

Madonna and Child Statue Resurrection Needs Your Help

By Theresa M. Danna
Two years ago, we ran a story about the 50-year-old statue of the Madonna and Child erected at the corner of Primrose and Vista Del Mar by silent film actor and artist Stuart Holmes (1887-1971) to mark the spot on his property where the Blessed Mother had appeared to his gardener.



AJ Danna visits the grotto before the accident.

being demolished for conversion into an apartment complex. He has been renovating the main structure and had planned on restoring the grotto and statue so that people could continue offering prayers, candles, and coins of gratitude there. But in March of this year, a moving truck crashed into the stone wall, extensively damaging the arch and statue. The driver left the



The severe damage to the grotto caused by a moving truck.

scene of the accident, and now Warner has literally been left with the task of picking up the pieces. If you know of any artists or masons who can help re-create the original shrine, or if you would like to contribute ideas or funds, please let us know

here at the *Beachwood Voice*, and we will pass them along to Warner. Wouldn't it be fitting if we could join forces and resurrect this beloved statue in time for the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15?



Photos: Theresa Danna

BCNA Report

With Beachwood Canyon neighborhood Association membership growing and new leadership, it's no wonder things are getting done in this canyon.

The new BCNA president, Larry Markes, spearheaded a campaign to address the growing number of potholes on our streets after our record rain spell. Using BCNA's signature approach to outreach, tables were set up in front of the Beachwood Market inviting neighbors to enter a contest to nominate Beachwood Canyon's worst pothole. People grabbed entry forms and spent their Saturday cruising the canyon in search of the largest suspension-bender. And the winners are: Paige & Bill Ussery of Rodgerton Dr. They won dinner for two at Off Vine Restaurant (ad on page 32) courtesy of



well, filling potholes almost as fast as they were getting



Left: This natural spring at "five points" (Rodgerton, Deronda, Ledgewood) makes

passage a slippery event. But it was worse before the Bureau of Street Services filled a huge pothole. The pothole was full of water all the time and caught the front left tire of most southbound cars. Thanks Mike Carter for responding. Right: BCNA and residents are working together to get the city to clean out this area and repave/grade it so that water doesn't collect here. This area is a breeding opportunity for mosquitos most of the time and neighbors are complaining. Mike Carter from Bureau of Street Services is organizing the work.

the *Beachwood Voice* by reporting a chasm on Rodgerton at Ledgewood. The city got into the act as

nominated. Thanks to Mike Carter from LA's Bureau of Street Services for his quick responses to BCNA

requests!

In an effort to keep our streets safe, on June 24th BCNA board members and neighbors got together with Senior Lead Officer Bill Sollie and walked Beachwood Drive handing out crime prevention materials. They walked from the Village to Scenic and will walk Scenic to Franklin on July 15th at 7pm. This will be Phase II of this safety project. Neighbors were happy to see the outreach effort; several stopped to share their stories about crime issues in Beachwood.

BCNA is always looking for more participation. Please consider joining this neighborhood group. Founded in 1998, BCNA's mission is to promote a friendly family atmosphere in the Canyon with great neighbor-to-neighbor communication. BCNA members work

hard to keep our streets in good condition and crime free. Freely sharing information with all the local grassroots neighborhood groups, BCNA promotes healthy neighborhood watch programs, mentoring neighbors in organizing these groups. Neighbors are needed to further these efforts by making phone calls, being part of the welcoming team, attending hearings downtown, interacting with city leaders, and organizing special events. We could also use some technical help with our website. Pay a visit to BeachwoodCanyon.org, call our hotline at 323-462-1514, and consider attending one of our meetings. This is YOUR neighborhood and we welcome you to help make Beachwood Canyon the best it can be.

—Fran Reichenbach

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:

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- Historic Preservation
- Franklin-Hollywood Hills Council
- Beautification
- Telephone Tree
- Emergency Response
- Neighborhood Watch
- Membership

Other _____

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

Lake Hollywood Update

On April 1, 2005, Montlake Drive at Tahoe (adjacent to Hollywood Reservoir) began slipping. It was a landslide! The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) moved swiftly to close the road, not knowing the extent of the landslide. They quickly coordinated a thorough investigation of the site. The study took several days. At first DWP



Above: After many months, the landslide area at Lake Hollywood is finally open. The community came out in May to hear an update and view the site.

