



# OVERVIEW

Local News and Information for the Franklin Hills

ISSUE #39

SPRING/SUMMER 2010

## FRANKLIN HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

### FHRA Annual Meeting

**Saturday, June 19th 11am-2pm**

Join your neighbors and make new friends at the FHRA's 22nd annual election meeting. Once **again** we'll be hosted by the Lycee International of Los Angeles, better known as LILA, the charming school nestled below the also charming Shakespeare Bridge at 4155 Russell Avenue...up the hill east of Talmadge St.

Headlining our line-up of guest speakers will be noted author Charles Fleming who's latest book, *Secret Stairs - A Walking Guide to the Historic Staircases of Los Angeles*, maps 42 walking routes in LA including, of course, two Franklin Hills routes with details of distance, difficulty and delights found along the way. We have two of the ten longest routes by stair count. Our other featured guest, Daniel Cooper, is also into counting. He has worked with the FHRA's Griffith Park Natural History Survey to do first of their kind surveys of the flora and fauna in Griffith Park and will present photos of his fascinating findings.

At a time of dwindling city resources it's more important than ever to hear from our LA City experts about the best ways to cope with city budget cuts and the increase in crime in our general area. We have invited Councilmember Tom LaBonge, our Police and Fire Department representatives along with others to answer a wide range of your questions.

After the meeting, the FHRA sponsored Norman Harriton Community Garden will be holding an open house to celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and show off all the bounty of nature...and hard work...that the garden is producing.

In addition to the FHRA business of electing five boardmembers you'll also have choices among some tasty and healthful snacks to munch on, and a chance to renew or make new neighborhood contacts. Doors open at 10:30am for membership check-in and all are welcome. If you are already an FHRA member bring your membership letter to speed check-in, or use the form on page 20 to join the FHRA for 2010.

#### WHAT'S INSIDE:

President's Comments .....	2	Where the Good Stuff Is .....	6	Obituary .....	12
Community Phone Numbers .....	3	Medical Marijuana .....	7	EPolicing .....	13
Treasurer's Report.....	3	Emergency Preparedness .....	8	A Garden Grows .....	14
Losing Another Neighbor.....	4	City Budget .....	9	Rare Plant Survey .....	16
Coyote Tracks.....	5	Solar So Far So Good .....	11	Kids Page .....	18



## President's Comments: Making a Difference

By: Michelle Parkinson

Have you ever wanted to change something in your neighborhood? A noisy neighbor, an unsightly lot, graffiti? Have you thought about helping out? Picking up trash, painting graffiti, maybe welcoming a new person to the area? If you have any of these desires then you would be the perfect candidate to volunteer with the Franklin Hills Residents Association. You could organize a beautification project, a summer event or get together.

It's not always easy to start something new. Community service is one of those things. We always want the community to be better but there is never time to do it yourself. Well, with the economy in such bad shape and city services being cut left and right, we must increase community participation and awareness. You can do this through service with the FHRA. You can organize volunteer clean-up efforts, community beautification projects and so many other ways that have only to be discovered.

Come out to our Annual Meeting and get involved. Use your powers for good in your own backyard. Let your voice be heard by community leaders. All it takes is a couple of hours every month and a morning or two to put up the bridge lights at Christmas. The rewards feel good, as one of the newest members of the Board I know! It is truly a unique feeling the first time you see an improvement that you were a part of creating. I want to share this with you and your time will be greatly appreciated. If not you, then who?

### Annual Meeting Details

This year the annual meeting will again be held in the library at LILA. We do hope you can join us for neighborhood news, speakers from the fire and police departments, Griffith Park wildlife news and of course, board member elections.

What: Franklin Hills Residents Association  
Annual Meeting  
When: June 19th 11 am - 2 pm  
Where: LILA School  
4155 Russell Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90027

## FRANKLIN HILLS

Residents Association

Contact FHRA

Voicemail /Fax (323) 908-6078

Email: [FHRA@FranklinHills.org](mailto:FHRA@FranklinHills.org)

Web: [www.FranklinHills.org](http://www.FranklinHills.org)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michelle Parkinson, President  
Charley Mims, Chairman  
Bruce Carroll, Treasurer  
Elizabeth Richardson, Secretary  
Chris Boutelle, Eric Frase,  
George Grace, James McEwen,  
Carol Skinner

### ACTION TEAM LEADERS

CRIME WATCH: Carol Skinner  
NOISE WATCH: James McEwen  
GRAFFITI REMOVAL: Eric Frase  
WEBMASTER: Bruce Carroll  
WELCOME TEAM: Eric Frase  
PLANNING/ZONING: Charley  
Mims

### OVERVIEW

Editor: Michelle Parkinson

Ad Sales: Chris Boutelle  
(323)666-5548

#### *Contributing Writers:*

Bruce Carroll, Eric Frase,  
George Grace, James  
McEwen, Charley Mims and  
Elizabeth Richardson thank  
you all for your contributions  
to the Overview.

Mailing Address: Overview,  
P.O. Box 29122, Los Angeles,  
CA 90029

## COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Prospect Studios:	.....(323) 671-5000
LA City Services:	.....311
Animal Control:	.....(888) 452-7381
Dead Animal Pickup	.....(323) 227-7179
Barking Dogs	.....(888) 452-7381
Building & Safety	
Violations:	.....(888) LA4BUILD
Councilmember:	.....(213) 485-3337
Tom LaBonge	email:
4 <sup>th</sup> District:	councilmember.labonge@lacity.org
Field Deputy:	.....(818) 755-7630
Mary Rodriguez	email:
	mary.d.rodriguez@lacity.org
FHRA Voicemail:	.....(323) 908-9078
	email.FHRA@FranklinHills.org
Fire Department:	
Emergency	.....911
Non-Emergency	.....(213) 485-6185
Homeless Food & Shelter	.....(323) 974-1234
LA Info Line	.....(323) 686-0950
	.....(800) 339-6993
Los Feliz Public Library	.....(323) 913-4710
All City Services	.....311
Police:	
Sr. Lead Officer	
Al Polehonki	.....(213) 793-0763
Emergency	.....911
Non-Emergency	.....311
Northeast Division	.....(213) 485-2563
Gang Problems	.....(213) 485-7538
Graffiti	.....(213) 847-0511
Los Feliz Outpost	.....(323) 913-4683
Traffic Enforcement	.....(213) 485-2799
Poison Control	.....(800) 876-4766
Rape Hotline	.....(310) 392-8381
Restraining Order	.....(213) 974-5587
School Police:	
Marshall High	.....(323) 660-1440 x240
King Middle School	.....(323) 664-1176 x140
Street Services:	.....(800) 996-2489
Trash Services:	
Receptacle	.....(800) 248-9726
Replacement	.....(800) 773-2484
Bulky Item Removal	.....(800) 773-2489
Missed Trash	
Pickup	
Tree Trimming (Hazards):	.....(800) 996-2489
Water & Power	.....(800) 342-5397
We Tip	
(Anonymous Crime Tips)	.....(800) 873-7283

