



# OVERVIEW

## FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Issue n° 59

### Neighbors Who Inspire Us

Spring / Summer 2020



**FHRA ANNUAL MEETING**

Online & Virtual! ☆  
 Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>  
 10 AM to Noon

☆ See page 4

KATHERINE REED





# President's Message

## Community Partners Inspire

**Shirley Mims**

We hope that this finds you well amidst the fallout of the Coronavirus pandemic. This issue of the *Overview* and the annual meeting were being planned when the health crisis hit Los Angeles. We made some adjustments to try and adapt to the fast acting daily changes that have been taking place. The board moved to meeting online with Zoom. This year's annual meeting will also be a virtual one, a first for the FHRA.

The theme of this issue is **Neighbors Who Inspire Us**. In no other time have I seen so many people step up to help out. We are all in this together. In this issue you will find statements from several board and community members in the Franklin Hills that share their perspective on the COVID-19 health crisis and how it has impacted us here at home.

Over the years, I've worked with many of you, my neighbors and city constituents, 100's of you I'm sure. This is a big community and we have a lot of active people who are engaged in volunteering and helping out. What stands out to me is your dedication and enthusiasm to make our neighborhood a better place to live. It has inspired me to step up and serve since I moved here over 25 years ago.

All of my neighbors inspire me... those of you who have time to volunteer for FHRA events, those of you who have an idea that will enhance our quality of life, all of you who wish us well when we announce a new project or clean up event. I am especially inspired today by the many neighbors who have called to check on me, asked about how to reach out to the community at large, and to offer a friendly hello. As mutual good neighbors, the FHRA stands ready to hear your concerns and help you act on them.



CHRIS BOUTELLE (L) AND ERIC FRASE (R) TAKE THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS OUT OF FHRA STORAGE TO PUT UP ON THE SHAKESPEARE BRIDGE

FHRA is blessed to have good relationships with its neighbors, local schools, agencies and businesses. City agencies and local businesses further inspire me when they wholeheartedly step up to support the FHRA, which they do. We have had several strong supporters over the years. I especially appreciate LILA, LAPD, and our **council office**.

*(continued on page 14)*



CAPTAIN ARTURO SANDOVAL (R), INTRODUCES SLO JESSE AISPURO (L) AS HE TAKES THE TORCH FROM SLO LENNY DAVIS (C) AT THE 2019 FHRA ANNUAL MEETING AT LILA



CHRIS BOUTELLE AND SHAWN SITES SET UP A LADDER TO DECORATE THE SHAKESPEARE BRIDGE, ELIZABETH RICHARDSON HOLDS THE STOP/SLOW SIGN TO DIRECT TRAFFIC



CHARLEY MIMS AND ELIZABETH RICHARDSON AT FHRA'S TABLE AT LAST YEAR'S LOS FELIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL [LFNC] ELECTION

# In This Issue:

President's Message	2
Median Garden Update	4
FHRA Annual Meeting	4
Craig and Dave Cowie	6
Neighborhood Contacts	7
Charley Mims is Retiring	8
COVID-19 in the Franklin Hills	9
Pearl Yonezawa	11
Tree Neighbors	12
Become a Median Maven	15
Magic in Franklin Hills	16
FHRA Helping Residents	18
Prevent Climate Change	19
Fall Plantings under the Bridge	20
Coyotes and Skunks	21
David Ahrendts	22
FHRA Membership Form	23



## Board Members

Shirley Mims (President)  
Chris Boutelle (Chairman)  
Alison Wallace (Vice-President)  
David McDonald (Treasurer)  
Elizabeth Richardson (Secretary)  
Eric Frase  
Charley Mims  
Carole Nese  
Cesar Quinones  
Alix Soubiran  
Melinda Taylor

## Contributors

Chris Boutelle	Shirley Mims
Suzanne Carney	Carole Nese
Cameron Fedderman	David Padilla
George Grace	Katherine Reed
Dora Herrera	Elizabeth Richardson
Rick LaRocca	Alexandra Rowe
Steve Meek	Melinda Taylor
Charley Mims	Mia Trachinger
	Alison Wallace



# CHI DYNASTY

EST. 1983



AUTHENTIC CHINESE  
CUISINE WITH A  
CONTEMPORARY FLAIR.

SERVING LOS FELIZ  
FOR OVER 30 YEARS.  
FAMILY OWNED  
AND OPERATED



1813 HILLHURST AVE • FULL BAR • DINE-IN • TAKEOUT • DELIVERY

(323) 667-3388 ORDER ONLINE CHIDYNASTY.COM FAX 323-667-3393



# Median Garden Update

February 15, 2020

Melinda Taylor

Many of you Franklin Hills residents may have driven by the Median Garden sometime on Saturday morning, February 15<sup>th</sup>, and may already have seen some of the activities that will be described in this article. But for those who didn't, please find below my summary of the morning's events, during which Harper Tree pruned many of the median's trees, and removed three of the median's palm trees, all of which were seedlings that had established themselves in spaces that caused problems of access or visibility for drivers and pedestrians.

The day started at 8:00, and work started in the tallest tree, a Mexican Fan Palm, *Washingtonia robusta*. By 8:08 one of the workers had climbed far up its skinny trunk, and minutes later pieces of mature palm fronds could be seen sailing through the sky. Meanwhile, other workers had begun climbing the California Fan Palms, *Washingtonia filifera*, are shorter in height and broader in trunk stature than their Mexican relatives.

Strangely enough, when trying to remember both palms' name, if you remember that the one named "robusta" is actually the skinny one and the one with the fat trunk is "filifera" you're there. "Filifera" means 'thread-bearing, and its fan-shaped leaves, 3-6' across, have threads hanging from the margins of each leaf segment.



CLIMBING THE MEXICAN FAN PALM  
(WASHINGTONIA ROBUSTA)



CLOSEUP OF THE "THREADS" OF THE CALIFORNIA FAN PALM  
(WASHINGTONIA FILIFERA)

You can't see the movement between photos that I can see on my phone photos, but this photo shows the moment when one of the workers moved from the trunk of the *W. robusta* (the tall skinny palm) to an adjacent *W. filifera*. He didn't bother to go down to the ground after finishing trimming of the robusta; he just swung from it over to the filifera.



SWINGING FROM PALM TO PALM

There is no amount of money a person could pay me to do this, but when I wasn't sure if I got this photo, the man on the trunk swung back from the filifera to the robusta and repeated the move so I could be sure I had a photo of it. You can see him almost attached to the *W. filifera* tree here.

(continued on page 5)

## FHRA Annual Meeting

Online and Virtual!  
Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>  
10 AM to Noon

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, FHRA has decided to hold its annual meeting this year in a virtual format. You will be able to log in to attend by video on your computer or call in to hear with your phone.

Details will be sent by email. Be sure you are signed up for FHRA alerts. Not sure? Send an email to [fhra@franklinhills.org](mailto:fhra@franklinhills.org) and ask to be added. Or call, (323) 908-6078 and leave a message.



(Median Update, continued from page 4)

The *W. filifera* center is a delicious food. Below is a closeup of what you can find sometimes fresh, sometimes canned, as hearts of palm.

During pruning Harper Tree and I saw an opportunity for another big change. With Harper Tree's large crew of men and equipment, we could move a few of the big Agaves on the flat area of the garden into the spaces previously filled by palms.

It was an opportunity too good to miss. We moved three Agaves, each weighing more than 300 pounds, from the west side of the median to the east.



## Your Neighbor and Local Realtor



Rowe | Tzadik Group

Alexandra Rowe  
Realtor®  
310.405.5286  
alexandra.rowe@compass.com  
DRE 02071574



FRESH HEARTS OF PALM

Now sight lines are improved, and the Median Garden is looking better than ever. I'm grateful to Harper Tree for the great work they did, and hope you are too.