Left: Tom LaBonge listening to Jim Yannotta from the LADWP as he addresses the community at Lake Hollywood.

Below: Driving on Montlake, you will see that the terrain is very different after the removal of 63,500 cubic yards of soil. The restoration of the walking path is underway.

specialists thought only approximately 30,000 cubic yards of soil needed to be removed. This estimate proved to be very conservative.

According to James Yannotta, DWP Assistant Director of Water Quality and Operations, actually 63,500 cubic yards of soil had to be removed from the hillside along Montlake Drive. More than 5,600 truckloads were removed from the site. Construction crews are now in the final stages of removing the material and cleaning the roadway.

At the beginning of June, Montlake Drive reopened. Yannotta says that DWP still needs to make sure that the road is clean and safe for public vehicle passage. After Montlake Drive is reopened to public traffic, DWP crews will need to complete site work preparation and installation of the concrete drainage channels along the roadway and up on the terraced portions of the hill. This work will take approximately 5 – 6 additional weeks. During this period, traffic will be affected periodically while this prep and concrete work is underway. There will be flagmen during working hours with traffic reduced to one lane only during the initial two weeks of this phase.

After completion of the

site work, traffic will be limited only periodically to one lane when necessary to perform the concrete work for the drainage. To ensure for the safety of pedestrians, access may only be permitted before and after working hours during site work and construction of the drainage channels. However, this will be re-evaluated as work proceeds. Emergency vehicles have access to and through Montlake Drive at all times.

Several other landslides still exist around the Hollywood Reservoir, which need to be resolved before public access is permitted on the reservoir perimeter beyond Montlake Drive. Further evaluation of these areas is still necessary by DWP's geo-technical engineers and geologists. When they have determined the extent and condition of these landslides along with considering the others on Department properties, we will then be able to identify when each will be resolved.

James Yannotta says, "DWP's work crews have done an excellent job in performing the work safely, ahead of schedule, and cost effectively. To date no one

has been injured on the job! Many thanks to everyone who has worked on this project. I wish to thank the community for their patience and cooperation during this project."

If you have any questions, please contact James Yannotta at (213) 367-1001 or write to him at James.Yannotta@LADWP.com.

—James Yannotta & Fran Reichenbach

Beachwood DASH May Expand—Your Voice is Needed!

We have been close to losing our bus on Beachwood Drive many times in the last decade. The results of a recent study show that our DASH #208 is on the bottom of the low performance list. With few riders and no real destination, this is a lonely bus. I remember riding it just to get out of the house—in a complete circle. It took 20 minutes tops.

But what if the DASH bus actually went somewhere? How about Hollywood-Highland, the Grove, or The Farmer's Market, for instance? Through several workshops attended by residents and leaders from our community, an alternative is on the table to group the Beachwood DASH with the Fairfax, Hollywood/West Hollywood services. Currently 9 buses are assigned to these three routes. If the City Council approves the merger of these routes, it will only require 5 buses.

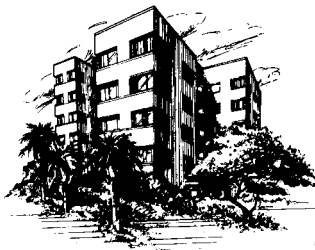
Here's the best part of this plan: Beachwood residents will finally get to experience those destinations without having to worry about parking and traffic. Imagine hopping the DASH in Beachwood Village and only minutes later, having a meal and a movie at the Grove, or

visiting The Farmer's Market for a fruit purchase, or maybe even eating at one of the Kosher delicatessens on Fairfax and 3rd; shopping and/or dining at Sunset & Vine, making a deposit in any of the banks in that intersection; stepping off the bus at Sunset and Highland to walk to the complex at Hollywood & Highland for a movie, shopping, or just hanging out.

