

Los Feliz Ledger

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March 2009

Criminal Charges Filed vs. Vermont Hand Wash

By Heather Downie
Ledger Contributing Writer



Protestors march outside Vermont Hand Car Wash last year.

LOS FELIZ—Nearly 200 criminal charges were filed in February by Los Angeles prosecutors against the owners and operators of Vermont Hand Wash.

The charges allege Nissan and Benny Pirian mistreated employees and failed to pay \$450,000 in wages to their employees over five years. If convicted, the brothers face more than 80 years in jail and fines of up to \$136,000 each.

The manager of Vermont Hand Wash, Manuel Reyes, and four other carwashes owned by the Pirians were also charged with 176 counts of worker abuse.

see Car Wash page 16

Resident's Grievance Still Being Evaluated by GGPNC

By Rachel Heller
Ledger Contributing Writer

The Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council's (GGPNC) Executive Committee met Jan. 29th with Los Feliz resident Dana Cremin to discuss accusations Cremin made in a grievance letter that the council has violated both the Brown Act and the California Public Records Act.

Cremin filed a formal grievance against the council to its city oversight group, the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), on Dec. 9th.

In Cremin's letter, she claims the council violated both acts by "deliberately" withholding information from the public about a preferential parking district she first sought in 2006.

see GGPNC page 22

Search Continues For Silver Lake Robbery Suspects

By Heather Downie
Ledger Contributing Writer

SILVER LAKE—Undercover Los Angeles Police Dept. officers arrested two juveniles Feb. 7th allegedly involved in a rash of robberies here that have kept residents on edge for weeks.

While only the pair have been caught thus far, police suspect many others were involved in the crimes, perhaps, police said, "opportunistic" gang

members looking for easy targets. LAPD Capt. William Murphy said he believes multiple gangs are involved.

The two arrested are a 15-year-old and 16-year-old accused of carrying out two of 10 robberies that occurred in Silver Lake and Echo Park between Dec. 30th and Jan. 31st. Police did not release their names, due to their age.

Both juveniles were found with stolen property from the robberies near the intersection

of Hyperion and Rowena avenues.

"We have a very simple message for those who will continue to commit crimes in our community. You will get caught and you will go to jail," said Los Angeles City Council President Eric Garcetti. "These are our streets. Not theirs."

The 10 robberies occurred



Los Angeles City councilmember Tom LaBonge at a press conference Feb. 3rd, briefing the media on the spate of attacks. Also pictures are LAPD Northeast Division Senior Lead Officer Gina Chovan and Los Angeles City Council President and Silver Lake councilmember Eric Garcetti. Photo courtesy of: Los Angeles City Councilmember Tom LaBonge

in two clusters. One cluster of four occurred in Silver Lake. The other six, in Echo Park near the intersection of Glendale and Sunset boulevards. As a result, January robberies in the area increased 175% when compared to the same period in 2008 according to LAPD data.

While ages and races of the victims varied, all were males caught walking alone. In most cases, suspects used a gun or knife to seize wallets, cell phones and iPods.

Flyers and e-mails about the string of robberies immediately "spread like the Griffith Park fire of 2007," said Los Angeles City councilmember Tom LaBonge.

One widely distributed flyer described the night of Jan. 30th, when one of the victims was brutally assaulted while walking from Blair's Restaurant to The Edendale Grill on Rowena Avenue.

"He was pulled into the back of a dark driveway, had a gun pressed against his temple, and was then savagely thrown to the ground and beaten-crushing his left cheek," the flyer read.

While some residents initially assumed the robberies were hate motivated crimes, police refuted those rumors at a community meeting attended by nearly 400 people at Ivanhoe Elementary School on Feb. 5th.

At that gathering, police also addressed residents' frustration with the lack of communication between the police and the community about the incidences. Many residents said they learned of the crimes from friends, not officers.

"I feel the 10th or 11th... attack might have been prevented had [the victim] been

see Robberies page 15



CAR FREE FRIDAYS—Los Angeles City Council president Eric Garcetti and bicycle advocates kick off "Car-Free Fridays," a new campaign launched by the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition, which encourages riders to commute on bicycle at least one Friday a month. The congregation of cyclists met for the program's kick off ride, Jan. 30th, at the Hollywood/Western Metro Station, biked along Sunset Blvd. in Silver Lake, through the Second Street Tunnel and concluded at City Hall in downtown. For more information: www.la-bike.org Photo by: Marie Chao

Billy Stays, So Zoo Construction Resumes

by Rachel Heller, Ledger Contributing Writer

LOS FELIZ—Construction was slated to resume last month on the Los Angeles Zoo's \$42 million Pachyderm Forest, after the Los Angeles City Council voted to allow the zoo's lone elephant to remain at the facility.

A contractor was approved by the Board of Public Works the first week in February, said zoo director John Lewis.

"We're mobilizing and getting things ready," Lewis said. "Construction will start up again as fast as possible."

Los Angeles city councilmembers voted 11-4 on Jan. 28th to give the controversial

project the green light, ending months of debate over whether Billy, an Asian elephant, should remain at the zoo or be shipped to an animal refuge in northern California. Animal rights advocates and several councilmembers had argued the zoo's new 3.6-acre exhibit would be too small for Billy.

At the packed, nearly three-hour city council meeting, a parade of celebrities spoke out against the project, including Lily Tomlin, Cher and former game show host Bob Barker, who had earlier

see Zoo page 16



Billy will soon be moving to the L.A. Zoo's new Pachyderm Forest. Photo by: Michelle Kunz

[LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER]

On Saturday, March 7th, over 100 local children between the ages of 5 and 12 will take the field at Riverside Drive for the first matches ever of the newly formed Los Feliz American Youth Soccer Organization [AYSO] region.



Until now, children wishing to play AYSO soccer have had to travel to the mid-Wilshire/Fairfax area, downtown or to Glendale. We now have a league of our own and look forward to seeing the numbers grow when the children play again in the fall.

Having such a youth sports program in the greater Los Feliz area has been a dream of mine as a parent for some time now. The nearly three-hour long throng of parents registering their children to play last January at a table outside Albertson's supermarket on Hillhurst Avenue is proof others felt similarly.

I want to thank Franklin Hills resident and long time AYSO enthusiast Brent Whittlesley for saying "yes" when we approached him with the idea. Whittlesley volunteers as an AYSO Regional Commissioner and is now overseeing the day to day operation of the Los Feliz region.

Also, thanks go out to Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council representative Mark Mauceri, who got the word out about registration to our local schools and assisted during registration.

Finally, a special thank you is also in order to Los Angeles City Councilmember Tom LaBonge who helped AYSO secure the Riverside Drive field with the Dept. of Recreation and Parks. Without LaBonge's help, Los Feliz AYSO would not be a reality today.

I also want to extend my sincerest gratitude and good wishes to four new Los Feliz Village Business Improvement board members (see story, page 3). As I have written in this column before, the BID, of which I was a board member the last two years, has been nearly comatose for some time now with declining interest and a lack of professionalism. Lately, the board was often unable to even meet a 5-member quorum.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the recent BID election only garnished a paltry 12% voter turnout (37 returned ballots total). The election—or even the call for candidates—



The new Bid Board for 2009. Pictured are (bottom): Dora Herrera and Ermanno Neiviller. Back row: Kerry Slattery, Jonathan Sample, Laura Springer, Chris Serrano, Rob Valerio and Robert Benavides. Not pictured: Mark Ciancuilli, Tony Fanara and Nelia Cacic.

was not publicized anywhere that I know of, including in this publication even though I offered free advertising space to the board for that purpose. Also, I've heard rumblings that some BID members in the area did not even receive a ballot to vote. Ballots, this year, were hand-delivered instead of

mailed as is customary.

But hopefully with these four new concerned and enthusiastic board members (three seats are going to husband and wife sets) the BID can once again be a vital and relevant force in our community. Otherwise, it should be disbanded.

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[POLICE BLOTTER MARCH 2009]

Aggravated assaults: 2
Grand Theft Auto: 21
Robberies: 5
Burglary Theft from Vehicle: 49
Burglary: 10

Burglary: Feb. 12th, at 2:45 p.m., on the 4500 block of Kingswell Ave. Suspect pried open rear sliding door, entered, ransacked resident and took property.

Robbery: Feb. 10th, at 8:50 a.m., on the 1900 block of Palmerston Place. Victim parked his vehicle and was standing outside when two suspects approached him from behind. Suspects brandished a handgun and demanded property, victim began to yell and suspects fled with victim's property on foot.

Burglary: Jan. 31st, 9:30 a.m. on the 2000 block of New Hampshire. Suspect pried open rear door, entered, ransacked home and took property.

Robbery: Jan. 29th, 12:30 p.m. at

La Paz/Hyperion. Victim was walking on the sidewalk when two suspects approached him and forced him to the ground. Suspects kicked victim in the face, removed property and fled on foot.

Robbery: Jan. 31st, 12:30 am at Rowena and Silver Lake boulevards. Victim was walking when suspect grabbed him from behind. Suspect placed handgun to victim's head and demanded property. Suspects forced victim to the ground and struck him with an unknown object. Suspects took victim's property and fled in unknown direction.

Robbery: Jan. 31st, 8:55 p.m. at Griffith Park and Hyperion Ave. Victim was walking when two suspects approached him. Suspects brandished handguns and demanded property. Victim complied and suspects fled in a vehicle.



BID Seats 6 New Board Members With Less Than a 12% Return

By Allison Cohen

LOS FELIZ—The Los Feliz Village Business Improvement District (BID) seated six new board members in February, after a dismal election return of 11.7%.

A total of 37 ballots were returned of 300 that were printed and hand delivered to BID members over the course of three days. Another 15 ballots were sent electronically to various e-mail addresses, according to election chair and BID Vice President, Chris Serrano.

Results for new board members are as follows: Robert and Arzu Benavides/Distant, (32 votes); Susan Cianciulli-Bailey and Mark Cianciulli/Solutions, (30 votes); Jonathan Sample/Fresh Pressed, (29 votes); and Heather Arndt and Rob Valerio/Happy, (33 votes).

Nick Gallo/Blue Rooster Art Supplies (6 votes) and incumbent Nina Fayad/Alberto Salon, (14 votes) were not elected/re-elected respectively.

Current board members that were re-elected to another two-year term were: Nelia Cacic/Washington Mutual, (26 votes) and Dora Herrera/Yuca's, (33 votes).

The board—now 11 in total—join current representatives: Ermanno Neiviller of Il Capriccio; Chris Serrano of Coldwell Banker; Laura Springer of Springer Chiropractic; Kerry Slattery of Skylight Books and Tony Fanara of Palermo's.

Nominations for officers of the new board were held the BID's Feb. 11th meeting and will be posted on the BID's website.