So many thanks to everyone who has supported the Median Management Fund for making this safety measure possible. Please continue to support keeping the garden healthy and safe by contributing at [www.franklinhills.org/median](http://www.franklinhills.org/median).



📷: MELINDA TAYLOR (ALL PHOTOS)



UNLOADING AND PLANTING 300 LB. AGAVE

## Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch helps fight crime!!

To help keep our neighborhoods safe, join a Neighborhood Watch group on your street, report suspicious activity, and sign up for **FHRA** alerts at [fhra@franklinhills.org](mailto:fhra@franklinhills.org).

## About The Overview

**The Overview** is a semi-annual publication created and distributed by volunteer residents, neighbors, friends, and supporters of the Franklin Hills Residents Association, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization

[FHRA@franklinhills.org](mailto:FHRA@franklinhills.org)  
323-908-6078 voicemail/fax

Editor – Elizabeth Richardson  
Layout Designer – David Padilla  
Cover Designer – Katherine Reed

Ad Sales - Chris Boutelle  
[ads@franklinhills.org](mailto:ads@franklinhills.org)  
323-309-3434

 [@franklinhills](https://www.instagram.com/franklinhills)

 [@franklin\\_hills](https://twitter.com/franklin_hills)

 [www.franklinhills.org](http://www.franklinhills.org)

# Craig and Dave Cowie

## Neighbors Who Inspire Us

Steve Meek

At the base of the Franklin Hills, the Baller Hardware/Cowie family has a 60-year reputation of being a good neighbor.

In the late 60's or early 70's, popular community restaurant Casita del Campo suffered devastating fire damage. Owner, actor/dancer Rudy del Campo of the film "West Side Story," came to Ed and Edith Baller requesting long term credit to help them rebuild. Ed and Edith Baller financed their reconstruction on a promissory note. The loan was repaid and they remained lifelong friends.

The morning of the 1994 Northridge Earthquake, Edith's son Chuck Cowie knew he had to open the store even without a functioning cash register. Water heaters were falling all over the city, and there was no electricity. They operated the dark store with flashlights that day. At the time, there were no skylights as there are today.



L-R: CRAIG COWIE, STEPHANIE VENDIG, AND FORMER COUNCILMEMBER TOM LA BONGE IN FRONT OF SHEPARD FAIREY'S MURAL "MAKE ART NOT WAR" AT BALLER ARTWARE : STEVE MEEK

Edith's grandsons, Dave and Craig Cowie, learned their lessons well from their parents and grandparents. The apples hadn't fallen far from the tree. Over the years, they have supported many community programs. This last February, they were a major sponsor of the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Los Silverlake Soccer Invitational to benefit Micheltorena, Franklin and Ivanhoe elementary schools, King Middle School, and Marshall High.

To celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in business, last September 14, they held a community barbecue.

Baller has always supported artists, and with the help of art store manager Carol Blanding, they brought the Shepard Fairey mural, "Make Art Not War" to Tracy Street for the community to enjoy.

Craig Cowie rises before dawn, feeds the horses and the Koi fish, and opens the hardware store at 7:00 AM most mornings. Brother Dave opens on the other days. Craig's also done his best for the environment, even through challenging bureaucracy. Some of the local recycling centers can't seem to understand that he's not personally generating the waste; instead he's collecting it from the community, so we don't have to go to those centers so frequently. Neighbors who inspire go above and beyond.

Whenever we meet someone who inspires us to do good for others, it's like a small stone in a pond. Even small acts of random kindness spread faster and further than things that divide us. Sometimes it's just the small things that all of us can do that add up to a kinder community, a kinder America.

[Ed. Note: A Franklin Hills neighbor, Steve Meek published the Los Feliz & Silver Lake Community Guide for 13 years. You can find it on Facebook.]





**They matter to me.**

**Tara Casares, Agent**  
 Insurance Lic#: 0K06933  
 1670 Hillhurst Avenue #102  
 Los Angeles, CA 90027  
 Bus: 323-522-3066

I get it. Your home and car are more than just things. They're where you make your memories and they deserve the right protection. It's why I'm here.  
**LET'S TALK TODAY.**



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company  
 State Farm Fire and Casualty Company  
 Bloomington, IL

1706814



# Neighborhood Contacts

City of LA Contacts	
City Services	
	☎ 311
	✉ 311@lacity.org
Hours M-F	7am-7pm
Hours Sat - Sun	8:30 am-4:45 pm
Animal Services	☎ (888) 452-7381
Dead Animal Pickup (Sanitation)	extension 2
Lost Animals	extension 2
Barking Dogs	extension 3
Building & Safety Violations	☎ (213) 473-3231
Parking Enforcement (DOT)	☎ (213) 485-4184
Council District 4	
	☎ (213) 473-7004
Councilmember David E. Ryu (CD4)	✉ david.ryu@lacity.org
	☎ (213) 473-2311
Field Deputy	☎ (323) 957-6415
Rachel Fox	✉ rachel.fox@lacity.org
Graffiti Removal	☎ 311
Homeless Services	☎ 211
LA County Info Line	☎ 211
Mayor Eric Garcetti, City of Los Angeles	
Central Area Representative	☎ (213) 978-0430
Angie Aramayo	✉ angie.aramayo@lacity.org
Neighborhood Prosecutor	☎ (213) 978-2230 or (323) 561-3403
Gabrielle Taylor	✉ gabrielle.taylor@lacity.org

Utilities	
Dig Alert (call before digging)	☎ 811
LADWP	☎ 1-800-DIAL-DWP (1-800-342-5397)
SoCalGas (inc. leak reporting)	☎ 1-800-427-2200
Sanitation	
Trash Bin Replacement	☎ (800) 773-2489x1
Bulky Item Removal	☎ (800) 773-2489x1

Community Contacts	
FHRA	☎ (323) 908-6078 ✉ FHRA@franklinhills.org
LAUSD	
LAUSD School Police	☎ (213) 625-6631
Marshall High School - Main#	☎ (323) 671-1400
King Middle School - Main#	☎ (323) 644-6700
Los Feliz Public Library	☎ (323) 913-4710
Lycée International de Los Angeles (LILA)	☎ (323) 665-4526 ✉ losfeliz@lilaschool.com
Prospect Studios	
Janet Campus, Production Services	☎ (323) 671-4022
Prospect Studio Security Shift Leader	☎ (323) 203-5201
Juan Lomeli	☎ (818) 560-1520
Security Operations Program Manager	

Emergency Services	
LAFD	
Fire Department: Emergency	☎ 911
Non-Emergency	☎ (213) 485-6185
Fire Station 35: 1601 Hillhurst	☎ (213) 485-6235
Fire Station 56: 2759 Rowena	☎ (213) 485-6256
Poison Control	☎ (800) 222-1222
LAPD	
Police Department, Emergency	☎ 911
Police Department, Northeast Division.	☎ (323) 561-3211
	☎ (213) 793-0763
Sr. Lead Officer Jesse Aispuro	✉ 36072@lapd.online
	☎ (213) 793-0762
Sr. Lead Officer Lenny Davis	✉ 26028@lapd.online
Non-Emergency	☎ (877) ASK-LAPD or (877) 275-5273
Gang Problems	☎ (323) 561-3335
Noise Enforcement	☎ (213) 996-1251
Rape Hotline	☎ (310) 392-8381
Restraining Orders	✉ www.lapdonline.org

## New, Newer, Newest!

### New Price!

5160 Linwood Drive  
Laughlin Park



High in celebrity-favored, gated Laughlin Park, this home enjoys wrap-around city, hills and Griffith Park views. Four bedrooms on the top floor, plus guest/maid's suite and service rooms on the bottom floor with outside entrance; pool; sunroom/den with Palladian windows on three sides plus fireplace; 3-car garage Unforgettable...