Here's the proposed route: As always we would board our DASH bus at Beachwood Village (Beachwood & Belden Drives) which takes us down Beachwood to Franklin. Turning right on Franklin, the bus will go to Argyle and south to Sunset. Then we will go west on Sunset to Highland. Traveling south on Highland, we will turn right on Melrose all the way to Fairfax. When our DASH goes south on Fairfax, it will go past Beverly to 3rd, head east one block (making a loop), up to Beverly, west on Beverly to Fairfax north and on up to Melrose.

Let Tom Labonge know what you think about this plan. Call 213-485-3337, send a fax to him at 213-624-7810 or send an e-mail to Labonge@council.lacity.org.
—Fran Reichenbach

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CRIME REPORT

touch with your local neighborhood watch block captain, think about making that contact today. If you don't know who your block captain is, contact the hotline 323-462-1514 or call the Hollywood Police Community Relations Office at 213-485-4310. Your Senior Lead Officer will help you make that contact.

Monthly Community Meetings with Senior Lead Officers

Every month the Senior Lead Officers gather to hear community issues and complaints and to become more aware of what is going on out there in the neighborhoods. These meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m., at 6501 Fountain Ave. (at Wilcox)

in the Community Room. If there is an issue that has caused you and/or your neighbors concern, or if your neighborhood group is between meetings, this is where you should go. If you would like to be notified of these meetings, contact Officer Catherine Massey at the Hollywood Community Relations Office at 213-485-4310.

Why so much crime in L.A.?

If we adopted the same ratio of uniformed police officers to population as that used by many other large American cities, the LAPD would have almost 20,000 officers. More officers—less crime. Currently, we have approximately 9,130 officers in L.A. with many of those in non-patrol positions

(captains, staff, injured, office duty, etc.). If Chief Bratton has his way, things will change. We are also hoping that Los Angeles will be creative about the funds that are possibly being wasted or not utilized within our city for crime prevention. We as citizens of this great city are committed to a high level of fiscal vigilance. It must be very frustrating to be an

officer in Los Angeles and yet we have so many willing to do what they can, placing themselves in harm's way to make this a safer place to live and raise kids. When measures come up that promise an increase in the number of officers on our streets, consider these things and if possible, support them

and ask your friends to do the same. Your voice matters and Chief Bratton is listening. The right person to hear your concern regarding police presence is the new Mayor of Los Angeles, Antonio Villaraigosa. His phone number is (213) 978-0600 and his e-mail is Villaraigosa@mayor.lacity.org

Meanwhile, dust off that neighborhood watch. The police are depending on our eyes and ears, and our good reporting skills to take care of the crime in our neighborhoods. Until we get the patrol staff we need, we must help out. If you need information on how to form a neighborhood



Casing the neighborhood.

watch, please call our Hotline or the Hollywood Police Community Relations Office at the above phone numbers.

—Editor

This last spring there were several burglaries on Hollyridge and other areas in Beachwood Canyon. There have been several arrests on Beachwood Drive in the last few months and some property has been recovered. The police are doing all they can to keep us safe but there are not enough police officers in Los Angeles. This leaves the safety of our streets in our hands. If you are not in

Changing of the Guard

Residents in Beachwood and adjacent canyons recall how Captain Mike Downing coordinated police agencies to help us when we had a crime spree a couple of years ago. It was Downing's inspiration that led to Beachwood's E-Crime Watch programs and the many neighborhood watch programs that we have popping up all over Beachwood now.

In April 2005, Captain Downing was promoted to Commander and assigned as Assistant Commanding Officer to the South Bureau. If he is half as

effective there as he has been in Hollywood, that troubled area is about to see a measure of peace never

the very best and know that he will still be very much aware of what is going on in our community.

Enter our new Police Captain, Ron Sanchez. He's been with the LAPD since 1975 and has worked

experience as a detective investigating everything from unsolved murders to gang crimes. He has taught gang awareness classes and, in 1999 was selected as the Commanding Officer of Burglary Auto Theft Division.

