

# Video by Beachwood Filmmaker Helps Preschoolers with School Anxiety

By Theresa M. Danna

*My First Day at Preschool*, a 28-minute video produced by Beachwood Canyon resident John Aguirre, stars Buddy Bear, an animatronics costumed cub. Through original music by

at my school." But he was also quick to notice that, in the beginning when Buddy's dad is driving him to school, Buddy sits in the front seat of the car—something kids can no longer do legally until they are 12 years old

enjoying a "second career" as an independent film producer.

"It's a really nice neighborhood," Aguirre said. "It's got cool architecture, mature trees, and a feeling like you're living in a mini [Greenwich] Village in New York." He likes the fact that his building is populated with other creative people, including a songwriter, actress, and screenwriter. "And everybody at the 101 Coffee Shop looks like they just rolled out of bed, so I don't have to worry about how I look when I go in for my coffee!"

Besides planning future *My First Day* videos, such as first visit to the dentist and first time at the zoo, Aguirre is busy negotiating distribution of his recently completed feature film *The Utopian Society*, which is being compared to *The Breakfast Club*. "It's about six students who waited until the last minute to do their class project and now have to plan a utopian society in one night," he explained.

Aguirre himself is feeling the pressure that makes diamonds, as he has been investing his own money to bring his projects to life. He feels that he is up for the challenge. "I had it all when I was in Orange County, but it wasn't what I wanted." In reference to his Beachwood Canyon residence, he observed, "The lower you live on the hill, the more you're struggling to make a name for yourself. I like that. I like where I am."

To purchase *My First Day at Preschool* before the new school year begins, go to [www.myfirstday.net](http://www.myfirstday.net) or call (323)466-1905.

—*My First Day Productions is currently seeking investors to aid in the creation of a video series based on the "My First Day" concept. All inquiries should go through the company's VP of Bus. Development, Rob Mankowitz. Contact via phone (323)466-1905 or via email at [robmfd@yahoo.com](mailto:robmfd@yahoo.com).*



John Aguirre

another Beachwood resident, Eric Hester, and scenes of Buddy Bear participating onsite in actual preschool activities with real-life kids and teachers, the video allays children's fears about separation anxiety and meeting new people. Buddy listens to stories, glues sunflower seeds on paper, rides a bike in the playground, dances, sings, paints, and gardens with his new friends.

Billed as "Reality TV for Kids," the video lives up to its claim, as my 5-year-old son excitedly kept saying while watching it, "We sang that song at my school" and "They have that

or 70 pounds.

Other than that, proof that *My First Day at Preschool* passed the kid test came when my son asked at the end of our review copy, "Can we keep this video, Mom?" The video has also won adult praise, including *Parenting Magazine* Video of the Year and positive reviews by *The Midwest Book Review* and *Video Librarian*.

Aguirre worked many years as a second assistant director while living in Orange County, but his work was getting more and more managerial than creative. With his move to our corner of Hollywood, he is

## Target Sponsors LACMA Free After Five Year

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, LACMA on Wilshire Blvd., announces a new free admission program. The Doors of the museum are open to all at no charge after 5pm, six nights a week. LACMA's *Free After Five* program is part of an ongoing strategy to make the museum's exhibitions, permanent collection, and public programs accessible to the widest possible audience. Laysha Ward, vice president of community relations for Target Corporation says, "Target is committed to making the arts accessible in our communities..." For general information call 323-857-6000. Don't forget to enjoy their Friday Night Jazz—Free outdoor jazz concerts throughout the spring, summer and fall featuring internationally renowned musicians!



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—Elie Wiesel



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# FOR TEENS N2ARTS

A new Web site has launched for teens and young adults who are into the arts: [www.N2Arts.com](http://www.N2Arts.com). According to site editor Matthew Glasser of da Vinci Communication (Sherman Oaks), N2Arts.com offers young people a free online community to meet other artists, performers, and writers.



"It's a refuge for those of us who act differently and want to share their experiences with other artists and performers," Glasser said. "While being a performing or fine artist brings great satisfaction, it

can also create certain challenges." N2Arts.com has articles with tips and advice from professionals in the arts, including an article by *Beachwood Voice* writer Theresa Danna titled "Being Different Can Pay Off: Inside the Brain of Entertainer Fred Newman."

An online gallery gives young artists a place to post their work, and a virtual calendar is there to list upcoming events. Glasser intends for the site to be "a place to have fun and share our passion for the arts."

**IN MEMORY OF SANDY**

*Our walks got shorter and her hindquarters got weaker. Her spirit was constant and sweet as she puffed and panted up Westshire Drive. Age was certainly creeping up on her. Then, one morning, Sandy decided to sleep in – and pass over. What a blessed and peaceful departure. This photo was taken the day before she decided to go running in the greenest of pastures chasing butterflies. Thank you, Sandy, for all the great years – for finding your way to our home and into our hearts. We will miss you always.*

— The Reichenbach family

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*Castor beans growing in Beachwood canyon. These poisonous beans are found in the dry, brown areas of the plant. For more information, see article on next page. Photo taken on Linforth.*

"Nothing you do for children is ever wasted. They seem not to notice us, hovering, averting our eyes, and they seldom offer thanks, but what we do for them is never wasted." —Garrison Kelllor

# IMPROVING WATER STANDARDS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) developed current protocol for microbiological water purifiers in 1986. This was directed to devices and companies making claims concerning water purification. A "purifier" is defined as a treatment unit that will remove, kill or inactivate all types of disease causing organisms including bacteria, viruses and cysts from protozoa. (No mention of chemicals or radioactive materials.)

"Safe water" is defined as "potable for human consumption as accepted by jurisdictional health or regulatory agencies." This leaves the door open for local or state guidelines. This should be unacceptable as these standards may vary considerably.

"Unsafe water" is defined by the EPA as any that is known to contain disease-causing bacteria, viruses, protozoa or other disease-causing microorganisms. If a positive test for these is realized, the water is unacceptable. If an "appropriate regulatory agency or health agency declares water to be unsafe, it shall be considered so." Even if it does not meet microbiological guidelines set by the EPA for bacteria, cysts and viruses.

Again, where is the mention of chemicals now in our water and milk (perchlorate)? Where do we find reference to the threat of radioactive chemicals?

These standards are antiquated and do not meet

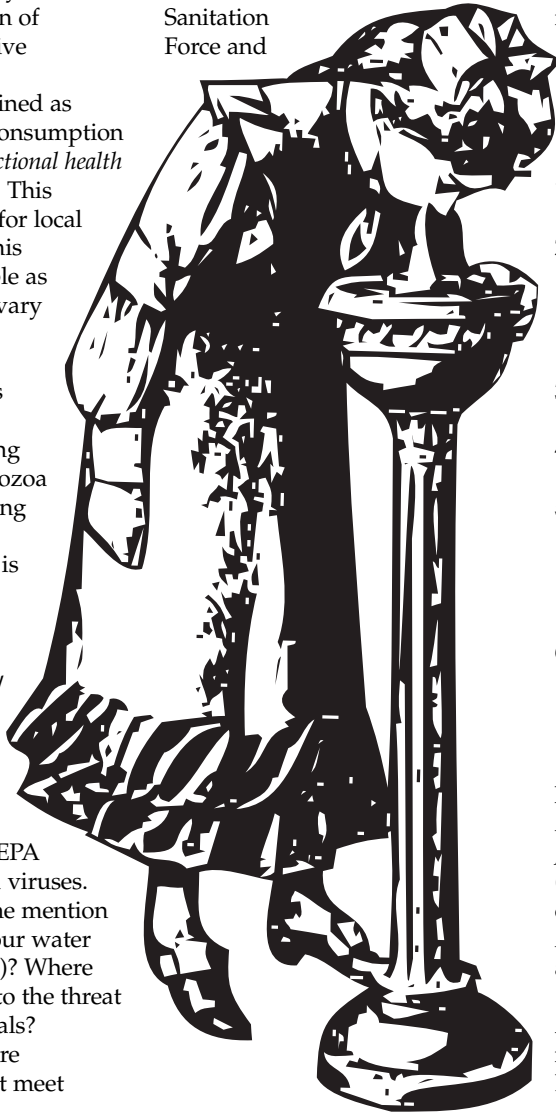
current National Sanitation Foundation draft standards. Inorganic and organic pollutants are not considered. These include a host of industrial and household chemicals that enter our water systems such as arsenic, lead, mercury, nitrates and others that have been listed by the World Health Organization (WHO) as unacceptable.

The National Sanitation Force and

Drinking Water Treatment Unites are working together to clarify six standards used to certify water in the U. S. These are: aesthetics, water softness, health claims, ultraviolet treatment, reverse osmosis and distillation. About forty percent of U.S. homes have devices using one or more of these: They include reduction of cysts, bacterial stasis, and microbial reduction by U.V. There is no inclusion of "mechanical reduction" or a "purifier standard." The Committee for the normalization of standards has a "purifier standard" list for improvements:

1. Unifying diverse standards now in place.
2. Eliminating local jurisdiction by substituting "regulatory agencies" and replacing these by a unifying "National Standards Group."
3. Considering newer threats to our water from chemicals.
4. Bringing U.S.E.P.A. standards into the 21st century.
5. Setting goals for reduction of influent organisms and chemicals as suggested by a draft from the *National Sanitation Foundation*.
6. Studying the models in operations in Europe and elsewhere and implementing these.

I thank Anat Karteginer for her research published in the *International Water Purification Journal (WCP)* in April of 2004 (pp. 44-49). The author is a corporate member of the *International Water Association* and a member of the *European Point of Use Drinking Water Association*. Any errors in this summation may be attributed to William Emboden.



## Bravo Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Shame on the Department of Defense

On April 14, 2004, the environmental group, *American Rivers* proclaimed the Colorado River to be "America's most endangered river." It supplies drinking water to 25 million people in the western U.S. and is cited as "one of the most influential waterways in the world." Three main contaminants are cited by *American Rivers*:

1. Nitrates: These enter your body and become nitrites and then nitrosamines causing cancer. They contaminate waters killing many fish.
2. Perchlorate: This is a rocket fuel byproduct causing cancer and a host of diseases. In this year, Department of Defense contractors are going to argue that they are not responsible claiming federal exemption from perchlorate cleanup. Lawmakers are considering these defense contractor's arguments. Fight back or you lose big time! Fortunately, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's board of directors (April 13, 2004) called proposed exemptions to perchlorate contamination "bad public policy." You drink water from this river. It comes via the Colorado River Aqueduct. Some of it goes into percolation ponds in the Coachella Valley and replaces

ground water. Coachella Valley water is used on crops and eventually enters the Salton Sea, a polluted pond in the desert that is artificially maintained by irrigation runoff. Indian tribes are having to import bottled water (Cahuilla Indians located near Thermal). Talapia, a now staple fish, is taken from the Salton Sea. Filled with perchlorate, it is highly toxic.