## FHRA Finances Dipping Down Hill

### FHRA Treasurer's Report

By Bruce Carroll



The FHRA's numbers for 2009 continued to reflect the troubled state of the economy. For the first time in many years membership dropped below the 300 level, down 12%, double the decline in 2008. Overall our income from multiple sources was \$14,375 a drop of 16.4% from 2008. Spending totaled \$15,812 about a 3% increase from 2008 so we ended the year with a net loss of \$1,437, compared to a net gain of about \$1,900 in 2008.

Major contributors to last year's income were: membership dues and contributions \$4,340, special contributions for murals, wildlife studies, the median and from filming totaled \$4,200. Overview advertising brought in \$4,435, a 19% increase from 2008, though adding color printing used up most, but not all of the increase. Perhaps proving that all red ink is not bad.

Income from dues and donations to the Norman Harriton Community Garden were \$985 and T-shirt and Historic Photo sales dipped to under \$100. Income from dividends and bank interest came to \$323. Most of that will likely be erased this year as the interest rate paid by our bank, formerly Cal National now taken over by US Bank, has declined from about 1%, which equaled about 21 memberships last year, to a rate that will equate to less than 3 memberships this year.

On the expense side of the spreadsheet: FHRA spent \$5,790 in donations to survey Griffith Park wildlife and for the Hoover Walk Mural. Overview printing and preparation was a close second at \$5,772. Maintenance of the Franklin Ave. Median cost \$1,625. We spent \$1,429 on insurance and the Community Gardeners spent \$475 on tools and other supplies. Keeping in touch with the neighborhood via our [www.FranklinHills.org](http://www.FranklinHills.org) website, 323-908-6078 voicemail/fax line, and PO Box 29122, LA CA 90029, plus mailing, meeting and miscellaneous expenses came to \$721.

With our economy seeing some brighter signs, let's hope the FHRA's fortunes will follow. So far this year memberships are running slightly

below last year's level, but there's still plenty of time to send in your membership. Current members can use the return addressed envelope in the FHRA letter you should have received. If you're not already a member use the convenient membership form printed in this Overview or come to the annual meeting and join us there. Individual dues are just \$15 per year, \$30 for a household and of course extra contributions are always welcome and tax deductible since FHRA is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charity.

## Losing Another Neighbor

By Bruce Carroll

Now we must sadly report the killing of a long time neighbor. You won't find the crime in the LAPD stats, or a body down at the coroner's office, but a Franklin Hills neighbor for nearly half a century is soon to be gone. The victim is ABC Network News Los Angeles Bureau (not to be confused with KABC Channel 7 News). It was born about 1962 when former ABC Evening News anchorman Al Mann was sent west in one of ABC's many reorganizations.

By the time I arrived in June of 1967 the staff had grown. We had one film crew, one correspondent and three assignment editor/producers who scoured the west to find newsworthy stories to feed back east. Many good stories were a tough sell because in the days before cheap satellite transmission it cost about \$2,500 an hour for a video circuit to send the story to the Evening News, our only daily program.. Those were the days when we joked that ABC stood for Always Be Cheap or the Almost Broadcasting Company.

In addition to covering the western news for the network we also had the responsibility to do west coast updates for ABC News shows that had been done three hours earlier in the east. It was a delicate art to exactly replace, for example, a 1 minute 47 second story saying LBJ was going to hold a White House news conference with a 1:47 soundbite from the news conference which had finished just before the Evening News was replayed to the west coast stations.

As the staff grew under the leadership of Bureau Chief Bill McSherry we moved to various locations on the Prospect and Talmadge lot. In the '60s we were on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the building that parallels Prospect Avenue. In the 70s we moved to the windowless "Tech Bldg." in the middle of the lot, and in 1980 expanded to the final home in the Northwest corner of the lot with a staff of about 50 and a lot more airtime to fill.

I moved to the Franklin Hills in 1970 so I could be close to work for the many emergencies that arose, and so that I could taunt the rest of the staff by complaining I had to wait for two cars at the "Stop" sign while they were battling sluggish freeways from the valley or Malibu. I retired from full time work in 1989, but worked for ABC News when needed through the end of the OJ trial in 1995.



*ABC News space correspondent Lynn Sherr gets the latest news from producer Bruce Carroll as she broadcasts network updates on the explosion of the Space Shuttle Challenger in January 1986. Sherr was in Los Angeles to cover the unmanned Voyager 2 mission to Uranus at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory when the Challenger exploded just after launch from Cape Canaveral.*

*LA Times photo by Ken Lubas*

Over the years a lot of the biggest stories came through the LA bureau: Robert Kennedy's assassination, Charlie Manson and his murderous family, west coast "White House" coverage of Nixon and Reagan, countless quakes, floods, fires and other disasters, plus the ever popular celebrity trials and tribulations.

This year ABC News has cut 25% of its staff, over 350 jobs, including LA based correspondents Brian Rooney and Lisa Fletcher. The remaining few reporters and producers will become "digital journalists," shooting and producing their own stories with no staff camera crews or editors. Perhaps ABC is yearning for the past, returning to the great old days of the Almost Broadcasting Company.

