

Goodbye Swarthmore Farmers Market

By LAUREL BUSBY and SUE PASCOE

Construction of Caruso Affiliated's Palisades Village on Swarthmore will close the Farmers Market on Sunday, July 17.

Palisades Recreation Center has been proposed as its new location, and the Park Advisory Board (PAB) will hold a special meeting at 7 p.m. on July 6 to discuss the potential relocation of the market to the Upper Athletic Field for about two years.

"This will be a temporary location until Palisades Village construction on Swarthmore Avenue is completed," PAB secretary Lynn Hylen said. "This meeting is open to the public, and the Farmers Market will be the only topic discussed."

Melissa Farwell from the Palisades Farmers Market said, "We're hoping for community support to move the market there ... We just need a temporary home during construction. We have been assured that we will be able to move back."

Farwell noted that the market hopes to address potential issues such as parking by



The Swarthmore Farmers Market will have to move for two years.

having vendors park at a distance from the market, so they would not take up nearby street parking. The Recreation Center

would also allocate some of its parking to marketgoers. "We're willing to work out anything with anyone we need to work

out," she said.

Farwell requested that the community send comments to info@rawinspiration.org, and she is hoping the comments will be supportive. "We are hoping that the community will embrace us temporarily in this new location."

Park Director Erich Haas said for the market to occupy the upper field (located at the entrance to the park), a Right of Entry would be drawn up, and fees would be required to provide a staff member on site and for field maintenance.

"Before moving forward, the department [L.A. Recreation and Parks] wants to ensure the community would even want the Farmers Market at the park during the displacement," Haas said in an email. "This is the reason for the special meeting."

Sue Jameson, president of the Huntington Palisades Property Owners Corporation (HPPOC), the homeowners association for the area, had not heard about the proposed new market location before being contacted by the News. PAB's Lynn Hylen said she

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Incline Scheduled to Re-open Late Summer

By SUE PASCOE
Editor



The pedestrian overcrossing at the California Incline will feature panoramic views for walkers and bikers.
Photo courtesy City of Santa Monica

The California Incline opening date has been delayed from before July 4 to sometime late this summer. The reason given is the construction of the pedestrian overcrossing (POC) above the Incline.

City of Santa Monica principal engineer Rick Valte told the *Palisades News*: "The completion date was pushed back due to the complexities of the bridge that were only fully realized during construction."

"The falsework and formwork design and installation were more intricate and time-consuming than originally anticipated," Valte said. "The severe grades and limited space on the false work limited crew sizes and precluded the ability of multiple crews working concurrently."

During Incline construction, which began in April 2015, the 58-year-old POC was discovered to be seismically unsound.

The Incline project was to have been completed by late May 2016. Initially, the POC replacement was going to be made about a year after the new Incline was completed, but it would have required a three- to four-month closure.

"To replace the POC while the Incline was under construction made more sense," said City of Santa Monica civil engineer Zach Pollard. "Because when the Incline is

done, this will also be complete."

Three POC designs by TYLIN International were considered. The first two more closely resembled the standing structure; the third design went a different direction, spiraling over the roadway.

"It gives you viewing with every step and balances sculpture and structure," said bridge architect Michael Fitzpatrick. "There has never been a bridge like this built anywhere in the world. The form works perfectly with the site and the location and the Santa Monica sign."

The pedestrian crossing across PCH begins with the Idaho Trail in Palisades Park, which leads to the bridge over the Incline. The trail was dug in the hillside, which has a greater than 10 percent slope (and is not ADA compliant). Part of the construction will focus on improving drainage on that trail.

According to Valte, what remains to be done on the POC is to install rebar and pour concrete for deck, stem wall and stairs; remove falsework and forms; rebuild the Idaho trail (concrete, lighting, fence, hand rail and drain line); handrail and cable railing; electrical; grind, sack and finish the bridge.

Remaining work on the Incline is minimal and includes final lift of asphalt pavement and adding the last 100 feet of concrete barrier and bicycle/pedestrian path signage and striping. To watch a video of the construction, visit: pchpartners.org.

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Transient Grabs an 8-Year-Old Boy



A transient was arrested for grabbing a child on Antioch.

On June 29, a father and his 8-year-old son were exiting Robeks on Antioch when the boy was grabbed by a white male transient. Gates Security Chief Technology Officer Kurt Park, who was purchasing juice, said he saw the son follow his father, and as the parent turned towards Swarthmore, the transient, who was leaning on a car, lunged at the child and said something about "teaching him a lesson."

The father turned around, saw the transient holding his son by the shoulders and pushed the transient off. Park instantly called Palisades Patrol and an officer found the transient by the Village Green and de-

tained him in front of Noah's Bagels until police arrived.

Since the police did not observe the activity, they were not allowed to detain the alleged assailant on a misdemeanor charge. LAPD's Rusty Redican, who was recently assigned to a beach detail in Pacific Palisades, said that this was a private person arrest because the father agreed to the arrest and would press charges.

There were no outstanding warrants on the transient, who has been seen frequently outside Noah's, Coffee Bean and Robeks for the past two months. Clerks at Carolyn's and Noah's said he would wait outside stores, leaning on cars by the parking meters.

Franco Gomez, who has managed Robeks for the past six years, said: "I've seen him arrested before in front of Noah's. I saw him early this morning [outside my store] and I asked him to move across the street." But the transient ignored the request.

"I'm worried about him being there because moms send kids into the store by themselves," Gomez said.

The transient was booked on June 29. Redican predicted that most likely the transient would be reprimanded to custody for a preliminary hearing. No update was available over the July 4 weekend.

—SUE PASCOE

PaliHi's STEAM Shop Wins \$20,000

By LAUREL BUSBY
Staff Writer

The White House has awarded Palisades Charter High School's STEAM shop \$20,000 plus in-kind donations worth about \$37,500.

The school won the Career Technology Education Makeover Challenge—one of 10 high schools out of the 640 who entered the competition to take home a prize. Winners were announced June 17, and the school

was the only winner on the West Coast.

"This past year has been transformative for the program, but the recognition and the prize will be transformative too," said the shop's director, Donna Mandosa, who worked with fellow administrator David Riccardi to create the space in the school's long-closed auto shop.

The in-kind donations include a variety of goods to enhance the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) shop, which opened last year and

hosts six clubs, including auto shop, plus 5-week segments of each of the ninth grade environmental science classes.

In the fall, the shop will probably add four classes to its offerings, and students across PaliHi are welcome to create their own projects during non-class times.

The White House prizes include three Raspberry Pi kits from Microsoft, Snap-on Tools and 3-D printers to enhance the space. Mentors will also be provided to help the students learn to use the provided technology.

Kaplan Donates \$25K to Gateway Project

By LAUREL BUSBY
Staff Writer

A project to increase safety and beautify the entrance to Palisades Charter High School has entered its final phase of fundraising.

Thus far, the estimated \$718,000 Gateway project has garnered \$100,000 toward its goal, including a recent \$25,000 gift from local real estate entrepreneur Jordan Kaplan, a 1979 PaliHi graduate.

Kaplan, the project's largest donor and the CEO of the realty company Douglas Emmett, chose to contribute after seeing the plans and noting their current progress, which during the previous two phases installed gardens, benches, a dolphin statue commemorating longtime teacher Rose Gilbert, citrus trees and historical artwork.