3. Radioactive wastes: These are imported as well as being produced locally. The Department of energy is attempting to finalize plans for keeping stored radioactive wastes from the Colorado River. Perchlorate and Chromium-6 are now only 125 feet from entering the river as are radioactive wastes stored in deteriorating drums. The perchlorate has already made its entry into our water and milk.

The Department of Defense believes that they should be exempt from regulations and proposed exemptions in order to "maintain military readiness." Ronald Gastelum, CEO of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has stated that there are other ways to maintain readiness. Bravo Mr. Gastelum.

—William Emboden

"Aquifer: a mysterious, magical and poorly defined area beneath the surface of the earth that either yields or withholds vast or lesser quantities of standing/flowing water, the quantity and/or quality of which is dependent on who is describing it or how much money may be at stake." —R. Radden, UA Coop. Ext. Watershed Resources, January 2002



## Flying the Red Flag

Yes, that's what the city will do when it's a bit dry and hot outside. Attention hillside residents who choose to park illegally on narrow winding roads.

You can continue to park that way according to Mayor Hahn unless you do it during a "Red Flag Alert". A Red Flag alert will be triggered when winds are at 25 mph and relative humidity below 15%.

Yes, illegally parking on winding narrow roads will get your car towed if the red flag is waving at any one of the 103 fire stations in the City of Los Angeles. How then will the residents in the Hollywood Hills know that their cars will be there when they go outside? How will we know if it's a "Red Flag Day" or not? The Mayor didn't volunteer that information at his news conference in Griffith Park in June. While this Red Flag method makes our streets safer during fire danger, it does nothing to make sure that our streets are free of illegally parked cars NOW.

When the house on Gower at Dearborn caught fire last month, the cars were parked legally. Yet the fire department admits that it was delayed because of the narrow winding road and the cars that were parked on it. Fortunately no one was hurt in this particular fire.

I have a suggestion for our Mayor Hahn; If you want hillside neighbors to reelect you, start a program of towing ALL illegally parked cars NOW. Emergency vehicles need to use these streets for more than just fire calls. Evacuation may be necessary in the future for reasons other than brush fire. Change the city ordinance to allow cars to park over the curb on streets with no sidewalk just in case there is an emergency. Give us a practical plan that truly makes us safer in ALL types of emergencies.

In the meantime, anyone with inside information on how the average neighbor will know if there's a Red Flag Day without having to get into the car and drive past a fire station, please write to this paper and we will gladly share that information with the other hillside residents.

—Editor

# Toxic Castor Beans Growing in Our Canyon

Ricin is classified as a "phytoxin" which translates as plant poison. It is found in the Castor bean. This plant grows in tropical and subtropical regions as a weed or ornamental. It was once cultivated for its fine oil used in making soap. The oils, still containing a minute amount of ricin, were also used in making the medicinal castor oil that purges the gut in instances of constipation.

The plant is thought to be of African origin. In ancient Egypt, oil lamps were fueled by expressing castor oil from the endosperm and mixing it with natron (saltpeter) in order to give a smokeless flame. This allowed the images within the dark pyramids to be painted.

The seed is a quarter to one half inch in length and, if ingested, it will cause nausea, muscle spasms, purgation, convulsions and death. If the person does not die, kidney dysfunction ensues and dialysis is often necessary. Two to four seeds will make a man seriously ill while eight are most often fatal. If swallowed whole, the hard seed coat may provide protection from the ricin and expurgation by induced vomiting or purgation is advised.

Castor bean plants are extremely common in Beachwood Canyon (see color picture on page 16). They are on every path and trail in our neighborhood. They may be very attractive as a plant, and the seed is appealing to children. Often necklaces and bracelets containing the seed are sold at swap meets or in ethnic jewelry.

In summer and autumn, the seeds fall out of clusters of spiny fruit onto the ground. It is an attractive, mottled seed that appeals to children who may play around these plants.

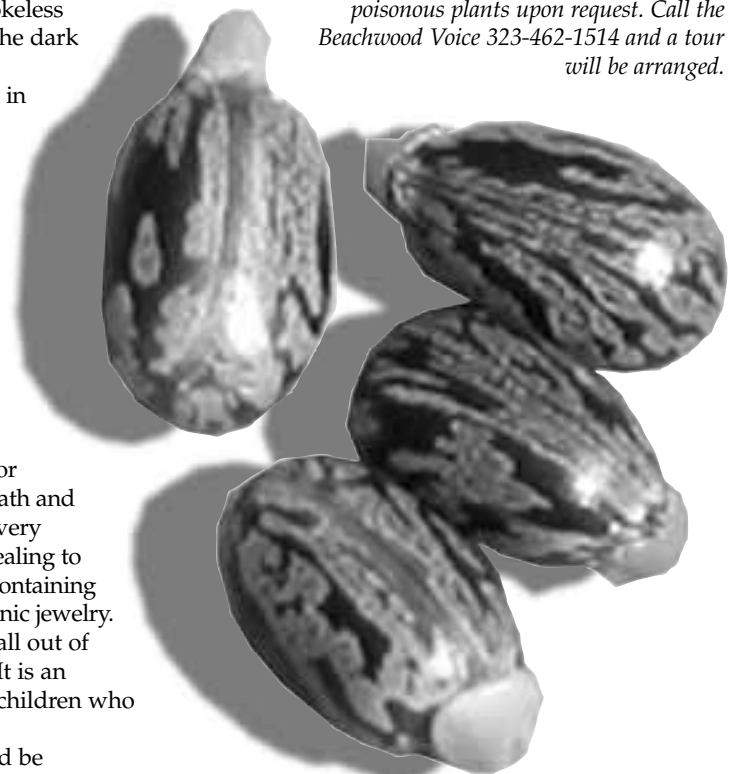
They are far too common and should be

eradicated by digging out the entire plant and searching for seeds in the immediate area.

Plant poisonings are often misdiagnosed as physicians are usually not well trained in the recognition of the plant or the symptoms. We should get to know the most common poisonous plants in our area. If we don't, the consequences could be dire.

Ricin is a toxin that has been used in terrorist activities. We have good reason to pay attention to it because we are living with it.

Dr. Emboden offers tours of the local poisonous plants upon request. Call the Beachwood Voice 323-462-1514 and a tour will be arranged.



# BEACHWOOD SAVIORS

## Marley & Dallas

Jeremy Gurse is a mid-twenties single man who has lived in Beachwood Canyon for four years and felt his life was complete. He was building his business (Mocha Kiss Coffee), had a wonderful girlfriend named Orit and rented a home with a great big yard. Little did he know that his life was about to turn up-side-down and become transformed. In his own words, "I wouldn't have had it any other way."

Jeremy's receptionist was having a birthday and had expressed the desire to have a dog. Orit is one of those people that seem to attract lost or stray dogs, having the gift of finding each one of them suitable homes. So off they went in search of the perfect dog. Orit insisted that they search in local shelters. The birthday girl had always wanted a German Shepherd and the perfect one was waiting at the first shelter accompanied by many other dogs in varying states of loneliness.

One dog seemed to be very attracted to Jeremy. She was a little brindle Whippet-Pit Bull mix who seemed extremely excited to see him. Jeremy had no interest in complicating or burdening his life by having a dog and, after all, it was his receptionist who needed the gift.

When Orit went to the shelter to collect the Shepherd, she noticed that the little brindle dog was still there. It was her 9th day and she should have been euthanized on

the 7th day. The shelter employee warned her that this dog had Pit Bull in her and wouldn't make a good pet. Ignoring this advise, she rescued the little pup as a gift for Jeremy.

There seemed to be a magical connection right from the beginning. With her former owners relocating, she had been dropped off at the shelter to be adopted or put to sleep. Her former family had named her "Happy" for obvious reasons and Jeremy renamed her Marley. The two went everywhere together.

Not long afterward, Orit and her grandmother were driving in the valley when the door of the car next to them opened and a puppy was shoved out onto the street. The tires screeched as the car drove away. The little puppy looking confused and frightened, with tail between his legs, he went running after the car. All this happened in a flash and without even thinking, Orit followed and finally pulled over and called to the puppy. He came to her and into the car he went. Shaking and confused, he became instantly attached to her. Orit lived with her parents at

the time. She had two dogs of her own but assumed that she could keep him until she found a home for him. She named him Dallas.

would keep him until the right home could be found. But Jeremy was falling in love with Dallas.

He and Orit took pictures, contacted various animal placement services to broadcast this available and extremely loving dog. A month later someone responded with interest in having Dallas, but it was too late. Jeremy was taking Dallas with him to work, spending special time with him to help heal the wounds from his previous life. They became inseparable.

Meanwhile, the paths of Orit and Jeremy parted and Jeremy found himself the proud caregiver to Marley and Dallas. Jeremy says they are "sources of unconditional love. There is nothing more confidence building for me than being greeted and loved by Marley and Dallas."

Almost four years have passed since these two have entered and altered Jeremy's views of life and love. His business has grown and Dallas and Marley go with him to the office three times a week. Dallas prefers to sleep on Jeremy's feet under the desk rather than the big fluffy bed provided for him, while Marley, well, she takes the bed.



A visit to the vet revealed that this puppy was probably used as a bait dog to train fighter Pit Bulls. The hair around his neck was gone. There were cuts, bruises and bite marks all over his little body. The raise of a hand would send him cowering and whimpering. This little six-month-old pup had some serious issues.

When he nipped at one of Orit's dogs, her parents laid down the law. This dog had to go. Jeremy

feels grateful for the loving generosity of his now long time friend, Orit and her gift to him. Jeremy's heart is warmed when Dallas jumps on the bed at night circling for the right side of the bed and landing next to him, resting only when he can make the slightest bodily contact and, well, Marley she takes the far corner. Jeremy says, "One man's trash is another man's treasure."

After listening to this story, the first thing this writer was compelled to do was to go home and stroke the oldest dog in the house with appreciation for the opportunity to love her. (She was also a rescue)

When you see a dog abandoned or wandering confused, consider that there are people whose lives would be enhanced, made richer by having the opportunity to heal, love and comfort that dog. Many mistakenly think they have to adopt the dog if they let it in their car or take it to their home. That's just not true.

If you can, take the dog with you and contact one of the no-kill shelters featured in this publication or just call our offices at 323-462-1514. Consider yourself a momentary cab ride for this poor animal but also a Beachwood Savior in the process.

If you have opened your heart and your home and made changes in your life to help an animal in need, tell us your story. Contact this paper at 323-462-1514.

—Fran Reichenbach

## NOISE POLLUTION

You're working in your home, as many of us in the canyon do. You hear neighbors leave for work. They are happy that they have just installed a doggie door so their pups can come and "go" as they wish during the day. Just as you're having that creative breakthrough you've been longing for, bark! bark! bark! The barking continues for a couple of minutes—not long, but the interruption has broken your pace and creative flow.