[ROVING REPORTER]

How Do You Feel About Historic Status For Griffith Park?

By Jennifer Haning
Ledger Contributing Writer

The Los Angeles City Council recently voted to grant Griffith Park historic monument status. How do you feel about that?



"There are too many things in Los Angeles that are not the way they were originally built; too many things are losing their historical value."

— William Lazaro



"I've only been [to Griffith Park] a couple of times, but I like it the way it is. If it's being granted historic monument status then they obviously think that what it is now is good."

— Kellie Francia



"I think it would be good to see the park become a little more modernized for families and kids. I think the city could

make some advances, at least to incorporate more technology like the California Science Center." — Jennifer Lazaro



"It's the same now as when I was a kid, and I think it should keep its original structures. It's more meaningful this way, plus if

it gets too commercial around here things might get a little crazy and out of hand."

— Naoya Imanishi



"I think it's really important to keep Griffith Park as pure as we can because it's the largest urban park in the country. If we're

not careful we'll lose it... It's one of the jewels in our neighborhood." — Kerry Slattery



"There is so much value in our natural environment, and I am pleased with the council's decision to preserve this precious land-

mark. I feel content knowing that Griffith Park will remain a place of authentic organic beauty." — Debra Britten

[ECHO PARK CORRESPONDENT]
Dodgertown Hosts World Baseball Classic
 By Hayley Fox
 Echo Park Correspondent



The World Baseball Classic (WBC) competition comes to Dodger Stadium this month, bestowing Elysian Park with an honor that may soon become competitively covered.

The WBC began in March 2006, as the first opportunity for international baseball teams to compete at the major league level, using their most talented baseball professionals. Other world competitions such as the Olympics overlap with major league play in many countries, therefore limiting teams' options and the opportunity to assemble a top roster.

This year, the 2009 World Baseball Classic is striving for a display of international baseball excellence as they hope to solidify their tradition and make the games an every four year event.

Beginning in Tokyo on March 5th with a game between China and Japan, the WBC will continue through the month with games also in Mexico City, Mexico; Toronto, Canada; and San Juan, Puerto Rico. Sixteen teams from around the globe will be eliminated down to four by the time these games reach Los Angeles.

The World Baseball classic is an opportunity for players to return to their home country to play for their hearts, and not for a contract. A total of seven of our own Los Angeles Dodgers will be playing for various international teams, including Russell Martin for Canada, Jonathan Broxton for the USA, and Juan Castro for Mexico.

While the USA team boasts an occasional superstar like New York Yankees' Derek Jeter, many highly competitive players are still restricted from play due to franchise fear of injury that would offset season play. Dodger Stadium is hosting the WBC's semi-finals and final game March 21-23, and with the Dodger's wave of retiring players and the probable loss of Manny Ramirez, the WBC is sure to be an inspiring start to the uphill battle of the new season.

[SILVER LAKE CORRESPONDENT]
Lucie Jones Writes Her Life Story
 by Michael Locke, Silver Lake Correspondent

Among the myriad activities offered by the Griffith Park Adult Community Center, the Life Writing Class stands out as a powerful creative experience for many members.

I attended a session of the class in February, at which (Los Angeles City Council President) Eric Garcetti honored class member Lucie Jones. Jones, now 91 years young, has had a long and distinguished career as an attorney. In a profession dominated by men, she was a true feminist long before the phrase was coined. Jones has been regaling her fellow class members with tales of her adventures as a female lawyer, homemaker and mother from the 1950s on, until her retirement in 1987.

"The class has been very meaningful to the participants," said Bea Gold, a long-time Silver

Lake activist. "The members are very supportive of each other, allowing each to tell their personal stories. Over the years, through encouragement, each has seen their writing skills improve the participants have grown closer together."

Jones has touched many with her stories, including teacher Jeanette Shelburne.

"She has delighted the writing group with her stories' hard-biting wit and clarity, yet she's always driven to explore her art. She consistently applies critiques to add more sensory detail, explore complex relationships and include dialog. She's a shining example of ongoing learning throughout life."

The class is sponsored by the Hollywood Education and Career Center, part of LAUSD's Programs for older adults.

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[GREETINGS FROM TOM]
No More Broken Windows
 By Los Angeles City Councilmember
 Tom LaBonge

Thirty-five years in service to the City of Los Angeles has made me a believer in the broken-window theory of public safety. If just *one* broken window remains on a city building for several days, soon every window will be broken,

erty, dial 3-1-1.)

But, what about graffiti? How about furniture that piles up on one section of sidewalk because someone left an old couch there and now everyone thinks dumping is OK?

These are the problems that motivated me to create

But, what about graffiti? How about furniture that piles up on one section of sidewalk because someone left an old couch there and now everyone thinks dumping is OK?

regardless of whether the surrounding neighborhood is affluent or poor.

This theory was tested in a 1969 study by Stanford University psychologist Philip Zimbardo and was popularized years later by an article in the *Atlantic Monthly* magazine.

The moral of this story for me, as the councilmember for your area, is to work hard to keep neighborhoods looking neat and clean. Clean neighborhoods are safe neighborhoods. To me, public safety has to be our number one priority.

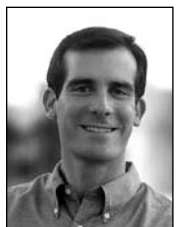
The city's Dept. of Building and Safety has an excellent code enforcement bureau to deal with abandoned and neglected properties, some of which may have broken windows. For information about their work, visit www.lacity.org/LADBS/code_enforcement/code_enforcement.htm. (To file an anonymous complaint about an abandoned or neglected prop-

the position of Beautification Deputy on my staff. When city budget cuts led to talk of lay-offs, I created this position so that regardless of city staffing levels, we could keep our streets and sidewalks clean and not breeding grounds for vandalism and worse.

I encourage everyone to keep their own properties neat and well-lit. If you see graffiti or bulky items piling up, or need your own bulky items picked up, call 3-1-1. If a problem persists, email me directly at: tom.labnge@lacity.org (attention: Beautification Deputy). If you're email-savvy, I strongly suggest you take advantage of the city's e-policing program, which sends automated updates on recent crimes in your area. You can sign up at: www.lapdonline.org/e_policing.

Stay safe, and as always, continue to enjoy and love Los Angeles.

[CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT ERIC GARCETTI]



Silver Lake Crimes
 By Eric Garcetti, President,
 Los Angeles City Council

A recent cluster of robberies and attacks in Silver Lake remind us all that even with crime at historic lows, we must continue to be vigilant about public safety in our neighborhoods.

In a three-day span, four muggings near Hyperion and

from the time they occurred. The two suspects are known gang members, ages 15 and 16, and a search warrant of their homes resulted in the discovery of guns as well as iPods, cell phone and other items connecting them to the robberies. Police believe that these two were also responsible

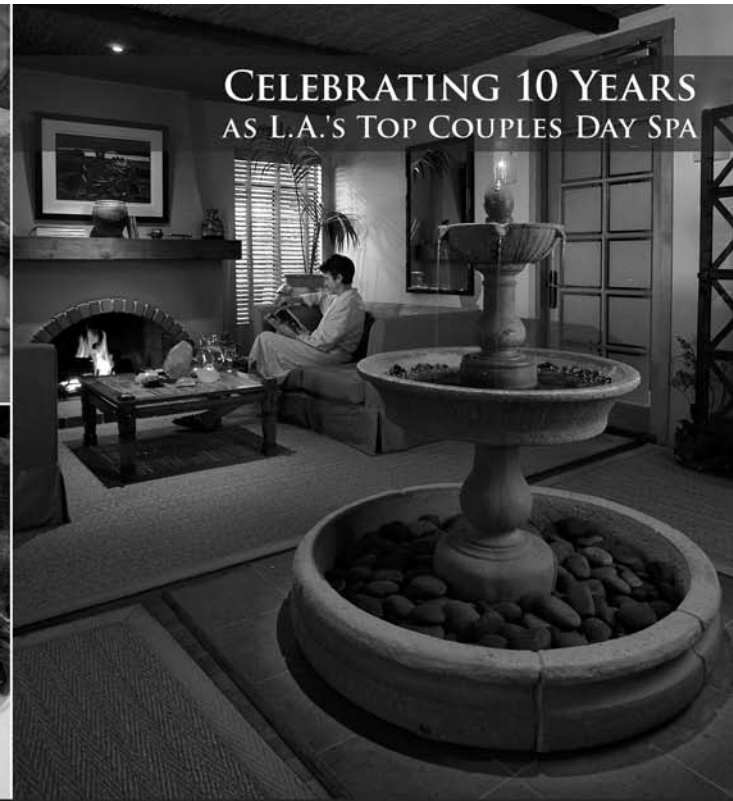
In a three-day span, four muggings near Hyperion and Rowena occurred, and some victims were being beaten or cut with a sharp object.

Rowena occurred, and some victims were being beaten or cut with a sharp object. This spate of attacks also occurred within a few weeks of six others in the Silver Lake and Echo Park neighborhoods. In all ten cases, the victims were males walking alone.

Because of their diligence and expertise, Los Angeles Police Dept. officers arrest suspects in two of the Silver Lake cases less than 10 days

for at least one other robbery in a different area.

I want to acknowledge the hundreds of community members who attended a meeting at Ivanhoe Elementary School to learn more about these incidents directly from LAPD and to express their concerns and share information to help solve these crimes. Overall, we have seen the quality of life in Silver Lake and Echo Park increase



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in recent years and that is due in large part to the active, engaged residents and business owners.

Although two arrests have been made, we are all well aware that we still need to find those who are responsible for the eight other robberies. If you have any information about any of these incidents, please report them to LAPD

Northeast Division (213-847-4263) so that we can bring the perpetrators to justice.

In addition, please protect yourself by walking with another person if it is dark and staying along well-lit paths. LAPD has increased patrol of the areas where the attacks occurred, but we can all take sensible precautions to make ourselves less desirable targets

for muggers.

The safety of our neighborhoods is my top priority. My office will continue to work with LAPD and Councilmember LaBonge to monitor the situation. If we are all vigilant, take precautions, work with LAPD, and watch out for each other, we can prevent more of these crimes from happening.

[RECAP]

Griffith Park—Now A Historic Monument

By Rachel Heller, Ledger Contributing Writer

NOTE: Griffith Park was designated a Historic Cultural Monument in January just as our February edition went to press. To catch readers up to date, here is a recap of that story.

LOS ANGELES—Ending almost eight months of debates and panel reviews, the Los Angeles City Council unanimously designated Griffith Park a Historic-Cultural Monument on Jan. 27th. The move makes the 4,218-acre park the largest monument in the country.

The Council chamber erupted in applause when the votes were tabulated, after Griffith Van Griffith, great-grandson of the park's donor and namesake, told councilmembers that Col. Griffith Jenkins Griffith would have been proud.

