets nearly all of the water we use.



*Michelangelo*  
RISTORANTE

2742 Rowena Ave  
Los Angeles, CA 90039  
Tel: (323) 660-4843

[michelangelo-silverlake.com](http://michelangelo-silverlake.com)



# Kids' Page Answers!

## Word Find - Street Names

<b>C</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>U</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>L</b>			<b>A</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>E</b>		<b>C</b>					<b>Y</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>A</b>		<b>B</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C</b>		<b>R</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>I</b>		<b>E</b>		<b>T</b>	<b>E</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>			<b>P</b>	<b>E</b>	
<b>D</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Y</b>				<b>S</b>	
	<b>C</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>O</b>
		<b>N</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>A</b>
	<b>S</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>P</b>

## Wild Kingdom

- |             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1 - BAT     | 7 - FROG       |
| 2 - HORSE   | 8 - VULTURE    |
| 3 - RACCOON | 9 - HIPPO      |
| 4 - GIRAFFE | 10 - FLAMINGO  |
| 5 - CHICKEN | 11 - BISON     |
| 6 - LIZARD  | 12 - ORANGUTAN |

We provide comprehensive eye exams for adults and children, treat common and rare eye diseases, and fit all types of contact lenses. Come see our large selection of frames. we accept most insurances.

# Optical Solution Optometry

2843 Hyperion Avenue  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90027  
323.663.6755

**When you patronize our advertisers,  
And we hope that's often,  
Please tell them who sent you!**

### COMPLETE GARDENING SERVICES

Jesus Sanchez, Gardener  
(818) 896-9331

Franklin Hills references available

### JOSEPH KLICE PIANO STUDIO

Nationally Certified Teacher of Music  
3984 Prospect Avenue  
Los Angeles CA 90027  
lessons in the piano studio or in your home

323 665 2386  
cellular: 323 428 1621  
e-mail: josephklice@sbcglobal.net

# YUCA'S

**ON HOLLYWOOD**

Now open for breakfast, lunch & dinner  
8 am to 9 pm  
mon-sat  
(closed sun & holidays)

Check out our expanded menu & vegetarian items  
We can cater your parties & special events

4666 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90027  
T 323.661.0523 F 323.661.4523 (fax & curbside pick-up) www.yucasla.com



# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No. 1

FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 1990

## ABC-TV SAYS NO EXPANSION

Meetings are continuing on a regular basis between heads of West Coast operations of ABC-TV and representatives of the communities surrounding the Prospect-Talmadge production lot known as ABC Television Center. FHRA representatives Don Waldrop, Lola Cashman and Sandra Harper have met on several occasions with ABC Vice President Roger Lund and Plant Manager John Yingling in conferences facilitated by Mike Woo deputy Valeria Velasco.

Discussions initially centered on ABC's Ten Year Strategic Plan which had alarmed Franklin Hills residents with plans for a 280,000 sq. ft. office building, two new soundstages, additional parking areas and expanded warehouse space. According to V.P. Lund, ABC has no plans to do any further enlarging — the 10 year plan was simply a way of dealing with requests from the city for planning information on which to base the revised Hollywood Community plan.



FHRA new board of directors. *Front row, left to right:* Bryant Crouse, Lola Cashman; *Middle row:* Violet Weber, Sandra Harper, Jim Churchill, Jessica Tachibana; *Back row:* Jack Lieberman, Lothar Von Schoenborn, Tony Michaelis, Robert Kerr and Don Waldrop.

## FHRA BOARD OFFICIALLY ELECTED

## WE'VE EXPANDED!

*Check out our beautiful new store offering the finest books on the arts. It's right next door to where you can still find amazing cards, children's books, and our eclectic selection of literature.*



# SKYLIGHT Books

1818 N. Vermont Ave Los Angeles CA 90027  
(between Hollywood Blvd and Franklin Ave)  
T: (323) 660-1175 F: (323) 660-0232  
Open daily 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

[www.skylightbooks.com](http://www.skylightbooks.com)



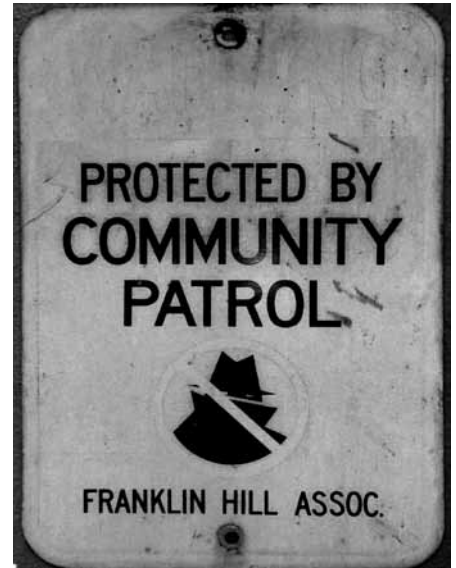
# FHRA About To Turn 20

2009 will be the FHRA's 20th year. We were officially created in October of 1989 at a public meeting where the first board members were elected (as shown in the first FHRA Newsletter on page 22 to the left).