After a couple of weeks of this constant canine chorus, you approach your neighbors certain they will understand. These formerly rational folks suddenly assume a defensive stance as though you have scorned their family line. They suggest that the barking is why they have their dogs in the first place. At best, you have found yourself at a stalemate. At its extreme, you may have a mini war on your hands.

What's a neighbor to do? The following are suggestions that may help. This paper is eager to hear other remedies that we can share in future issues:

- 1 Write a note to your neighbor asking them if they could keep their dogs inside when they are not home. Tell them about your project and how much it would mean to you to have their help. You may also acknowledge the need to have dogs to protect the property and that these good companions will continue to do their job from inside the house.
- 2 Offer to come let their dogs out once or twice a day to relieve themselves, if that would help.
- 3 If there is no relief, record the barking and take it to their home around dinner time. Ask them for a moment of their time while you turn on the "Play" button. Then ask them once again for their help.
- 4 If a week or two goes by with no relief, you may have to report the problem to Animal Regulations.

If you are a dog owner, here are some things you may want to do as a considerate neighbor:

- 1 Listen to your dogs. If they are outside barking, bring them in. Always look around to identify the reason for their barking as you take them in. If there is someone suspicious, report them to the police right away (213-485-4301). Most of the time, it's just a neighbor walking up the street.
- 2 When you leave home, tell the dogs to guard the house but leave them secured INSIDE the house to do this work.
- 3 When you see your neighbors, ask them if they are bothered by your dogs. Listen closely to their response as they will, no doubt, be surprised that you are concerned for their well-being. When I did this, my neighbor said, "They don't bother me cause you don't let them go on and on but please don't let them out before 7am because I work late." Not a problem.
- 4 When your dogs are outside barking and you are bringing them in, don't make matters worse by yelling at them, "Stop, No, Get IN HERE!" This is also noise pollution and has absolutely no impact on your pup. They will stop barking when they are inside with you and probably not before.
- 5 Buy an electronic collar if you must have your dog outside for long periods of time. This is a controversial solution. Ask your trainer or vet what brand they recommend.
- 6 If you get a note from your neighbor, don't fight them. They are probably writing the note after a long period of silent suffering. Make an effort to listen and be generous with your responses. This will calm things down and make a solution possible that you can both live with.

Write to us about your experiences. We would be glad to share your ideas through the Beachwood Voice. Noise pollution is a stress producer. Let's all work to relieve stress in our canyon.

—Maurene and Fran

## Chocolate Mathematics-6

**Quiz Step 6. Now subtract the four digit year that you were born. (You're hiding your paper as you work this out—it's okay—now go to page 20 for a tiny bit more.)**

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"Money is like manure; it's not worth a thing unless it's spread around encouraging young things to grow." —Thornton Wilder, from *The Matchmaker*

## California Wildlife Center—Haven for Orphaned Squirrels

Baby tree squirrels are often injured and orphaned by tree trimming during the months of March, April, August and September. If you must trim trees during this time, please ask the arborist to check for squirrel nests first. If you find injured or orphaned wildlife, please call the California Wildlife Center at 818-591-9453 for advice.



CA 91302 (see driving instructions below).

California Wildlife Center (CWC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization providing specialized care for sick, injured and orphaned native wildlife. For more information call Beth Caskie, executive director: office: 818-222-2658, cell: 818-636-8569.

The California Wildlife Center treated 236 squirrels in 2003, and almost 2000 other birds and mammals. We are a non-profit, volunteer based organization dedicated to treating and releasing injured wildlife.

Regarding coyotes, the most important things we can do to live peacefully with coyotes are: #1 Don't feed them; and #2 Scare them off if they get bold around your property. Coyotes are indigenous, and they're not going away - but they should retain a healthy wariness of human beings, for all our sakes.

People should strive for a healthy respect for wildlife. Please don't try to make a pet out of a wild animal; it's not

only illegal but also detrimental to the animal (and the household) over the long-term.

Since we live amongst wildlife and always will, please use nontoxic products on your property and home. Invest in binoculars and enjoy wildlife from a safe distance. Protect open spaces by joining together with your neighbors to purchase parcels. Lobby for wildlife corridors.

If you come across an injured or possibly orphaned animal, first call the Center at (818) 591-WILD (the hospital line) to ascertain that it truly needs human interference. If so, keep it warm, dark and quiet in a secure ventilated box, and bring it to California Wildlife Center at 26026 Piuma Road, Calabasas,

We depend on public donations for our support. If you are interested in helping us continue our mission, please call 818-222-2658 or [www.californiawildlifecenter.org](http://www.californiawildlifecenter.org) e-mail address: [admin@californiawildlifecenter.org](mailto:admin@californiawildlifecenter.org). Send donations to: CWC, P.O. Box 2022, Malibu, CA 90265.

We are in the Santa Monica Mountains between Malibu and Calabasas. From the 101 freeway take the Las Virgenes/Malibu Canyon Road exit left and go West toward Malibu about five miles. Turn left on Piuma Road at the signal. The center is not far from that light on the right side of the road. There is a veterinarian living on the property, as well as, round the clock staff to take and care for the animal.

## PAW'D SQUAD MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Goldi came into our rescue facility, Paw'd Squad, from the South Los Angeles shelter. She had been tossed off a truck on the freeway, THEN hit by a car. A

A couple, while returning from a snowboarding trip to Big Bear, spotted a dog on the side of the road which they thought must be dead. They turned around to

investigate and to their surprise, found he was still alive although badly hurt. "Big Bear" had been hit by a car and left to die.

They scooped him up and took him to an emergency vet clinic. The doctor told



Goldilocks

good Samaritan stopped and took her to the shelter where one of their volunteers knew that Paw'd Squad would take her and well, we did.

Goldilocks has a shattered right femur, her left hip is going to be replaced and her left elbow has been dislocated and the tip has been broken. Yep, THREE surgeries. She had her first surgery right away and I visited with her afterwards. She's doing great so far and will have to have two more surgeries.

Goldi's surgeries will total about \$5,000. We are gladly accepting donations for her surgeries.



Big Bear

them he had two broken back legs & recommended the dog be put to sleep. The couple called lots of rescue groups, who were happy to assist until they found out he was a pit bull, then withdrew their offer to help. Continuing their search, they eventually contacted the Paw'd Squad and a great vet agreed to do the surgery at half price. So "Big Bear" went into extensive surgery. He had one pin placed in one leg and both were put in a cast that went over his entire back end connecting the two legs. After a few weeks of confinement, he is doing much better. So far, X-rays show the legs are healing well. He now has a soft cast on one leg and a hard cast on the other. In another week or so the pin will be taken out and he should be running around like the puppy he is. Can he run around in your home? If you can't adopt Big Bear, we will gladly accept donations for his surgeries.

Please send donations in any amount to:

**The Paw'd Squad Animal Rescue (a non-profit organization)**  
P.O. Box 6564  
Burbank, CA 91510 - 6564

For more information go to [www.pawdsquad.org](http://www.pawdsquad.org) and remember, "Don't Litter—Spay or Neuter."



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323-468-3800

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# Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association Report

The Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association, now in it's 7th year, has accomplished much in the way of unifying this canyon. It's always good to know there is a place to bring your concerns and issues. And sometimes the City actually acknowledges our requests. The most recent response from the Department of Transportation says that three curb sections will be returned from red back to gray. It seems that the DOT reps responding to many of our requests for parking regulations on narrow winding roads got carried away with their red paint. The consequence? Sections of curb up and down Beachwood were painted a rich ruby red causing the loss of many parking spaces.

Last year we had to ask them to reconsider their enthusiastic red curb designations on Beachwood because residents were forced to search for parking on small feeder streets. The DOT tells us that, "Due to your request for additional parking, the Department has issued work orders to reduce three existing DASH bus zones on Beachwood Drive by 20 feet each. The removal of red curb will be at the DASH stops at Temple Hill Drive on the east and west side of

Beachwood Drive and at Scenic Avenue on the west side of Beachwood Drive..."

There are still countless requests on file that have not been addressed by the City Council or the Department of Transportation. They include requests for stop signs and speed humps on Gower between Scenic and Carmen Place as well as stop signs and traffic enforcement for upper Beachwood between Ledgewood and Belden.

The buzz continues around the vague stop sign use in the village. Since the installation of the Village sidewalk extension, the westbound Westshire traffic is not acknowledged when they try to enter the intersection.

Westshire traffic is not seen by southbound Beachwood traffic and ignored by eastbound Belden traffic. Please pay attention while navigating our main intersection. We will all be safer.

Please join the Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association (form below). And check out our website [www.BeachwoodCanyon.org](http://www.BeachwoodCanyon.org). You can call our hotline with any concerns that you may have or to have an issue added to the agenda for the neighborhood meetings (see schedule below).

# A Perscription for Mispronunciation

By Ms. Grammer

As we baby boomers in the Western world rush towards old age, some of us are likely to fall prey (while the Middle Easterners fall to pray) to thinking we need more and more prescriptions to save an organ or soothe an ache, so let's make sure we can pronounce it right when we go to the drug store: it's prescription, not perscription.

Now, Ms. Grammer understands how you got this one wrong. Not only did your mother not correct you, you think you are getting this pill **per** your doctor and that it will make you better. It's a **perscription**, you think.

But it's not. It's a **prescription**. It is true, however, that if, indeed, you had done something **pre** the injury or illness, you might not need a prescription at all—so what's this **pre** business? Indeed, these pills ought to be called **postscriptions**, for they are for conditions after they happen, not before.

Things we do and take to **prevent** injury and disease tend to be available without a prescription even though they are really the **pre** things.

Because of this confusion, you are forgiven if you have called your pills your **perscriptions**. Nonetheless, at this time we "aks" you to correct yourself and call them **prescriptions** henceforth even though they should have been named **postscriptions**.

We Westerners have been raised to want what we can't have when we could have realized we already have what we want—we just don't know it, so this prefix-reversal should not be found queer. All fear is fear of death and to have fear of death you must be alive, so you don't need it – and that right there is the foundation of everything.

Oh, dear! I'm not supposed to use that word queer anymore even when it is just the word I want. Excuse me: I should say ... this sort of prefix-reversal should not be found astonishing in our fear-based society. Astonishing! That's what queer is. Being gay is not so astonishing anymore. What is

astonishing is that so many grown men and women want marriage; they should be old enough to know better.

Suffice it to say that were I truly taking age-old medications and doing age-old exercise pre illness or pre injury, I might not have to go to the drug store to support the drug industry. I could do all my shopping at Trader Joe's and Whole Foods where there may be fewer mispronunciations anyway than at Sav-On or Rite-Aid. While things are more expensive at Whole Foods, the cost is balanced by what you get at TJs and how healthy you stay and with little need for those costly "**postscriptions**." Plus, it's easier on the ear.

You might think there are fewer mispronunciations in February than in any other month because it is shorter – but people mispronounce the month itself so all the **Febuaries** you hear make up for it. Plus there are all the perscriptions for coughs and colds.