"I am astonished and delighted at everybody's passion for this park," Van Griffith said. "This will add another layer of protection against development so that future generations can enjoy the park the way we all have. The city may change in the future, but hopefully, we will always have Griffith Park the way it is."

The designation places all proposed changes to the park under the review of the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission. The five-member commission recommended historic status for Griffith Park in October after crowds of park and wildlife advocates urged the city to protect the park's open spaces and hiking trails against potential development in the future.

Park facilities that don't contribute to the historic significance of the park – such as the freeways, the Toyon Canyon landfill and the Autry National Center – are excluded from the designation, which requires that future park projects conform to the park's rustic aesthetic.

Los Angeles now has more than 900 Historic-Cultural Monuments. Other local parks and open spaces so designated include Barnsdall Art

Park, Echo Park, Silver Lake and Ivanhoe reservoirs and the Chavez Ravine Arboretum.

The Griffith J. Griffith Charitable Trust applied for Historic-Cultural Monument status on May 9th of last year, the day after the one-year anniversary of the 817-acre Griffith Park fire.

"The designation of Griffith Park as a Historic-Cultural Monument is a very positive development for Griffith Park and all citizens of Los Angeles, and is long overdue," said Philip Gasteier, president of the Greater Griffith Park

Neighborhood Council (GG-PNC). "It will assist our city employees in proudly maintaining the park consistent with its historical character. Perhaps most importantly, it will help to insure that citizens are informed of future proposals regarding the park and have the opportunity to make their voices heard."

Employees of the Los Angeles Dept. of Recreation and Parks, which operates Griffith Park, have a six-month grace period to learn how the designation impacts their maintenance of the park.

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[IVANHOE]
1:1 is Tons of Fun

By Stella Olivia Royo and Alexis Watkins, 5th grade

Here we are in the winter of 2009, and Ivanhoe Elementary School students and teachers are working hard, as usual. However, not quite everything is the same. Ivanhoe's technology is improving every second. This is the second year of our 1:1 Learning Program with laptop computers.

Students have been using their computers for projects, experimenting with the new Leopard system, and having fun using different programs such as Safari, Photo Booth, Pages and Microsoft Word.

"I think that computers give kids an additional way to express themselves," said 5th grade teacher, Ben Wegner.

The 5th graders have been working on many projects, including country reports for a "Heritage" unit using Keynote, iMovie, iTunes and Pages.

"I enjoy doing 'My Dictionary' on Keynote because I get to learn new words every week, and find pictures making a visual definition," said 5th grader Kaitlin Caoili.

The fourth graders have been working on projects with their laptops as well, including brochures for their "Mystery To Medicine" unit. Third graders have also been doing some creative and colorful assignments on the computers, such as collages. Who knew laptops could make school so much fun?

[FRANKLIN AVENUE ELEMENTARY]

The Inauguration...In Person
By Erin Murray, 4th Grade

WASHINGTON, DC—I am standing among thousands of people gathered here on the Mall in our nation's capital, waiting for the inauguration ceremony to begin. I can't believe we made it! After flight delays due to weather, sitting for three hours straight on the turnpike because of a 23-car pile-up, and getting the wrong directions three times to the Mall, it seems like a dream we are actually here. It may be only 23 degrees outside, but my dad and I feel too excited to notice how cold it is.

From our spot near the World War II Memorial, we are able to see the Washington Monument and hear all the speeches on a "jumbotron" in front of us. All around us the chant of "O-BA-MA! O-BA-MA! O-BA-MA!" rises from the crowd.

As Vice President-elect Joe Biden steps onto the podium to be sworn in, there is a huge applause with whistling (the loudest from my dad!). Now comes the moment we all have been waiting for: President-elect Barack Obama and his wife Michelle walk across the stage and take their places. The noise from everyone clapping and whistling gets even louder.

Then, all at once, a hush settles over the entire length of the Mall. We are listening to our 44th President take his oath. He repeats the words in a voice that is clear and strong. As soon as we hear, "Congratulations, Mr. President!" the crowd explodes! People are jumping for joy, hugging one another, and even crying (including my dad).

Long after the day is over, I will remember this historical "moment in time."

It was an experience I will never forget. Thanks, Dad.

[MICHELTORENA STREET SCHOOL]

Dancing in Valentine's Day

Mothers and sons and fathers and daughters had the chance to have some fun and support their school at the "Father/Daughter-Mother/Son Valentine's Dance" Feb. 13th. The event was sponsored by the PTA and raised over \$400 for the school.

The dance was held in the school auditorium that had been decorated appropriately with lots of hand-crafted hearts. A beautiful, five-foot balloon valentine served not only as decoration, but as a backdrop for photos.

An eclectic mix of music was provided by "DJ Herbie" whose lively tunes had people literally "dancing in the aisles." And when parents and students alike needed a break, they enjoyed refreshments supplied by the PTA.

Organizers would like to thank all those who helped to make the event such a success.

Community Blood Drive to Benefit CHLA



On March 12th from 12 noon to 4 p.m., the Los Feliz/Silver Lake community will host a blood drive to benefit Childrens Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) in honor of Parker Brockway who is a Hematology/Oncology patient currently at CHLA. Parker is a life long Los Feliz resident and Camelot Kids pre-schooler.

Parker was diagnosed with a benign brain tumor in December 2006 and has had many surgeries along with starting a second round of chemotherapy this January. Her treatment may require receiving blood donated by friends and family.

Parker's pre-school, Camelot Kids in Silver Lake, will host the blood drive. The staff is committed to raising awareness in the surrounding community that Childrens Hospital Los Angeles needs blood on a regular basis. A donation of blood directly to the hospital saves time and resources so that the hospital can treat many more children for much less cost.

For more information call Camelot Kids at (323) 662-2663. To learn more about involvement with Childrens Hospital and their "Los Feliz: A Community that Cares" fundraising campaign, call Karen Wirick at (323) 361-1711.

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**[PILGRIM]
March at Pilgrim School**

By Jake Weber, Grade 11

Our Science Fair is coming in March! Students are already hard at work planning, growing and constructing their science projects. Last year two Pilgrim students were semi-finalists in the L.A. County Fair and this year we're aiming even higher.

Elementary students will give a Spring Music Concert in March and the Pilgrim 7th graders will travel to Joshua Tree for a class retreat. Our Kindergarteners will also be going to the theater.

The rest of us will participate in a "Green Sale," selling paper goods made from recycled paper.

Proceeds will go to support environmental groups, including Tree People.

Also in March is our Read-a-thon. Pilgrim students will collect pledges from family members for every book they read and the funds will go to support our school libraries. Pilgrim parents have a March activity, too. They will attend our school's 50th anniversary party, the Golden Gala, which will honor our alumni and raise funds to support the school. Alumni from as far away as Texas are coming to join in the festivities.

Glenfeliz Blvd. Elementary Fundraiser, March 7th

The Friends of Glenfeliz Blvd. Elementary School's Silent Auction will be Saturday, March 7th from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at 3135 and 3137 Glendale Blvd.

The event will be hosted by Black Maria Gallery, Grain and Viet Noodle.

There will be food and live music, as well as an art show at Little Bird Gallery (3195 Glendale Blvd.) featuring artwork created by the students.

Funds will help support Glenfeliz Elementary and provide a great opportunity to find goods and services at auction prices.



**[IMMACULATE HEART]
Educating Young Minds**

By Suzie Shehayeb '10 and Anne Suh '10

Immaculate Heart High School recently observed Freedom from Chemical Dependence (FCD) Week, which addressed effective approaches to substance abuse prevention.

Two health professionals, who have achieved long-term recovery from alcohol and drug addictions, led a series of presentations for students, teachers, administrators and parents. They encouraged us to make responsible choices, so we can lead healthy and happy drug-free lives. Their own personal stories of their struggles with addiction and recovery were very moving.

This month, many juniors are busy preparing for their

first SAT test after completing a preparation course on campus. Meanwhile, freshmen will attend a day of recollection, which always offers a quiet break from classes and time together. Biology students are also gearing up for a field trip to the Los Angeles Zoo, where they will observe an animal of their choosing for a school report.

Rehearsals are also under way for the Genesians production of Moliere's "Learned Ladies," which opens March 26th at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. Performances continue at 7:30 p.m. March 27th – March 28th, with a 2 p.m. matinee on March 29th. Tickets can be purchased at the door.



**[STARGAZING]
March 2009**

By Anthony Cook
Griffith Observatory Astronomer

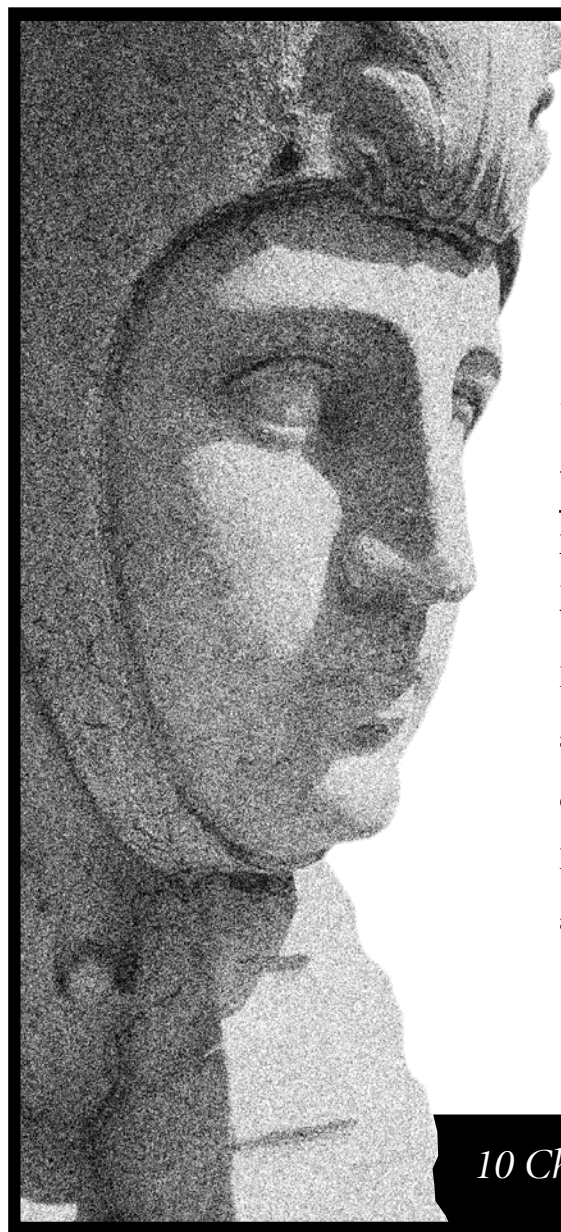

Daylight Saving Time returns at 2:00 a.m., P.S.T., Sun. March 8th. Remember to "Spring ahead" (even though spring doesn't start for another two weeks).