www.5160linwood.com

Reduced: \$5,250,000

3500 Griffith Park Bl.  
North of the Boulevard

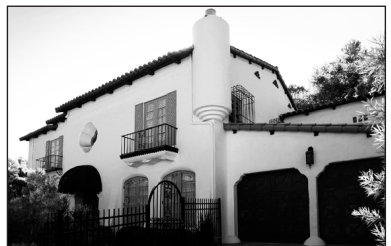


Open the great arched front door and find vintage Mediterranean character from a golden era melding with handsome updates. At the rear: a permitted, approximately 1,125 square foot, two-story, detached studio/guest house/3-car garage with tremendous potential.

www.3500griffithpark.com

\$2,400,000

5432 Red Oak Drive  
The Los Feliz Oaks



Discover this authentic Spanish Revival home in the celebrity-favored Los Feliz Oaks. Ornate plasterwork; wrought iron; quarry tile flooring; original art tile. Meticulously maintained and updated. 3,955 square feet on a huge 19,678 square foot double lot with drive-on compound potential. 3 bedrooms; 3.5 baths. Expect to be impressed...

www.5432redoak.com

\$3,450,000



### Richard Stanley

#1 Agent - Coldwell Banker, Los Feliz  
Estates Director  
Architectural and Historic Properties

rstanley@richardstanleyrealtor.com  
213 300-4567 cell / voice mail



©2020 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. Coldwell Banker is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Owned and operated by NRT LLC. All rights reserved. If your property is listed with another broker, this is not intended as a solicitation. DRE# 00971211

# Charley Mims is Retiring

## ...from the FHRA Board

A couple of years after his late wife and Charley moved into the neighborhood they received a notice of a meeting of the Franklin Hills Residents Association to be held in the John Marshall High School Theater. They attended and discovered that the recently formed FHRA was holding elections for their Board of Directors. When the Chair of the meeting asked for nominations from the floor, Charley's wife stood up and nominated him! He gave a brief statement regarding his background and desire to be part of a friendly neighborhood and was immediately elected. That was 30 years ago.

Over the years Charley served as President and later as FHRA Chair. During his tenure on the Board, he served on the Committee that developed and implemented a plan to remove the asphalt between the curbs on the Franklin Avenue Median Island, to install a landscape irrigation system, and to place a boulder with a plaque honoring the late husband of a major donor to this effort. The plan could not have been achieved without the help of our City Councilman, President John Ferraro and the Board of Public Works. Today the Median is one of the signature features of our Franklin Hills community.

When FHRA discovered a federation of residents for the Santa Monica Mountains (the Federation of Hillside and Canyons Association or the Hillside Federation for short) they asked Charley to represent them on the Hillside Federation's Board. Today, he serves as its President.

Over the years Charley has participated in cleanups of our public stairway system within the Franklin Hills, helped to paint out graffiti and worked with the Bureau of Street Services to repair and maintain our streets. Time and again, he's been there when the call went out for volunteers.

### Chris Boutelle

Although Charley Mims is "retiring" from the Board, he will continue to help with cleanups, to facilitate communications with City departments and to be available to share advice and FHRA history to anyone who asks. Always involved, Charley will continue to serve on the Board of the Los Angeles City Historical Society, the Hillside Federation, his union, SEIU Local 721, and as Executive Director (part time) of the Los Angeles Professional Managers' Association. As if that wasn't busy enough, the Mayor recently asked him to serve on a City commission.



CHARLEY MIMS ON VACATION IN ARKANSAS

📷: SHIRLEY MIMS

With gratitude for all he's done in the past, we count on his deep commitment to our Franklin Hills community in the future and his availability in times of need.



## Thank our Advertisers!

When you visit any of the businesses who advertise in the Overview, please be sure to thank them for their support of the Franklin Hills Residents Association. Advertising helps to pay for this free publication for all the residents of the Franklin Hills.

Please be sure to tell our advertisers that you saw their ad in the **Franklin Hills Overview**.

## About the FHRA

**Mission Statement:** *The FHRA promotes a sense of community by bringing neighbors together to help create a safe and vibrant neighborhood for all!*

**Purpose.** This Association is organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. This Association is a nonprofit public benefit corporation and is not organized for the private gain of any person. It is organized under the Nonprofit Public Benefit Law for public purposes. *(from Bylaws)*

**Objective.** The specific purpose of this Association is to improve the community and the quality of life and promote the common good and general welfare of the people in the Franklin Hills neighborhood. *(from Bylaws)*



# COVID-19 in the Franklin Hills

## A Collaborative Article

### FHRA Board & Community Members

As a hawk flies across my window and lands on top of a neighbor's tree, I am reminded that COVID-19 is not impacting nature, if anything it's making the environment better as we stay home and take care of ourselves. I am grateful for every breath I take that is long and deep. The walks I take are a welcome relief to at least say hello to a neighbor passing by on the other side of the street. – Shirley

From the nightly neighborhood cheers that help remind us there are others near. To the neighbors who have written chalk messages on the street to spread hope. To the house that has left out a basket of lemons, I plan to write a thank you note. We cannot wait to celebrate with you all when this is done, for now remember to check on and be kind to everyone. – Alexandra

Thank you neighbors near and far for the outpouring of good will. My partner is a hospital doctor and has been on the front lines for over a month. It's been a trying time for her and for our household, high stress and anxiety each time she goes in, but the things that have helped us most are the kind gestures and words from our neighbors. Some have donated masks, given us food and others have supported us with their encouraging words, all have helped ease the burden immeasurably, we thank you. I hope that this feeling of community can be sustained long after this difficult time is a memory. – Rick

This is truly a time to be grateful for Franklin Hills - filled with beautiful flowers, secret stairways, expansive views and wonderful neighbors. Tune in to the weekly "cheers" posts on Instagram highlighting our journey and support for one another: [@franklinhills](https://www.instagram.com/franklinhills) – Alison

What I focus on during this historic and extremely challenging time is everything we may have taken for granted before COVID-19. The connections we are making. Virtually and right in our own homes. Taking time to be with our loved ones. Meditating and reflecting on our goals and dreams. Connecting with nature. A great book. Old movies. Our beautiful city that we can't go out and enjoy. Slowing down for just a bit. Being kind and compassionate to neighbors and people in need. Realizing what is actually important in life. I know things will eventually speed up again but I'm really hoping that everyone will bring a little of this lifestyle with them after all is said and done. I know I will. – Cameron

When the overstretch of daily life is taken away - the bluster of work, impromptu plans, jaunty tasks - we see the difference between what we want and what we need. They become the same again, wanting to come together because we all need each other. – Suzanne

(Continued on page 10)



## SHOP ONLINE AT BALLERHARDWARE.COM

**CELEBRATING 60 YEARS!**  
**PLEASE LIKE US ON FACEBOOK**

**HOME IMPROVEMENT • TOOLS  
PAINT • SCREENS • KEYS**

**MON-FRI 7:00AM - 6:00PM**

**SAT 8:00AM - 6:00PM**

**SUN 9:00AM - 4:30PM**

**323-668-7420**

**2505 HYPERION AVE • BALLERHARDWARE.COM**

(COVID-19, continued from page 9)

The exploration of our quiet and safer streets is a new pleasure. The joy of the toddler out for a walk is, for passersby, a journey down memory's lane. With time to explore their street world in safety, every crack, every bug, every flower is wondrous. For teenagers, the opportunity and time to practice their skateboard moves safely is a gift. Neighbors who for work reasons seldom see their own neighbor can reconnect when out on a walk. And to be reminded of the small delights of living in the Franklin Hills. — Elizabeth

Each morning I wake before my alarm and listen for the birds. I wonder if they say the things they've always said. My eyes focus on the sunlight that filters in and creates patterns on my walls.