Indeed, the short February would come out the winner for the highest mispronunciation month except for July and August when so many people **prespire**. If they really were **pre**-spiring they could do it in the bathroom and they wouldn't get their suits all moist. People rub this ointment they buy without a prescription under their arms and then go out and **perspire**, not **prespire**. But if you want to get technical, they **postspire**.

Oh, I know: if I don't shut up, you're going to put some Duck tape on me. Who cares about **pronouciation**? By the way, did you hear that? **Pronouciation**? It's **pronunciation**! I guess you had to go to Catholic school to learn it from the nuns, so I have to forgive the population once again. Teaching pronunciation is illegal in the Los

Angeles school district now; it went out with the nuns. You can't ask your **fedral** government "Why?" for they are mum. Do the feds all really want us to talk this way out here? Can't they protect us? I guess not.

And of course pervers are not only pervers, they are postverts and duringverts, but they are not **preverts**. Everyone has lust in his heart. Sheesh.

Oh, what the heck. Who cares? Let's juss sit around and drink **espresso** and not even pronounce it right. Sheesh, people around here are proud to say **expresso**, **expecially** when cute strangers can hear them. Little do they know – either one of them.

We should do a study of **heighth** and see if taller men make more or fewer mispronunciations.

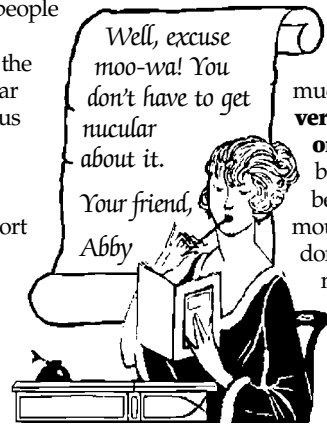
**Supposably**, people take tall people more seriously, so the tall might not strain as much and mix up their **verbage**. They are **orientated** to the world believing them even before they open their mouths to misspeak. They don't even have to say as much as shorter people.

And they can buy their girlfriends more **jewlary**.

Now with the abundance-poverty and poverty thinking there is in our world, it's easy to see how people rob themselves an entire syllable out of the be-yuu-ti-ful word **jewel**. A **jewel** is so much more luxurious as an entire **jewel** with the e than without. And then there's **jewelry**... yes... and it feels so much better than **jewlary**. It even looks better.

Oh well, it's a doggy dog world but I don't want to beg. Talk the way you want to but you can find proof of what I say in the **library** in **minature** type.

I think I'll go cook some herbs with their "h". Maybe some day I'll make a movie and go to Cannes as in Can. If you axe me, anyone can Can.



**Schedule of BCNA Neighborhood Meetings**

All meetings are held on Thursdays at 7:30pm at the Village Coffee Shop (Beachwood & Belden Drives)

**August 19th, 2004**  
**September 23rd, 2004**  
**November 4, 2004**

Refreshments are served—meetings are open to the public. All are encouraged to participate.

Call 323-469-4755 to have something added to the agenda or to discuss a neighborhood issue.

**URGENT ALERT FOR AUGUST MEETING!**  
 This is an important meeting for landlords of multi-unit buildings!

**Chocolate Mathematics-7**

Quiz Step 7. You should have a three digit number. Do you?  
 Go to page 24.

**SO MUCH FOR TEACHING PHONICS**

THE PAOMNNEHAL PWEOR OF THE HMUAN MNID  
 Aoccdrnig to rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in what oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit plcae.  
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 Amzanig huh?  
 cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulaclyt uesdnatnrd waht I was rdgnieg  
*Neighbor, Shelley found this on the internet.  
 Thanks, Shelley! Find something inspirational online?  
 Pass it on to us at CanyonVox@aol.com.*

**THE BEACHWOOD CANYON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

MAILING ADDRESS: 2751 WESTSHIRE DR, HOLLYWOOD, CA 90068, 323-462-1514

**PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW NOW!**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ NEW  RENEWAL

Name \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel (H) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Tel (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Issues of interest to me are:

|   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic        | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Franklin-Hollywood Hills Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone Tree | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Response    | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch               | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership     |

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$20. per household per year and \$10 for an apartment rental. AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$  \$

Why isn't the number 11 pronounced oney one?

"A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him." —David Brinkley



**THE HOLLYWOOD COORDINATING COUNCIL**

(A tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization)  
Established 1919

The primary purposes for which the Council was formed are:

- To assist and coordinate the activities of those organizations, agencies, businesses and individuals which improve the safety, dignity and growth of our community.

- To sponsor and initiate services and programs relevant to those goals
- To promote respect for the laws of our City, County, State, and Nation.
- To coordinate efforts preventing and correcting juvenile and adult delinquency.

In sum, we join all who are interested in making our Hollywood a pleasant place to live, work, shop, and proudly host visitors from all over the world.

- To achieve these goals, the Council annually sponsors
- **Community Service Awards** in February to an individual, an organization and a business who, through their efforts, have made a difference in Hollywood
- **The Youth Awards** in April, honoring outstanding students in the Elementary, Middle, and Private Schools of Hollywood including the
- **Ann Wolff Leadership Award** to an outstanding girl student at Hollywood High School
- **Tom Evans Leadership Award** to an outstanding boy student at Hollywood High School
- **Patriotism, Honor and Leadership Award** to an outstanding member of the JROTC of Hollywood High School
- **Educator of the Year** honoring a teacher or administrator chosen by the school principals.

There is a tradition of presenting a Holiday Happening in December spotlighting the talented students from the Hollywood High School Performing Arts VocalPros. Other meetings in October, November, January, March and June feature speakers on topics of community interest.

Plan to join us for up-to-the minute news about what is happening in Hollywood and have the opportunity for a one-on-one exchange with knowledgeable speakers on various subjects.

For further information please log on to our website [www.hollywoodcoordinatingcouncil.org](http://www.hollywoodcoordinatingcouncil.org). Current programs and other activities will be updated regularly and you will find a printable Membership Form. We welcome your participation and support. For more information, please call Dorothy Remsen at 323-463-0716.

## Breaking News— Historic Monument Still Threatened

The Little Country Church of Hollywood, located at 1750 N. Argyle Ave. is still in major trouble.

Its new owner wants to have events within the structure that will generate significant revenue; in addition to loud noise, traffic and general disruptions to the peace of the neighborhood. In preparation for that, he has successfully gotten permits to install over 20 urinals/toilets and a huge kitchen. While work on this has not begun, we understand that the pews are gone and he plans to remove the vintage organ. He also tried to get the city to allow him to remove the knotty pine from the interior and to install skylights.

The owner wasn't pleased to find that the permit to hold events in the structure had just expired. The former owner got the permit so that she could have these events but never followed through.

As we speak, zoning is considering the owner's request to extend or renew this permit.

It's time to share your concern with the Zoning Administrator as he ponders this issue. No input means that his decisions will be made in a vacuum. Don't let that happen. Silence is not an option in this regard.



**Opportunity to Speak Out**

Please place the below referenced numbers on all correspondence:

The Little Country Church of Hollywood, 1750 N. Argyle Ave. ZA-98-0928 (CUB) (CUZ) (ZV).

Call Zoning Administrator, Robert Janovici at 213-978-1318 or send him an e-mail at [Rjanovic@planning.lacity.org](mailto:Rjanovic@planning.lacity.org)

Or speak to his assistant, Jonathan Hershey at 213-978-1378 and send him an e-mail as well: [Jhershey@planning.lacity.org](mailto:Jhershey@planning.lacity.org)

Tell them NOT to renew or extend any permit associated with the Little Country Church without another hearing. Ask that an EIR be conducted prior to any consideration for a new use or remodeling of this Historic Monument.

Your voice is key to seeing that the Little Country Church does not become so dismantled that it cannot be restored. We must not fail to respect Hollywood's History and the few landmarks that remain. Don't forget to contact Eric Garcetti with your concerns as well: 213-485-3353 [garcetti@council.lacity.org](mailto:garcetti@council.lacity.org). Thank you for caring.

— Fran Reichenbach, FHHCC's Action Team President



## Community Activity Report

There are many changes coming to the neighborhoods in our community. Franklin-Hollywood Hills Community Council reps are deep in the thick of things as usual. They are working closely with both the neighborhoods below Franklin-

side of the 101 Freeway. This comes as a relief to the businesses and neighbors whose livelihoods were threatened by a plan to place the fire station at Hollywood between Taft and Van Ness. The Eastwood Coalition brought those neighbors and

the one installed at St. Andrews and Sunset. The DOT reps that were on hand for the press conference when the "Smart Crosswalk" was activated, told us that there would be no problem converting this to a full stoplight operated by pressing a

button. On the west side of the 101 freeway is the Hollywood-Gower Neighborhood Association. Happily there are few issues plaguing this neighborhood. But they are not sitting around waiting for a reason to act. They have had two "Cleanup



Eric Garcetti and neighbors try out the new smart crosswalk at St. Andrews and Hollywood Blvd.

FHHCC and the Eastwood Coalition (the neighborhood east of the 101 Freeway bet. Franklin and Hollywood to Western) are working together with the CRA on a plan to redevelop both sides of Hollywood Blvd. from Western west to St. Andrews and to Garfield Place.

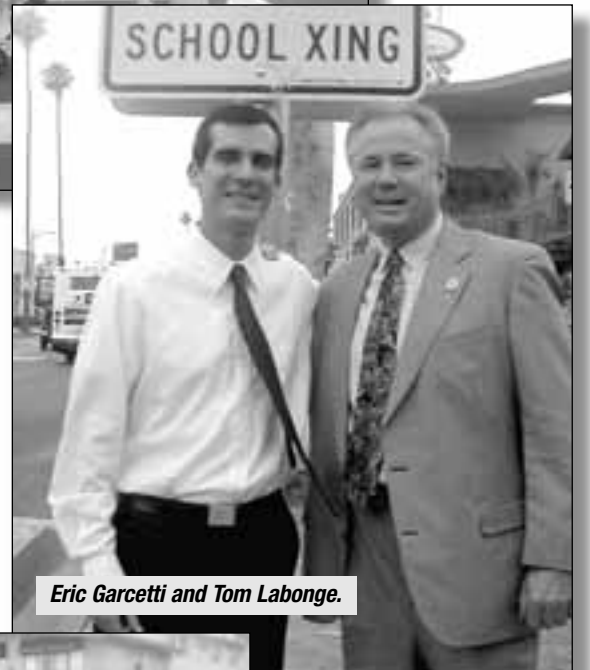
John McCoy, from the CRA has expressed his appreciation for the level of activism coming from this relatively small neighborhood. The neighbors are creating a report for the CRA to give to four competing developers stating their position on each one of their plans. The neighborhood has posted a wish list on the FHHCC website [www.FranklinHollywoodHills.org](http://www.FranklinHollywoodHills.org). Check it out.