## Coyote Tracks - May 2010

By George Grace - gmrnet1@gmrnet.com

A few months ago, a neighborhood resident sent a distraught email to FHRA about a coyote in her backyard. It wasn't something bad the coyote had done. This is a quote from the email: "Hi, yes I do have a sick/dying coyote in my backyard as I write you. Interesting thing is no-one will take responsibility to give me sound advice about what to do. Well, Animal Services isn't available, the police, the fire dept. don't deal with this type of issue. My husband, cat and I are all well. But it's still unnerving to look out to my yard and see this sick animal who is probably suffering."

Probably most of us don't know what to do to help sick, orphaned, or injured wildlife when the local authorities aren't able to help. The first thing to do is call Animal Services, but if they are not available (and frequently this is the case), there is a good alternative. You can call Valley Wildlife Care at 818-694-1198, they will take the animal and take care of it until it recovers, or dies. Probably any wildlife that would be picked up on Franklin Hill would be taken there anyway.

Brenda Varvarigos who owns Valley Wildlife Care spoke at the FHRA Critters Night meeting a few years back. If you were there, Brenda was the one with the opossum. Valley Wildlife takes in every imaginable creature, including birds, skunks, raccoons, 'possums, coyotes, and unhatched owl eggs. The owls in the photo were hatched from eggs that someone found in a pile of hay in a truck from Sacramento. The (formerly) sick coyote "Rosie" was rescued from Laurel Canyon in a neighborhood effort that had residents watching in army fatigues from the bushes in order to capture her. As you can see, both are doing fine.

Transportation to Valley Wildlife is done in several ways. If you can bring in the injured animal, this works best since it takes less time to start treatment. Otherwise, someone will come to the location and pick it up.

Valley Wildlife has a website that has a lot of information on what to do about distressed wildlife, including what to do until someone can get there to help. You can visit it at:  
<http://www.valleywildlifecare.org/>

Oh yes, they accept donations on the website too. I really admire Brenda and her volunteers. They provide a great service for our wildlife.

Post your coyote sightings at <http://gmmet.com.Coyotea.html>



*Rosie the Rescued Coyote*  
Photo by: Brenda Varvarigos



*Rescued Baby Barn Owls*  
Photo by: Brenda Varvarigos

**Curves works.**

Our 30-minute circuit works every major muscle group and you can burn up to 500 calories.

ASK ABOUT OUR FREE 30 DAY DIET PLAN  
**(323) 912-9205**

2724 Griffiths Park Blvd., At Hyperion  
Silver Lake / Los Feliz 90027

*Curves*  
curves.com

Franklin Hills Overview # 39, Spring/Summer 2010



## Won't Last Long.

Opportunities in real estate often last as long as an ice cream cone on a hot summer day. For sellers who want to get on with their lives, today's opportunities offer a lean inventory of competitive homes for sale--and a larger than expected pool of buyers looking to take advantage of low interest rates that are predicted to climb. Offer a sound value, and the savviest buyers ever will notice. And, if I were a buyer, I would purchase now. Contact me for details before the opportunities melt away.



**COLDWELL  
BANKER**  
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

### Richard Stanley

\* I Agent since 1995, Los Feliz Office • Architectural and Historic Properties Specialist

(323) 906-2417 office • (213) 300-4567 cell

Read my *Los Feliz Ledger* columns and more at [www.richardstanleyrealtor.com](http://www.richardstanleyrealtor.com).

Email: [rstanley@coldwellbanker.com](mailto:rstanley@coldwellbanker.com)

CA DRE license #00971211 ©2010 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.

### “That’s where the good stuff is!”

Senior Lead Officer Gina Chovan tells this story when she speaks to a new community group:

A suspected thief was asked why he focused on the Los Feliz/Franklin Hills area. With a look of surprise at such an obvious question, he said “That’s where the good stuff is.”

Let’s see...what might the ‘good stuff’ look like to someone with theft on their mind?

- Recently emptied box for a 48” flat screen TV in the recycle bin.
- Fancy bike in an open garage.
- GPS on the dashboard of a parked car.
- Great sound system near partially closed sliding doors.
- Expensive hearing aids lying on a car seat in a locked car.

- Computer visible through a back window.

What to do? Just be sensible. Lock your car and doors. Put valuable things away out of sight. Close your garage doors unless you are physically in it. Break up those big boxes and stuff them deep into the recycle bin. Close the curtains so an unfriendly can’t look inside.

If the ‘good stuff’ isn’t visible, it may not deter the dedicated criminal, but it will slow down the opportunistic one.



*Photo courtesy of UTSA Today*

## Medical Marijuana Dispensaries

On February 23, 2010 Franklin Hills Residents complained of activity related to the possible illegal use of marijuana and a complaint of verbal harassment was made. The neighbors believe this activity to be related to the proximity of a medical marijuana establishment to their homes.

In late April, 2010 Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa signed an into law the LA City Council's ordinance regulating the operations of marijuana dispensaries in the area.

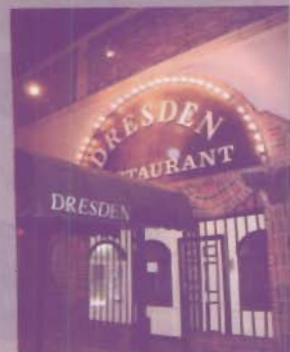
The ordinance seeks to reduce the overall number of dispensaries city-wide from 800 to 70 proportionally distributing the operations throughout the city based on number of qualified patients and local need, with approximately 1 dispensary allowed for every 50,000 people. Under the new regulations the Hollywood Community Plan area, which includes Franklin Hills, will be allowed four medical marijuana clinics, Silverlake/ Echo Park will have one. An exception was made for dispensaries that were registered with the city before 2007 which will be allowed to remain in business if they meet the ordinance's further requirements.