Spring in the northern hemisphere officially starts at 4:44 a.m., P.D.T. on Fri., March 20th. Until autumn in September, our planet's northern hemisphere is tilted more toward the sun than the southern hemisphere.

Venus remains visible in the evening sky for the first three weeks of March, but appears lower each evening as darkness falls until the 21st, when it can be only seen in bright evening twilight. The planet swings into the morning sky starting on the 27th, and should be east to spot low in the east shortly before sunrise by month's end.

Saturn, in Leo the Lion, puts on its best show of the year on the 8th, when it is at opposition (meaning opposite the sun in the sky), at its closest to earth, and visible all night long. Through a telescope, the rings appear very narrow, tilted only 3 degrees from edge-on to our view.

The moon reaches first quarter phase on the evening of the 3rd, and is full on the night of the 10th, when it is at opposition and near the planet Saturn in the sky. In its waning phases the moon shrinks to last quarter on the morning of the 18th. As a crescent, it appears in the dawn near Jupiter on the 22nd and just above Mars on the 24th, then is new on the morning of the 26th. On the night of the 27th, the slender waxing crescent moon reappears in the west after sunset.

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[LYCEE INTERNATIONAL DE LOS ANGELES]

Community Roots Bear Fruit



Councilmember Tom LaBonge rolled up his sleeves to plant a bare-root fruit tree with LILA 1st graders.

First graders from the French/American School, Lycée International de Los Angeles (LILA), planted bare-root peach and plum trees in a special ceremony Feb. 2nd at the Norman Harriton/Franklin Hills Community Garden organized by their gardening teacher, Tara Kolla of Silver Lake Farms.

Helpers included Los Angeles City Councilmember Tom LaBonge; Dede Devlin of Tree People; Franklin Hills resident Mrs. Monique Harriton; her daughter, Suzanne McKeivitt and granddaughter, Lisa Rae Harriton.

LILA School Campus Director, Deborah Thornburg also helped plant the trees along with Los Angeles city council district 4 Legislative Deputy, Lisa Schechter; the children's 1st grade teacher, Gerome Givron; Franklin Hills Community Gardening coordinator, Donna Getz; and parents and local gardeners.

Tree People donated the trees as part of their fruit tree give-away program.

All attending took turns adding soil and Kolla's homemade compost to feed the trees. Before rolling up his sleeves, Councilmember LaBonge talked to the children about Mrs. Harriton's late husband, Norman, and the importance of community roots.

"Children, listen up, these are roots, and roots are important! The man who created this garden, Norman Harriton, knew the importance of roots—family roots and roots

to the community."

Norman Harriton, a Franklin Hills resident and garden enthusiast who died in 2004, founded the community garden in 2000.

"Establishing this little garden and organizing the neighborhood's participation and support was my father's labor of love," said Suzanne McKeivitt, Harriton's daughter.

"When he discovered that community gardening could literally cul-

tivate and nurture a community, it became his greatest passion."

The Franklin Hills Community Garden is a joint venture made possible by LILA and the City of Los Angeles. LILA allowed the school land to be used for the garden and still provides the water and power to sustain it.

In all, there are 21 garden plots, most of which are gardened by residents of the neighborhood. Several are used by the school, in conjunction with Silver Lake Farms, to teach students the art and science of gardening.

Neighbors interested in obtaining a plot can email the garden's co-coordinators, Stan and Donna Getz, at garden@franklinhills.org. There is currently a short waiting list.

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[PEOPLE IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD]
Cody Marks Plays for the Troops
By Colleen Paeff, Ledger Contributing Writer

What's a girl to do when the USO rejects her offer to play music for the troops? Call the Pentagon, of course.

That's what Los Feliz resident Cody Marks did. Two years later she and her band

all worthwhile.

Her next stop? Prison.

Last year Marks and her band performed at the Sierra Conservation Center (SCC)—a men's prison in Jamestown, CA. Her rendition of "Jailbreak" by Thin Lizzy was a hit with the prisoners, Marks said, but the warden wasn't too pleased. Still, she's returning for a second show this May.

"Except for playing for the troops," Marks said, "playing at the prison was definitely the most important thing I've ever done in my life."

For the last three years she's been a volunteer counselor



found themselves en route to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba with travel orders to "lift the spirits" of the men and women stationed there.

"I don't go to the frou-frou bases like Jessica Simpson," Marks said. "I was out on the road for four weeks in places I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy."

Take Soto Cano Air Base in Honduras, for example.

"There was no indoor plumbing," Marks said. "I had to walk 6 blocks in a hurricane to go to the restroom. And forget about taking a shower!"

Marks admits to a few second thoughts about these venues. But moments like watching 30 troops on stage in Cuba belting out the lyrics to "Sweet Home Alabama" and spending time with orphaned children in Honduras made it

for Criminon, a nonprofit organization dedicated to "addressing the causes of criminality and restoring the criminal's self-respect." Through mail correspondence, Marks teaches life skills to 29 inmates.

Marks would like to reach more inmates with her music, as well. She's hoping to take her band, billed as "Cody Marks and the Consequences," on a tour of about 18 correctional facilities. But first she needs to find the funds.

Even as she makes plans for the future, Marks is still basking in the glow of last year's accomplishments.

"2008 was hands-down the best year of my life," she said. "Every single one of my dreams came true on a professional level. Now I've got to figure out what I'm going to do next."

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[VOLUNTEERING]
Ronald McDonald House Seeks Front Desk Volunteer

LOS FELIZ—The Ronald McDonald House is seeking volunteers to help manage the facilities' front desk.

The position includes greeting and interacting with families and visitors, answering telephones, handling deliveries, sorting and delivering mail and ensuring the lobby is welcoming to guests, children and families. The desk is additionally where families check out movies, books and games and where they receive information about activities.

With experience and special training, the position may expand to giving tours, checking families in and out and assisting the House Manager

with special projects. Shifts for this position vary.

Ronald McDonald House provides lodging near treatment hospitals for families with sick children.

For information contact Jennifer Cohen, Volunteer Manager, Los Angeles Ronald McDonald House, 323-644-3088 or jcohen@larmh.org. Additional information about Ronald McDonald House can be found at www.larmh.org, including volunteer forms.

Send the
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Kenyan Safari Available

The Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA) is offering an African safari May 26th through June 6th including accompaniment by expert African naturalists and a Zoo guide with experience and knowledge of the region and its fauna, flora, and customs.

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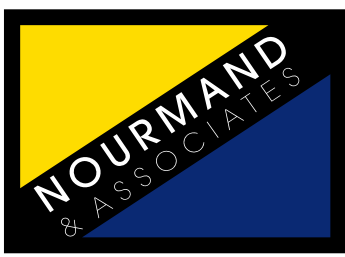
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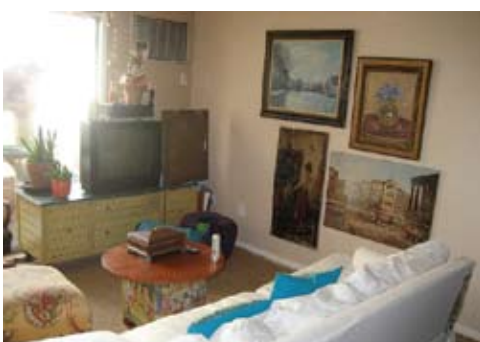


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[REAL ESTATE]

Short Sales: "Under Water?" "Upside Down?" What You Can Do



by Richard Stanley
Ledger Contributing Writer

"Under water" and "upside down"—you've probably heard these terms a lot lately, but don't grab your wet suit or gravity boots. In real estate parlance, these terms mean that what you owe on a property is greater than its current market value. Some folks in such a situation elect to stay put, pay

right? The lien holder accepted just as much risk as the borrower, right? Fact is, getting a lender to cooperate in a short sale is not easy, or quick, or certain—or without negative consequences.

A lender may elect to cooperate with a borrower if doing so is in the business interest of the lender. The alternative to

Fact is, getting a lender to cooperate in a short sale is not easy, or quick, or certain—or without negative consequences.

the monthly mortgage and ride out a financial storm such as the one that now rages. But for others the choices are not so elective if, due to death, divorce, relocation, illness, job loss or urgent family or financial need, they must liquidate a property now. For folks in the latter group, the choices are sobering—and ugly.

Sometimes, a lender might reset the terms of a loan via a "loan modification," but the most frequently heard solution to being upside down is to petition the lender for a "short sale"—when the lien holder agrees to accept a lower amount as payoff for the borrower's debt. Sounds easy,

a short sale is usually foreclosure. About half of borrowers who attempt workouts or short sales are eventually foreclosed upon. The lender may elect to cooperate in a short sale to forgo the time and expense of foreclosure—especially in a declining market.

The lender's requirements for short sale eligibility vary. Usually, a borrower will have to be in default on the loan and able to demonstrate financial hardship. Having a "ready, willing and able" buyer lined up and a comprehensive file of lender-prescribed documentation will move a short sale petition to the head of the line.

Requesting a short sale does not forestall foreclosure. A weak, disorganized or untimely presentation to the lender almost assures a foreclosure. If you elect to solicit a short sale, choose your realtor carefully.

Your realtor will have to put her/his negotiating skills to the test to convince the lender that the offer on the table from the "ready, willing and able" buyer is the lender's best deal. The buyer will need to be an "arms-length" buyer, i.e., not a shill buyer with a relationship with the borrower. If there is more than one lien holder, all the lien holders will need to be in accord before the trustee's sale, at which time, all chances for a short sale end, and the property is sold to a new owner.

Suppose your lender approves your short sale, and you stilled the foreclosure dirge. Happy days, right? Not so fast. Your consequences will be ruined credit for years, though you may be allowed to purchase a new home in about two years (but with a very high, non competitive interest rate).

The only thing that's short about a short sale is this bit of terse advice: before you do anything, consult your attorney and/or accountant about the consequences of a short sale. Better to be sober going into this process, than hungover at the end.

Richard Stanley has been the top agent at the local Coldwell Banker office since 1995. He may be reached at www.richardstanleyrealtor.com.



[CITY SLEUTH]

Let's Talk About Our Faults

By Diane Kanner, Ledger Columnist

Most of us don't prepare for disaster, according to the editor of *The L.A. Earthquake Sourcebook*. That's why she and a host of authorities put the volume together.

"Seeing other people prepare gets preparedness out of the closet and into the streets," editor Judith Lewis told an audience gathered at the Los Angeles Central Library in January

and \$200 billion in damage.