"That's all parents working their butts off," said Kaplan, whose family includes four generations of Palisadians. "You can't get any better if you want to fix the schools and fix the system. You can't get any better than what these people are doing."

His son Skyler, 14, will enter Pali as a freshman in August, and Kaplan and his wife, Christine, have two other children: Claire, 15, who attends Windward School, and Jace, 10, a student at UCLA Lab School.

The Pali Gateway Project committee includes two other 1979 PaliHi grads, Cheryl



Internationally-known architect Doug Suisman has designed an entrance to Palisades High School, at the corner of Bowdoin Street and Temescal Canyon Road, closer to the original architect's 1960 vision.

Image courtesy of Doug Suisman

(Kelton) Clark and Sheri (Redke) Sharp, plus Rachel Galper (whose husband Steve is a '79 grad), Ivy Greene, Pam Mann and Susie Newman.

In addition, parent Doug Suisman, a prestigious urban designer and architect, has donated his skills to reimagining the school entrance, which was designed for 1,000 stu-

dents, but now welcomes almost 3,000.

"In the morning when all those kids are getting dropped off and funneling into the school, they're going into the street," said Clark, whose children Darcy, 22, and Evan, 19, are PaliHi grads. "This will make it safer and more beautiful for the school community and for the community as a whole."

We're hoping we can raise this money to get this done."

If the project can solicit an additional \$50,000 by September 1, then the PaliHi booster club will match that money, which would mean that the committee could begin ordering the engineering and construc-

(Continued on Page 4)

Kaplan

(Continued from Page 3)

tion documents plus permits, which are estimated to cost about \$190,000, Clark said. The online donation site is: www.gofundme.com/Paligateaway.

The remaining estimated costs of the project include \$80,000 for site preparation; \$192,000 for a garden with seating, a serpentine wall, storage and a sign; plus \$256,000 for a pedestrian bridge, raised crosswalk and lighting. The result will beautify the entrance while also widening access for students, who will no longer need to spill into the street to get to school.

Both Clark and Kaplan are hoping that his donation will inspire other major donors. Kaplan has made philanthropy one focus in his life. He has given to many local causes, including the parade and baseball fields, and he is on the board of various organizations, including the UCLA Foundation, St. John's Health Center, and Sound Mind Sound Body, a UCLA charity dedicated to fighting childhood obesity.

In addition, Kaplan, who earned an M.B.A. from UCLA in 1986, sometimes holds benefits at his home, including a recent one for UCLA autism treatment and teen cancer, which raised \$3.2 million and featured a concert by The Who, Joan Jett and Eddie Vedder.

Kaplan "has been very kind to let us use his name and the amount of money he



Jordan, Skylar, Jace, Claire and Christine Kaplan are supporting the Gateway Project, a much needed safety and beautification effort at the entry to Palisades High School.

donated to help spur other people to donate," Clark said. "We have a long way to go. We really need the Pali alumni and the Palisades/Brentwood community to step up and help."

Thus far, the Pali Gateway Project has received various other donations, including \$3,000 from the Lions Club, a couple of \$5,000 donations, four \$2,500 donations, one \$1,500 donation, and a dozen \$1,000 contributions, including one from realtor Anthony Marguleas of Amalfi Estates, who suggested that the project reach out to local realtors with a challenge of raising \$10,000

from each company, Clark said.

Although that goal hasn't been reached, realtors have been supporting the project. K.C. Soll of Sotheby's Real Estate has offered to donate 5 percent of her commission from upcoming sales in the Palisades to the Gateway Project. Coldwell Banker also raised funds through its Fourth of July event, which offers free massages, free pony rides and free popcorn before the parade plus the sale of Masha Archer jewelry, which ranges in price from \$500 to \$10,000. All of the realty company's proceeds will go to the Gateway Project.

Summer Writing Contest Underway

The Friends of the Palisades Library are now receiving entries for their annual Children's Creative Writing Contest.

This year's theme is "Dream the Possible Dream." Local residents entering grades 1 through 12 are invited to submit original stories, poems and essays.

Winners in five age categories will be awarded gift certificates to Diesel Books: first place, \$100; second place \$50, third place \$25. All participants will receive gift cards.

The deadline for submission is Tuesday, September 6. Entry forms are available at the Palisades Library information desk on Alma Real, and online at friendsofpalilibrary.org.

Democratic Watch Party Is July 28

Democrats (and independents!) are invited to view Hillary Clinton's acceptance speech (live from the convention in Philadelphia) on Thursday, July 28, at 920 Colorado Ave. in Santa Monica. Admission is \$20 and doors will open at 6 p.m. There will be a light dinner, drinks and giant-screen televisions.

For tickets, visit palidems.org or mail checks to P.O. Box 343, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272 or call (310) 230-2084 or email info@palisadesdemclub.org.

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City Halts Controversial 'Remodel' on Bollinger

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

Case #DIR-2016-1307-CDP. How did the City of Los Angeles not notice that the plans posted for a remodel on a house in the Marquez Knolls area did not match the ensuing construction? Good question.

The house at 16815 Bollinger sold in June 2015 for \$2.15 million to Helios Distressed R.E. Ventures LLC of Portland, Maine. Christopher Rhoades and Andrew Preston are principals.

The purchase was made from Palisades resident Tony Ramsey, who also sold Helios the plans for the proposed remodel of the 2,062-sq.-ft. 4-bedroom house, situated on 7,887 sq. ft.

On September 8, 2015, a demolition permit was issued for the garage on the property. Instead, the entire house, including the garage, was torn down.

Neighbors went to L.A. City inspectors and told them the posted notice said it was a remodel and that according to the zoning code, a remodel is defined as "the alteration of an existing building or structure, provided that at least 50 percent of the perimeter length of the contiguous exterior walls

and 50 percent of the roof are retained."

Neighbors told the *Palisades News* that the inspector dismissed their concerns and said a building was a remodel even if one stud wall was left.

Framing started on the new house/garage and neighbors watched as the structure soon towered over existing homes. Residents contacted the City with concerns via a website in late December, but there was no response.

Three weeks later, neighbors saw on the website that their complaints had been dismissed and the case closed.

Neighbors continued to reach out to the City and went to Councilman Mike Bonin's office. In April, construction stopped with the notice that it was being done without permits or inspections.

Bonin's office was contacted and spokesperson David Grahamcaso told the *News*: "Our planning team looked into the work at the address you sent. The project was originally given a Coastal Exemption because it was considered a remodel, but as you note, the work was more extensive than that and the site's developers were asked to file for a Coastal Development Permit (which they did last month). The next step is a hearing, which has not yet been scheduled."

Grahamcaso was asked by the *News* how



Construction on 16815 Bollinger was stopped for lack of proper permit.

the project could have gone forward when the permit did not match the construction. He responded, "From what I can tell through conversations with colleagues about the project, this situation was the result of confusion between city departments and the multiple owners of the property.

"When the contractor started doing work on the property, they discovered that it needed some foundation work to provide additional support, which required more extensive work, and thus more thorough permits than had originally been issued. The Planning Department wasn't notified of the more extensive work, however, until after construction had already begun.