According to the new law, dispensaries must be more than 1000 feet from residential lots, churches, schools, or other dispensaries, employ security guards to patrol a 2 block area, operate 24-hour complaint hot-lines, maintain several months of security footage, and complete a list of registration requirements and fees with the city. (See *Dispensaries*, page 10 )

 **DRESDEN**  
RESTAURANT  
American Continental Cuisine

"Home of Certified Angus Beef"

Dinner Nightly  
4:30 pm-11 pm



Marty & Elayne  
at the  
piano  
bar

Enjoy a 15% Discount  
Dinner, Sunday thru Friday  
with this Invitation. Dining Room Only  
Not valid on groups of 8 or more - Expires 09/30/2010

1760 N. Vermont Avenue

**323-665-4294**

Valet Parking in Rear  
[www.thedresden.com](http://www.thedresden.com)



## 10% OFF All eBay Shipping and Supplies



Moving Boxes  
Shipping Boxes  
Packaging Supplies  
Packaging & Shipping  
Copy / Fax / Scan  
Mail Box / Notary  
Free Delivery with Minimum  
Ebay Consignment  
Specialists

### 3 Convenient Locations to Serve You!

We offer a wide variety of services designed to meet all your shipping and packing needs. Family Owned and Operated.

HOLLYWOOD 5629 Hollywood Blvd • 323-464-9200  
ATWATER VILLAGE 3154 Glendaie Blvd. • 323-661-4100  
LOS FELIZ VILLAGE 1954 Hillhurst Ave. • 323-662-9000

<http://boxbrosla.com>



**BOX BROTHERS**

- Free Shredding up to 5 lbs.
- 10% Off all Supplies and Moving Boxes  
(may not be combined with other discounts. Excludes US Mail)
- \$75 Off Mail Box Rental  
(Hollywood and Atwater Only)



**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

### Franklin Hills Residents Association

**Join Today!**

[www.FranklinHills.org](http://www.FranklinHills.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

## Emergency Preparedness

By: Elizabeth Richardson

As a newcomer to Los Angeles, I worry about earthquakes. As a 44 year resident of Denver, I know how to cope with 2 foot snowstorms (chains on the front tires of the Jeep Wagoneer and a good shovel). But the prospect of the Pacific plate crashing against the North American plate definitely made me want to be better prepared.

So when I heard the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council's Public Safety Committee had scheduled an emergency preparedness class, I signed up to take the once a week CERT class for 7 weeks!

What is CERT you say? Community Emergency Response Team. Why CERT? Because individual citizens are very likely to be on their own for the first day or more after a significant disaster. Emergency crews (Police, Fire, Water, Power, Telephone, Sewer, EMTs) will be out handling the major problems (leaning high rises, downed cell towers, broken water and sewer mains, downed wires, blocked transportation corridors).

The whole purpose of CERT is this: people will have to rely on each other for help in order to meet their immediate life saving and life sustaining needs. In short we are all in this together.

In this issue and the next, I'll share some of the gems I learned. In the meantime, if you are interested in taking a CERT class, go to [www.cert-la.com/classmaps/index.htm](http://www.cert-la.com/classmaps/index.htm) to locate a nearby class and its start date. You'll meet the nicest people.

If you can't go, download the LAFD's Emergency Preparedness booklet: [www.cert-la.com/EmergPrepBooklet.pdf](http://www.cert-la.com/EmergPrepBooklet.pdf). It's highly readable and chockfull of great information.



## 2010-11 City Budget

By: Charley Mims

**T**his year's city budget is almost seven (7) billion dollars. The budget proposed by the Mayor and voted on by the City Council is about 6.7 billion dollars. The city projects a drop in revenues of \$300,000,000.00.

The Mayor has proposed cutting services by laying off 765 employees including civilians in the Police Department. This has the effect of reducing public safety services even though the Mayor intends to continue hiring sworn police officers.

Civilians in the Police Department provide services from detention officers (jailers,) to administrative services, to clerical services, to computer services, mechanics and radio and computer professionals. When civilians are not there to provide these services, sworn officers are taken out of patrol and detective jobs to backfill these critical service needs. It is lot less expensive to have a detention officer in the City jail than it is to have a sworn police officer be a jailer.

It is also less expensive to have civilians provide administrative services than it is to pull patrol officers into the headquarters building to do the same work.

Our City needs to start working smarter. The time for elected officials to pander to us should have been long past. We all know how important it is to have good experienced police officers patrolling our neighborhoods, so let's do the smart thing by getting them out of headquarters and back into our communities.

Another significant approach taken by Mayor Villaraigosa has been to cut back on recreation services and library services. Public safety is not only police finding and arresting folks who break the law—it is also providing other activities for teenagers and other kids to do as an alternative to otherwise getting into mischief. When kids have positive activities that are supervised by adults, they have less time to get into trouble. Library and recreation services not only help kids develop, they also occupy their time in positive ways. We need to strike a balance between catching and punishing bad behavior and providing activities that provide for physical and mental growth for us and our kids. Please encourage our City Councilman and the Mayor to strike such a balance in the 2010-11 fiscal years budget.

Oh, and while they are at it, how about collecting the \$200,000,000.00 in taxes and debt owed to the City? Even collecting a fraction of that debt would save vital services at a time when the economy has us all staggered. Also, how about budgeting smart? When the City general fund is fully reimbursed for services (read employees), why cut those services? This is the most severe recession since the 1930's not only in Los Angeles, but all across the country. If we look at these tough times as an opportunity to work smarter, then we can salvage many critical services while tightening our collective belt while better times come back

*Charley Mims, a 42 year City employee who is active in his union*



<p><b>We're open for breakfast, lunch &amp; dinner</b></p> <p><b>8 to 9 pm / mon-sat</b> <b>9 to 2 pm / sunday</b> (closed holidays)</p> <p><b>We cater your parties &amp; special events</b></p>	<h1 style="font-family: serif;">YUCAS'S</h1> <p><b>ON HOLLYWOOD</b></p>	<p><b>Check out our expanded menu &amp; vegetarian items</b></p> <p><b>Mention this ad and receive 15% off your order at Yucas on Hollywood!</b></p>
<p>4666 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90027  <b>T 323.661.0523 F 323.661.4523 (fax &amp; curbside pick-up) www.yucasla.com</b></p>		

*(Dispensaries, Continued from Page 7)*

In addition to required police background checks, the registration of marijuana dispensaries is being jointly handled by the City Clerk's Office, and the Department of Building and Safety.