Meanwhile, the plan to construct a Whole Foods store on Hollywood & Garfield may be stalled due to neighbors concerns over the impact that their supply trucks will have on this residential neighborhood. The Eastwood Coalition is working with the City Council office (district 4), and has created their own Design Review Team to make certain that all the neighbors questions are addressed.

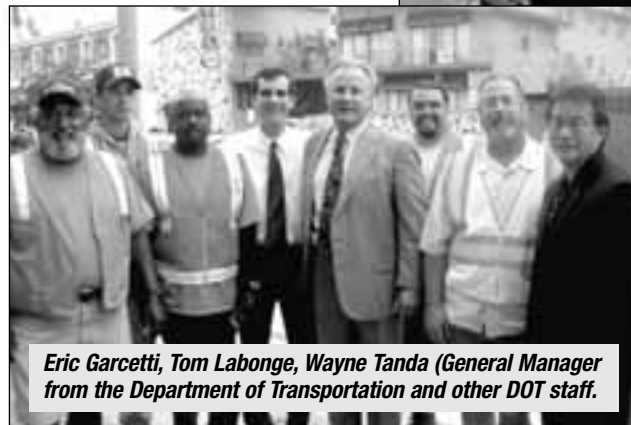
The city council offices of Tom LaBonge and Eric Garcetti have released their desire to build Fire Station 82 on the west

FHHCC reps to many meetings downtown to make certain their voices were heard.

Speaking of hearing voices, Tom LaBonge and Eric Garcetti, working with Wayne Tanda



Eric Garcetti and Tom LaBonge.



Eric Garcetti, Tom LaBonge, Wayne Tanda (General Manager from the Department of Transportation and other DOT staff.

(GM of the Department of Transportation) were glad to announce the installation of a "Smart Crosswalk" at St. Andrews and Hollywood Blvd. You may remember how hard the FHHCC & the Eastwood Coalition worked to get a crosswalk and crossing guards at that location. The only problem that FHHCC has with the "Smart Crosswalk" is that it blinks a yellow light and there is no way for the pedestrian to know for certain that this light is blinking. There is also no way to force the cars to stop. A letter will be generated from FHHCC and the Eastwood Coalition asking for a full-fledged stoplight exactly like

Days" since the beginning of the year. Neighbors cleaned Carlos at Vista Del Mar and successfully drove away an encampment on wheels. They have not returned. A neighbor is now maintaining the area picking up trash before it gets out of hand.

The other area the Hollywood-Gower neighbors cleaned is Carlos just off Bronson. There is more work to do to get the graffiti off the sidewalk there. The neighbors are patiently waiting for their Senior Lead Officer to come back from sick leave to help with this effort.

Both of these resident associations should be applauded for their consistent efforts on behalf of their neighborhoods. Reports from their meetings and accomplishments can be viewed at the FHHCC website. If you live south of Franklin and wish to become involved in true grassroots neighborhood empowerment, contact the FHHCC at 323-610-1967.

"Philanthropy is commendable, but it must not cause the philanthropist to overlook the circumstances of economic injustice which make philanthropy necessary." —Martin Luther King, Jr.

# CRIME REPORT

While cars and homes continue to be burglarized, the overall crime stats are down for Beachwood and surrounding neighborhoods. Senior Lead Officer, Bill Sollie reports that this six month period has seen a 37% drop in crime for his patrol area. This drop is the most significant of any other patrol area in Hollywood. He attributes this success to the mobilization of the neighbors after a crime spree last year. The neighborhood watch groups and the E-Activism has resulted in a more aware populace. Officer Sollie's message to us all is to "Keep up the good work! Keep your eyes and ears open."

There have, however been some unique crimes taking place that you should know about. One is the mail theft that has been reported from Westshire, Hollyridge, Glen Green, Verbena, Cheremoya and Rutherford. In one case, the perpetrator was

caught sorting through the mail of one of our neighbors and making purchases from a phone at a local hotel. This rash of mail theft has prompted many neighbors to change their approach to posting their mail. Some have purchased larger, more secure mail boxes. Most are taking their mail to the post box in the village or handing it to their mail carrier. **NEVER** leave mail clipped to the letter box for the mail carrier to take away for you. If you have no choice, place a note on your mailbox saying, "Dear letter carrier, please honk so I can give you my mail to be posted."

One neighbor had her scooter stolen. But not in the normal way a thief usually steals an item. This thief came to her neighbor and asked who the scooter belonged to. After being told that it belonged to her neighbor, they thanked her and went away only to return the next day with a truck and take possession of the



scooter. A good description of the perpetrator was given to the police but the scooter was never recovered. It seems that this middle aged Caucasian couple have been brazenly stealing large items from our neighborhood in broad daylight for quite some time. They have a white truck. If you see suspicious activity at your neighbor's home, please call your neighbor or the police to make sure that they are not getting burglarized. This is the true meaning of neighborhood watch.

## Domestic Partners Beware!

On June 9, 2004, Kevin Shelly, Secretary of State for California, sent a missive to all registered domestic partners. Effective January 1, 2005, laws relating to Domestic Partners will be changed. We are warned of "mutual financial support and mutual responsibilities for certain debts of third parties, and many others". What does "many others" mean?

Under the new law, "you will only be able to terminate your domestic partnership, other than as a result of a domestic partner's death, by the filing of a court action".

In this one page directive, the Secretary of State tells us "if you have any questions about any of these changes, please consult an attorney in your locale." How many attorneys understand domestic partnership law?

Very few! Why does the Secretary of State not list a telephone number on his correspondence? He tells us that we will have "many new rights and responsibilities." No new rights are indicated.

Single people and those in domestic partnerships are being abused by both the state and federal government. A great number of us live in the Beachwood Canyon area.

We are denied over 1,000 benefits provided married partners! Put the Governor and Secretary of State on notice. Why should domestic partners be given the status of second-class citizens?

Send your protest to Domestic Partners Registry, 1500 11th St. 2nd Floor, Sacramento, Ca 95814. Ask for full disclosure of these laws.

—William & Tony

### Protect Yourself From Auto Theft & Vehicle Burglaries

#### Don't Become a Victim!

This is a message from the Los Angeles Police Department's Hollywood Division.

Below is a list of ideas that you can follow to protect your vehicle from being stolen or burglarized:

- Make sure your vehicle is locked and secured at all times.
- Never leave items of value in your vehicle, especially in plain view. Park your vehicle in a well-lit area.
- Invest in a vehicle security system or locking device.
- Be a good neighbor and observer – report all suspicious activity no matter how insignificant it might seem.
- Talk to your local police officers about any problems in your neighborhood.

— Los Angeles Police Department Community Relations office Hollywood Division. Find your senior lead officer: 213-485-4310

## LADOT Moving LA Forward Traffic Reports Online

Motorists often become frustrated when they encounter unexpected delay. If they knew of the traffic condition, then they could take alternate routes rather than contribute to the delay. Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) has long desired to provide motorists with real-time traffic information and has experimented with several methods.

Second-by-second real-time traffic information currently is sent to LADOT's Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control Center (ATSAC) from most areas through an infrastructure consisting of a

system using computers and modems along with copper and fiber optic cable imbedded in the roadway. The state-of-the-art ATSAC system utilizes this real-time traffic data automatically synchronizing traffic signals along arterial streets in most areas of the City. New areas are being added as funding becomes available. A mechanism was developed by LADOT to convert this real-time data into a useable format that could be easily understood by the general public.

More street segments are being added as ATSAC is expanded through the City. The website is valuable in

assisting motorists to research traffic conditions enabling them to better plan their trips and select the best routes before starting their trip. It is been especially helpful during times when major streets have been closed during emergencies, special events, and major construction. The website is the country's only example of the availability of real-time traffic information on urban arterial streets. Now anyone with internet can go to the website, <http://trafficinfo.lacity.org>, to access real-time traffic information along 1,000 miles of major street segments in the City.

### E-CRIME WATCH

Crime reports are posted at the BCNA website: [BeachwoodCanyon.org](http://BeachwoodCanyon.org). Use the forum to share info. Keep your finger on the pulse of your neighborhood.

It's highly recommended that you report EVERY crime that you experience or see. At the very least, please let your Senior Lead Officer know if you are a victim of crime.

If you live in the Beachwood Canyon area, your Senior Lead Officer is Bill Sollie (213-793-0703 [21444@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:21444@lapd.lacity.org)) Basic Car area 6A15.

If you live south of Franklin, west of the 101 Freeway, your Senior Lead Officer is Maria Gholizadeh (213-793-0705 [30469@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:30469@lapd.lacity.org)) Basic Car Area 6A37.

If you live south of Franklin, east of the 101 Freeway, your

Senior Lead Officer is Armen Sevdalian (213-793-0712 [25156@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:25156@lapd.lacity.org)) Basic Car Area 6A49.

Write to [CanyonVox@aol.com](mailto:CanyonVox@aol.com) To be added to the Canyon-Wide Neighborhood Watch E-Crime Watch list.

Watching, taking notes, being part of the eyes and ears of this community, is what E-Crime Watch is all about.

When you hear of crime in your neighborhood, after you have reported to the police, write to [CanyonVox@aol.com](mailto:CanyonVox@aol.com) and share that information with the neighborhood.

Your report will be posted on the website. If the crime is of a violent nature or if a weapon is involved, you will receive an e-mail alert.

*Thanks for being a good neighbor!*

## Graffiti IS A CRIME! 24-HOUR CLEAN UP!

Write these numbers down and keep them with you:

**Officer Art Holmes**

**Phone: 213-485-4310**

**Fax: 213 847-4384**

**See it? Report it!**



## Call 3-1-1

3-1-1 works in conjunction with 9-1-1 as your direct line to the City of Los Angeles for non-emergency services. 3-1-1 is your "one Call to City Hall" for services and information including:

Pothole repair, voting information, senior services, council meeting schedules, graffiti removal and more.

Calls are answered 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to provide you with information or to answer questions you may have about services or events happening within the City. If you need service, the operators will transfer you to the right service provider, the first time.

If you prefer self-service the Citywide Services Directory (CSD), the searchable database used by 3-1-1 operators, is also available via the internet at [www.lacity.org](http://www.lacity.org).

"Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants. We know more about war than we know about killing than we know about living." —Omar N. Bradley

# HOLLYWOOD—AN ALIGNMENT OF PURPOSE

From Captain Mike Downing  
Commanding Officer, Hollywood Area

I arrived in Hollywood in July of 1999. Having never worked this part of the City, my six senses were awakened like never before. I have often referred to Hollywood as the full spectrum of the human experience, an experience of living life at maximum capacity. But there was also a human condition I thought was much more fragile and vulnerable. This was not the case, as the human condition here is resilient, spirited, motivated and constantly pushing the envelope of challenge, ambition, creativity and liberation.