My time is my own now.

I sit on my floor, I touch the plant next to me. I notice the color palette in its leaves and wonder when that will make its way into one of my paintings. I write in my journal each morning about how I feel and what I want to change. I'll make the most out of today, but not because I'm worried about time running out.

Outside the sun saturates my driveway and I begin to paint.

I hear familiar voices wind their way from my street and up the driveway. I love my neighbors and I feel safe knowing they are close by.

Later when the sky darkens and the blue is injected with pink, the wind brings pockets filled with the scent of jasmine.

Creating art, caring for my neighbors, and feeling thankful to live in this neighborhood fill my heart these days.

On occasion a dark thought of uncertainty winding up from the ground creeps into my consciousness. I visualize a scale where I weigh out the pros and cons. I throw both away. I turn my thoughts to the present moment, and what unnoticed beauty lies there. — Katherine

It's curious working at a school. We're deemed an "essential business", which feels like a heavy, but not unwelcome, designation.

Our school is not technophobic, but our primary role is to impart knowledge and culture through language—much of it through cues webcams can't fully convey, since French culture is one of proximity and codification. Yet, our position is unique. We're teaching our students how to adapt for an uncertain future and guiding our parents to instruct by proxy. The screens before us serve as portals into our home worlds and those brief peeks through them can be just as educational as being face-to-face. We are all learning the value of what we've had and what we're blessed to still have.

This crisis has paused daily rhythms. Many of us have been given a gift; a moment to self-reflect, to reconnect with people with whom we've lost touch, to strengthen our bonds with those we love, and, perhaps, develop new perspectives on old problems. We have an opportunity to come out stronger, mindful, more united... empathetic.

When we emerge from our COVID-cocoons, I look forward to seeing our community and hearing all the new ideas that have been simmering. Hopefully, along the way, we learn what is truly essential in our lives. — David

When the Novel Coronavirus first entered my consciousness, I thought of what we needed to do as individuals, couples, our neighborhood and all the levels of government. It was not until the orders came to be Safer at Home did the full impact hit me. I am active and involved in many organizations. Those first few weeks of staying home were difficult for me. I was going "stir crazy"! But this last week finds me in a state of calm. Shirley has encouraged me to walk the Franklin Hills with her. There is less traffic and more people out and they have all been friendly. Shirley and our neighbors organized a physically distant, but socially close, cocktail party. They were on their deck while we stayed on ours! (more than six feet apart!) Our other friend from across the street

sat on our landing. He came up with the meme of "stay socially close and physically distant". All this reminded me of the joys of slowing down to enjoy our neighborhood, our friends, and each other in these scary times. We all appreciate the response from our City, our County and our State to mitigate the health and economic impacts of this pandemic. Remember history: we will get through this—brighter times are ahead. — Charley



**You have PC expert in Franklin Hills!**

# Michael Martin

- Small business & In home service
- Organize & access your data everywhere: on your PC, smartphone, tablet or in the cloud.
- Migrate your data to a new computer.
- Wi-fi & networking issues.
- iPhone, iPad, Android, tablets and more.
- Remote support available.
- Reasonable rates.
- House calls accepted.
- Plain, non-technical English.
- 20 years of experience.
- Franklin Hills resident since 2002

**The PC Expert**

training • software/hardware installation • networking • web design • troubleshooting • repairs • internet • UPS design

**"I Do Windows"**

(323) 810-6453 [www.michaelmartin.net](http://www.michaelmartin.net) [michael@michaelmartin.net](mailto:michael@michaelmartin.net)




# Pearl Yonezawa

## Thinking Outside the Box to Inspire Los Feliz

**Dora Herrera, President of Friends of Los Feliz Library**

We all have the potential to be inspiring, to have a vision, and to accept the challenge to go for it. Sometimes it's someone in your neighborhood that creates a better community by taking the ordinary in our daily routine and shaking it up. When this person is the caretaker of an institution within our community, it's appropriate to take a moment to recognize and acknowledge her impact.



LIBRARIAN PEARL YONEZAWA (L) WITH DORA HERRERA (R), PRESIDENT OF THE FRIENDS OF LOS FELIZ LIBRARY, AT THE LOS FELIZ LIBRARY'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, 2019  KATHRYN LOUYSE

Pearl Yonezawa has been the Head Librarian at the Los Feliz Branch of the Los Angeles Public Library over twenty years. It is not her longevity as Librarian that is most notable, however.

What makes Pearl an Inspiring Neighbor is her great example at building relationships with the members of her community.

Within the Library, there's the Los Feliz in Literature collection, a dedicated section of all things Los Feliz. The wonderful thing about this collection is that the parameters for inclusion are broad: authors who live in the area, books that mention Los Feliz, architects that defined the look of Los Feliz, and my personal favorite, a cookbook by local Franklin Hills Elementary. Pearl not only provides a spot for locals to shine, but also a treasure trove for community newcomers to discover the joys of their neighborhood. Welcome to Los Feliz!

I remember the day I met Pearl very clearly. She walked up to Yuca's, introduced herself, and requested my support in making the Los Feliz Library a better service provider to the community. Being an avid book lover, I agreed and we came up with a fun campaign to get the word out - posters at Yuca's proclaimed "Feed Your Mind, Read a Mystery", while the library posters encouraged patrons to try our "Murderous Machaca". The posters changed every week during Library Month, and people learned about their library. Community through food.



A GREAT PARTNERSHIP! DORA HERRERA (L) & PEARL YONEZAWA (R)

 KATHRYN LOUYSE

What do you get when a graphic designer, an L.A. Times PR maven, a taco slinger, and a Head Librarian get together? The Architecture & Beyond Lecture Series, now in its 16th year of bringing the community a slew of fabulous speakers ranging from photographer Julius Shulman, up-and-coming L.A. architects, a lecture on Los Angeles' sewer system, and local realtor Richard Stanley sharing his passion for all things photography related. And, a happy bunch of patrons that returns monthly to learn something new. Community through education.

As if that wasn't inspiring enough, when LAPL released its second limited-edition library card, designed by artist Gajin Fujita, this world-renown artist credited Pearl with looking out for, and inspiring him as a kid at the library in Boyle Heights. Reaping the rewards of her dedication.

Pearl mentions often that, for her, connecting with patrons, and having them develop a connection to her library makes her feel proud. We are extremely lucky that Pearl has been the Head Librarian in our community for more than half of her 47-year career.

We haven't stopped dreaming up projects together! You're going to like what this Inspiring Neighbor, and her Friends of Los Feliz Library are cooking up.



# Tree Neighbors of the Franklin Hills

Melinda Taylor

Good neighbors of the Franklin Hills,

I have been tasked with introducing our readers to some of the notable and inspiring members of our community from the plant world. As a result, I took a long walk around the neighborhood in search of the most notable to my eye. Here's a short report:

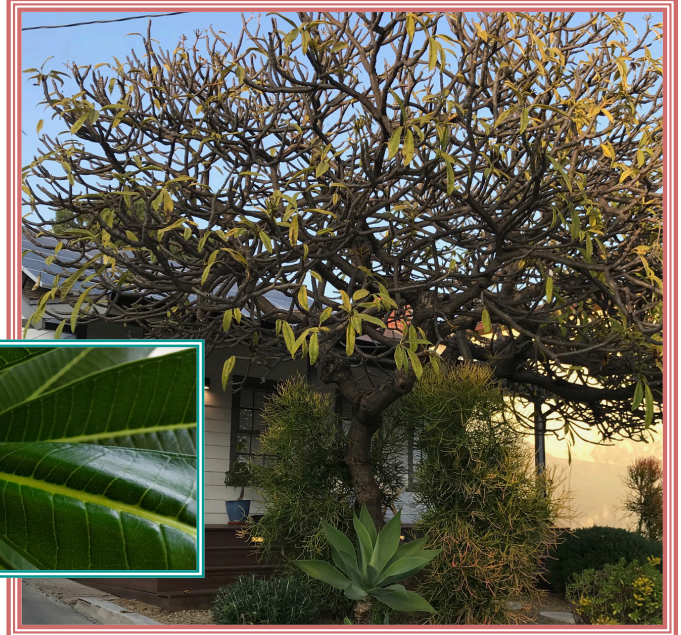
**1.** My first pick is the *Plumeria rubra* (**Frangipani**) very close to the intersection of Myra and Clayton Avenues. This tree is very handsome, and notable for its placement and for its size.