We look forward to getting to know Captain Sanchez and becoming active partners with him in the same way we worked with Captain Downing. Captain Sanchez is an interesting man who is an avid diving expert, has pilot's license, and is a volunteer martial arts instructor and mentor. Write to Captain Ron Sanchez and introduce yourself to him: sanchezr@lapd.lacity.org.



Captain Ron Sanchez



Councilman Tom Labonge presented a citation of appreciation to Commander Mike Downing at the first of many farewell events in April 2005. Community leaders gathered at the Music Box Theatre to see Downing off to his new position in South Bureau.

before realized. We wish Commander Downing

Narcotics Division, 77th Street Area patrol, Southeast Area patrol, and as a detective. His complete bio is on the LAPDonline.org website.

Captain Sanchez will be using many of the skills he has developed along the way right here in Beachwood. He has extensive

E-CRIME WATCH

Crime reports are posted at the BCNA website: 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) 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) 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) Basic Car Area 6A49.

Write to Beachwoodvoice@sbcglobal.net to be added to the Canyon-Wide Neighborhood E-Crime Watch list.

Being alert and taking action is what E-Crime Watch is all about.

When you hear of a crime in your neighborhood, after you have reported to the police, write to Beachwoodvoice@sbcglobal.net and share that information with the neighborhood.

Your reports are posted on Beachwoodcanyon.org. 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.

CONSUMER Cont'd from page 24

enough to tell you that it would be a good idea to get your payment in the mail at least a week before the due date in order to avoid costly fees and interest charges. Well, it turns out that this will have to be your new way of doing business with the banks (or credit cards). If they receive a payment, even on the due date but at a late hour on the due date, your credit rating can get dinged. You can pay online or by telephone, but often there is an additional charge for this service.

There is more "fine print" which will let you know that in the case of a dispute with a credit card company, you cannot go to court. Instead, you must submit to arbitration with an arbitrator of the bank's choosing. Hmmm, I wonder how that works out?

Anne Zieger of ConsumerAffairs.Com writes: "There is currently legislation working its way through the New York State General Assembly that would make it illegal for credit card issuers to raise interest rates or increase fees based on unrelated activity on a New York state consumer's credit report. Similar legislation is pending in Congress."

It might happen in New York. I wouldn't hold my breath waiting for the most corporate friendly congress in history to do anything that would actually help

Please see CONSUMER, page 30

MUFON-LA Seeks New Members

By Barbara L. Snowberger
The Mutual UFO Network, Inc., Los Angeles Chapter, is seeking new members who have an interest in UFOs and related topics.

The Mutual UFO Network, Inc. is an international, scientific organization, composed of people seriously interested in studying and researching the phenomenon known as Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) and related subjects, by combining their mutual talents, areas of expertise and investigative efforts.

I joined MUFON-LA in 2000, and found a diversified group of friends who have an interest in the study of UFOs—a topic our evening news broadcasts rarely ever mention without an obvious sneer or at least a tongue-in-cheek remark. Little did I know when I joined that I was destined to see a UFO in the middle of the night less than three years later, hovering right here, over Beachwood Canyon.

MUFON

The date was February 28, 2003. I awoke a little after 4:00 a.m. and headed to the kitchen for a bottle of water. The clock read 4:13 a.m. when I entered the dining room and found our cats sitting in the southern exposure window sills, watching a huge, glowing UFO, hovering approximately 100 feet above

the houses on Creston Drive. I was so mesmerized, I didn't think about running to grab a camera. I just stood at the window, watching this spectacular apparition, vaguely aware of the distant sound of cars on Beachwood Drive, and barking neighborhood dogs. (Many houses had lights on across the canyon; although I've never heard anyone discuss it, I believe I wasn't the only witness to this event.) After only four minutes, I heard the distant sound of helicopters approaching. Within a second the UFO disappeared; it simply winked out, as if someone inside it had reached up and turned off a light switch. When the helicopters converged (one came from the east; the other from the northwest) and filled the canyon with noise, they flashed their floodlights all over the ridge and into the yards. Finding nothing, they left. I stood at the window for another fifteen minutes, wishing the UFO would make itself visible again. It didn't, and I reluctantly went back to bed, but not to sleep.