"The owner who originally sought permits for the site sold the property, so I'm not sure if the owner did not tell the Plan-

ning Department about the more extensive work on purpose, or if it was simple confusion by the new owner who assumed the permits granted for the site were adequate, or if the Planning Department and Building and Safety Department didn't communicate effectively about the new work at the site (or if it was some combination of the above). Alan Como has been assigned the case in the Planning Department."

The *News* spoke to Ramsey, who said the plans the City had were for a remodel.

The *News* contacted Como to ask what recourse do residents have if the posted permit does not match what is being done? And how could such a mistake happen that a City inspector didn't have the plans in hand while at a site?

He did not respond by presstime.

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Heard About Town

BBQ Grills on Temescal

On a Sunday, Temescal Canyon Park (north of PCH) was filled with people having picnics. At about four different sites people had brought grills along. I kept thinking, if the grills fall over, a fire could start and go straight up the canyon to the houses on the rim. I looked but there were no signs posted regarding fires. Does anyone know if it is illegal? If it's not, how could we get signs posted?

Rattlesnake Sighting

I took my dog for a walk along the lower Temescal Canyon Trail on Sunday. About five feet in front of me I saw a long weird-looking lizard in the middle of the trail. Then I realized it wasn't a lizard, but a four-foot rattlesnake. In all my years of hiking through the canyon, I've never seen a rattlesnake so close to Sunset. Just a warning to other dog walkers.

Parking Rates Going Up

Temescal Gateway Park (north of Sunset) is raising parking rates from \$7 to \$10 and they've installed a machine that takes credit cards. I asked the Park official, who was picking up envelopes with money from the old box, about the price increase and she said, "You got a problem with that?" Even if I did, I don't think she really wanted my opinion.

Farmers Market

I heard that both the YMCA and the Methodist Church were approached about having the farmers market on Via de la Paz. They were worried about their members not having access to their buildings on Sunday. They were told that valets would be hired to take care of it. That has to be an all-time "only-in-the-Palisades" proposal—valets at a farmers market.

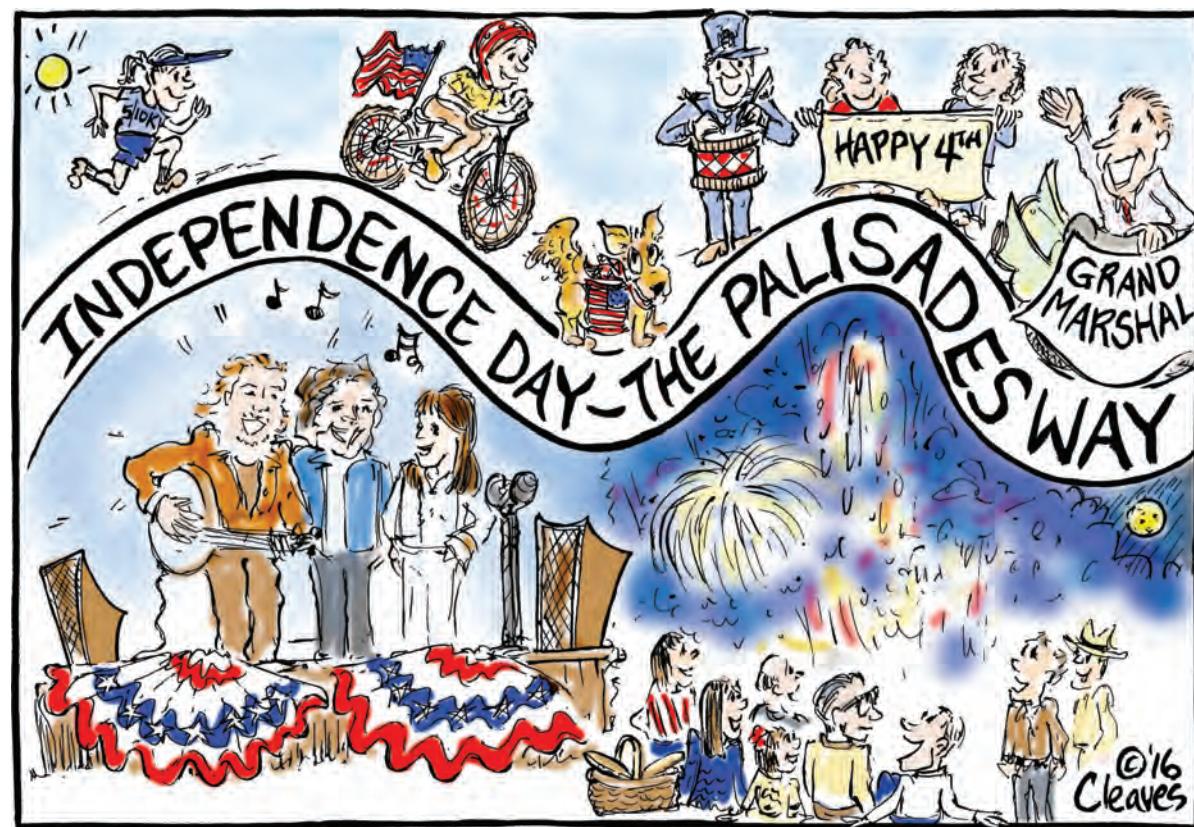
Library Movies

Once a month the Palisades Library hosts a free first-run movie in the community room. I've gone several times and really enjoyed it. Maybe what I enjoyed most was not having to drive to Santa Monica.

(Editor's note: Until the Caruso theater opens, there will be lots of free movie opportunities in our town. On Saturday, July 9, it's the Tina Fey movie about a journalist reporting from Afghanistan. At Will Rogers Park on July 30, Breakfast at Tiffany's is showing—streetfoodcinema.com. In August, Movies in the Park will feature a new movie every Saturday night at dusk.)

If you'd like to share something you've "heard about town," please email it to spascoe@palisadesnews.com

ANN CLEAVES



VIEWPOINT

Residents Battle Mansionization

By CHERYL ZOMBER

And they say all politics is local." Never did I give much thought to this phrase, and not until I became a spokesperson for the Marquez Knolls Property Owners Association (MKPOA) did this phrase ring true.

MKPOA represents approximately 1,250 homes that are primarily one-story, mid-century or ranch style, less than 3,000 sq. ft. Open-air space, privacy, spectacular views and the joys of nature abound. It is a sanctuary from the stress of the city.

However, this sanctuary is threatened. Through our hotline and at meetings, residents complain that massive developments are creating a looming or lack of privacy effect and, in many instances, detracting or obstructing views, whereby causing a decline not only in their home's use and enjoyment but also its value.

Based on these complaints, MKPOA passed a motion in support of amendments to the City's Baseline Hillside Ordinance. The intent was not to discourage development, but rather to encourage development in line with Marquez Knolls' character.

Other homeowners in Pacific Palisades experience mansionization as the norm and understandably want to preserve their property values by being able to build the same as their neighbors. Not so in Marquez Knolls, where mansionization is the exception not the norm.

Earlier this year, I discussed these concerns with Councilman Mike Bonin, who seemed surprised because he understood Palisadians were opposed to the amendments based on meetings at realtors' offices with developers, architects and city planners (not with residents).