For those with access to the Internet, download "Preparedness: A Family Guide," an American Red Cross publication available on the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council website (www.ggpnc.org) within its "Committees" link. Click on "Public Safety." The essence of the brochure? "Make a plan, get a kit, be informed." Have at least three

"Fear is the opposite of empowerment,"

— Los Angeles Times Book Review

editor David Ulin

to hear about the new book.

An animated version of how the San Andreas Fault will act in the inevitable big earthquake of the future jolted the library audience to attention. Angelenos live on "the geological equivalent of a bowl of Jell-O," Dr. Lucy Jones of the U.S. Geological Survey said while showing the film. "If you were ready for Northridge in 1994, that doesn't mean you or we will be ready for the next one."

The potential magnitude of the next San Andreas Fault quake is 7.8. When the authors of the sourcebook participated in a test last Nov. 13th with governmental agencies throughout Southern California, they were preparing for 20,000 deaths, 50,000 injuries

days of supplies on hand. Replace stock every six months. Establish responsibilities for each member of a household.

The Los Angeles Fire Dept. will conduct a seven-week "Community Emergency Response Training" course beginning March 11th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Helen Bernstein High School, 1309 Wilton Place.

"Fear is the opposite of empowerment," *Los Angeles Times* Book Review editor David Ulin told the library audience at the conclusion of the panel discussion. "Experiencing the next quake may feel like the end of the world, but it isn't. Earthquake drills in your home and community remind you of the steps you must take."

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[SENIOR MOMENTS]
Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough

By Stephanie Vendig, Ledger Columnist

We know that exercise is good for us as we age. But we often think that it is only walking, running, biking, or exercise machines that qualify as real exercise. Yes, they can do the trick, that is, if you stick with it. However, there is a certain amount of tedium in using these forms. For one, you generally use the same muscles of the body to carry out these actions; and it is something you have to do by yourself, even though you may work out with other people.

I would like to advocate a different form of exercise. In February, GPACC seniors joined our counterparts at Boyle Heights Senior Center for a Valentine Party. The festivities included local Mexican food and live music, and the hospitality was welcoming. The facility, with its large multipurpose room, was decorated for the occasion. Musicians performed on a stage, and all of us were at tables placed around the edges of the room. The middle of the room was reserved for that most enjoyable activity, dancing, something that is part of all of our traditions.

Before we knew it, we found ourselves on the floor with the Boyle Heights people, moving to the rhythms of Latin music. We didn't need much encouragement. We danced by ourselves, or with a partner, and in groups, using all of our body

in response to the beat, expressing what we felt as we heard the music. It was magical, as all of us seem to have experienced new life in our bodies, and we shared this experience with our gracious hosts.

Dancing is for all, young and old. It is identified as a low-impact, weight-bearing activity. It can give your heart a work-out, feed your brain encouraging nerve cells to grow, and it can ward off those chronic health conditions, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, osteoporosis and depression. Most of all, it is fun.

Because of these benefits, and its age-old place in all societies, most senior centers have dancing on their list of offerings. Line dancing, folk dancing, ballroom dancing, swing, salsa, square dancing, and a host of other dance styles round out the activities that help the 50+ population maintain their fitness and zest for life. GPACC is no different, offering line dancing and folk dancing at this time.

Since we want you to have a good time at GPACC's "Community Celebration" on **Sat., March 7th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, we are including live music and dancing. Come dance with us as we celebrate GPACC's first birthday.

The Stimulus Bill and Seniors

Wendy Caputo
Ledger Columnist

In May, retirees and other Social Security recipients will receive an extra \$250 for individuals and \$500 for couples. Retirees, older Veterans, Social Security Income recipients and people with disabilities are eligible.

Recipients do not have to fill out tax forms this time. The money will be distributed the same way you receive your Social Security, through a direct deposit or a check in the mail. Federal and state retirees who do not receive Social Security benefits can also receive the payment but may have to file 2009 tax returns to receive it. For updates you visit the SSA website at www.ssa.gov/payment.

The Stimulus Bill might also offer some relief to older adults through the \$75 billion dollar foreclosure prevention program, or other funds that may be available through energy retrofit and other tax credits. Check www.recovery.gov for more information about the Stimulus Bill. Visit www.AARP.org for information as well.

Robberies from page 1

warned about it," said Guy Vidal, a Silver Lake resident, who said he now finds himself uncharacteristically looking over his shoulders at night. "I used to meet my friends at Edendale. Now I won't do that until I know they are caught."

Detectives say they're pursuing more leads and anticipate additional arrests.

Police are encouraging residents to walk in groups, park in well-lit areas and avoid talking on cell phones or listening to MP3 players while on foot.

Ledger contributing writer Kimberly Gomez contributed to this story.

Griffith Park Adult Community Club Calendar

GPACC's "Community Celebration"
Sat. March 7th, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at GPACC and Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive.

Book Sale, Handcrafted Items, Raffle & Silent Auction, "White Elephant" items, food, drinks, and live music for dancing. This is a fund-raising event to support Griffith Park Adult Community Center sponsored by the Griffith Park Adult Community Club.

For trips, Call Doris Slater at (323) 667-1879 for information on new trips.

Classes

Contact Griffith Park Adult Community Center (GPACC) at (323) 644-5579 or stop by at 3203 Riverside Dr., in the parking lot of Friendship Auditorium south of Los Feliz Blvd to get a schedule of classes and events.

Silver Lake Recreation Center at 1850 W. Silver Lake Dr. (323) 644-3946 will also have classes.

The Lunch Program: Lunch is served 5 days a week at the Center. \$1.75 is a donation for those over 60 years. Daily lunch is served at 12 pm and you can come in for coffee and check in at 11:30.

For Information on the Griffith Park Adult Community Club and getting a newsletter, call Stephanie Vendig at (323) 667-3043, or e-mail at vendig@sbcglobal.net or call Jeanne Phipps at (323) 664-2681.

Programs for Free-Thinking Seniors!

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[DOG'S LIFE]

Making Room for Two

By Jennifer Clarke, Ledger Columnist



With Valentine's Day over and done with, perhaps it's time to start focusing on your dog's companion needs.

People choose to welcome a second dog into the home for a variety of reasons such as finding a companion for their first dog and to help an aging dog feel more youthful.

Something to consider before you begin the adoption process is your current dog's personality, their history interacting with other dogs and your budget.

You can begin your search online through shelters or various rescue organizations. Once you've spotted a potential match, visit the dog a few times, taking note of its temperament. Many rescue organizations conduct formal personality assessments to track their dogs'

behavior and they are happy to share these results with potential adopters. Many agencies are amenable to the idea of bringing your dog to the shelter or adoption site in order to meet their potential new playmate.

When it comes time to take your second dog home, make sure they reunite with their new companion on neutral territory, out of the house and out of the backyard. This will lesson the changes of your original dog becoming territorial or aggressive. Once inside, don't leave the two dogs unsupervised until you've established that they are comfortable and friendly with one another, using baby gates or closed doors to keep them separated when you're not around.

Having to two dogs can be challenging, but it's definitely twice as rewarding!

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Zoo from page 1

offered to pay the \$1.5 million cost of moving Billy to a refuge.

"I am not anti-zoo, but I am anti-inadequate zoo," said actor Kevin Nealon.

The city council voted Dec. 3rd to halt construction on the elephant enclosure, although the zoo had already spent \$12 million and the exhibit was about 1/3rd complete. In an effort to revive support for the project, The Greater Los Angeles Zoo Assn., the fundraising arm of the zoo, offered to contribute an additional \$14 million above its original commitment to help pay off the city's debt on the project.

Supporters of keeping Billy at the zoo came out to the city council meeting in force.

"The other side is vocal and has star power, but it does not represent the majority of Los Angeles residents," Los Angeles attorney Phyllis Kupperstein told councilmembers.

Los Angeles residents said they supported the zoo project 3-1, according to a January survey of 500 residents conducted by polling firm Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates. Seven in 10 respondents said moving Billy to a less-accessible refuge

would deprive local students of a valuable learning experience.

Voting in favor of the zoo project were councilmembers Tom LaBonge, Eric Garcetti, Jose Huizar, Ed Reyes, Richard Alarcon, Wendy Greuel, Janice Hahn, Bill Rosendahl, Greig Smith, Jack Weiss and Herb Wesson. Voting against it were Tony Cardenas, Bernard Parks, Jan Perry and Dennis Zine.

Lewis, the zoo director, said work on the elephant enclosure is expected to be completed by the summer of 2010.

Car Wash from page 1

"Today we are sending a message that in the City of Los Angeles, we will hold to account, and prosecute, those who cheat or abuse their employees," said Los Angeles City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo. "That is unacceptable and will not be tolerated."

A city investigation found 37 unnamed Pirian employees were paid \$35 to \$40 for eight hours of work, with as little as 15 minutes a day for lunch. It also uncovered that they worked with no clean water, rest breaks, or medical care for burns or wounds caused by chemical cleaners.

Reyes is accused of threatening workers with a machete to discourage them for organizing a union. He faces 2 1/2 years in jail if convicted.

While Reyes and the Pirians were unavailable for comment, in July of last year Benny Pirian told the Los Feliz Ledger that he and his brother had been "more than fair" to their employees and urged the community to "see for themselves that we run a fair business."

For nearly a year, the Community-Labor-Environmental Action Network (CLEAN) Carwash Campaign, who praised Delgadillo's action, have claimed just the opposite. They have been boycotting Pirian business since last May.

The boycott and subsequent protests outside of Vermont Hand Wash followed the

March firings of three Pirian employees. They allegedly had advocated for better working conditions and supported the union backed Carwash Workers Organizing Committee (CWOC) before they were terminated.

For months, CLEAN asked that the Pirians and other Los Angeles carwashes institute minimum work standards, meet basic environmental codes and treat workers with respect, said director of CLEAN Car Wash Campaign Henry Huerta.

"Day in and day out people are victimized on a daily basis in the industry," said Huerta. "These kinds of problems are occurring throughout Los Angeles... and we'll continue fighting to fight violators."

According to a Los Angeles Times investigation last year,

while industry wide carwash profits average 29%, 2/3rds of the washes inspected by the state's labor department since 2003 were out of compliance with one or more labor laws—both minor and major.

A number of carwashers throughout the city have already approached CLEAN about mistreatment at their workplaces said Huerta. "And we want justice for them."

Huerta said he hoped the criminal charges against the Pirians prove dirty practices won't be tolerated and prompt other carwashes to clean up their act on their own.

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[RESTAURANT NEWS]

By Pat Saperstein
Ledger Columnist

Cafe Bravo has opened near Hard Times Pizza at 2662 Griffith Park Blvd. The reasonably-priced casual Armenian cafe features chicken, beef and lamb kabobs and sandwiches.