According to the ordinance, the regulations "do not interfere with a patient's right to use medical marijuana . . . nor do they criminalize the possession or cultivation of medical marijuana by specifically defined classifications of persons as authorized under State law." While acknowledging the legitimate use of medicinal marijuana the law attempts to address the reported increase, according to the LA Police Department, in violent crime associated with marijuana dispensaries and to see that the medicinal marijuana is analyzed and regularly tested for pesticide contamination.

City registration documents list nine dispensaries within the 90027 zip code which have been directed to cease operations .

Hyperion Healing, at 1913 Hyperion Avenue, says they have not been asked to close and are currently involved in two lawsuits, one along with a group of fellow dispensaries, challenging the city's new regulations.

The FHRA board has attended meetings with residents and police to address complaints of marijuana being smoked openly on the street and the stairs, numerous cars being parked on a cul de sac street with people sitting in them after dark, property theft and intimidation of a resident were alleged. LAPD knows this is an issue of concern to our community. We will continue to monitor the situation and enforcement efforts and will report developments to you in The Overview.



4027 Cumberland Avenue  
[www.4027CumberlandAvenue.com](http://www.4027CumberlandAvenue.com)



**ROSS CARTER & KAREN WEISS**

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
 RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

WE HAVE BEEN YOUR FRANKLIN HILLS EXPERTS FOR OVER 28 YEARS.  
**(323)210-2380**  
 RossCarter@ColdwellBanker.com | KarenWeiss@ColdwellBanker.com  
 DRE #01190160 DRE #00814309

## Solar So Good So Far

By Bruce Carroll

In the last issue of the Overview I wrote about my energy saving cool white roof. That was just the eco-friendly foundation for my solar power system that was hooked up to the DWP last year, just before Thanksgiving. When I got my bill for the first full period of operation I was doing the thanks giving. The bill was 86% less than the bill for the same period a year earlier. And the bill covered mostly December and January, the least sunny most stormy time of year.

My next DWP bill in early April had no charge for electricity, just a notation saying, "Electric Delayed Will Mail Later." Apparently the DWP was perplexed by the fact that the new digital meter they installed showed that I had made a surplus of about 912kwh (kilowatt hours) of power more than I had used since their last reading. Perplexing those you would expect to know what they are doing seems to be par for the course when you get into solar power.

It took the city's department of Building and Safety four trips with up to three inspectors at a time to figure out my system, which unlike most has a backup power provision. In most solar systems if the utility power is down even on the sunniest of days you won't have power. Mine is designed to keep the power on and has batteries to keep lights shining even when the sun isn't. One city inspector shook his head and said he didn't think having batteries in my garage was safe. One of the higher-ups seemed to challenge the very basis of the solar power's growth. He opined that connecting a solar system to the DWP might be illegal because it could be unsafe. Both were proved wrong when faced with the applicable provisions in the electrical code.



Installing the 64 solar panels in November 2009



The backup system involves much more complex wiring than standard solar systems.

It's now been about 6 months that my system has been in operation, and with the hours of daylight getting longer each day, there are many days when I generate more than twice the power that I use. I'm hoping that such bountiful days make up for the really hot ones this summer when my air conditioning system will likely be very hungry for all those surplus kilowatts.

I do have an unshaded flat roof and with 64 south facing solar panels my array is probably larger than most properties in the

Franklin Hills can accommodate, but likely so is my usage, even with power saving measures like CFL bulbs and my new reflective white roof. The system design and installation was coordinated by FHRA member Matt Moses who heads up Mimeos Sustainability Consultants. Solar power can be sort of an addiction. I go out several times each day just to see my meter running backwards and get high from how much power I've made. And for those who are also into saving the planet as well, and money in the long run, the system also reports it has so far saved about 8 tons of CO2 from fouling our atmosphere. If you'd like to know more, send me an e-mail at [BruceCarroll@FranklinHills.org](mailto:BruceCarroll@FranklinHills.org).

## *Neighborhood Obituary*

### *Violet Homer Weber 1915-2010*

Longtime DeLoz Avenue resident and past board member of the Franklin Hills Residents Association, Violet Weber passed away at 94 on February 22, 2010, at a local nursing home from complications of old age including a fall in November last year, according to her niece, Sue Kirschman.

Known to everyone in the neighborhood as Vi she lit up any room with her smile and bright conversation. She was born on July 19, 1915, in Sugar Grove, PA, and moved to Los Angeles during World War II to work in the defense industry. After the war she started working as a publicist for MGM Studios.

About the time she moved to Franklin Hills in 1965, Vi's interest in women's fashion led her to the Los Angeles Times Home Magazine, where she was responsible for the publication's extensive fashion stories and photo layouts with particular interest in California fashion designers. After retiring from the Times she had a home based consulting business advising out of country clients about American fashions.

Violet was one of the original members of the FHRA Board of Directors in 1990, concentrating on Disaster Preparedness and the Welcome Basket

Committees. She spearheaded the committee to relocate the Los Feliz Branch of the LA Public Library to its present home on the corner of Franklin and Hillhurst Avenues. She retired from the board in 1999, but continued to work with the board for neighborhood issues.

She was always looking for ways to help people and bring the community together. When a 13 year veteran Franklin Hills postman retired in 1992 she rallied the neighborhood and threw him a party where almost 100 neighbors attended to show that his dedicated service had truly been appreciated. Vi liked to say, "I wish people would be more cognizant of the fact that they don't just live in a house, they live in a neighborhood."



*Violet Homer Weber 1915-2010*

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**

## E- Policing In the Digital Age

LAPD Northwest Division's neighborhood crime update reports that there have been "over 20 residential burglaries in the Silverlake and Franklin Hills areas" in a recent 4-5 week period. Additionally, auto break-ins, graffiti and bicycle thefts continue to be a problem.