There is no greater example of pluralism anywhere in the world as there is in Hollywood: Russian, Armenian, Thai, Korean, Japanese, African American, Hispanic, White, Jewish, Gay, Transgender, Homeless, Rich, Poor. It is all here and somehow this mosaic of humanness finds a path of being able to coexist.

It has always been our crime fighting policy to balance social order with personal freedom. We strike a balance between a rule-based philosophy and a care-based philosophy. This is especially important in Hollywood because of the complexity and demographic make-up of the community. Isaiah Berlin, in his compilation of essays, "The Proper Study of Mankind" spoke to this issue when he stated, "Both liberty and equality are among the primary goals pursued by human beings through many centuries, but total liberty for wolves is death to lambs, total liberty of the powerful, the gifted, is not compatible with the rights to a decent existence of the weak and

the less gifted."

We have a community that expresses a market place of ideas, and I have come to realize that this really becomes our strength. It is this diversity that will sustain us as a society and our commonality will sustain us as a people, a neighborhood and a community.

More and more this market place of ideas has neutralized the fewer and fewer individuals who choose to be professional victims, those who made it their job to complain about privilege instead of obligation. We now have more partners who are part of the solution to crime prevention, crime detection, the cultivation of information and building crime resistance in neighborhoods. Our partnerships have created a domain in which human beings continually deepen their understanding of reality and become more capable of participating in the challenges of a pluralistic society.

We have aligned our people, purpose and strategy around our number one mission of crime reduction. As more community organizations mobilize, we begin to realize a shift from seeing a community made up of things, to seeing a community made up of relationships. This results in a deeper level of reality emerging beyond anything we can articulate. A move from a state of needing to have, to a state of needing to be, needing to participate and contribute to the common good. Leading beyond the boundaries of one's own institution and lending support, expertise and strength to other causes.

We don't always agree in expressing our market place of ideas, but the dialogue that we create encourages people to participate in a pool of shared meaning that leads to aligned action. This Hollywood community has done so well in embracing the shared meaning of humanity.

Hollywood is fortunate to have more authentic partners than anywhere in this City. Organizations such as the Hollywood Coordinating Council, Hollywood Community Police Advisory Board, Business Improvement Districts, Chamber of Commerce, Neighborhood Councils, Business Associations, Neighborhood Watch Groups, HELP, Lacers, Hollywood Boys and Girls Club, Police Activities League, Los Angeles Youth Network, Teen Canteen, and it goes on and on. It's people like Johnny Grant, Gary Minzer, Fares Wehbe, Kerry Morrison, Leron Gubler, Steve Ullman, Russ Joyner, Tom Burke, Fran Reichenbach, Kim Sudhalter and I could go on and on. The partnerships and resource alignment have significantly contributed to the major crime reductions in Hollywood this year.

Chief Bratton has brought a sense of spirit to our organization where innovation and creativity are encouraged and expected. We have shifted from an organization of control, contain and punish to one of create, liberate and develop. That is, create opportunities for communities and police to succeed together, liberate the officers to once again practice the art of police work and continually develop

their skills to meet the new challenges of fighting crime.

Our objective is the elimination of crime, not the destruction of the criminal, and we do this by continuing to raise the ethical stature of this community. In accomplishing this, our numerous crime fighting strategies and partnerships have elevated the ethical stature creating an environment more conducive to crime resistance. The Homeless Outreach monthly task forces continue to weed out the criminal homeless and facilitate social service contacts with the mentally ill, the destitute and the runaways. The Vehicle Seizure Prostitution Task Force continues to operate and dissuade "johns" from coming to Hollywood to solicit the services of street walking prostitutes. The two Gang Injunctions against the 18th Street Gang and Mara Salvatrucha (MS) continue to keep gang crime at an all time low showing a 49% decrease in gang related crime during the first quarter of 2004. The Burglary Auto Theft Team (BART), a property crimes receiver team, launched at the beginning of 2004, has made several key arrests of career criminals engaged in commercial and residential burglaries. The BART team's efforts have contributed to property crimes being reduced by 20% year to date in the Hollywood Area. Our entire work force has focused on the "10%" factor: 10% of the suspects who are responsible for 50% of the crime, 10% of the locations that are responsible for 60% of the crime and 10% of the victims who are victimized 40% of the time.

In the early 1990's there were on average 50 homicides per year. Last year there were 16 homicides in Hollywood. We are having an unprecedented year for crime reduction. As of May 8, 2004 we have reduced Part I crime by 18% and Property crime by 20%. Broken down even further, these are the results: Robberies down 12%, Aggravated Assaults down 13%, Child and Spousal Abuse down 16%, and total violent crime down 12%, Burglary is down 14%, Grand Theft Auto is down 17%, Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle is down 29% and Personal Theft is down 13%. Total Property Crime is down 20% and Part I crime is down 18%. We have had 704 fewer crimes this year in Hollywood than the previous year to date. And we share this success with our community partners.

Where do we go from here? We must continue to raise the ethical stature in Hollywood and deepen the relationship with our community partners. We must continue to build more crime resistance in and around our communities, and continue to develop healthy productive attitudes. We must continue our community mobilization efforts and fine tune our crime fighting strategies as we sharpen the focus on the 10% factor. Finally, we must continue to streamline the communication process to the multitude of crime fighting partners. Our Chief has directed a 20% crime reduction goal of which we are very close in obtaining. With your help, I believe we can surpass that goal.

**WE FOUND  
THE WEAPONS OF  
MASS  
DESTRUCTION**



## They're in President Bush's Budget.

### Thinking the unthinkable

Believe it or not, the Administration is preparing to build a "new family" of nuclear weapons. Their proposed budget funds the creation of "more usable" nukes for "certain battlefield situations." A Congressional report exposed the cost of just one of these new nuclear weapons systems: \$485 million dollars over the next 5 years.

### Battlefield nuclear weapons will fuel a new arms race

The Bush Administration wants to spend more for nuclear weapons than ever before in US history. That's right: higher than the Cold War peak. These "more usable" nuclear weapons would kill thousands of innocent civilians if used in an urban area. They blur the line between conventional and nuclear

weapons – breaking the "nuclear taboo" that has been in place since World War II. And they encourage other countries to build their own "battlefield nuclear weapons."

### More real security, not more dangerous nuclear weapons

Building new nuclear weapons won't protect us. They won't stop what most

experts call the real security threats. New nuclear weapons won't stop terrorists from planting backpacks with bombs on trains. They won't stop weapons delivered in a suitcase, on a truck, tugboat or container ship. They won't stop people from trading on the nuclear black market. The new weapons are a wasteful distraction from our real security needs.

**Help stop Bush's nuclear agenda.** Call your Senators and member of the House of Representatives and ask them to oppose the Bush administration's new generation of nuclear weapons.

**Capitol Hill Switchboard: 1-202-224-3121**

To help get this ad up everywhere, visit [CaliforniaPeaceAction.org](http://CaliforniaPeaceAction.org)



# Your Vote ROCKS!

HeadCount is a volunteer-based organization that is unleashing an aggressive and highly publicized voter registration drive targeting fans of live, improvisational music.

We are a strictly nonpartisan organization with no ties to any individual party, candidate, or ideology. Our message is to stress the importance of voting and participating in American democracy.

Many individuals in the live music community are politically active and aware, but many others did not vote in the 2000 presidential elections.

HeadCount's goal is to give live music fans a voice in shaping the direction of this nation.

As Grateful Dead guitarist and HeadCount board member Bob Weir said, "If every Deadhead in the state of Florida had voted in the last presidential election, it would be a very different world today."

### How Will we do it?

Between now and the November election, HeadCount will join forces with most of the major bands, promoters and media companies involved in the

improvisational music scene.

We will register voters through a variety of activities, including outreach tables at concerts all over America.

Presently, we are recruiting volunteers to assist with these efforts. If you want to be a part of the HeadCount team, please sign up today.

We will also be staging promotions and extensive e-mail campaigns aimed at empowering every single live music fan.

Contests will offer prizes such as festival tickets and autographed memorabilia. The only way to enter will be to submit completed voter registration forms.

Check back here at [www.headcount.org](http://www.headcount.org) to find out when a HeadCount street team will be visiting your home town (or home tour), or to learn more about our upcoming activities.

### Who we are

HeadCount is chaired by Marc Brownstein, the bassist for The Disco Biscuits, and Andy Bernstein, founder of the Phish fan's guide *The Pharmer's Almanac*, and now a sports media reporter and producer of the live music dance party series Syn.

Other board members include Grateful Dead guitarist Bob Weir, moe, guitarist Al Schnier, JamBase.com founder Andy Gadiel, High Sierra Music Festival's Dave Margulies, the Madison House management and booking agency's Nadia Prescher, *Relix Magazine's* Jon Schwartz, Jammys producer Peter Shapiro, and Gov't Mule manager Stefani Scamardo.

At the forefront of all HeadCount's efforts are volunteers who have coalesced around the goal of registering people to vote.

Everything to do with HeadCount, from our Web site ([www.headcount.org](http://www.headcount.org)) and our outreach efforts to the exciting surprises we have planned for the future, is the work of individual live music fans who want to shape the future of America.

For more info or comments, [info@headcount.org](mailto:info@headcount.org).

### Headcount Mailing Address:

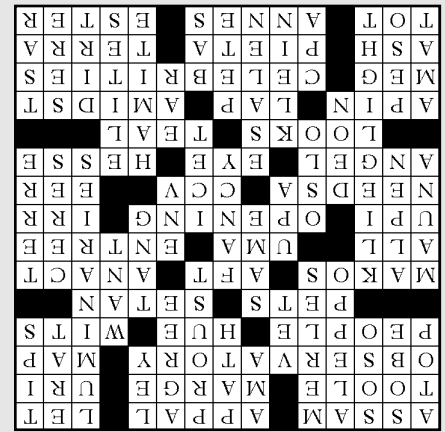
HeadCount  
2100 M St, NW  
Suite 170 #136  
Washington, DC 20037

For questions regarding applications please contact [jay@headcount.org](mailto:jay@headcount.org).

# HOLLYWORDS

## The Stars Are Out

Answers  
(Puzzle on Page 8)



# Mosquitoes in Beachwood

I just finished with an inspector from the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District. Over the last several nights I have been bitten by mosquitoes in my apartment. I vaguely remembered that they are something other than a minor annoyance, so I did a web search and found that L.A. county is very interested in keeping the mosquito population down due to the recent discovery of West Nile Virus in the county! They are happy to respond to mosquitoes and really ask that residents ALWAYS call and report them.

They breed in areas with standing water and can fly up to 2 miles from their water source. Often times it's as easy as finding a bucket that needs to be emptied in a back yard or the water catch container from potted plants. One may be unable to locate the source of the problem and/or know exactly what to look for.

It took the inspector almost 3 hours to locate the source of the mosquitoes and begin the process

of exterminating them! He also suggested that I keep my eye out for any dead animals, birds in particular. Because the risk is so high now, they are picking up squirrels, cats, dogs and any other animal that might have died in the area.