Another recently-opened Middle Eastern spot is **The Olive** at 1904 Hillhurst Ave., with specialties including falafel, shwarma and lentil soup.

Barbarella Bar has taken over the Zen Sushi space at 2609 Hyperion Ave. Drinks include jumbo 10 oz. martinis and 24 beers on tap. Choose from small plates or larger main dishes including Jidori chicken and a Barbarella burger. Happy hour: 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. nightly with discounted drinks and a menu of \$6 small plates.

Reservoir is opening after more than two years of construction in the former Netty's space at 1700 Silver Lake Blvd. Later this year, **Domenico** will open in Michelangelo's former space, with plans for a classic neighborhood Italian bistro and **Bleu Sage Cafe**, is currently under construction in the former Backdoor Bakery space.

the **Park** in Echo Park is offering \$15 specials on Tuesday nights and on Monday nights at **Little Dom's** in Los Feliz. Both include a first, main dish and dessert.

Locali Conscious Convenience market has opened at 5825 Franklin Ave. in Hollywood. The eco-conscious convenience store offers products for a green lifestyle, vegan and other locally made sandwiches and salads.

Pat Saperstein blogs about L.A. restaurants at EatingLA.com

[GARDENING]

Deadhead: Pinch and Snip

By Melissa Berry
Ledger Columnist



Deadheading, despite the ominous sound, is nothing more than trimming off dead flowers and keeping plants tidy. Some worry if it's not done "correctly," it might hurt the plant. But unless you really whack away at it, it's tough to kill or even really hurt a plant by deadheading.

You don't need scissors to deadhead more herbaceous flowers, such as the chrysanthemum. Use your thumb and forefinger to pinch off old blooms, especially on compact plants that feature many flowers, about a quarter-inch above new buds. Pinch impatiens, marigold, pansy, petunia, viola, dianthus, poppy, cosmos and columbine.

Snip using hand pruners or a pair of sharp scissors to deadhead flowers that feature tougher, almost woody stems. The key is to cut off the dead flower a quarter-inch above the next bud. Snip peony, aster, coneflower, coreopsis, zinnia, lily and Rudbeckia. Cut off the faded spikes of these flowers to encourage a second flush of bloom: delphinium, foxglove, veronica, salvia, yarrow, geranium, and rose.

Earth Hour 2009 - March 28th, 8:30PM

To demonstrate concern about global climate change, Los Angeles, and hundreds of cities worldwide, will participate in Earth Hour 2009 when, on March 28th at 8:30 p.m. individuals, businesses, governments and organizations will turn off their lights for one hour.

For more information: EarthHourUS.org

[KEEN TO BE GREEN]

Reducing Waste When Eating Out

By Meher McArthur
Ledger Columnist



As a working mother, I am usually thrilled at the prospect of not having to cook dinner, but I often despair when we eat out—or order in—because of the waste these meals can create. With take-out food, we end up with styrofoam containers, plastic utensils, bundles of napkins, all in a plastic bag. If we go out for a meal and there are leftovers, I have to choose between wasting food or taking it home in plastic or styrofoam containers.

To avoid containers, I wrap leftovers in aluminum foil or stuff the food into my preschooler's snack box. Now I am trying to bring my own container and bag whenever I eat out, but this still doesn't solve the problem for take-out dinners.

Let's encourage our favorite restaurants to use compostable/biodegradable containers for take-out food and leftovers. They are available at www.catergreen.com, or from www.ecoproducts.com. Restaurateurs can also contact local green restaurant consultant, Leslie VanKeuren of www.sustainla.com, to help them go greener. "Going greener makes good business sense," says VanKeuren. "It often saves businesses money, and more and more people want to support green businesses." Local eateries such as LaMill Coffee and Gingergrass in Silver Lake, Square One in East Hollywood and The Alcove in Los Feliz are already greening their practices. By eating at such green-minded restaurants, we can all become a little greener—just in time for St. Patrick's Day!

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- 1 Sno White Cauliflower
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- 1 Bunch Spinach
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[MARCH 2009 EVENTS CALENDAR]

Art

Free Art Class for Kids

Los Angeles County Museum of Art staff provides art supplies and teaches a bilingual program filled with hands-on projects.
Mar. 3rd, 3:30 p.m.
Edendale Library
2011 W. Sunset Blvd.
(213) 207-3000

“Project Wall,” a solo exhibition by Jeanna Colby.

Artist Reception: Mar. 7th, 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Mar. 7th through April 4th
Black Maria Gallery
3137 Glendale Blvd. (323) 660-9393
www.blackmariagallery.com

“Channels,” a solo exhibition by Ken Garduno.

This installation is the artist’s first solo show where his art is a display of how media and technology have played a major influence in his artistic career. Garduno’s work appeared recently in the LA Weekly.
Artist Reception: Mar. 14th, 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Mar. 14th through April 4th
Black Maria Gallery
3137 Glendale Blvd. (323) 660-9393
www.blackmariagallery.com

2012 Arts Collective:

A community arts event for the entire family with live D.J. entertainment and booths.
Mar. 21st, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Free Admission
Crystal Springs Picnic Area located in Griffith Park. Pads A & D
4730 Crystal Springs Drive
www.laparks.org/dos/parks/griffithPK/calender/calender.htm

“Bold Caballeros y Noble Bandidas,”

exhibition explores Mexican pop culture.
Through May 10th, 2009
Autry National Center
4700 Western Heritage Way
(323) 667-2000
www.autrynationalcenter.org

Books

Edendale Library Friends Society Weekly Used Book Sale

Mar. 11th, 2:00 p.m.
2011 W. Sunset Blvd. (213) 207-3000

Atwater Village Library Monthly Used Book Sale

Mar. 21st, 10:00 a.m.
3379 Glendale Blvd. (323) 664-1353

“Pain Killers,” by Jerry Stahl.

Author Discussion and Book Signing: Mar. 6th, 7:30 p.m.
Stahl is best known for his novel, “Permanent Midnight: A Memoir.” “Permanent Midnight,” (1998) starring Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson.
Skylight Books
1818 N. Vermont Ave. (323) 660-1175
www.skylightbooks.com

“Letters to Guns,” a collection of poetry by Los Angeles based poet, Brendan Constantine.

Author Discussion and Book Signing: Mar. 8th, 5:00 p.m.
Constantine teaches Writing at Winward School, and is a three-time finalist for The National Poetry Series.
Skylight Books
1818 N. Vermont Ave. (323) 660-1175
www.skylightbooks.com

“The Believers,” by Zoe Heller.

Author Discussion and Book Signing: Mar. 11th, 7:30 p.m.
Heller is best known for the film based on her novel “Notes on a Scandal,” (2006) starring Cate Blanchett and Judi Dench.

Academy Award Nominated.
Skylight Books
1818 N. Vermont Ave. (323) 660-1175
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From “Channels,” a solo exhibition by Ken Garduno. *Courtesy, Black Maria Gallery.*

Clubs

Los Angeles Breakfast Club
Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Friendship Auditorium, 3201
Riverside Dr., Public welcome.

Los Feliz Library Chess Club
All ages and levels are welcome.
Mar. 7th, 4:00 p.m.
1874 Hillhurst Ave. (323) 913-4710

Dance

Celebrate Dance 2009
Executive Producer, Jamie Nichols Presents: Internationally renowned Los Angeles-based dance companies include, California Contemporary Ballet, Deborah Rosen and Dancers, Keith Johnson and Dancers, Ledges & Bones Dance Project, Lux Aeterna Dance Company, Method Contemporary Dance, Myo Kyo, RhetOracle Dance Company, and Viver Brasil Dance Company.
Mar. 14th, 8:00 p.m.
Alex Theatre
216 N. Brand Blvd. (818) 243-2539
www.alextheatre.org

Fashion

American Girl Presents A benefit for Childrens Hospital Los Angeles: **“Styles of Yesterday & Today,”** a fashion show for young girls, their families and friends and a celebration of historical and contemporary fashion.
Suitable for ages 5 and up.
Showtimes: Mar. 27th at 7:00 p.m., Mar. 28th, 29th, 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m.
Pasadena Brookside Country Club
1133 Rosemont Ave.
Tickets & Info: (818) 952-7978

Politics

Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council
Mar. 17th, 7:00 p.m.
Los Feliz Community Police Center
1965 Hillhurst Ave., 2nd floor
www.ggpnc.org

Silver Lake Neighborhood Council
Mar. 4th, 7:00 p.m.
1511 Micheltorena St.
Micheltorena Street Elementary School
www.SilverLakeNC.org

Music

Los Angeles Philharmonic Presents: **Youth Orchestra Festival Day**, featuring classical music performances by Pasadena Young Musicians, CSUN Youth Philharmonic, Olympia Youth Orchestra, and the Claremont Youth Musicians Orchestra.
Program: Pasadena Young Musicians, conducted by Jo Stoup,

Noon to 12:40 p.m., CSUN Youth Philharmonic, conducted by Dr. John Roscigno, 1:25 p.m. to 2:05 p.m. Olympia Youth Orchestra, conducted by Fung Ho, 2:50 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Claremont Young Musicians Orchestra, conducted by Roger Samuel, 4:15 p.m. to 4:55 p.m.
Mar. 8th, Free Admission
Walt Disney Concert Hall
111 S. Grand Ave.
(213) 972-3454
www.laphil.com

Lectures & Learning

“Better Investing In A Down Market,” a free class on basic investment strategies for investing wisely during these tough economic times.
Mar. 7th, 2:00 p.m.
Edendale Library
2011 W. Sunset Blvd. (213) 207-3000

Los Angeles Astronomical Society and the Los Angeles Sidewalk Astronomers look at celestial bodies using a variety of telescopes and meet with amateur astronomers.
Mar. 7th, 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Griffith Observatory, 2800 East Observatory Rd.
(213) 473-0800 or
www.griffithobservatory.org

A Faery Hunt
Interactive faery show for the entire family. Children of all ages search for the faery queen.
Free admission
Mar. 7th, 21st, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Fern Dell
5375 Red Oak Drive
www.laparks.org/dos/parks/griffithPK/calendar/calendar.htm

Free Computer Classes for Seniors
Learn how to navigate through the Internet.
Mar. 10th, 3:00 p.m.
Los Feliz Library
1874 Hillhurst Ave. (323) 913-4710


City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs Presents: **Conversations with the Artists**
Featured Artists include: Davis & Davis and Lidia Shaddow.
This program gives audiences an opportunity to exchange directly with the artists in an informal and relaxed setting.
Artist Discussion:
Mar. 22nd, 2:00 p.m.
Free Admission
Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery
4800 Hollywood Blvd. (323) 644-6269
www.culturela.org

Theatre

“Wings of Night Sky, Wings of Morning Light,” by Joy Harjo (Mvskoke).