Tricia Keane with Bonin's office subsequently visited our Marquez Knolls community and then stated she understood why MKPOA supported the amendments.

However, opinions that differ with Bonin appear to fall on deaf ears. Two hours prior to the start of MKPOA's June 15 annual meeting where she was to present, Keane sent out a letter from Bonin indicating that the amendments create an "issue" for Palisadians.

Keane subsequently admitted that this letter did not take into account MKPOA's position and promised to have Bonin clarify how his position differs from MKPOA. As of July 1, there is still no letter from Bonin.

I recently attended a City meeting in Cheviot Hills, where civility was at its best and differed from the openly hostile comments directed toward City Planning representatives at a meeting at Palisades High on June 2. At Cheviot Hills, Vince Bertoni, director of City Planning, stated his overriding goal was to respond to residents' concerns and preserve neighborhoods. However, he noted, based on information from Bonin, Pacific Palisades was the exception in opposing amendments to curtail over-building.

After I explained that this was contrary to concerns of Marquez Knolls residents, City Planning said they are "tentatively" scheduling a meeting for July 13, one day prior to City Planning denying or accepting the amendments. Will the voices of Marquez Knolls really be heard, and, at this late date?

Save the Neighborhood. Voice your concerns to: vince.bertoni@lacity.org, tom.rothmann@lacity.org, christine.saponara@lacity.org with a copy to mike.bonin@lacity.org and info@marquezknolls.com.

Cheryl Zomber is the vice president of MKPOA.

Thought to Ponder

"The truth will set you free, but first it will piss you off."

— Gloria Steinem

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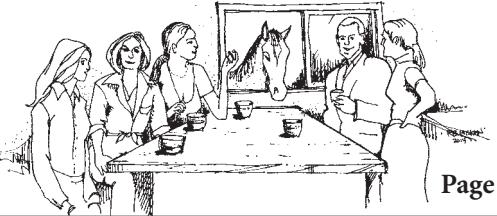
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EDITORIAL

Change It's a Comin' to the Village

Bob Dylan's famous song, "I Feel A Change Comin' On," starts out "Well I'm looking the world over/Looking far off into the east/And I see my baby comin'/She's walking with the village beast/I feel a change comin' on/And the last part of the day's already gone."

Can't help but hum the song as the Pacific Palisades business district is about to undergo massive changes.

By developer Rick Caruso's own estimation, Palisades Village now won't open until mid-2018, delayed by necessary storm-drain relocation below the project. This means two long years of construction and daily impacts on traffic flow and parking in the business district as residents and shoppers adjust to the realities.

One major impact will be the removal of the 110-space outdoor parking lot between Monument and Swarthmore to make way for Caruso's underground structure. Parking is already limited in the Village area and this will force existing merchants and their employees either to search for parking every day on adjacent residential streets, or opt for paid monthly parking in one of five buildings.

According to Jose Cevallos, an attendant at the parking

lot that will be demolished later this year, people have been paying \$77 a month. He's been with the company for 15 years and he hopes there will be a job for him somewhere in the organization when this lot closes.

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Arnie Wishnick said it costs \$150 a month at the Atrium Building on Via and \$140 a month at the Chase Bank building on Sunset. There are also parking structures in two buildings on Monument at Sunset, and the 881 Alma Real building.

Lack of parking has for years driven people to park in the lots at Gelson's or Ralphs, even if they have no intention to shop for groceries. We can expect to see security guards vigilantly patrolling these lots to discourage scofflaws. The nearby Palisades Recreation Center has already implemented parking restrictions.

The *News* checked with Lisa Soghor, executive officer at the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, to see if merchants could pay for monthly parking in Temescal's west parking lot, which is generally empty during the week (unless there's filming). This seemed like a win-win idea: the Conservancy could earn steady income and merchants

could park within walking distance of their businesses.

Soghor responded, "While I understand that the Sunset lot is not always full, there are many times that parking in the canyon is overflowing. Of all our parks, Temescal is probably the busiest. We really can't take spaces out of commission on a long-term basis."

According to Caruso's team, the storm-drain work will get underway this week, and they warn that one lane of westbound traffic on Sunset (from Carly K to Swarthmore) will be closed from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., for eight to 10 weeks. This could mean traffic congestion once the public schools start again in mid-August.

The storm-drain work will then move to Swarthmore, closing that street, which will offer a good opportunity to see how traffic flows on adjacent streets (before Caruso converts Swarthmore into a one-way street). This work will be completed in November, followed by the long-anticipated construction of the Bay Theater and all those new stores and restaurants.

You see residents, these times are a changing, and we'll all adapt. But don't complain now, the changes were laid out, you just had to listen to the song.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PPA's Allen Explains Reasoning

As the Caruso project was rubber-stamped by the Community Council despite protests from many neighbors, it would have left the adjacent neighborhoods to suffer all the adverse impacts that the project would impose on the neighbors, such as employees and customers parking in the neighborhoods, drunken patrons from the theaters and restaurants disturbing the peace in the adjacent neighborhoods late in the evening and early mornings, and the possibility of having businesses facing the residences on Monument and Albright.

Worst of all was that converting Swarthmore to a one-way street would mean more than 1,000 trips a day would be diverted from Swarthmore onto the surrounding residential streets, which will make the residential streets less safe. In 1988, when Swarthmore was made a one-way street, a child was struck by a car on Albright that had been diverted from Swarthmore. This raised concerns that converting Swarthmore to a one-way street would again pose a danger to neighbors.

The compromise agreement between the Palisades Preservation Association (PPA) and Caruso Affiliates was the result of efforts by the PPA and many neighbors to mitigate the adverse impacts that the Caruso project would have otherwise on the adjoining neighborhoods.

When the Community Council failed to take any steps to resolve these issues, Protect Our Village (POV), an ad hoc association of nearby neighbors, formed and entered into negotiations with Mr. Caruso, and PPA filed extensive comments challenging the adequacy and accuracy of the Mitigated Negative Declaration as well as asserting that the revisions to the Village Specific Plan were inconsistent with the stated Purposes of the Specific Plan.

When the City failed to adequately respond to the comments and approved the MND, PPA filed an appeal

in order to maintain leverage during the negotiations.

Contrary to what has been reported elsewhere, the City Planning Staff failed to rebut the issues raised in the appeal and in fact, committed procedural errors which if PPA had gone to court, would have almost certainly resulted in a court sending the MND back to the City to either recirculate it or require that an EIR be prepared.

The night prior to the hearing on the appeal, Caruso Affiliated entered into an agreement with POV resolving many of the issues. But that agreement did not resolve all the issues that PPA was concerned with, and that primarily was reducing the number of vehicle trips on the neighborhood streets and protecting the residences on Monument and Albright from the impacts of commercial development facing those properties.

Subsequently, PPA and Caruso Affiliated reached an agreement the night before the PLUM Committee of the City Council heard the matter. PPA had prepared all the court papers necessary to take the matter to court, but PPA was also very concerned about delaying the start of the project because it is just as important to PPA to see Swarthmore again an active part of the Village.

PPA also appreciates that Mr. Caruso was at all times willing to sit down with the neighbors and, in good faith, try to address their concerns, which for the most part he did.