I admire it every time I pass by, and wish it many, many more years of life and health. This *Plumeria* is the crown jewel of its front garden, and a wonderful neighbor to all of us in the Franklin Hills.



📷 MAIN: MELINDA TAYLOR / INSET: ADOBE STOCK

## *Plumeria rubra* / Frangipani



## *Callistemon viminalis* / Weeping Bottlebrush



📷 MAIN: MELINDA TAYLOR / INSET: ADOBE STOCK

**2.** My second pick is not specific to one location. Instead, I'm calling out all of the *Callistemon viminalis* (**Weeping Bottlebrush**) trees in the neighborhood. There are street trees of this type on Sunset Drive, across from Thomas Starr King Middle School, and there are also quite a few planted in residents' front gardens.

At this time of the year, the tree's new leaves have a beautiful pearlescent quality. *Callistemons* will put out a big display of bright red flowers consisting principally of long, bristle like stamens from May through July, but they flower intermittently all year long, and their seed clusters are also very decorative.



## Ceiba speciosa / Floss Silk Tree

3. My third pick is the three *Ceiba speciosa* (Floss Silk) trees at the corner of Rhonda Vista Drive and Rhonda Vista Place. These big trees flank a small driveway there, and their enjoined tree canopies span the width of their corner lot.

Everything about the *Ceiba* tree is distinctive, from its spiny trunk that starts out bright green and then turns grey with age, to its electric pink/maroon/magenta flowers that occur over a long season, to its plump seed pods which look like dangling sausages, and which burst open to release cottony seed masses that can be spun into yarn or used to make paper or stuff pillows.

**Note:** This tree was previously named *Chorisia speciosa*, but was recently re-classified into the genus *Ceiba*.)

📷 MAIN: ELIZABETH RICHARDSON / INSET: ADOBE STOCK



## Pinus pinea / Italian Stone Pine



4. Fourth is the *Pinus pinea* (Italian Stone Pine) on Franklin near Hollyvista Street. Stone Pine trees have a distinct shape described as “flat-topped” or “umbrella shaped” and the tree here clearly shows that characteristic. There are a number of beautiful *Pinus pinea* trees within the FHRA boundaries, but I am noting this one in particular, because it creates the top of the tree canopy for people entering this section of the Franklin Hills from Franklin Avenue.

This tree stands out as the focal point of the view up Franklin Avenue from the moment one crosses Talmadge and starts ascending the hill. I am sure I am not alone in finding this tree intrinsic to my understanding of the neighborhood.

📷 MAIN: MELINDA TAYLOR / INSET: ADOBE STOCK

So many trees; so few words allotted to me in this Overview! I'm probably over my 500 word limit, so I'll end here, and look forward to presenting some other great tree neighbors in another issue.





(President's Message, continued from page 2)

Of special mention are **Tony Fanaro** of Palermo Italian Restaurant and **Craig Cowie** of Baller Hardware for their support over the decades, and of course to the **Fire Station 35!**

No appreciation would be complete without thanks to the wonderful board members we have on the FHRA board. Each person not only serves on the board but also volunteers for their individual projects. **Alison Wallace** organizes our stair clean ups and student art contest.

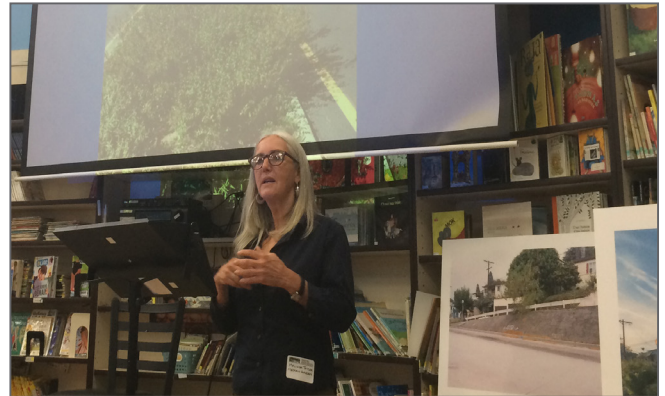
**Dave McDonald** kindly took over the treasury and helps with the FHRA website. **Chris Boutelle** handles the ads and distribution of the *Overview* magazine. He also heads up decorating the Shakespeare Bridge each holiday season. Secretary **Elizabeth Richardson** puts together Welcome Kits and works with neighbors to distribute them.



SHIRLEY MIMS PAINTING OUT GRAFFITI ON THE SHAKESPEARE BRIDGE



ALIX SOUBIRAN (L) SHOWING THE BOARD HER DOGGIE BANDANA DESIGN, ALISON WALLACE (R)



MELINDA TAYLOR UNVEILS HER PLANS FOR MAINTAINING THE FRANKLIN AVENUE MEDIAN

(continued on page 15)



VOLUNTEERS CLEAN UP THE SHAKESPEARE BRIDGE GARDEN UNDER THE BRIDGE AT THE END OF MONON ST.



FHRA BOARD MEMBERS  
L-R: DAVE MCDONALD, CHRIS BOUTELLE, CAROLE NESE, & ELIZABETH RICHARDSON

**Future Barrister**

*Lyric Preschool*  
2328 Hyperion Ave.  
Los Angeles 90027  
323 667 2275  
www.lyricpreschool.com



(President's Message, continued from page 14)

She also is the Editor for the *Overview* magazine and is producing a New Board Manual to introduce all the great stuff that FHRA does. **Melinda Taylor** beautifully takes care of the Franklin Avenue Median garden. **Alix Soubiran** is creating new merchandise for FHRA members to enjoy. **Eric Frase** helps with the bridge decorations and graffiti paint outs. **Carole Nese** keeps traffic and safety in the forefront of our activities. My brilliant husband, **Charley Mims**, is our City expert and helps us put neighbors in touch with the right departments for their concerns.

New volunteers **Cesar Quinones** and **Katherine Reed** are working together to refresh and preserve the FHRA historic photo archives. Cesar is also helping with the FHRA communications including putting out the FHRA alerts. **Rick LaRocca**, **Alexandra Rowe**, **Cameron Fedderman**, and **Suzanne Carney** are also coming in to help with some of these and other tasks including membership, indexing the *Overview* and finding new board members.

We've come a long way since the FHRA's inception. The FHRA is poised to take this organization long into the future. I look forward to handing off the organization to the next generation of board members. Exciting things are yet to come.



📷: SHIRLEY MIMS (ALL PHOTOS FEATURED)

## Become a Median Maintenance Maven

Don't you just love how the Franklin Avenue Median Garden looks? In addition to the iconic Shakespeare Bridge, it truly is a lovely, calming feature in our Franklin Hills.

Just as it takes a village to raise a child, though, it takes a community to keep this garden healthy and beautiful.

Please give a donation of any size to keep the **Median Maintenance Fund** healthy. Just so you know, your dues pay for FHRA's everyday expenses. Advertising revenue pays for FHRA's publication, the *Overview*, you find on your doorstep twice a year.