"These incidents are rarely reported in the mainstream media," says Lenny Davis, one of two Senior Lead Officers serving the Franklin Hills area " but knowing what's happening in the community helps citizens take steps to protect themselves and their neighbors. You don't have to wait until it happens to you."

LAPD has stepped up neighborhood patrols in order to stem the problem and offers the community several tools which we can use to become involved in making our neighborhood safer.

*The first thing to do is to sign up for  
Neighborhood Crime Alerts at*

***[www.lapdepolicing.org](http://www.lapdepolicing.org)***

E-Policing, a feature of the LAPD's web site, gives residents access to incident reports, and newsletters, along with prevention tips and localized crime information.

A recent alert for the Franklin Hills neighborhood described home burglaries carried out by suspects who looked into homes or rang doorbells to make sure no one was at home before breaking in. The alert cautioned that suspects had been arrested, but made clear that the police believed others were still at large and directed residents to prevention tips and documents also on the LAPD website.

Another feature of E-Policing and the LAPD website are regularly updated crime maps. Citizens can pinpoint an address and specify a time period to see a satellite view map, complete with local landmarks, and locations of recent incidents color-coded by type of crime.

As a second step in crime prevention the LAPD website offers information on Neighborhood Watch programs and how to join or start a watch in your community. Watch areas can be as large as an entire neighborhood or cover only a single block and can be an effective tool in reducing neighborhood crime.

Thirdly the LAPD assigns a Senior Lead Officer to a small portion of the community, known as a "basic car." Because Franklin Hills overlaps more than one "basic car" we are served by two Senior Lead Officers who act as liaisons between citizens groups (such as Community-Police Advisory Boards and Neighborhood Watch Groups), residents, and the police department. Lenny Davis, and Al Polehonki, Senior Lead Officers for the Franklin Hills neighborhood, monitor crime trends in our area and see that those incidents are brought to the attention of the department and included in the email alerts residents receive when they sign up for E-Policing.

Residents can contact the Senior Lead Officers to report neighborhood incidents and on-going issues or to talk about setting up a Neighborhood Watch group.

To contact our Senior Lead Officers:

Lenny Davis: 213.793.0762  
email [26028@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:26028@lapd.lacity.org),

Al Polehonki: 213.793.0763  
email: [22869@lacity.org](mailto:22869@lacity.org)

## In Franklin Hills a Garden Grows

By: Kathy Siegel

"LA is a garden of Eden for gardeners," says Michelle Flynn, volunteer coordinator of the Norman Harriton Community Garden. "It's hard work but you can really grow a lot of food," she adds. Located on Sanborn Avenue on an edge of the property occupied by LILA (Lycée International de Los Angeles), the garden was founded in 2000 by late Franklin Hills resident and avid gardener Norman Harriton for whom the garden is named, working with former chairman of the FHRA board, Adam Weisman.

Before the community garden was founded, the space had been somewhat of an informal planting area for school personnel but was largely untended. The perimeter of the LILA property, according to Weisman, was poorly maintained which is thought to have contributed to tensions between area residents and the school. FHRA leaders believed cleaning up the area and creating a community garden would improve resident-school relations. The results are impressive. See for yourself at the Garden Open House following the FHRA annual meeting on June 19.

FHRA, DBL Realty, and the Aaroe Associates Charitable Foundation provided initial funding to create the garden. Those monies along with grants from the City Council of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (and some regrading help from the Hollywood Beautification Team and Palermo) turned unkempt acreage into 26 fully edged 15 x 15 foot plots complete with irrigation,

hose bibs and racks, and a combination tool shed greenhouse constructed entirely by garden members.

Currently four of the established plots are assigned to the school. These areas are maintained by Tara Kolla of Silver Lake Farms who teaches organic gardening classes at the location which are offered to the public and are free for garden members ([www.silverlakefarms.com](http://www.silverlakefarms.com)). LILA also pays for the water required for the garden. The remaining plots are tended by area residents who Flynn reports grow a variety of plants, "some flowers, but mostly food."

In exchange for their garden plots, community members pay an annual fee of \$50, used to make repairs, pay lia-

bility insurance premiums, and make minor improvements. Members also attend regular meetings and participate in monthly community "work days" to benefit the garden's common areas. Franklin Hills residents, Flynn says, are welcome to help to "get a taste of what it's like."



Garden Salad  
Photo by James McEwen

All of the neighborhood plots are currently under cultivation. Residents interested in a space in the community garden should contact the FRHA at [garden@franklinhills.org](mailto:garden@franklinhills.org) to be placed on the waiting list or for information on volunteer opportunities. Current wait time for garden spaces is about 2 years.

For information on gardening classes go to .

"I think of it as an inspiration of what you can do with a little bit of dirt," garden coordinator Michelle Flynn says. "If you're walking by and the gate's open," she adds, "come in and say hello."

### Norman Hariton Community Garden Open House!

Don't Miss it! Directly after the  
FHRA Annual Meeting

June 19th @LILA School

#### FIRE EXTINGUISHER TIP Remember PASS

- P** is for Pull the pin.
- A** is for Aim at the base of the fire.
- S** is for Squeeze the trigger (hold upright)
- S** is for Sweep (cover the fire)

### COMPLETE GARDENING SERVICES



Jesus Sanchez, Gardener

(818) 896-9331

Franklin Hills references available

# Fussy Painting



**SCOTT JOHNSON**  
President

Custom  
Handyman Work  
Staining  
Exterior & Interior  
Free Estimates  
Lic # 613910  
Bonded & Insured  
Commerical & Residential

800-695-0696 Voice  
323-663-3741 Fax  
scott@fussypainting.com  
www.fussypainting.com

## Fire Extinguisher Quiz

- 1) Are fire extinguishers all purpose?
- 2) Where is your nearest fire extinguisher located?
- 3) Do you already know how to operate the extinguisher?

Choose your discount

**\$5 off \$20 order**  
Dry cleaning incoming order only

**\$1 off each garment**  
Dry cleaning incoming order only

1 2 3 4 Good for 4 uses  
Exp. 10-30-10

Free pick-up & delivery, just give us a call!