Jack Allen
President, PPA

Climate Change Data Incomplete

I was surprised at some of the content in your June 1 article about Dr. Ted Parson's talk at the Palisades Rotary Club meeting ("Climate Change: Hoax or Real?").

First, the geological evidence taken from glaciers shows fluctuation in both climate and CO₂. Second, the impact of 47 volcanoes that are active around the world, at present, have an impact on global warming and CO₂.

Nothing is said about the impact of radio, television radar or other electromagnetic activities on global warming. Neither does Parson address how aviation, missile launches and other government activities affect the atmosphere and the ozone layer.

As we say in the law, evidence that is merely consistent with an assertion but does not rule out other contradictory assertions, is only circumstantial evidence.

Vincent J. Guarino

Wrong Year for Cuban Missile Crisis

In the official parade program ("Brigadier General Lathrop Reviews Parade," page 11), the wrong year was given for the Cuban Missile Crisis. This error may have started with the California Military Department (Army National Guard) or whoever was your source for the biographical info.

The Cuban Missile Crisis was in 1962. Short-lived, but frightening as all hell. I was no longer serving my military obligation by that time.

The Berlin Crisis was in 1961. I know. I was there. My Air National Guard unit was activated and while the fighter squadron personnel and planes went to Ramstein AB in West Germany, the rest of us were scattered all over Western Europe and the U.S.

I spent my 9½ months defending the people of Free Berlin by writing press releases for the Tactical Air Command, 12th Air Force, Combat Crew Training Wing, Luke AFB, Arizona. As noted above, my six-year military obligation expired right after we were returned to state service.

Warren Cereghino

Palisades News welcomes all letters, which may be emailed to letters@palisadesnews.com. Please include a name, address and telephone number so we may reach you. Letters do not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of the Palisades News.

Letters

Marquez Knolls Supports Code Changes

(Editor's note: Marquez Knolls resident Judy Marcus sent a June 9 letter to Councilmembers Mike Bonin and Paul Koretz and City Planning members after attending the June 2 meeting at Palisades High School concerning the BMO/BHO amendments.)

My husband and I have owned our home within the Lachman development of the Marquez Knolls area of Pacific Palisades for 19 years. Like most people who live in this area, we bought our home because of the views it afforded. For some years my husband served on the board of directors of the Marquez Knolls Property Owners Association (MKPOA), which represents approximately 1,200 homes, and at one time served as its president. At that time, the board conducted a survey of homeowners in Marquez Knolls to determine the issues of most importance to them, and view protection was number one.

Much more recently, I had occasion to canvass my immediate neighborhood regarding a view issue, and the response was overwhelming—neighbors wanted their views protected, and did not want building projects in the neighborhood that would negatively impact their views. Although most of Marquez Knolls has view CC&Rs provided by the developers (the Lachman family), enforcement of the CC&Rs is the responsibility of the homeowner who seeks to invoke the protection of the CC&Rs, and the cost of enforcement through the courts is prohibitive for many.

Therefore, we and our neighbors were gratified to learn that the City of Los Angeles has developed plans which will amend the BMO/BHO to help us to preserve our views and the character of our neighborhood.

Last week, I along with other residents of Marquez

Knolls, attended the public forum sponsored by a realtor at Palisades High School. We were taken aback that Chris Spitz, president of Pacific Palisades Community Council, purported to speak for all Palisadians in stating opposition to the proposed amendments.

While PPCC, which includes at least one developer and one real estate agent, claims to represent all Palisadians including Marquez Knolls residents, I am informed that they did not, in fact, contact our homeowners association as to its position regarding the amendments, nor did they seek to learn the position of our association. We understand and support residents of other neighborhoods in the Palisades, such as the Alphabet Streets, whose interests are different from ours, and where mansionization has been the norm, not the exception. In the case of the CC&R area of Marquez Knolls, mansionization has been rare, and where it has occurred it has generally adversely impacted views of homeowners who could not afford to enforce the CC&Rs.

Richard Blumenberg, an architect, has asserted that property values in all neighborhoods, even Marquez Knolls, would be adversely affected by the implementation of the BMO/BHO amendments. Here, however, homeowners who cannot afford to retain legal counsel to protect their views would suffer substantial loss of their property values if mansionization occurs which negatively impacts their views. This has been established time and again by the testimony of expert witnesses in multiple lawsuits brought by homeowners to enforce CC&R view protection provisions, and endorsed by an appellate court in a case regarding a Marquez Knolls CC&R view lawsuit. For our neighborhood, mansionization for the few adversely affects not only property values, but also, and more importantly, the quality of life for the many.

Finally, at last Thursday's meeting, we were heartened to hear from representatives from City Planning that they are

aware that one-size-fits-all zoning rules and regulations will not well serve Pacific Palisades neighborhoods. While neighborhoods such as the Alphabet Streets may be better served by the less restrictive zoning option, we believe that our area of Marquez Knolls would be best served by the more restrictive option.

Judith Marcus

More Poll Workers Needed

June 7 was the day to cast a vote in an important primary election. I expected to enjoy it, since as a poll worker for my precinct, located at Palisades Charter High School, I knew I would meet many of my neighbors and achieve an objective of "giving something back to the community."

While a precinct normally has four individuals (one inspector and three clerks) to prepare the precinct by assembling the voting booths, preparing the documents designed to assure voter qualification, and, of course, serving the voter stream, the inspector and I slowly realized we would be the only two workers to staff the precinct from 7 a.m. to the 8 p.m. closing. Following the closing, another 2½ hours was spent in dismantling the precinct, counting the day's results and delivering the materials and results to a Santa Monica site.

It would not have been so bad had there been time for lunch and dinner. For the day, I had only a small serving of trail mix to avoid starvation. Restroom visits were made at times of opportunity—not need.

Fortunately, the agonies of the day were balanced by the occasional voter who would remark something like, "Thank you for your service, which enabled me to vote."

Bill Branch

(Bill Branch is 91 years old. For more information on becoming a volunteer poll worker, go to LAVoteVote.net or call (800) 815-2666 and select option #7).

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Farmers Market

(Continued from Page 1)

had contacted Corpus Christi Church (across the street from the park), but not HPOC or Ralphs/Palisades Carwash/Pharmacare/Norris.

One nearby Huntington neighbor, Rob Weber, had a negative view of the proposal. "I love the Farmers Market, but, Sunday is one of the two busiest days of the week at the Rec Center," he said in an email. "We should not be completely supplanting some recreational activities and negatively impacting others to make room for a commercial venture that has other options in town. There already is insufficient parking for the events that take place at the Rec Center every weekend—can you imagine what a mess it would be if this market is added?"

During a recent Farmers Market, residents suggested varied options for a relocated market. For example, Via de la Paz from Antioch to just before the YMCA was one recommendation. The market also considered this location by talking to businesses along the route, according to residents. Valet parking was offered to aid patrons in accessing both the YMCA and the adjacent United Methodist Church.

Pastor Wayne Walters said the church's Board of Trustees voted against the idea because they worried about illegal parking in both its lot and the alley behind the church. In addition, the church board was concerned about potential accidents with pedestrians, cars and valets.

YMCA Executive Director Shelly Skaro said that Farwell had approached her when canvassing the Via de la Paz area.