It takes a special fundraising effort every year to pay for those fearless gardeners who brave the traffic to maintain this distinctive community asset.

We've made it easy to donate above and beyond your dues. Go online. There's a special place for you to contribute to the Median Fund. Or when you write a check, just add something (big or little) onto the bottom line of your dues renewal form.

Everyone in the Franklin Hills will thank you as they drive by.

<https://www.franklinhills.org/median>

# Hi·TECH

## AUTOMOTIVE

AUTO REPAIR • TIRES • SHOCKS • ALIGNMENT

4000 Fountain Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90029

T: 323.661.2788

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

# electric<sup>ave.</sup>

servicing hybrid and  
alternative vehicles

2300 hyperion ave, silver lake

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

323.665.8807

# Magic in Franklin Hills

## Some very magical history

Alison Wallace & Alexandra Rowe

For the residents of Franklin Hills, one doesn't have to travel to experience the magic of Disney. Our neighborhood has several touch-points to this creative visionary.

The Walt Disney Company was founded right in our backyard. For much of brothers Walt and Roy Disney's career, they resided and worked in Los Feliz.

When Walt moved to Los Angeles, he lived with his uncle on Kingswell Avenue. Soon after, his brother Roy moved in as well and the men got to work in their uncle's garage. Kingswell was the site of their first animation studio. As their business began to grow, they soon expanded on the street. In 1925, the brothers decided to build an official animation studio at 2719 Hyperion Avenue. Today, the site of the animation studio is our neighborhood Gelson's. It was at this time that the brothers both bought their first homes.

*(Continued on page 17)*



© RADU RAZVAN - STOCK.ADOBE.COM

## We Ship Picassos...

**Warhols, Harings, Lichtensteins, Frederick Remington Bronzes, custom art glass, kids school projects and anything else of value that needs to be shipped with the best handling & packing possible.**



## Goodman Packing & Shipping

1920 Hillhurst Ave, Los Feliz, CA 90027 t. 323.662.9000

**Hollywood:** 5551 Hollywood Bl., LA 90028, **Atwater:** 3154 Atwater Bl., 90039, **Frogtown:** 3009 Gilroy St, LA 90039

Expert Packaging of Fragile Items, Art, Antiques and Furniture • Moving Boxes & Shipping Supplies • On-Site Parking • Freight Services • Mailbox Rentals • UPS Return & Amazon Drop Off Center  
[info@GoodmanShipping.com](mailto:info@GoodmanShipping.com)     visit us at [GoodmanShipping.Com](http://GoodmanShipping.Com)





# Red Lilly

**PLUMBING HEATING  
SEWER & DRAIN SERVICE**

*Your Neighborhood  
Plumber!*

**323-664-2906**

**LOS ANGELES - SAN FERNANDO - ORANGE COUNTY**

(Magic in Franklin Hills, *continued from page 16*)

Walt and Roy bought two plots on Lyric Avenue, 2491 and 2495, and built matching Pacific Ready-Cut kit homes. The brothers and their wives lived there from 1927 to 1933. This time was incredibly significant in their careers and the future of Disney, as Mickey Mouse was created in 1928. We recently corresponded with a current owner of one of the Lyric homes. He shared that the homes are quite close, only 50 feet apart, with a lot of windows. One can easily imagine the brother's wives, Lillian and Edna talking through the window to one another while making dinner or doing things around the house.

Walt eventually moved to Waverly Drive and then built his final home in Holmby Hills, where he resided until the end of his life.

Another piece of The Walt Disney Company in our backyard, is Prospect Studios. The studio originally opened in 1915 as The Vitagraph Studio, home to the production of silent films. In 1925, Prospect Studios was sold to Warner Brothers, and then in 1948 it was sold to ABC. In 1996, ABC became part of The Walt Disney Company. The studio has been owned and operated by Disney for nearly a quarter of a century.

In December, we had the opportunity to speak with Marissa Suarez, the Studio's Operations Manager. Marissa transferred to Los Angeles from the Disney Parks in Orlando.



THE DISNEY HOUSE ON LYRIC AVE.

ELIZABETH RICHARDSON

She enjoys working at this historic studio, which currently houses the filming for two very long-running shows: General Hospital and Grey's Anatomy. Throughout the year, Marissa and her team communicate with the FHRA to let us know if there will be studio activity that could impact the Franklin Hills neighborhood. We share this information via the FHRA email alerts sent to all FHRA members.

So, next time you think of Disney, just remember it's a small world after all.



# FHRA Helping Residents

## Prepare for Disasters by Learning First Aid Basics

Carole Nese

FHRA has presented the Map Your Neighborhood (MYN), a program that prepares neighborhoods for major disasters, to members and residents for almost 5 years. MYN teaches neighbors to rely on each other and helps communities “fill the gap” between Community Emergency Response Team training (CERT) and individual preparedness.

Shirley Mims and Carole Nese have been going into homes block by block and educating neighbors, preparing them for natural disaster and emergency situations. These services are provided free of charge and has covered dozens of blocks in the Franklin Hills area.

Last year, the program expanded to include CPR and stop the bleed provided by Red Cross and American Heart Association certified CPR and First Aid instructor and LFNC board member Mike Hain.

The city of Los Angeles has recently introduced their program Ready Your LA Neighborhood (RYLAN) to empower neighborhoods to be prepared for the next big disaster. RYLAN highlights five important features to educate individuals and groups.


- Organize your neighbors and create a Response Plan
- Practice the plan together with your neighbors
- Connect with the city’s emergency notification program
- Communicate with your neighbors and the city during a disaster
- Train by enrolling in classes such as CERT, First Aid, CPR and Amateur Radio, etc.

The city website, [emergency.lacity.org](http://emergency.lacity.org) has more extensive information including an emergency supply checklist. FHRA is committed to working with the City of Los Angeles on emergency preparedness. For more information, contact [FHRA@franklinhills.org](mailto:FHRA@franklinhills.org).

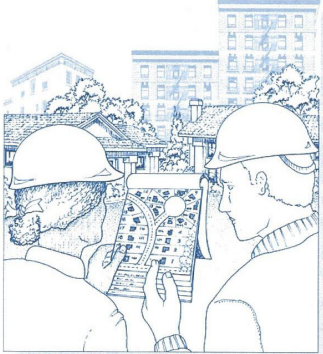


### Map Your Neighborhood - MYN

#### Neighborhood Disaster Readiness



**American Red Cross**  
PrepareSoCal



**Remember...**  
Immediately after disasters, follow the 9 Steps described in this booklet.

The Map Your Neighborhood Program was developed and copyrighted by LuAn K. Johnson, Ph.D. All rights reserved. Used with permission from LuAn K. Johnson, Ph.D. and the Public Education Program, Washington State Emergency Management.

---

*Introduction*

**9 STEPS — Immediately Following Disaster**

*Neighborhood Gathering Site and Care Center*

**Neighborhood Skills and Equipment Inventory**

*Guidelines for Neighborhood Mapping*

**Your NEIGHBORHOOD MAP and CONTACT LIST**

*Help / OK Cards*

MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WORKBOOK

## Volunteer Today!

We’re always looking for new volunteers and interested board members.

Let us know at [FHRA@franklinhills.org](mailto:FHRA@franklinhills.org)



# Prevent Climate Change

## The Easiest Thing You Can Do

### Mia Trachinger

Working gardeners with leaf blowers are ubiquitous in the Franklin Hills. But it turns out, they have a major impact: One gas powered leaf blower generates the pollution of forty cars. In fact, the Southern California Air Quality Management predicts that more pollution will be generated from gas powered leaf blowers in Southern California than cars in 2020.

So what can you do? How can you decrease pollution and prevent climate change?