**Los Feliz  
CLEANERS**

Mon - Fri ... 7am - 7pm  
Saturday ... 8am - 6pm  
Sunday ... Closed

1922 Hillhurst Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90027  
**323-665-0737**

## Emergency Preparedness - Additional Source Material

For information on the nationwide CERT program from Citizen Corps, FEMA's grassroots strategy to bring together government and community leaders to involve citizens in all-hazards emergency preparedness and resilience, go to

[www.citizencorps.gov/cert/about.shtm](http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/about.shtm)

For information about local CERT go to Los Angeles

Fire Department CERT website:

[www.cert-la.com](http://www.cert-la.com)

Download the LAFD Emergency Preparedness booklet for 2010:

[www.cert-la.com/EmergPrepBooklet.pdf](http://www.cert-la.com/EmergPrepBooklet.pdf)

## Fire Extinguisher Quiz Answers

1) **Not all extinguishers can be used on all fires. Some handle all three types of fires. Some are specific. Just look for the numbers - the higher the number the better. Look for these letters:**

- A: combustibles such as wood, paper, and cloth.
- B: flammable liquids such as kerosene, oil, and gasoline.
- C: electrical fires and equipment such as TVs and wiring.

2) Either way you could always refresh your memory

3) If you answered no, see the Fire Extinguisher Tip (PASS) on Page 14.



computersWTF

- Repair/Service • Mac Specialist (pc/vista/7 supported)
- Tutoring & Lessons • In-home and remote service
- In the neighborhood •

adam fischer  
(323) 963-3390  
adam@computerswtf.com  
[www.computerswtf.com](http://www.computerswtf.com)

Creating communication between people and computers since 2003

**PILATES METRO**

*Introductory Special  
Three Private Sessions,  
Only \$165!*



**323.906.0088**

[www.pilates-metro.com](http://www.pilates-metro.com)

3178 Glendale Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90039

- Small group classes
- Detailed oriented instruction
- Build a leaner, longer, firmer, stronger physique

## FHRA Supports Rare Plants of Griffith Park Survey

by George Grace

FHRA has supported and helped fund The Griffith Park Natural History Survey (GPNHS) since its inception in 2007. GPNHS is an effort to document the flora and fauna of Griffith Park and is intended to provide data to help preserve this priceless resource for present and future Angelenos. GPNHS has organized a variety of studies which have already established an important knowledge base of Griffith Park bats, mammals, and herptiles. Study reports, including many photographs of Griffith Park flora and fauna are published and can be downloaded from the GPNHS at: <http://www.friendsofgriffithpark.org>.

Presently, GPNHS in collaboration with the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is sponsoring a survey of rare plants found in Griffith Park. The flora of Griffith Park has never been formally described, although GPNHS scientific advisor Dan Cooper and Dr. Richard Fisher (USGS, Western Ecological Research Center) have been working on a list of plants, including irregular collecting of specimens, since spring 2007.

Ten species known from the park are considered "rare" by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS). Of these, seven have been documented as occurring in Griffith Park since 2007, but their populations have yet to be quantified; some of these have been found to be relatively common here, making Griffith Park important for their survival both in the Los Angeles area and in California as a whole.

The seven documented CNPS-rare species include Nevin's barberry, Catalina mariposa-lily, and Humboldt lily. Three CNPS-rare species are known from the park from pre-2007 specimens, and may still exist, but their whereabouts are a mystery. Their discovery would be extremely significant, and could result in the discovery of a heretofore unrecognized area of high conservation concern in the park. The survey is systematically exploring Griffith Park to locate any existing populations.

A report of findings of the Rare Plant Survey will be added to the GPNHS website in October, 2010. The report will include occurrence maps of all ten species, which should help in future planning efforts that need to balance recreation and other uses with biodiversity conservation.

You can make tax-deductible contributions to support GPNHS. Send donations to FHRA, P.O. Box 29122, Los Angeles, CA 90029. Be sure to write in "GPNHS donation" in the "For" section on your check. Thank you for your interest in and support for Griffith Park.



*Rare Humboldt Lily  
Photo by Gerry Hans*

### 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

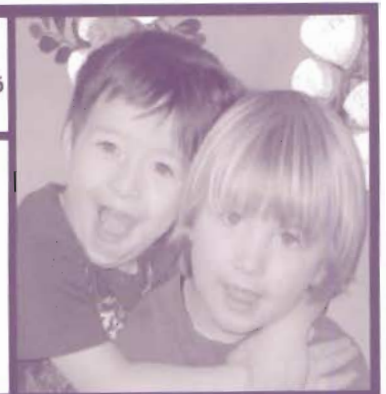
4647 Russell Avenue, South of Franklin Avenue

**(323) 663-8351**

### Lyric Preschool

2328 Hyperion Ave • 323. 667.2275  
[www.lyricpreschool.com](http://www.lyricpreschool.com)

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





## DISCOUNT MEDICAL PHARMACY



2716 GRIFFITH PARK BLVD. LOS ANGELES CA 90027

(323)661-8366 TEL (323)661-0538 FAX

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

MOST INSURANCE PLANS ACCEPTED

SERVICING YOUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1984

## Baller Hardware

2505 Hyperion Ave.

Celebrating our 50th anniversary!



**BALLER  
HARDWARE**  
SINCE 1959



**New store hours!**

**M-F 7:00-6:00**

**Sat 8:00-6:00**

**Sun 9:00-4:30**

**(323) 668-7420**

**Fruits**

Find and circle all of the fruits that are hidden in the grid.  
The words may be hidden in any direction.