From director Randy Reinholz (Choctaw) comes the highly acclaimed traditional tale of Native American storytelling through music and the spoken word. This play was performed as a staged reading at the Public Theater’s 2007 Native Theater in New York.
Mar. 10th through 29th.
Preview Performances: Mar. 10th, 11th at 8:00 p.m.
Showtimes: Mar. 12th, 13th, 14th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 26th, 27th, and 28th at 8:00 p.m.
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[EAST SIDE EYE]

Silver Laker Earns Oscar Nomination for *The Garden*

By Kathy A. McDonald, Ledger Columnist



On Sundays, the Atwater Village Farmers' Market features some unlikely cinematic stars: the farmers of the South Central Farmers Cooperative.

Now growing organic produce on 80 acres outside Bakersfield, the group's struggle to preserve a 14-acre community garden is ably and thoughtfully chronicled in Silver Lake-based producer and director Scott Hamilton Kennedy's documentary *The Garden*.

Kennedy began shooting the film in 2004, after touring the urban farmers' lushly planted acres located in the midst of an industrial district south of downtown. Sponsored and subsidized by the city of Los Angeles in response to 1992's civil disturbance and riots, more than 360 families cultivated the once empty acreage, transforming it into an unlikely green belt.

"The entire eco-system of Los Angeles went away when you went into this unique and beautiful place," said Kennedy. "It was a great example of how local government and community can work together."

As the film reveals, the farmers faced eviction. The reasons why include politics as usual and a deal between the city council and the land's former owner, details of which were not put into the public record.



Kennedy remarkably captures the struggle of the increasingly politicized Latino urban farmers, showing ordinary people confronting the city's questionable policies that are tinged by power politics and racism.

Independently financed and soon to be released in Los Angeles area theaters, *The Garden* premiered at the prestigious Silverdocs Film Festival in Washington, D.C. winning the Sterling prize and was shown at the 2008 Los Angeles Film Festival. It was one of five feature documentaries nominated for an Academy Award this year, chosen from 94 eligible films.

For updates on *The Garden's* release go to: www.thegardenmovie.com. More information on the farmers can be found at: www.southcentralfarmers.com.

[THEATER REVIEW]

Scarlett Pimpernel at Centre Theatre

By Marilyn Tower Oliver
Ledger Theater Critic



Set in the late 18th century, the melodramatic story deals with Sir Percy Blakeney, a wealthy English aristocrat who has just married Marguerite St. Juste, a beautiful French actress. On their wedding night, he discovers that she has betrayed a friend, sentenced to be executed by guillotine. Although the betrayal was somewhat accidental on her part, it throws a wet blanket on the wedding night and causes the marriage to grow cold.

Lord Percy determines to save others from this horrible fate. He takes on the identity of the Scarlet Pimpernel, named after his family's em-

blem, a small red flower, the image of which he wears on a signet ring.

To achieve his goal, he enlists the help of his aristocratic friends. The band pretends to be empty-headed, shallow fellows to avoid suspicion. When the crafty and cruel French agent Chauvelin is sent to England to ferret out the identity of the Pimpernel, the plot thickens. It turns out that Lord Percy's wife, Marguerite, was formerly Chauvelin's mistress.

Although this production takes place on the theater's tiny stage, the company manages to create the time and place of this period production down to

the ominous guillotine which appears in several scenes. Period costumes including lavish gowns, fancy hats and powdered wigs lend credibility.

The play includes a number of charming and at times poignant songs, sung with recorded accompaniment. The three principals have strong enough voices to delight the audience. Brent Schindele effectively articulates Lord Percy's personality which runs the gamut from comically foppish to romantically gallant. The outstanding performance is given by the play's villain, Chauvelin, performed by Kelby Thwaites whose strong baritone voice and clever acting brought the loudest applause during the curtain calls.

Through April 4th. Tickets: \$23-\$26 depending on performance times. Reservations: (818) 244-8481.



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[EASTSIDE EYE]

Pick for March

"City of the Seekers: L.A.'s Unique Spiritual Legacy," Sat. March 14th. Self-driving architectural and cultural tour organized by the Los Angeles Conservancy that includes several local historic religious sites such as the Philosophical Research Society on Los Feliz Blvd., the Angelus Temple in Echo Park and the Self-Realization Fellowship Mother Center in Mt. Washington. For information visit: www.laconservancy.org.



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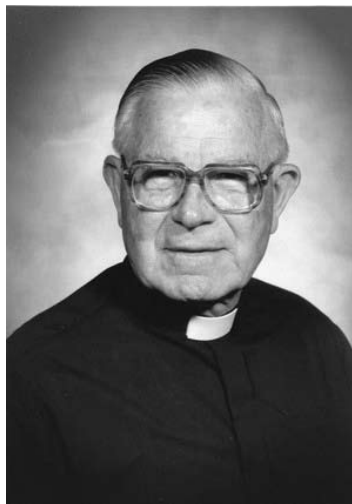
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[RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY]

Msgr. John Kucingis (1908 – 2009)

By Roberta Morris, Ledger Religion and Spirituality Writer



Source: From latimes.com

On Jan. 6th, two weeks after celebrating his 100th birthday, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Jonas (John) A. Kucingis, pastor emeritus at St. Casimir Catholic Church in Los Feliz, died. Msgr. Kucingis also had recently celebrated 71 years of priesthood.

Born in Sveksna, Lithuania Dec. 23rd, 1908, Msgr. Kucingis attended the Catholic University in Milan and from 1940 to 1944 served as a chaplain for Telsiai High School and for the Lithuanian Army. After being arrested four times by the Soviets, he came as a refugee to the United States in 1946.

Though he retired in 1984 as pastor from St. Casimir, he continued living on the grounds of the church in its rectory and performed many

services there.

"We were thrown out of our country," Msgr. Kucingis told the Los Angeles Times in 1969. "Like all people who are exiled, we brought a mission with us, to help those at home who are suffering, to be a loudspeaker for the whole world."

He established the Lithuanian Language Saturday School, supported the Lithuanian folk ensemble "Spinduly," Lithuanian Scouts, Lithuanian Catholic Youth "Ateitis," the Los Angeles Lithuanian American Community, Knights of Lithuania, Holy Name Society, Daughters of Lithuania, the Lithuanian press, and Lithuanian charitable organizations, in addition to his parish work.

During Lithuania's 50 years of Soviet annexation, Msgr. Kucingis aided the church despite repression in Lithuania, publicizing the plight of dissidents, aiding prisoners of conscience deported to Siberia, and assisting Lithuanian refugees and immigrants here in Los Angeles.

Once Lithuania regained independence in 1991, Msgr. Kucingis helped the struggling Lithuanian Church by supporting its Seminary of Telsiai in Lithuania. The

President of Lithuania, in recognition of his service to the Lithuanian people, awarded him the Grand Duke Gediminas medal.

In 1997, Msgr. Kucingis wrote his autobiography, "Along the Paths of My Life," and two volumes of his homilies were published in Lithuania.

Today St. Casimir Church continues to serve the Lithuanian community, with Sunday Mass celebrated in Lithuanian at 10:30 a.m. Additionally, each fall, St. Casimir holds its popular Lithuanian carnival.

Msgr. Kucingis' family asked that donations be made to the building fund at St. Casimir in lieu of flowers.

Christian Healing Lecture, March 5th

LOS FELIZ—Canon Mark Pearson, Ph.D, will speak at St. Mary of the Angels' Church on "The Bible and Christian Healing," Thurs., March 5th at 7 p.m. Pearson and his wife, Mary, M.D., run a center for whole-person healing in New England.

"Come and hear this excellent speaker. You will gain much from hearing him," said St. Mary's rector, Fr. Christopher Kelley. "You probably know a friend who will also get a great deal out of this."

St. Mary's is located at 4510 Finley Avenue, just west of Hillhurst Avenue.

Renowned Organist to Perform March 1st

First Congregational Church of Los Angeles will present internationally renowned organist Lynne Davis March 1st at 4 p.m. The church is located at 540 S. Commonwealth Ave.

Davis will perform the music of Duruffe and other French composers with a program to include Suite Medievale: En forme de Messe Basse by Jean Langlais.

Donations: \$20 general/\$15 seniors.) For information or to order tickets by phone, call (213) 385-1345 or online at www.fccla.org.

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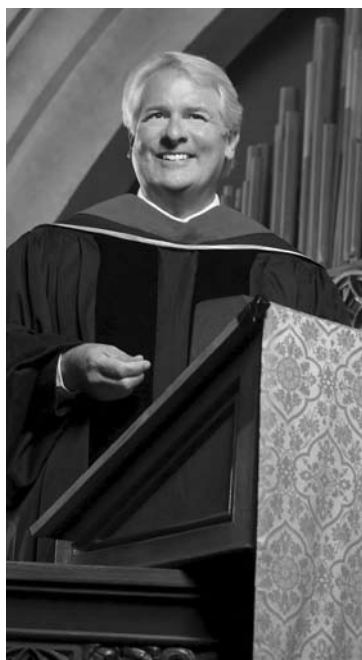
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[FAMILY MATTERS]
The Old Woman in the Shoe: If I Had 14 Children
 By Kristen Taylor, Ledger Columnist

If I had 14 children, I would need seven washers and dryers. That's practically a Laundromat, and since the machines wouldn't be in constant use, I would convert them to coin-op and let other people use them. This would be a viable source of income.

If I had 14 children, I would need several viable sources of income, because children cost a lot of money. Childcare alone would run about \$10K a month, so I would flip that one on its head and open my own daycare center. This would give me a job and a safe place for the kids to go during the day.

If I had 14 children, I would plan out menus a month at a time and shop for groceries just once a week. Much like an institutional kitchen, I would serve a rotating menu of a limited number of dishes, with an "endless" salad bar. And a frozen yogurt machine.

If I had 14 children, they would not be allowed to come home from school until their homework was completed.

Period.

If I had 14 children, there wouldn't be a car big enough for all of us, so we would walk/stroll everywhere. This would keep us super fit as well as cut down on our giant carbon footprint. It would also endear us to the neighbors, who would enjoy the spectacle. I imagine them driving by and shouting, "Hey, there goes the lady with 14 kids!" They might shout some other things too, so I would get the kids some earplugs.

If I had 14 children, our house would be filthy, I would never ever feel rested, and the more televisions I could have going at once, the better. I would be shunned by most, ogled at by many, and reviled by some. I would never feel lonely, but never get to be alone. Often I would be too tired and stressed out to treat the children the way they deserved to be treated. And I would definitely have to give up drinking. But at least I would have a frozen yogurt machine.

[BEING WHOLE]
Our Energy Around Money
 By Elma Mayer

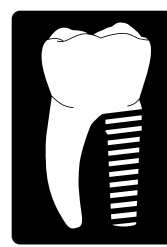
Money.