We homeowners, as customers, can ask our gardeners to switch from gas powered to electric equipment and, what's more, share information about the generous incentive program currently available to commercial gardeners: a 75% rebate on zero emission equipment.

In 2020, the Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) program for commercial gardeners gives a 75% incentive for electric powered battery equipment. In 2019, the rebate was only 50%. It's time to take advantage of this EPA-funded program!

**For example:** A Stihl high-end backpack electric battery pack would normally cost \$1,300, but with 2020 AQMD program discounts and incentives, it will only cost \$270. An electric battery handheld leaf blower, replacing a gas polluter, would normally cost \$410, but through the program only \$102.

Commercial gardeners may remember a time when electric battery powered versions of their tools weren't as powerful, but they have improved. Electric blowers and trimmers are more effective than in the past, and they work as well as their gas counterparts.

Gardeners may choose to buy an extra battery, when upgrading to electric, to ensure power through their workday. Batteries cost \$120-\$300, depending on the model. With the rebates, gardeners are still getting a great deal through the AQMD incentive program.

Asking your gardener to switch to electric also considers the gardener's health. Long-time Franklin Hills/Los Feliz gardener Carlos Lopez complains that his lungs feel impacted when using gas-powered equipment. Lopez says he's eager to switch to electric and was glad to learn of the 2020 rebates.

Furthermore, it's illegal to use gas powered leaf blowers in Los Angeles. The fine for violation is \$100 for the gardener and \$100 for the homeowner each time they're cited. Citations have proven to be a deterrent and LA enforcement is sure to increase. Last July, Palm Springs



ELECTRIC LEAFBLOWER (T) & GAS-POWERED LEAFBLOWER (B) ©: MIA TRACHINGER

began enforcing their leaf blower law and demand for zero emission rebates from desert commercial gardeners spiked.

The AQMD is struggling to get the word out about their 2020 incentives to commercial gardeners, and you can help. Please share this information with the gardeners you know and employ, for our gardeners and families' sake and the sake of our planet. To find out more about the AQMD zero emission incentive program, visit:

<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/community/lawn-and-garden-equipment>.

To report a leaf blower violation, residents may use the **MyLA311 app** (in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store), call the Bureau of Street Services at **1-800-996-CITY** [800-996-2489], or register a complaint through the **MyLA311 website** ([lacity.org/myla311](http://lacity.org/myla311)). The ordinance is also enforced by LAPD.



**Jose de Jesus Sanchez**  
Gardening Services  
Free Estimates

Sprinklers, New Lawns  
Tree Trimming, Clean-up  
Clean Gutters

818- 834- 0273



818-834-0273  
www.josedejesus.com

# Fall Plantings under the Bridge

## Checking-in on Monon St.

Shirley Mims

The planting of native and drought tolerant plants went well this last fall. The manzanita was in bloom shortly after! FHRA provided the funding that was used to purchase plants from the Theodore Payne Foundation. Volunteers provided the labor to dig holes and lovingly put the plants in the ground. Thanks to their help, the plants are established and thriving.

FHRA and neighbors on Monon have also been in touch with Councilman Ryu's office to remove the dead eucalyptus trees. By the time you read this, we expect that the trees and their debris will have been removed.



FALL PLANTING UNDER THE SHAKESPEARE BRIDGE

In the fall, we planted manzanita, Lemon Berry, Toyon berry, and a native grass. The lemon berry plant will grow to 15 ft by 15 ft. The Toyon berry plant will grow to 20 ft by 20 ft (the Toyon berry plant is the official native plant for the City of Los Angeles and is the same one at the entrance/west end of the Franklin Avenue median island garden). These will help to fill in the open spaces under the arches of the bridge. The manzanita will make a good ground cover and will help to hold up the steep slope under the arches.



VOLUNTEERS DEMIAN WYMA, DAVID BROOKS AND ALEXANDRA ROWE HELP TO PLANT MANZANITA, LEMON BERRY AND TOYON BERRY ON THE STEEP SLOPE OF THE SHAKESPEARE BRIDGE GARDEN



NEW BLOOM ON THE MANZANITA BUSH PLANTED LAST FALL



NEW GROWTH ON THE TOYON PLANT (CHRISTMAS BERRY)

A few of the plants were planted under the arches where rain water does not fall. This is an experiment to see what survives under the arches and what does not. The lemon berry plant and a couple of the manzanita plants directly under the arches will likely receive -0- natural rain water. A neighbor and I have been watering it by hand to help it get established; thank you Rick Moffitt! The plants have a good chance of surviving under our care.

We have a few more pots of plants yet to go into the ground. Thanks to Monon neighbor David Brooks for taking care of them until we can organize this! If you are available to dig holes and help us plant them, please contact us at [FHRA@franklinhills.org](mailto:FHRA@franklinhills.org). We appreciate your support!!



**Sunset NURSERY**

Celebrating our 59th year!

**323-661-1642**  
4368 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA



# Coyotes and Skunks

## Survival Inspiration

Elizabeth Richardson & George Grace

Inspire us? Yes indeed. You may think of these animals as pests or hazards. This article will help you understand their place in the ecosystem and how to live side by side with them. As we all know, they were here first.

Remember, they are survivors in a world that is hostile to them, a world that harasses them and wishes them elsewhere. Yet they endure. Their inventiveness, ingenuity, and creativity goad us into giving them a good measure of respect and even awe.

Of concern to us is that spring is their pupping season. It all starts in the winter when the female picks a mate. (Note: coyotes mate for life.) A litter of about six or so pups arrives two months later. At first, Mama Coyote and Mama



COYOTE AND PUP

PURCHASED ON SHUTTERSTOCK

Skunk provide nutritious milk. At about four to six weeks, Papa Coyote steps in to help Mom find food. In the skunk world, Mama Skunk is a single mother.

In late spring, coyote pups tag along with their parents on hunting trips. By summer they've left the den and are on their own. By contrast, skunk pups hang out with Mom for a year before moving out of the den.

But both skunk and coyote pups can be foolish teenagers. Sure their parents teach them the rules of the road, watch out for cars and trucks, don't bother people and especially stay away from a dog on a leash. But they can act like all teenagers, adults are a pain and don't know what they are talking about.

(Continued on page 23)