I've known since childhood that UFOs are a very real part of our world, but I was certainly astonished to see one up close and personal, right here! The following day I

administration's Alaska-based HAARP Project, and cattle mutilation investigations are just a few of the topics we discuss. We do not presume to have the answers yet, but we are all searching for comprehensive, truthful information from credible sources.

MUFON-LA meets on the third Thursday of every month at 7:45 p.m. in the St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 5657 Lindley Avenue in Tarzana, CA. Individual membership is \$25 per year. Family memberships are \$40 per year.

made a Sightings Report to MUFON-LA's website, and my first-person account was one of the topics discussed at the next meeting. Our website has a link to all reported sightings in our area.

MUFON, Inc. chapters rely solely upon local members for the financial means to bring in speakers from all across the United States and other countries. We are privileged to host journalists, psychologists, and scientists with degrees in mathematics, physics, and engineering; often we hear from ordinary individuals like ourselves, who have personally witnessed extraordinary events. UFOs, crop circle formations, the



Beachwood neighbor Barbara Snowberger poses with a "replica" of a UFO at a Laughlin MUFON seminar.

LETTERS Cont'd from page 21

hold particularly dear but the purveyors of the so-called "Patriot" Act do not – the Constitution. Third, your implication that the "National Media" is a fountain of vigorous and inflammatory left-wing opposition to Rove/Chaney/Rice/Bush is hilarious to us vigorous and inflammatory left-wingers: to us, the national press is generally a pathetic collection of craven sycophants, poltroons, cowards and dunces. Finally, if you think that larger environmental or political issues have no place in our little "neighborhood" paper, you are shutting your eyes to reality. The Bush Administration's assault on development restrictions may result in 20 new houses on the incomplete portion of Linforth Drive (between Deronda and Beachwood). The Bush Administration's relaxation of environmental regulations may permit the pollution of our drinking water coming out of the Troyon Tanks at Lake Hollywood. The Bush Administration's indifference to education may put even further burdens on our Chermoyia Avenue School, which has to beg for necessities like pens, crayons, and paper while the government spends billions on a war in Iraq which is killing children who graduated from there only a few years ago. "All politics is local," so we think this Canyon is a good place to get involved and start changing the world. Of course, you have the right (we would call it "freedom") to disagree.

—Editor

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Barnsdall Art Park News



Photo: Kurt Reichenbach

Don't miss out this summer. There are art shows and more going on at Barnsdall Art Park.

Some of their summer schedule includes The Gallery Theatre's free Jazz concert the first Friday of each month on the Great Lawn from 5 to 11 p.m.

July and August feature the collaboration of the Independent Shakespeare Company and Barnsdall Theatre to present free performances of "Hamlet," "Richard the Third," and "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" on the Great Lawn. The three plays rotate in repertory at 7:30 p.m. beginning July 22 through August 28, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. There will be no performance on August 13, and one will be added on Thursday August 25. More information can be obtained from the company (818) 710-6306, www.independentshakespeare.com, or BGT at (323) 644-6272.

Barnsdall Park is located at 4800 Hollywood Blvd. For more Barnsdall news go to BarnsdallArtPark.com.



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!

Special thanks to the Curves Volunteers for distributing to Hollywood Dell and the Oaks neighborhood!

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



This is the actual train that Harry bases his poem upon: Lehigh Valley Rail Road's The Black Diamond Express was inaugurated in 1896, "The Handsomest Train in the World."