"We love the idea of more foot traffic being in front of our YMCA, however, we have no way of knowing the impact that it will have on our members," Skaro said. "I have heard the Farmers Market will offer free valet parking to our members, which I imagine would help ease the stress of parking."

A manager at nearby Gelson's said the grocery store had not been approached by the market, but that Gelson's would not be in favor of a Via de la Paz market location. Gelson's, which also sells organic vegetables, would be in direct competition with the market and already has issues with noncustomers parking in its lot, the manager said.

Other resident proposals in the business district included Antioch, which would also affect Gelson's, and Swarthmore south of Sunset, which would make the CVS parking lot inaccessible. Another street, La Cruz, would conflict with Sunday American Legion events, which require disabled parking access that would be blocked by a market on the street.

In January, Caruso spokesperson Liz Jaeger had originally said that the market would be able to remain in its location on Swarthmore. "Our goal is to keep the beloved Palisades Farmers Market operating on Swarthmore throughout construction," Jaeger said.

A few months later, Caruso Affiliated decided the market would have to move,

but "we look forward to welcoming it back immediately following construction."

Palisades High School also had been considered as an alternate market site, but PaliHi's Director of Operations Dave Riccardi said on June 28 that he had "never heard back [from the Farmers Market] after I reduced the pricing."

Farwell said that, unfortunately, the revised cost was still too expensive for the market,

and the market preferred the park location. Palisades Recreation Center "is where we would really love to go," Farwell said.

In a July 1 email, Riccardi told the News: "I heard Caruso was willing to help offset costs if they were going to Via. I'm sure Caruso would still assist at the school."

The school has ample empty parking lots every Sunday and is located in the center of the community.

Stores on Swarthmore Plan Their Moves

Michele International

Michelle Irwin and Martin McCrory have operated Michele International Hair Studio and Palisades Beauty Supplies since 1982.

Michele International will move to 15335 Sunset Blvd. (formerly the Wilshire Fireplace store). Hair styling, cuts, dyes and blow dries will continue, but because of the smaller size of the store on Sunset, waxing will temporarily be discontinued.

Lavender Blue and Maison Giraud

The store and the restaurant both opened on Swarthmore in 2011. Catherine Giraud, owner of Lavender Blue, a store that specializes in home accents and accessories from Provence, is looking for a permanent place to relocate in the Village.

In 2003, Alain Giraud was named "Chef of the Year" by *Bon Appétit* magazine. Sources say that Chef Giraud would like to open a bakery in town and also give cooking lessons.

Bentons the Sports Shop

Bob Benton's store, which has been a mainstay on Swarthmore since 1982, will close during the two-year construction. Benton has kept the community supplied in sporting goods, shoes and clothes.

BOCA and BOCA Man

Denise Martinez announced that BOCA will be moving to 1034 Montana in Santa Monica. The store has been on Swarthmore for 12 years and before that on Antioch for 10 years. Martinez's entire staff will be available to help customers at their new location at 11th and Montana, with plans to open September 1. Call (310) 459-7259.

BOCA Man, owned by Mike Mangielli, is still looking for a space.

City National Bank

City National Bank spokesperson Debora Vrana said, "We are currently considering several options."

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Merging Puzzle Zoo, Party Pizzazz

By SARAH STOCKMAN
Palisades News Reporter

For the past six months, Puzzle Zoo owner Jay Demircift had been looking for a new storefront. He had been having trouble finding a place in his price range to relocate the Swarthmore Puzzle Zoo before the Caruso Project begins. He really wanted to keep the store in the Palisades because it had been there for almost 30 years and the town held special meaning for him.

"Palisades was my second store ever," Demircift said. "I spent a lot of time in the store back in the day. I love the Palisades."

During the same time period, Marlee Dressen, the owner of Party Pizzazz on Sunset, had been trying to find someone to take over the store. Although she loved owning the colorful party store for 23 years, she had decided it was time to retire.

"I live in Mid-Wilshire. That commute is terrible, and it only gets worse and worse," she said. "[And] I think it's time for someone with fresh, new, younger ideas."

As fate would have it, their mutual desires crossed paths in May when Demircift happened to walk past Party Pizzazz and saw that it was for sale.

"Initially I just wanted to buy the place and move into the location, but after talking to [Dressen] for awhile ... I realized she had been there for a long time as well,"



Puzzle Zoo brothers and partners are Jay (left) and Sean Demircift.

Demircift said.

He decided that the space was big enough for both stores to coexist, thus allowing two well-known and well-liked Palisadian stores to remain open.

Dressen was delighted with the solution.

"I think the area needs both a party store and a toy store. And this way they can keep both of them and they'll be together," she

said.

The Palisades Puzzle Zoo is one of five Puzzle Zoos in Southern California, but it will be the first location to sell party supplies. Although party supplies are new to the company, Demircift believes it will work because party supplies tend to match popular toy products.

"Party supplies for kids and so forth are

themed merchandise," Demircift said. "You can have Star Wars paper plates and all the Star Wars party supplies. It makes sense to work it into each other."

Dressen echoed Demircift's opinion as one of the reasons why she sold the store to him.

"The whole thing seemed to make sense. It seemed like a good pairing," she said.

Although Dressen is sad to leave the Palisades, she's ready to have the time to catch up on everything she needs to do in her house. After that, she's ready for anything.

"I know that I don't want to be home all the time," Dressen said. "I very much liked the Palisades, liked the people, liked the work, hated the drive."

After Dressen sold the store in late May, Party Pizzazz held a blowout sale in order to clear space in the 2,000-sq.-ft. store for toys. The store closed on July 2 for a week-long renovation, but won't remain closed for long.

Puzzle Zoo will officially close its Swarthmore doors on July 10, but will reopen on July 11 in its new location.

Demircift would, ideally, like to move back to Swarthmore after the completion of Caruso's development, but he's not sure it will happen.

"I would love to move into a Caruso project, but I know from his other projects that he's expensive," he said. "He does a fantastic job, but it doesn't come cheap."

Huntington Palisades Street Names

By MICHAEL EDLEN
Special to the Palisades News

(In 1990 Randy and Betty Lou Young published a limited edition book titled Street Names of Pacific Palisades & Other Tales. This short series of summaries of these names is based on that book.)

A 226-acre plot of land was bought for \$1,625,000 by the Pacific Palisades Association in 1926 from heirs of the Collis Huntington estate. The idea was to create an "exclusive development for a discriminating clientele." Broad streets were laid out in graceful curves to form concentric semi-circles around El Cerclo Place.

This area was one of the earlier developments that incorporated underground utilities. They also installed expensive ornamental light fixtures throughout the Huntington. The engineer who developed the plan submitted names for the streets that were mostly based on his mining experiences in Mexico. His translations or inter-

pretations are as follows:

Alma Real: "Royal Soul," the name of a Mexican singer and dancer who was a friend of the engineer.

Altata: A seaport in Sinaloa, Mexico.

Alva: the Anglicized spelling of Alba, a Spanish town near Madrid.

Borgos: The old capital of Castile, Spain. Burgo means "small town" in Spanish.

Camarosa: "Bed of Roses"

Chapala: The largest lake in Mexico.