**Colin Hoffmeister**

eXp Realty California, Inc

310.435.4206

CHoffmeister@msn.com

Leverage my 25+ years of experience

Realtor, Contractor, Homeowner, R.E. Investor

### Coronavirus Information

**PublicHealth.LACounty.Gov/Media/Coronavirus**

CAL BRE# 01921784

### My Recent Franklin Hills Listings/Sales

2418RondaVista.com—*Pending*

2369Lyric.com *Sold!* \$1,700,000

2436 Ronda Vista Drive *Sold!* \$1,242,800

2610 Claremont Ave. *Sold!* \$1,309,000

2373 Lyric Ave. *Sold!* \$1,465,000

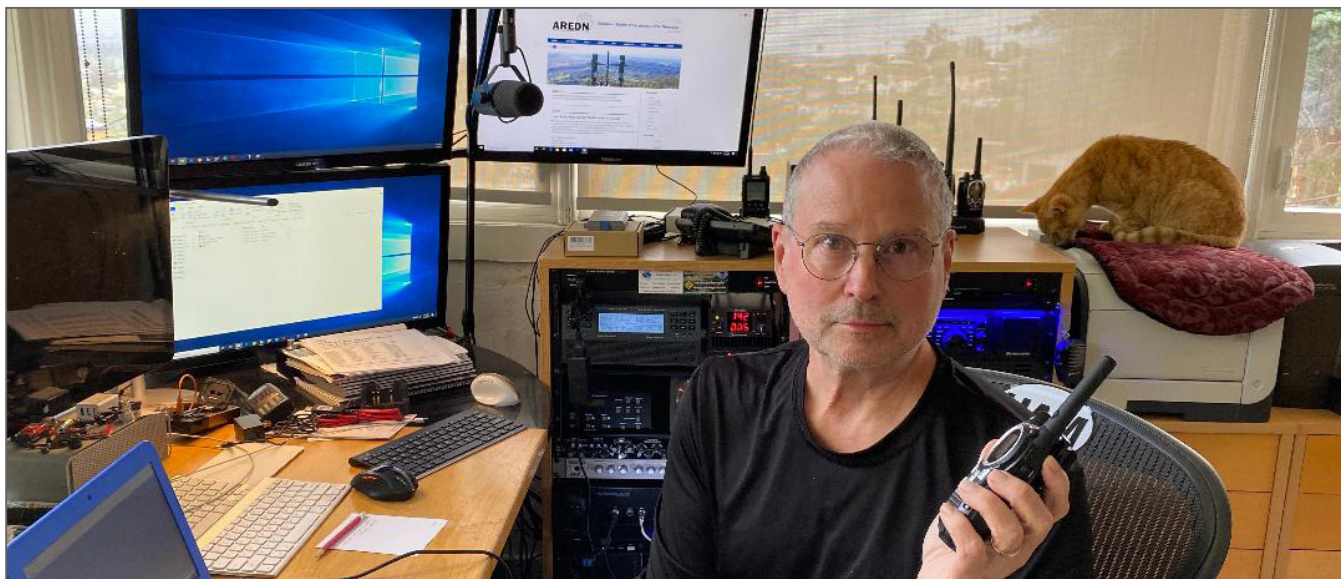
*Thank you*



# David Ahrendts

## Neighbors Who Inspire Us

Elizabeth Richardson



DAVID AHRENDTS (AND CAT MAXXIE) WITH FRS TWO-WAY RADIO

📷: JAN AHRENDTS

If you find energy and persistence in the cause of neighborhood safety inspiring, David is your guy. A 20-year resident of Franklin Hills, he has dedicated his spare time to making sure you will be connected to your more distant neighbors and the outside world in the event of a major disaster such as an earthquake.

“I was once asked by a Franklin Hills neighbor ‘who do we call when cell service goes out, and the electricity goes out who do we complain to?’ The person was quite serious. But think about the mindset for a minute. There is no one to call because you can’t use your cellular smart phone.”

But you can reach out with a two-way radio. To that end, David has set up the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council Emergency Radio Network. Every Monday night at 7 p.m. power up your handheld two way radio and call into FRS Channel 15. You’ll find David and others on the airwaves. No long conversations. No penalties if you get busy and can’t tune in every Monday. Just an opportunity to make sure your radio is charged and remind yourself how to use it. Checking in regularly helps create the habit so that when the big one hits, and you have a severe problem, you don’t panic when you pick up the device to reach out for help and news.

“I’ve been an Advanced Class FCC-licensed amateur radio operator since my childhood. I let it slide because I was busy and became ‘inactive’, David said.

“But about 10 years ago, I rediscovered it all and decided to dedicate a big amount of my time to the public service aspect of amateur radio which is emergency communications.”

To that end, David has become the Assistant District Emergency Coordinator for the Los Angeles Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Northwest District, the volunteer emergency communications and public service wing of the Amateur Radio Relay League. Their charge in LA County is providing backup emergency communications to as many of LA County’s 72 hospitals as we can. His charge is Children’s Hospital, Kaiser Los Angeles Medical Center and Hollywood Presbyterian at Sunset and Vermont. They conduct regular and major emergency exercises to prepare for incidents they know could occur, like an earthquake. The next big exercise is June 18th — an evacuation of CHLA to KP across the street.

A good two-way FRS (Family Radio Service) radio system costs under \$30. Two good U.S. companies are Motorola and Midland. Ask for an FRS model when you go shopping or online. You don’t need to obtain a license to use a two-way radio or to study anything, except the manual that comes with it. A two way radio is just another tool in your emergency kit but it can be a life-saving one.

If you want more information contact David at [davidahrendts@gmail.com](mailto:davidahrendts@gmail.com). He’s happy to help one on one or speak to any group.







FRANKLINHILLS.ORG

# FHRA Membership Form

FHRA is supported entirely by  
Your Membership Dues  
and Generous Donations

All Donations and Memberships are Tax Deductible  
FHRA is an IRS 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization

I am interested in:

- Beautification
- Community Garden
- Event Planning
- Graffiti
- Historic Preservation
- Median
- Planning & Zoning
- Safety/Crime/Disaster
- Stairways Cleanup
- Traffic & Parking
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Phone

## MEMBERSHIP AND DONATIONS

Yearly membership dues are \$20 per person or \$35 per household

To become a member, renew a membership, or make a donation,  
visit [www.franklinhills.org/join](http://www.franklinhills.org/join), or clip this form and send a check to:  
FHRA, PO Box 29122, Los Angeles, CA 90029-0122

Enclosed membership dues is:      Single:       \$20  
   Household:       \$35

Plus Donation for Unspecified:       \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Plus Donation for Median Maintenance Fund:       \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Additional Contribution to Median Maintenance Fund:

- Monkeyflower       \$25
- Matilija Poppy       \$50
- St. Catherine's Lace       \$100
- Western redbud       \$250
- Jacaranda       \$500+

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Voice Mail: (323)908-6078 | [FHRA@franklinhills.org](mailto:FHRA@franklinhills.org)

**THANK YOU for your support!!**

(Coyotes & Skunks, continued from page 21)

This is when we Franklin Hills residents must step in to reinforce those co-existence lessons. Shouting very loudly, throwing dried lemons at them, or arm-waving reminds these teenagers that their parents weren't just being overly protective. Teenaged skunks on the other hand find they themselves have become a tasty morsel for the



SKUNK

PURCHASED ON SHUTTERSTOCK

coyotes or owls. Learning how to mete out their only defensive weapon, the spray, is vital. After 5 or 6 sprays, it takes 10 days to make a new batch. Unfortunately, their odor is a dead giveaway to their predators as it can be carried downwind for up to three miles.

As smelly and sometimes alarming as they are, they endure. Certainly, a case can be made that they are part of keeping the ecosystem in balance. Skunks eat insects, larvae, earthworms, grubs, rodents, lizards, salamanders, snakes, and moles. As well as berries, roots, leaves, grass, fungi, and nuts (Thanks, Wikipedia). Coyotes subsist primarily on rabbits, rodents, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates, though they may occasionally eat fruits and vegetables.

As living symbols of endurance, coyotes and skunks give hope to us that we too can thrive in a world that can be challenging. They are also an important part of our urban ecosystem. Grudging respect and an understanding of their lives leads hopefully to a more peaceful coexistence.





**COLDWELL  
BANKER  
REALTY**



**ROSS CARTER PROPERTIES**

**Your Trusted  
Franklin Hills Real  
Estate Expert.**



**ROSS CARTER**

☎ (323) 376-2462

✉ [RossCarter@ColdwellBanker.com](mailto:RossCarter@ColdwellBanker.com) | [RossCarterProperties.com](http://RossCarterProperties.com)

📘 [Facebook.com/RossCarterProperties](https://www.facebook.com/RossCarterProperties) | **DRE#01190160**

# **PALESMO**

RISTORANTE ITALIANO



1858 N. VERMONT AVE., LOS ANGELES, CA 90027

**(323) 663-1178 • 663-1430 • Fax (323) 660-0284**

HOURS: MON. 11AM - 10:30PM WED. THUR. SUN. 11AM - 12AM  
FRI. & SAT. 11AM - 1AM

**NOW OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY FOR BREAKFAST 9:00AM TO 2PM**