The big neighborhood issue was a fear of a huge view blocking, traffic clogging expansion by the ABC-TV studios, now known as Prospect Studios.

Even before the FHRA was born there was another group, founded by Mary Orr, primarily as a neighborhood watch. They put up many warning signs, like the one pictured here, which was rescued recently by Prospect Avenue resident Dean Konno who keeps a close eye on his area. When he saw DWP workers about to replace the utility pole that had supported the sign for decades he asked them to save the it. It used to have big red and white lettering at the top that said "WARNING."

It's people following the tradition of the FHRA founders, Orr, and the many who have served in the past two decades whose commitment is needed to keep the FHRA going. We currently have 2 vacant positions on the Board of Directors. If you'd like to do more for your community, just e-mail, call or write the FHRA.



**JUST LISTED!**

2301 Ronda Vista Drive

energy | enthusiasm | experience

"SERVING THE FRANKLIN HILLS FOR 26 YEARS"

www.2301RondaVistaDrive.com

Karen Weiss   Ross Carter  
323 - 210 -1421

www.franklinhillsnews.com

We need your membership, but if you can't bear the thought of tearing the coupon below out of this issue of Overview you can go to our website: [www.FranklinHills.org](http://www.FranklinHills.org) and click on "Join FHRA" and you'll get an FHRA membership form that you can print and mail.

**FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. BOX 29122, LOS ANGELES, CA 90029

DATE \_\_\_\_\_  NEW    RENEWAL

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TEL (H) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ TEL (W) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ TEL (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

I'm willing to help in:    Planning /Zoning    Graffiti    Crime/Gangs    Traffic    Library- Tutoring    Newsletter

Historic Preservation    Environmental    Youth Activities    Public Relations    Prospect/ABC-TV    legal

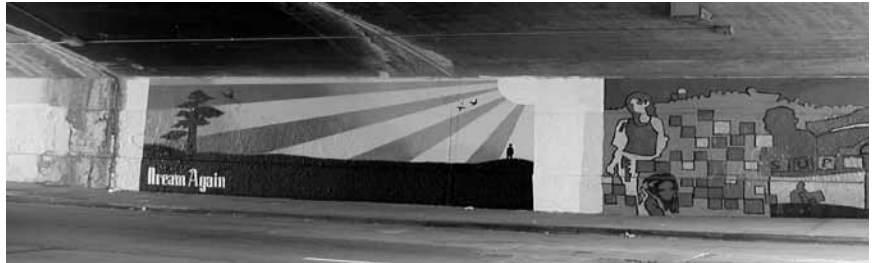
Telephone tree    Membership    Beautification    Disaster Prep    other \_\_\_\_\_

DUES are \$30.00 per couple or \$15.00 per person; AMOUNT ENCLOSED:  \$15    \$30    \$50 larger contributions are extremely welcome.   Thank you for joining FHRA!   Contributions are tax deductible.

# The Myra Avenue Mural Project - Caught in Red Tape!

by Peter Bedard MA, C.Ht.

It has been a very disappointing time for the Myra Avenue Mural Project. Our teacher sponsor and the students at Thomas Starr King Middle School have been ready to move forward on our fourth mural in the Myra Avenue Underpass but the city can't seem to figure out what to do with maintaining and permitting them. A moratorium on murals city wide has been in effect for nearing a year now. The city transferred jurisdiction of murals into a new department and this department started to paint them over saying they couldn't tell the difference between a mural and advertising...sounds unbelievable but true. They still haven't come up with a solution so we wait.



In the meantime, if you would like to donate towards our fourth mural we welcome the boost in funds. We look forward to jumping ahead once the city finally figures out the difference between a mural approved by stringent rules and a permitting process in the Cultural Affairs Department and advertising. Remember, all donations on behalf of the Myra Avenue Mural Project are tax deductible and directly affect the look of our neighborhood as well as the kids here at Thomas Starr King (TSK). We hope to be unveiling our next mural contest with the kids at TSK in the Spring...keep your finger's crossed!

## Your Realtor For The Franklin Hills...Selling Fine Homes In Your Neighborhood!



### Mid-Century Architectural

Offered for \$1,268,000

Walls of glass to enjoy the wonderful natural lighting and scenic views in this four bedroom, three bath stunning architectural home. Dramatic living room with fireplace, formal dining room with city views, fabulous cook's kitchen, huge center island and large breakfast area. Master suite with private bath and balcony. Polished concrete and hardwood floors. Wonderful privacy. Great city and hillside views, several terraced patio's and lush landscaping. A stunning home that you will fall in love with.

### OVERVIEW

### FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 29122, Los Angeles, CA 90029