The "Black Diamond"

*The sound of its whistle,
Loud and clear,
Would wake me up
As the train drew near.*

*I'd rush to the window
Every night,
To watch its beam
Of approaching light.*

*Its thundering engine,
Roaring by,
Would shake our house
And the ones nearby.*

*The flashing of lights from
Dining cars,
Would fade away
Like the shooting stars.*

*The click of its wheels on
Rails of steel,
I swear today —
I can almost feel.*



—Harry Bartron

October 1, 1996, Harry Bartron was inducted into The International Poetry Hall of Fame. His photo, bio, and poetry exhibit can be seen on the World Wide Web at the following address:

<http://www.poets.com/harrybartron.html>
More of his poetry can be seen by visiting the following address: www.poetry.com and entering "Harry Bartron" on the "Search for an ILP Poet" box.

Watch the Beachwood Voice for a book review of "Drummer Boy" A Novel of the American Civil War By Harry Bartron

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Women speak because they wish to speak, whereas a man speaks only when driven to speech by something outside himself — like, for instance, he can't find any clean socks. — Jean Kerr

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(feeds 8 to 10)

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Two 2-Liter Sodas
4 Slices of Cheesecake

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Must have at least 3/4 of pizza for exchange

Ray Remembers

One of the legends surrounding the Hollywoodland sign was the September 18, 1932 suicide of actress Peg Entwistle. She climbed the back of the "H" to the center bar and leaped five stories down to her death on the hillside below.

Her biography is rather thin. According to the Internet Movie Database, she was born Lillian Millicent Entwistle in Port Talbot, Wales on July 1, 1908

as an actress on the Broadway stage during the late 1920s, she received rave reviews for her

performance in the 1929 hit show "Tommy." She next appeared in several Theater Guild Productions. Her true goal was to get into films. To achieve that end, she migrated to Hollywood in 1930. According to the

which bombed after only two weeks despite good reviews. She finally was cast in a screen role in RKO's (Radio-Keith-Orpheum) murder



Photos: Raphael F. Long

As an aside, my father, a Los Angeles Policeman at the time, assisted in the task of carrying the woman's body back up the hill. (Then, as now, an access road ran behind the Hollywood sign, around Mt. Lee and down into Beachwood Canyon.) When the body arrived at the morgue, she was

late still photographer, Ted Allan, she resided on North Gower Street. Peg Entwistle performed a stage play with Billy Burke

mystery "Thirteen Women" with Myrna Loy. In spite of a great cast, the movie flopped and Peg wasn't exactly riding the upward crest. With her film performing badly at the box office, the studio informed her there was nothing new "just yet," which, as we all know, is the alternative to "don't call us, we'll call you." Hollywood is a mighty lonely place for the down at heart. After months of maintaining the brave face,

months of looking for the way up, apparently she could bear it no longer. Her pitiful suicide note read: "I am afraid I am a coward. I am sorry for everything. If I had done this a long time ago, it would have saved a lot of pain. P.E."


In a cruel twist of fate, on the day following her suicide, a letter arrived from the Beverly Hills Playhouse offering her the lead role in a play. She would portray a woman driven to suicide!

listed as a Jane Doe. The Times called her "The Hollywoodland Sign Girl." Publishing her suicide note thereby enabled her uncle to recognize the initials and identify her remains.

Today, the poor girl is remembered for her suicide and not her acting skills.

—Raphael F. Long (Ray) was along time resident of Beachwood until retiring to Coarsegold, CA, near Yosemite National Park. He is a collector of vintage photography as well as a photographer.

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CONSUMER Cont'd from page 27

regular American taxpayers. But miracles can happen. It wouldn't be a bad thing to contact your congressional representatives about this. Or how about some of those people in Sacramento? Gosh, if New York can do this, maybe Collie-fornia could have a similar law.


So as the Bush administration tries to make the court system almost 100% pro-corporate conservative, we must all

remember to pay our bills well before just "on time" to avoid the inconvenience of marching down that bleak road toward eventual bankruptcy which the new bankruptcy laws won't let us file in the first place.

And remember, the most patriotic thing you can do as an American is...
...Go Shopping.

—William Reichenbach

In 30 minutes, Peggy made her husband look twice.



After going from a "lay down and zip my pants" size 16 to a comfortable size 4, Peggy Payne says one of her favorite things is the extra attention she gets from her husband. The key to her success has been the support she gets at Curves.