Our energy fields resonate with the weakness of the global economy's energy field. This weakens us in areas seemingly unrelated to finances: stress, health, even relationships and life purpose.

On a scale of 0-10, how do you feel about finances? I'm not asking how much money you have, I'm asking how you experience it. Fear? Or feeling fine? Somewhere between?

Now, briefly focus attention on your spine as you say: *Disconnect from collective financial fear. Disconnect from fear of loss. Neutral to whether I have money or not. Disentangle finances from health, emotions, relationships. Connect with gratitude. Connect with Highest Self.* Take a deep breath. How do you feel? Differently than before? You've just strengthened your energy field around money.

Elma Mayer, MA, practices and teaches Chinese Energetics in Silverlake and beyond. www.nowhealing.com (323)309-7687.



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GGPNC from page 1

An incorrect map was distributed to the public in 2007, showing the boundaries of the proposed PPD to be narrower and more exclusive than those Cremin said she originally requested from the Los Angeles Dept. of Transportation. In Cremin's grievance letter, she claimed the council deliberately misled the public with a "misinformation campaign" regarding the boundaries.

The Brown Act aims to protect public access to local government meetings and decisions. The California Public

Grievances filed against Los Angeles neighborhood councils through DONE are typically sent back to the individual councils to be resolved, said DONE general manager Bong Hwan Kim.

"We haven't had a clear grievance review process," Kim said. "The idea was for the neighborhood councils to be the first line of resolution."

Whether that setup has been effective in resolving grievances depends on the by-laws of each individual council, Kim said. DONE has not kept count of how many griev-

DONE has not kept count of how many grievances have been filed since the inception of the neighborhood council system.

Records Act makes information held by local agencies available to members of the public.

At Cremin's Jan. 29th hearing, the three executive committee members—GGPNC president Philip Gasteier and vice presidents Rosemary DeMonte and Bruce Carroll—voted to seek input from other board members named in the grievance, before making a recommendation of a remedy to the full GGPNC board.

Cremin said she is not happy with how the council is handling her grievance so far.

"I'm not feeling like it's being handled very fairly," she said by phone several weeks after the hearing.

Cremin has asked DONE to intervene in the resolution of her grievance. She said her complaints will not be resolved until several members of the GGPNC board resign.

"If they come back to me with anything short of the resignations of certain board members, then I will not accept the resolution," she said.

ances have been filed since the inception of the neighborhood council system.

According to the GGPNC's bylaws, the Executive Committee can review the grievance or refer the issue to an ad hoc committee comprised of volunteer stakeholders from the community. If the stakeholder bringing the grievance is not satisfied with the recommended resolution, there is not much else he or she can do under DONE's current procedures, Kim said.

DONE is currently working on a formal procedure for handling grievances, a step that was recommended by the Neighborhood Council Review Commission in 2007. Having a mixed panel of board members and community stakeholders hear grievances is being considered, as well as the opportunity for appeals to a different overseeing body—the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.

The new procedure is expected to be in place within six months, Kim said.

450 Years To Dispose of A Diaper?

Kudos on your editorial (February 2009, Keen to Be Green, by Meher McArthur) about rethinking our use of paper goods (particularly paper towels), and for the brilliant chart showing the break-down time of everyday objects. That was an eye-opener and such a smart way of getting people's attention.

Four hundred and fifty years for a disposable diaper is a disheartening concept—and yet the article took a positive and inspiring approach, providing readers with practical ideas.

By the way, I, like you, gave up paper towels quite awhile ago and don't miss them at all anymore. I have piles and piles of cotton kitchen towels that do the job. Of course, if we were asked to substitute kitchen towels for toilet paper, I might be a teeny bit less cheerful.

Thanks so much for a terrific piece of work.

Leni Fleming

Editors note: My 11- year-old son calculated that his class alone (25 kids) used approximately 109,500 diapers when they were babies that are now sitting somewhere waiting another 440 years to decompose! (Based on 6 disposable diapers a day for two years.) And that is just one class of children here in Los Angeles!

**[OPEN MIKE]
Mi dispiaci**

In the February 2009 issue of the *Los Feliz Ledger*, Ms. Saperstein's review of Little Dom's restaurant was offensive and insensitive to all of your readers, especially the Italian-American community. Do Ms. Saperstein and your editorial staff understand the derogatory nature of the term "Guido?"

I've included a wikipedia link below to educate you and your staff on this ethnic slur: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guido>

To demonstrate that the *Los Feliz Ledger* respects all of the communities that it

serves, I request the *Ledger* publish an apology—or at least an explanation on why your publication chooses to use crude and derogatory language to offend an entire community.

Jason Marco
N. Berendo, Los Feliz

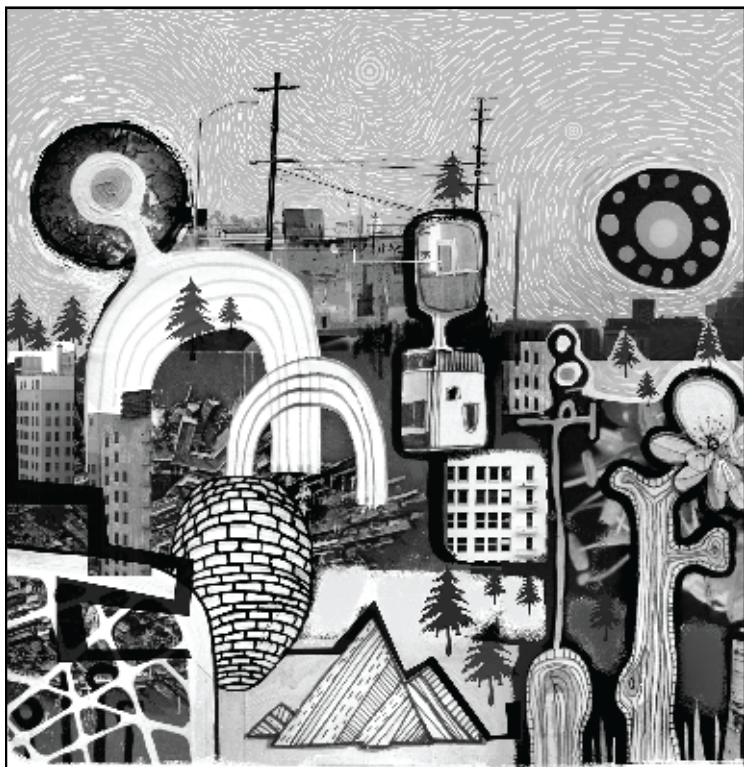
Editor's Response: We received a handful of letters like Mr. Marco's above. We sincerely regret our insensitivity—which was absolutely unintentional. We apologize whole-heartedly to the Italian-American community and our readers.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

To submit a letter for Open Mike, send to acohen@losfelizledger.com or to 4459 Avocado St., LA, CA 90027.

Include your name, area in which you live and contact information.

Letters become property of the *Los Feliz Ledger* and may be edited for clarity or space for reprinting.



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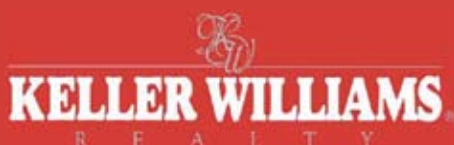
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A Food Drive for The Los Angeles Mission

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

For the month of March, we are organizing a food drive for families in need and living in low income housing in Los Angeles. The food and personal items that we collect will be donated to the L.A. Mission who will then provide it to those families. The items that the Mission has requested are canned goods such as tuna, meat, beans, fruits, vegetables. Also, soaps, shampoo, baby food, diapers and juice. Or if you prefer, you can make monetary donation made payable to The L.A. Mission. Feel free to drop off any items at our office at 2150 Hillhurst Avenue, Attention: The Moreno's. You can also call us at 323-668-7600 or email us at moreno@georgeandeileen.com with your address and we would gladly pick up any items that you would like to donate.

Thank you,
George and Eileen



Just Listed



2700 Glendower Avenue Los Feliz Hills \$1,595,000
W.L. Skidmore Brick and Glass 3 bd 3 ba Masterpiece + full guest apt. Sweeping city views from downtown to the Westside & Griffith Park. Gourmet kitchen, huge living room, wonderful terraces, 2 fireplaces.

Just Listed



1957 Myra Avenue Los Feliz \$895,000
Lovely 3 bd 3 ba Traditional in the hills of Los Feliz. Beautiful living room w/fireplace & great windows. Spacious view patio off formal DR. Brkfst rm, large family rm & home office. Apprx 2570 sq ft. Room for pool.

Great New Price



3733 Clayton Avenue Franklin Hills \$1,045,000
Stunning 4 Bd, 3 Ba Architectural w/views. Dramatic liv rm w/fireplace. Large bright cook's kitchen w/breakfast area. Formal dining rm, polished concrete & honey colored hrdwd flrs. A/C. Terraced patios & gardens.

Coming Soon



1971 Myra Avenue Los Feliz Call For Price
Charming 3 bd 1.5 ba Cape Cod set up high on a lovely knoll on a great corner location. Spacious living rm w/fireplace. Formal DR, Hardwd flrs, A/C. Great indoor outdoor flow. Franklin Elementary & Marshall High.

Coming Soon



1315 Romulus Drive Glendale \$539,000
Classic Adams Hill 2 bd 1 ba English Manor with home office and a pool! Spacious living room w/fireplace & beamed ceiling steps down to sunny library area w/view. Formal DR. Great patio & pool for summer parties!

Just Listed



3970 Seneca Atwater Village \$615,000
Beautiful 3 bd & 3 ba Spanish Home. Spacious living room w/pitched ceiling & fireplace, family rm or home office, great kitchen w/granite counters, master suite. Grassy yard. Detached garage. Move in & enjoy.

For Sale



2153 Avon Street Echo Park Elysian Valley \$539,000
Quaint & charming describe this 2 bd & 1 ba cottage in a nice Echo Park neighborhood on a lovely street. Great curb appeal. Beautiful & spacious front & back grassy lawns w/room to add on. Lovely front porch.

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8941 Wonderland Park Avenue Laurel Canyon \$2,550,000
4 Bd, 5 Ba Mid-Century Architectural designed by L.A. architect Robert Kennard & beautifully landscaped by Garrett Eckbo on almost 2 acres in the hills of Laurel Cyn + Guest House & Pool. A Must See.

Listed & Sold in 9 Days With Multiple Offers!



2420 Moreno Drive Silver Lake \$1,275,000
Stunning 4 Bd & 3 Ba Spanish residence in the Moreno Highlands. Wonderful living room w/fabulous views, formal dining rm, family rm, home office, beautifully landscaped flat yard, spa & arbor. Gorgeous.