Chautauqua: An Indian word, some believe it means "land of the mists." It was given this name in 1928, as a tribute to the original New York Chautauqua Institute that was a Sunday School teacher training grounds. Most of the Palisades was founded as an independent Chautauqua community.

Corona del Mar: "Crown of the Sea" in Spanish.

El Cerclo: "Fenced-in Area" or "Corral" in Spanish.

Frontera: "Border" or "Frontier" in Spanish.

La Cruz: "The Cross" in Spanish.

La Cumbre: "The Summit" or "The Peak" in Spanish.

Ocampo: Mexican town, "Campo" means "mining camp," and "Acampo" means "pasture."

Pampas Ricas: "Rich Plains" in Spanish.

Ramos: "Bouquet" in Spanish, named after a mining foreman.

Toyopa: A lost mine in Sonora, Mexico.

Vance: Although not technically in the Huntington, it was named after James Vance, a pastor, scholar and author. Vance Place was to be a development with homes designed by John Byers in the late 1920s, which never happened due to the Depression years.

Michael Edlen has been ranked in the top one percent of all agents in the country with over \$1.5 billion in sales and more than 1,250 transactions. He has tracked Pacific Palisades sales and historic events for 30 years. Call (310) 230-7373 or michael@michael-edlen.com.

Community Council Reps Sought

Residents who are interested in local government are asked to become candidates to represent the neighborhoods where they live (if you are uncertain of your area, visit: pacpalicc.org/indix.pho/area-maps). The council meets the second and fourth Thursday of every month from 7 to 9 p.m. (except for July, August, November and December).

PPCC members discuss and make recommendations on local issues. The deadline to file to run for office is 7 p.m. on July 28. The election will take place later this summer.

Monthly Networking Breakfast on July 8

The Pacific Palisades Chamber of Commerce will hold networking breakfasts the second Friday of every month at 7:45 a.m. at Aldersgate Retreat Center, 925 Haverford Ave. The next breakfast will be July 8. Members are \$20, nonmembers are \$25. Reservations are required (310) 459-7963.

Palisades Rec Center: A Fixer-Upper

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

Poor. Fair. Fair. Fair. Poor. Those were the grades given to the Palisades Recreation Center infrastructure, lawn areas, tennis courts, basketball courts, playground and gymnasiums during the spring Los Angeles Countywide Park & Recreation Needs Assessment.

The only "good" grade went to the four baseball diamonds, known as the Field of Dreams, built with community donations and oversight.

The total projected cost for deferred maintenance at the three City-owned parks in Pacific Palisades (including Temescal Canyon Park and Rustic Canyon Recreation Center) is \$64.2 million, which includes replacing amenities in "poor" condition at a cost of \$46 million and those in "fair" condition for \$18.2 million.

L.A. Recreation and Parks General Manager Michael Schull worked with the L.A. Bureau of Engineering from 1990 until December 2013, when he became the interim RAP director. Mayor Eric Garcetti made the position permanent in August 2014.

The *Palisades News* asked Schull how the City's recreational facilities were allowed to reach such abysmal conditions.

"Our annual budget is for operations



The Palisades Recreation Center on Alma Real was given a poor grade for lack of maintenance.

only," said Schull, who oversees 444 parks, 184 recreation centers, 62 swimming pools and 13 golf courses. "It's a challenge every day."

In 2012-13, RAP received \$140 million and its annual budget has gradually increased to \$165 million for 2015-16.

"About a decade ago, the City required that our department start to pay its own

utility bill [\$20 million last year]," Schull said, noting that RAP has to pay for water, too. "Even though we've reduced our water usage by 50 percent since 2008, last year our water bill went from \$9 million to \$14 million."

In addition, Shull said, staffing has been reduced by 40 percent over the last 10 years.

At a recent Santa Monica Canyon Civic

Association meeting in the Rustic Canyon clubhouse, a woman in the audience asked Schull if the center and bathrooms could be reopened on Sundays.

"Last year was the first year we were hiring again," he said, noting that he is optimistic that RAP is moving in the right direction. Once more people are hired, then more hours may be available.

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The basketball floor in the old gym needs to be refinished or replaced.

Schull admits that finding funding to make necessary repairs and renovations has "been challenging for many years."

"In Chicago, they receive three times the money for parks that are only used seven months a year. Our parks are used 365 days a year. We're doing the best we can with the hand we're dealt."

Schull is hopeful that Quimby funds will become a funding source for acquisition and development of park and recreation facilities. (Residential development projects in the City are required, as a condition of approval, to either dedicate land for recreation and park purposes or pay a fee in-

lieu, known as "Quimby" fees.)

Quimby money is unpredictable because collections are based on the level of residential development. Over the last eight years, the total annual collections citywide have varied year to year from about \$8 to \$25 million. Those funds have been used for a variety of capital improvements to existing parks and the building of new parks.

The ordinance is currently being updated and if it is approved by City Council, it will also include rental apartments, such as those scheduled for the Caruso project.

Asked how much RAP might expect annually from Quimby fees, Schull said, "I



The windows in the old gym need to be repaired and the gym cleaned.

don't know. It will depend on the level of development."

Public-private partnerships are another area that can benefit City parks and recreation centers. Schull was aware of how the Palisades community came together to fund the new gym at the Rec Center, as well as the Field of Dreams. He also praised the Palisades Park Advisory Board. "They are good partners with us."

The PABN had started the process to replace the playground, seeking to install a universal playground, unfortunately, "the playground they wanted for the Palisades would cost our entire budget," Schull said. "We only have \$1.1 million in funds every year for playgrounds," of which the city has more than 400.

He said Rec and Parks would be happy to partner with the community, if money could be raised.

Schull also noted that an important bond measure could make the November ballot. "The amount of money needed to bring the parks back to good condition is enormous," he said. "I have high hopes for the bond measure."

On May 3, the L.A. County Board of Supervisors and the County Regional Park & Open Space District presented two options for a 35-year park parcel tax measure. One would assess a 3-cent parcel tax per square foot on residential property while the other would assess 5 cents. The smaller tax would generate \$189 million per year, and the higher rate would bring in \$390 million annually.

If this measure passes, it would be "a good light at the end of a tunnel," Schull said, but it will require a two-thirds vote for passage. "We'll need the public's support."

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India: Chaos, Color and Cholera

By PEPPER EDMISTON
Special to the Palisades News

Despite my promising Joe a lifetime membership to the L.A. Zoo, my husband insisted on seeing tigers in their natural habitat. So off we went to India.

The driver who met us at the airport turned out to be the only Indian we could communicate with and find common ground. "My top TV show is *Breaking Bad!*" said our driver.

"Ours, too!" Joe and I chirped. "Plus," I added, "My favorite character on *The Simpsons* is Apu, who owns the Kwik-E-Mart!"

"Mine, too!"

For our entire trip, Joe and I were treated like idiots. We realized it was because everybody in India knows an IT guy who deals on the phone with U.S. customers asking

"Is my computer on?"

"How can I get my computer to like me?"

"Can I retract something I sent?"

When you call for help, you're already tense because you know Americans and Indians speak a different form of English. You think, "If only we could talk face to face, my problem would be solved in a heartbeat." Fuhgeddaboutit. Even if you're touching noses, you will be misunderstood. This is a verbatim conversation with an English-speaking doctor who gave me eardrops. Lord knows what he discerned from my Valley Girl whine:

Me: "How many drops per treatment?"