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STEALTH Cont'd from page 10 motivate conservatives to control what is taught in American universities.

Paul Wolfowitz, Richard Perle, and Donald Feith were also students of Strauss and Allan Bloom at the University of Chicago. Wolfowitz and Bloom were especially close. In his novel, "Ravelstein," about Allen Bloom, author Saul Bellow portrayed a character, based on Wolfowitz, who holds a high governmental position and regularly provides his mentor, "Ravelstein," with advance notice of U.S. military operations. Bellow has been posthumously criticized for exposing his good friend Bloom's bizarre personality, hypocrisy, and delight in having such secret information revealed to him by a former student. William Kristol, publisher

of the small but powerful "Weekly Standard" (financed by Rupert Murdoch) now openly admits to being a Straussian. In June 2003, he ran a defense of Leo Strauss in his weekly magazine. Bush has said, "I want to be a transformative president, as FDR was." His administration is a transformative one—transforming our democracy by stealth into an oligarchy: "a government run by a small group of elite men." They dare not use that word, of course, but that is exactly what is happening. As Dick Cheney said to Paul O'Neill: "It's our due."

Today, a U.S. oligarchy. Tomorrow, a global oligarchy. Exposing this plan, John Perkins' book, "Confessions of an Economic Hit Man," explains how the U.S. deliberately puts more

and more nations into its debt in return for future votes in the United Nations, the installation of military bases, and access to precious resources.

Just as did George W. Bush's grandfather, Prescott Bush, who helped raise money among American businessmen to arm Hitler, (see, Kevin Phillips' book, "American Dynasty, Aristocracy, Fortune and the Politics of Deceit in the House of Bush," page 38), the current administrations policies should warn us that the "F" word the American public should fear is the one associated with politics—Fascism.

—Helen Colton, a semi-retired teacher, writer, public speaker, and family counselor, invites people to share this information with their friends. She can be contacted at helcolt@earthlink.net.

Our Vacation

Taku Time



Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association president Larry Markes and his much more entertaining wife Julie on the Taku Glacier behind Juneau, Alaska, May 13, 2005.

Sullivan's Travels



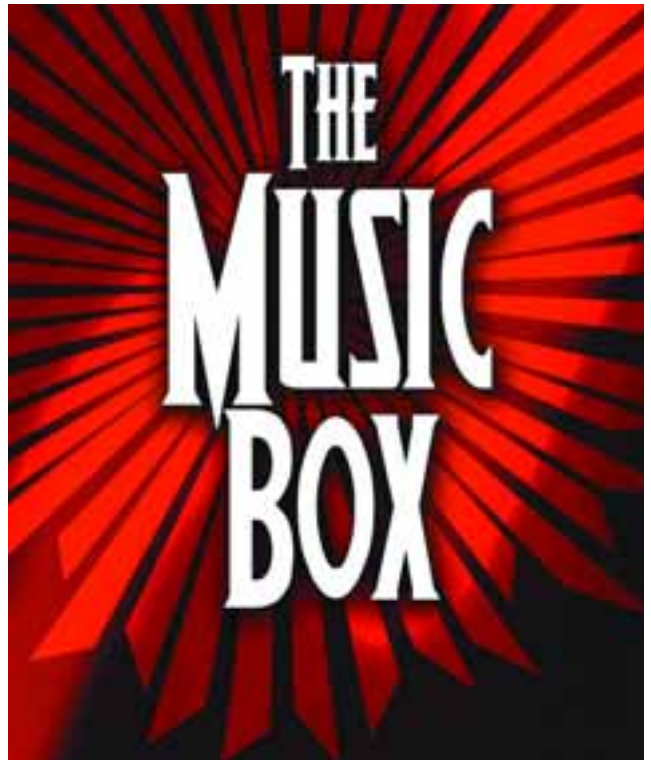
Above: Tony Castanares and Kris Sullivan in Saline Valley, near Death Valley.



Right: Tony, Kris, and Genghis.



On the trail to the Matterhorn, near Zermatt, Switzerland.



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