He cautioned that there is no need for panic. In the event you find mosquitoes or dead animals, there is plenty they can do to reduce the spread of anything once those things are discovered in the neighborhood. But DO call!

In the Beachwood Canyon area (north of the 101) we are served by the District Headquarters and they can be reached at (562) 944-9656. Be sure and let your neighbors know to be on the lookout and share this information with them!

— Sean Everett, Beachwood neighbor. To go to the Vector Control

website, go to <http://www.glavcccd.org/> (click the "brochures" link and you'll find the "West Nile Virus" button on the bottom.)

# MAKING YOUR VOICE HEARD

### Easy Steps To An Effective Letter to Politicians and Editors

- Remember to include your return address and phone number – they may not get back to you, but they'll know you're a real person.
- The Body of the Letter: The greeting should begin with the person's title, as in "Dear Congressperson Smith:" The first thing you want to tell them is that you are a constituent (that you are a taxpaying, voting citizen in their district). If you are from a multiple-voter household, tell them that too. Remember, even if you're not from the district, some of these politicians may aspire to higher offices and will want your support in the future.
- Tell them concisely and briefly what your issues are.  
A lot of extra unnecessary "story" will weaken the letter and the main point will get lost in the extra verbiage. Brevity is the soul of wit.
- Tell the politician exactly what you want them to do. If you want immediate action, give a brief but compelling rationale for this expediency.

- Ask for a response outlining where he or she stands on your issue.
- The Closing:  
Don't forget to sign the letter in dark blue or black ink.

### Letters to the Editor—Tips On How to Get Your Letter to the Editor Published

- Your own words, written from the heart, are always best. Again - Brevity is the soul of wit.
- The key to publication is to pounce on something specific you've seen in their newspaper. Always refer to the date and title of the article you are writing about.
- Be sure to include your name and address, and especially your phone number when submitting your letter. Editors need to call you to verify authorship before they can print your letter. They don't print your phone number.

Your newspaper's letters page should give you an email address or fax number to use, or you can try this website: <http://congress.org/congressorg/dbq/media/>

# Hollywood Tower Comes Through for Argyle Residents!

Thanks to Argyle Avenue activist, Cheryl Gaskill, residents of that densely populated street can now rent parking space from the Hollywood Tower apartments at Franklin and Vista Del Mar. It's still not clear whether the promise of lights and security on that lot will come to pass. There still needs to be more neighbors signing up for spaces to make the plan work for Hollywood Tower. They asked for 50 people to sign up and at press time, only around 20 people have shown interest. Along with lights and security, a

gate will also need to be installed. For those who have signed on, this is a great back-up plan when there is absolutely no parking available to them.

Cheryl spent much time over the past few months rallying residents, working with local neighborhood organizations and convincing the Department of Transportation to survey the street for angled parking instead of the current parallel parking. At press time, the survey had been completed and results were being analyzed but it looks like the east

side of Argyle north of Franklin will end up angled. This would add approximately 10 parking spaces and each one is like gold to these neighbors.

While waiting for such a change, if you live in the Argyle area and are interested in renting space at the Tower lot, contact Katie Lee at (323)466-6524.

# Elvis Has Entered the Building

The Making of Elvis—50 Years of Promotion opened June 10th at the Hollywood Entertainment Museum (7021 Hollywood Blvd.) and will be on exhibit through Monday August 2nd, 2004. The exhibit focuses on artifacts and memorabilia generated since Elvis passed in 1977. It is a reflection of the public's obsessive and ongoing fascination with Presley's music, films and persona. Open daily from 10am to 6pm and will cost \$10. Admission is free to Museum members and children under the age of five. Parking enter from Sycamore Ave. at \$2 for 2 hours with Museum validation.



# Do Your Party a Favor



## Chocolate Mathematics-8

Quiz Complete: The first digit of this was your original number (i.e., how many times you want to have chocolate each week). The next two numbers are YOUR AGE! (Oh YES, it IS!!!!)

THIS IS THE ONLY YEAR IT WILL EVER WORK SO SPREAD IT AROUND WHILE IT LASTS.

# Espresso Mi Cultura Gets A New Name And with it a whole new Menu!

By Rona Edwards

If you've driven down Hollywood Boulevard and Gramercy lately, you've noticed that the wonderful Latino coffee bar, Espresso Mi Cultura, has a new name. Ramon Pantoja, the owner of Espresso Mi Cultura, promises, that just because he's decided to change the name of his very popular coffeehouse, his customers won't be disappointed. The business model changed, he told me recently. A parting of the ways with his former partner and, with it, the closing of the bookstore, only opened the door for more opportunity. He graciously gave away the original name of his very successful establishment to his former associate, but already he's reaping the benefit of expansion. Now, there's more room for customers to spread out. Renovation of the space will include adding more comfortable chairs and additional tables, as well as enlarging the a/c system and kitchen. The gallery will continue to be dedicated to art. While still keeping true to its Latin roots and its ever-popular spoken word and musical entertainment, Ramon enlisted well-known Angeleno artist, Irene Carranza, to design the new logo promising to capture the spirit and soul of this six year old coffeehouse. And so Espresso Mi Cultura is now renamed (drum roll please!)...**Sabor & Cultura**. Sabor being Spanish for "that extra something" or "an extra taste of..." which certainly goes well with the Latin infused cultura of L.A., and Hollywood, in particular. We die-hard Angelenos think of ourselves as having that

"extra something" anyway, now we know what that is... it's **Sabor!**

The biggest change, aside from the name, however, is the menu! Yes, there is one! Ramon mentioned to Armine, the owner of L.A. Bread, where he buys all his breads and pastries, that he wanted to make the coffee bar into a café with great food, yet still retain what made it so popular in the first place – a

of course, their mainstay of croissants and pastries.

Come August, when this exciting coffee bar and café actually turns six, Ramon wants to throw a party for all his customers and celebrate Sabor & Cultura's coming of age with its new name and renovation. Come in, or check out their Web site, for details.

With the regeneration of Sabor & Cultura, I don't have to only go

to Porto's in Glendale or Il Tramezzino in Beverly Hills to get good Panini sandwiches. Sabor & Cultura is now my commissary—a place to go not just to have some of the best coffee and espresso in Los Angeles, but also to enjoy a quick meal.

When I first talked about this place with its Angeleno, Latino cultural beat and influence, I called it a "state of mind." Now, gastronomically speaking, it's also a state of being "full," too. This doesn't mean I'm going to forgo my favorite—the *ice blended Mexican Mocha*—no way. Now, I order that as my dessert! *Viva Sabor & Cultura!*

**Sabor & Cultura** (formerly Espresso Mi Cultura)

5625 Hollywood Blvd (at Gramercy) Hollywood, CA 90028 (323) 466-0481

**BEST BET:** The Lavender Biscuits with or without eggs (\$1.75 - 2.75), Any Panini Sandwich (around \$6.95-\$7.95)

M-Th 6:30 am-11 pm;  
Friday 6:30 am - 12 midnight;  
Saturday 7:30 am-12 midnight;  
Sunday 7:30 am-10 pm  
Entertainment usually Thursday-Sunday.

WEBSITE: [www.saborandcultura.com](http://www.saborandcultura.com)



friendly, neighborhood meeting spot where people felt at home. She introduced him to David Sutter who, with years of experience as a chef in Los Angeles, was most recently executive chef at L.A. Bread. Now, offering delicious *Panini* (Italian pressed) sandwiches including vegetarian, grilled turkey, chicken or ham and cheese along with delectable homemade soups such as the already popular savory black bean, crab or clam chowder, spicy tortilla or roasted cauliflower, Sabor & Cultura is bustling over with satisfied customers. It's what was needed in an area with so few places to eat. Soon, the menu will expand to include salads, running the gamut from pasta salads to a new Chinese/Mexican salad, a Mexican chorizo quiche and veggie torte. For breakfast, they feature mouthwatering lavender biscuits with eggs, and

## Sabor & Cultura Café

(Formerly Espresso Mi Cultura)

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(Look for our upcoming new website [saborandcultura.com](http://saborandcultura.com))



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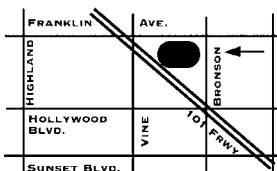
Enjoy our elegant Wine Maker's Dinners, hosted by Maitre D' Gerard Marini. Mr. Marini, a native of Southern France, was raised with the experience of generations of wine makers. At these special dinners, there will be no endless talks from vintners, but simply excellent food and personalized service from our friendly staff. Dinner is a four course meal, serving a different wine each course. We feature wines from different regions monthly.



For reservations or for more information please contact Maitre D' Gerard Marini at (323) 960-3222.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*Dear Fran,*

Thank you, thank you...from all of us who've been working to keep the Little Country Church of Hollywood from becoming a night club, or worse.

Your page one article by Theresa Foster was beautifully executed...a fine job of writing. Compliments to her, too.

I think it will prove to be a blessing at a time when we need all the help we can get!

I've been watching the steady growth and improvement of the [Beachwood] Voice for some time now; you have done an amazing job in providing our neighborhood(s) with a real voice and sounding board. When I get a spare minute, I'll be sending you and your staff a real fan letter.

Before I got into the book business as an editor and exec, I spent some time news papering (including a weekly) and magazine editing...so I know what the effort entails, and recognize when the publication is doing its job.

Well done!

—Andrew Ettinger

*Dear Sir or Madam,*

Regarding The Little Country Church of Hollywood. My name is Ellyn Jaresko. I am a resident of the Beachwood and Hollywood communities. Just before reading the cover article of the Beachwood Voice (Spring 2004), I stumbled upon this hidden treasure at stake: the Little Country Church of Hollywood. Quite an "oasis" indeed.

Upon parting, I left with a vision: to rejuvenate this rich space for use to those in the community. Hundreds of uses for this facility flashed through my mind. Families and single folks, artists and poets and children meander through its open gardens. I hear laughter and see little running feet under Sunday dresses twirling through the trees. A man writes in his notebook on the far north pathway. The front doors open wide. Inside, the uses for the space seem an endless array of possibilities. Perhaps dance classes. Or a space for rehearsals. With chairs, groups can assemble for gatherings, guest speakers and presentations.

If I were to run this place, I thought, I'd keep a small office in back to schedule the gatherings, rehearsals and classes. Upon

considering prices for renting the place, I thought, wouldn't it be wonderful to tell the tenants at hand, pay what you can for the time you need, or, exchange a service. Soon, the walls fill with canvases, highlighting local artwork given to say thank you for the use of this space. The garden grows tame, for other groups will pull the grass from cracks, and plant bulbs to show their appreciation. Others write checks, and include an extra stipend to paint the exterior and maintain its structure.

I am not an architect. I am not an engineer. I simply hold a vision.

I urge you to consider the loss of this community's future.