I E A P S C P E R P A P A Y A S  
 B S L S I A A E S K I A S S I T Y  
 R R T S S S E N I R A T C E N Y  
 E S U O R P S E T W S E L P P A  
 A R I E C R C M E A S N A S S S  
 A E I P A I P G N T L N O E E E  
 B L U E B E R R I E S O I M P O  
 A E P T N A S P W R T R U S E B  
 N B S S P E G A A M R K S P S L  
 A A L E G R P I B E A P E E E O  
 N K S N R B E L B L R T I A A S  
 A B A A R M G W R O E E R C E I  
 S R T E R B A E E N T T R H L W  
 O S E I R R E B P S A R E E N I  
 C I C E T G E S S E A B H S R K  
 I L C S S P L U M S A E C E R S

- |             |            |              |
|-------------|------------|--------------|
| APPLES      | GRAPES     | PEACHES      |
| APRICOTS    | KIWIS      | PEARS        |
| BANANAS     | LEMONS     | PLUMS        |
| BLUEBERRIES | NECTARINES | RASPBERRIES  |
| CANTALOUPE  | ORANGES    | STRAWBERRIES |
| CHERRIES    | PAPAYAS    | WATERMELONS  |

**KIDS PAGE**



Rare flower from Griffith Park: Plummer's Mariposa Lily. Photo by Dan Cooper

**Support Friends of Los Feliz Public Library**

*We NEED your used books,  
free pick-up by calling*

Angela Stewart (323) 665-7840

**Happy Summer!**



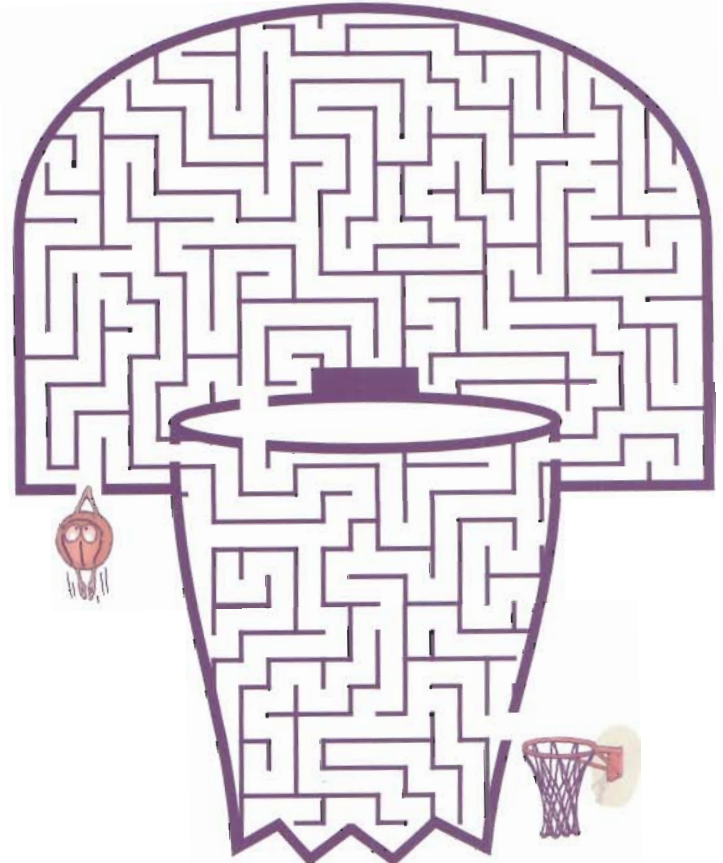
Help the basketball through the net shaped maze to swoop into the net.

**Word Search Solution**



This is the solution to the puzzle located here:

**Fruits**





# CHI DYNASTY

S I N C E 1 9 8 3



"MOST UNIQUE & EXOTIC  
CHINESE CUISINE  
FOR THE GOURMET."  
SERVING LOS FELIZ  
FOR OVER 23 YEARS.  
FAMILY OWNED  
AND OPERATED.



1813 HILLHURST AVE · IN THE LOS FELIZ PLAZA · FULL BAR · DINE IN · TAKE OUT · DELIVERY

323-667-3388 ·

CHIDYNASTY.COM

· FAX 323-667-3393

## FHRA Membership Form

Join Your Neighborhood Association Today

**DONATIONS TO THE FHRA ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.**  
*Thanks for your support.*

DATE \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / 2010

NEW  RENEWAL

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**I AM INTERESTED IN:**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification           | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Garden                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Crime/Graffiti                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Prep./Safety    | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Median                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise Abatement          | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning/Zoning                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Prospect Studios relations                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Schools/Youth Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Stairways <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> Website <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Cards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____              |   |   |

DUES are \$30.00 per couple or \$15.00 per person --- Larger Contributions Appreciated

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$15\_\_\_\_ \$30\_\_\_\_ \$50\_\_\_\_ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: FHRA --- Mail to: PO Box 29122 Los Angeles, CA 90029

Franklin Hills Overview # 39, Spring/Summer 2010

**george  
eileen  
moreno**  
REALTORS



Call Us When You Are Ready To Sell And Let Us Show You Why Our Approach To Selling Homes In The Franklin Hills Is So Successful!

*George & Eileen 323-668-7600*

**Just Listed**



**3933 Cumberland Ave**      **Los Feliz**      **\$599,000**  
Classic 1924 Two bedroom, one bath California Bungalow above the street to enjoy spectacular city views. Remodeled kitchen and bath. AC, copper plumbing. Potential for wonderful garden. A great opportunity to own a very charming home in the hills!

**One More Listed & Sold In Your Neighborhood!**



**3321 Wood Terrace**      **Los Feliz**      **\$539,000**  
*Dear George & Eileen, Your suggestions to prepare our home for sale worked! All your efforts on our behalf were so appreciated. And thank you for helping us with the purchase of our new home too. We would highly recommend you to anyone looking to buy or sell their home Los Feliz! Sean Stalbam and Judy Florido*

2150 Hillhurst Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90027 • georgeandeileen.com • 323.668.7600

RE/MAX

# PALESMO

Serving Breakfast Sat & Sun. 9a.m. to 2 p.m.



1858 N. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90027

**(323) 663-1178 - 663-1430 - fax (323) 660-0284**

Hours: Mon 11 am - 10:30 pm, Wed Thur Sun 11am - 12 am  
Fri Sat - 11 am - 1 am

*Now Open Saturday and Sunday for Breakfast 9:00 am to 2:00 pm*