—Ellyn Jaresko

*Dancer, Teacher, Actor and Argyle resident*

*Dear Bill Reichenbach,*

I must say I was surprised to find your review of William Greider's new book in the Beachwood Voice. I would expect a publication in this upper mid-class neighborhood to be "right leaning." But here it was – what a happy surprise.

The reason for this letter is to say—Thank you so much. Feel free to contact me if I can help you in any way. There's no way this country and the world can afford another four years of same.

Greider's columns in the Nation's Magazine are always revealing.

Sincerely,

—Manfred McArthur

*Beachwood Canyon resident*



You hold in your hands a rare offering to the Hollywood community. The Beachwood VOICE is the ONLY free publication that is created and delivered by neighbors to thousands of homes. Here are the faithful neighbors who have been delivering the Beachwood VOICE since its beginning in 1998. We couldn't do this without them:

George Abrahams

Diz McNally

Chester Christensen

Michael and Kathy Morrow

Shelley Feinman

David Nelson

Mary Geary

Mary Anne & Tom Nelson

Terri Gerger

TK's Pony Express

Nancy Girten

The Reichenbach Family

Jeffrey Goldstein

Davila Rolando

Julie Harding

Warren Seid

Harry Holton

Viva Sullivan

Missy Kelly

Joani Vanderbur

Maurene Kornfield

Nina VanTassell

Larry Markes

If you help deliver but don't see your name here, please let us know that. We want to acknowledge you!  
323-462-1514



## An Opportunity to Assist Our LAPD

### Volunteers needed for the Hollywood AREA Police Station:

There are several positions available at Hollywood Police Station for volunteers. Most positions are clerical related with interesting public interaction. No computer skills are required but could be helpful. Volunteers would help the patrol front desk and the detective front desk. Translators, especially for Armenian and Spanish, are very much needed. Also, they are currently seeking volunteers for several of the Detective positions such as Burglary, Robbery, Homicide, and Crime Analysis.

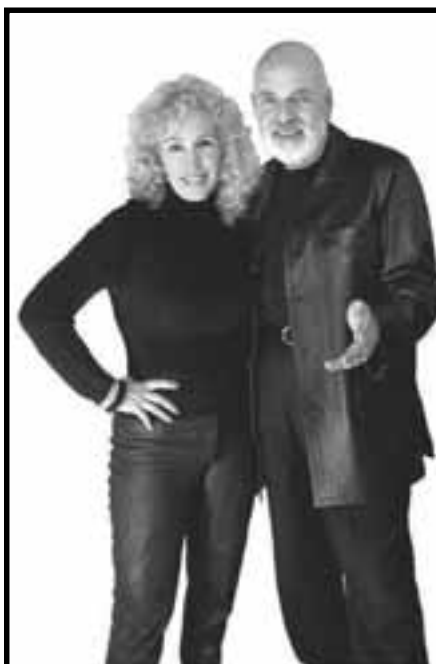
These are non-paid positions, you must be at least 18 years old with no arrest record. One does not have to be a US citizen but must be a legal resident.

The hours are flexible but are generally Monday through Friday.

There is an application process involved, which takes from two to four weeks to complete. Fingerprints will be taken and verified.

Interested persons can telephone or e-mail for more info. Thanks for your help...

To volunteer, contact Officer Jim Parker, Hollywood Area, 323-957-4519, or send him e-mail at 26820@lapd.lacity.org



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Enclosed is a check for \$17.00 for one year (4 issues)

Mail check to:

Beachwood Voice  
2751 Westshire Dr.  
Hollywood, CA., 90068

"I tell you, the more I think, the more I feel that there is nothing more truly artistic than to love people." —Vincent van Gogh

# Images of "THE SIGN"

## THE HOLLYWOOD SIGN AS ART

THE HOLLYWOOD SIGN—Worldwide symbol of the magical dream that is Hollywood, but to residents of Beachwood Canyon, it is more than this. It is our sign, built by local developers to celebrate our community, Hollywoodland.

When resident and local artist David Livingston conceived of the idea for his SIGN exhibition, it was a logical choice to present his exhibition at Hollywoodland

inside and outside our community attended the June 5th & 6th exhibit. The response was phenomenal.

Surprise visitor 4th District City Councilman Tom Labonge (a photographer in his own right), presented Livingston with a Certificate of Congratulations from the City of Los Angeles.

documentation), arrived with his son Steve and their friend Scott and true to his fashion documented this event.

David catered the event locally with gastronomic delights from the Beachwood Market.



Below: Tom LaBonge, David Livingston, & Raiden Peterson.

The event was such a success that several future exhibits are already planned, including Beachwood Canyon Watercolors by Lamonta Pierson, Raiden Peterson's amazing documentation of the Hollywood Sign demolition and reconstruction and of course back by popular demand, the intensely prolific... David Livingston. Kristina Hayes and Patricia Carroll will continue their collaboration as co-curators.

Realty, the place where our community... and The Sign began.

Within days the Realty's garage was cleaned, scrubbed and transformed into the Hollywoodland Realty Gallery, presenting Livingston's eclectic colorfully contemporary photos.

From the reworked familiar retro visuals to the purely graphic, from the abstract to the lyrical, from the poetic, to the fantasy and even the political, the Hollywood Sign was integrated into every image. These photos just popped. The Hollywood Sign as never seen before. And the audiences loved it. A steady stream of visitors from both



Barbee and Frank Andrina brought an actual piece of the old Hollywood Sign, which thanks to Frank's expertise, was illuminated for the event.

Raiden Peterson who supervised the demolition and reconstruction of the Hollywood Sign in the 70's (with complete

For more information on future events and to be placed on our mailing list, please contact hollywoodlandrealty@msn.com. Please be sure to include your email address.

For information on David Livingston's photographs, please contact livingdc@mac.com.

—Patricia Carroll

## Hollywood-Gower Neighborhood Association Cleanup Day.



Some volunteers get grubbier than others. This team cleaned Carlos at Vista Del Mar a few months ago. L to R: George, Fran, Missy, Bob, Marguerite, and Bill.

HGNA held another cleanup at Carlos west of Bronson. Al & Maria DeFrancisco were joined by a relative from out-of-town as well as Fran and Missy as they hauled away refuse from homeless encampments in that area. More help from Caltrans will be needed to keep people from living next to the freeway. (See information about Hollywood-Gower on page 21)



## TEN YEARS AND GOING STRONG: The Los Angeles Film Festival

*The Festival may be over but you don't have to be a filmmaker to love the IFP.*

By Rona Edwards

The Los Angeles Film Festival sponsored by the Independent Film Project (IFP) offers a wonderful array of independent films, shorts, documentaries and panels. It is a celebration of film not to be missed by anyone who enjoys the cinema. However, if you're reading this and you have no idea what I'm referring to, then you've missed one of great annual events in Los Angeles right in your own backyard.

This year's festival took place from June 17th through June 26th and offered films from all over the world as well as such high profile and eclectic indie films as "The Clearing" starring Robert Redford and Helen Mirren, "Garden State" starring and directed by "Scrubs" star Zach Braff, Metallica's "Some Kind Of Monster" plus managed to snag Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11" 3 days before it opened nationwide. It's not just movies, though there are so many to choose from, the festival also offered informal coffee talks with well known directors, screenwriters, actors and producers. Family day offered a free screening of "Yellow Submarine" outdoors at the Laemmle Sunset. The Festival is a fun-filled ten days of non-stop films and hobnobbing with filmmakers where everyone is welcome with the films mostly exhibited at the Directors Guild and Laemmle Sunset. This year, the galas were held at the Arclight and the Wadsworth, though some films were also presented at other Laemmle theatres in Encino and Pasadena. I personally enjoyed the shorts programs and attending the porch parties or

the gala events surrounding the opening and closing night films. And it's star-studded throughout the week. This year's honorary chair people were Halle Berry and Samuel L. Jackson. What festival can you name that offers Neil Young as an artist-in-residence?

The IFP is an organization dedicated to the independent filmmaker. They offer programs throughout the year encouraging growth and lending a helping hand. In fact, it is one of the only organizations that unites emerging filmmakers with film critics, scholars, masters and the film-going public. Dedicated to providing resources, information and avenues of communication for its members: independent filmmakers, industry professionals and independent film enthusiasts, anyone can join IFP and receive all the benefits it has to offer for a mere eighty-five dollars a year. Believe me, it's a smart investment and you get much more than you pay for.

So whether you enjoyed the Los Angeles Film Festival or you missed it this year, there's still a lot more events the IFP sponsors throughout the year, including the best awards show of the season—the Independent Spirit Awards, in which members vote for their favorite indie films and then present the awards at the best party on the beach where anything goes...and does—the directing, screenwriting, producing labs, the countless free screenings and the very valuable workshops and seminars. One thing is for certain, however, if you missed the festival this year, don't miss it next year!

—Rona Edwards

## HEY, COME ON—ADOPT ME!



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## “The Best Record Ever Made...” —Kurt's Mom

Jazz vocalist Kurt Reichenbach has recorded an album of mellow jazz ballads, *The Night Was Blue*, arranged and produced by his brother, composer/performer Bill Reichenbach. Joining them in this musical celebration is their father, famed drummer Bill Reichenbach, Sr. (Tommy Dorsey, Art Mooney, Charlie Byrd...), bassist Tom Warrington, and pianist Biff Hannon. The CD also features some incredible solos by jazz legends Don Menza, Ernie Watts, Dan Higgins, Larry Koonse, Mike Lang, Carl Saunders, and Gary Grant (also co-producer), as well as Bill on bass trombone and bass trumpet.

“This is a dream come true for me,” says Kurt, “to get to work with my Dad and my brother on a project like this. And the soloists are truly amazing. It was a joyous experience.”

JazzTimes critic Christopher Loudon says, “...when a truly impressive new guy joins [the] ranks, it’s definitely something to celebrate. Such a fellow—one who can stand shoulder to shoulder with the likes of

Kurt Elling, John Pizzarelli and Curtis Stigers—is Kurt Reichenbach.... His dusky baritone, imbued with a sandy silkiness that simultaneously suggests the robust bravado of Bobby Darin and effortless sophistication of Jackie Paris, makes *The Night Was Blue* one of the most dynamic vocal debuts of the past decade. Kurt’s got the chops...Spread the word.”

The late King of Jazz Radio, Chuck Niles, said, “I don’t usually play vocal albums on my show, but I play this one. You should give ‘The Night Was Blue’ a serious listen.”

To hear selections from the CD, visit [www.cdfreedom.com](http://www.cdfreedom.com) and do a search for “Reichenbach.” The CD retails for \$15 plus S&H at CDFreedom, but *Beachwood Voice* readers can get it for just \$10 plus \$1.50 S&H by sending a check along with your mailing information to: Kurt Reichenbach, 1615 N. Martel Ave., #306, LA, CA 90046. Or pay via PayPal to email address [kurtguy@aol.com](mailto:kurtguy@aol.com).

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