Doc: "Paramedic."

Me: "How long should I use it?"



The author, Pepper Edmiston, protects herself from the air in India.

Doc: "Mumbai."

Me: "Are there side effects?"

Doc: "Chanting."

Joe wanted tigers, so we visited five lodges, each in a different forest.

We traveled hundreds of miles, seeing thousands of people, mostly living on the streets or in shacks. Watching humans drinking, bathing and washing dishes in the same troughs used by animals made me rethink the need for Evian.

Shocking as that was, nothing prepared me for the driving. All day, every day, people risk their lives on the roads of India by playing "chicken." Painted dividers are only suggestions. Half of every ride was spent in the lane of oncoming traffic, causing my

life to continuously flash before my eyes. Luckily, I lived through the Sixties; at least I wasn't bored.

India's roads are famously inhabited by cows, which have been told they are gods. Therefore, cows don't flinch when cars come at them at eighty kph, nor do goats, hairy boars or roving dogs. In fact, I think I was the only person or animal flinching in India.

Meantime, tractors, rickshaws, oxen-pulled carts, motorbikes with five passengers, vans stuffed like clown cars, buses with men clinging to the roof and camels and elephants with their owners perched on their backs, all share the highways. Every day in India the circus comes to town.

"So," you are thinking, "What about the



The Strangler wraps around a victim tree and begins sucking nutrients out of it.

toilet situation?" Behold The Four Stages of Toilets in India:

1. Dirt.

2. Dirt with a hole, behind a leafless bush.

3. Dirt with a hole and two slabs of rock to stand on, behind a twig fence.

4. And, la plus belle, dirt with a hole and two slabs of marble to stand on, surrounded by concrete walls.

And, because it is almost never heard, the sound of flushing becomes music to one's ears, like a rarely played Bach sonata.

Since I had been warned about the "restroom" choices, I purchased Go Girl!, a purple-hued, rubber device that allows a female to pee like a man, no hormones or surgery necessary. It is shaped like a funnel

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with a long protrusion. The first time I tried Go Girl! was a failure. So, while fully dressed, I demonstrated for Joe how I used it. Keeping a straight face, my husband explained that for peeing, the appendage should be pointed down; in real life, a protuberance facing up serves a different purpose.

To me, the most interesting thing in the jungle was the Strangler Tree. Starting out as an innocent seed, it checks out its neighbors and decides which tree will die. The Strangler wraps its growing tendrils around the victim and begins sucking nutrients out of its trunk, limbs and roots. Years pass until the Strangler is strong enough to stand on its own. Then it's "Death to the Host Tree!" Sounds like motherhood to me.

The weather in India is nothing to write home about. The sky is a shroud of gray, smelling of toxins and smoke, and the average temperature is 100 degrees. But, one day, it rained! Lightning, thunder and buckets of water crashed down on everything! It was wonderful!

Of course, that was the day of our five-hour search for the elusive tiger. Our jeep had no roof or sides, just like the "restrooms." Our ponchos appeared to be waterproof; they were not. In fact, their design allowed us to become fully drenched. Have you ever sat in wet underwear for five hours looking for a tiger?

Eyes blinded by rain and nostrils filled with foam, my goal was not to drown while riding in a jeep. After hours of this grand adventure, our guide mumbled something



While in India, Joe Edmiston and wife Pepper took a ride on an elephant.

about: "Blah, blah, WET! Blah, blah, CAVE! Blah, blah, TIGER NO OUTSIDE! Blah." That's when Joe and I learned that Tiger is Wiser than Man.

It was a romantic trip for Joe and me because we had wonderful accommodations and often found ourselves alone. During meals, we had the time to stare into each other's eyes until one or both of us got excruciatingly uncomfortable and lunged for our iPads. I tried to get intimate by suggesting we tell one another five things we love about the other person. Joe's immediate response was "And then reveal five things

we detest?"

As beautiful as the lodges were, they still stood smack in the middle of a jungle. Every place had the same warning sign: Beware of Poisonous Snakes. When I needed to use the "restroom" in the middle of the night, the question was not "Do I want to put my warm feet on the cold, hard floor?" Rather, it was, "Venomous snake or U.T.I.?"

One fine day Joe and I took a ride on an elephant. The handler rode on the elephant's neck while we sat on its back. Joe, who has a magnificent voice, loves the sound of it. After the handler repeated three

times "I am the elephant trainer and she is my boss," Joe began a monologue on California flora vs. Indian flora.

Unable to control myself, I whispered to Joe, "This man does not understand one word you're saying." Joe disagreed. "Repeat what I say exactly," I hissed. This is the conversation, which had a momentary humbling effect on my husband:

Joe: "I am going to kill my wife."

Trainer: "Good! Good!"

Joe: "I am going to throw her in the meadow."

Trainer: "Mister! OK!"

Joe: Do you think anybody will find her?

Trainer: "No problem!"

On our last day in India we had a few hours before our flight, so we stopped at a large shopping center in Delhi. As we entered, it hit me: And, On the 23rd Day, God Created the Mall. Air conditioning! Flushing toilets! Toilet paper! Drinkable water! Food that would not incur the loss of an organ!

Only one thing was lacking in that dreamy place: the gorgeous, brilliant-colored saris that adorned every Indian female. Sadly, in the Mall, all the women wore modern clothes and looked just like me.

Many people visit India seeking their spiritual selves. Joe and I didn't even know where to look. However, we ate amazing food, turning my muumuu into a spandex dress, saw beauty every day and, overall, had a wild time in a fascinating country. Plus, we bought a lot of neat stuff at the Mall.

Namaste.

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Biking the Five Boroughs of N.Y.

By LAUREL BUSBY
Staff Writer

When the oldest Kelly brother, Sean, celebrated his 50th birthday, he chose to create a "Year of Sean" spiked with adventure.

He invited friends and family, including his two younger brothers, Niall and Ciaran, on varied exploits, ranging from golf trips in both Monterey and Wisconsin to a half-marathon atop the Great Wall of China. As part of the "Year of Sean," his family also orchestrated a surprise party in Los Angeles for the Seattle resident.

"I've always enjoyed my birthday," Sean, 52, said. "While many don't care for the fanfare or attention, I'm a firm believer in embracing your special day."

His younger brothers have also embraced the idea. Since middle brother Niall turns 50 this year, it has now become the "Year of Niall." The first event was a motorcycle ride through Death Valley, and then in May, Niall, an accomplished bicyclist, invited family and friends to join him on a bike ride through the five boroughs of New York.

Both Sean and Ciaran accepted Niall's challenge, which turned out to be much more difficult than anticipated. The terrain through New York City itself is fairly mellow, especially compared with the Santa Monica Mountains, where West L.A. resident Ciaran sometimes trained. However, the weather was the opposite of mellow. The 32,000 riders encountered temperatures ranging from 45 to 50 degrees and a near-constant cold rain.

"Normally 40 miles would be a moderate cycling event, but with the wind and rain it was really a much bigger endeavor to just get through," said Niall, who also plans a



The three Kelly brothers, who grew up in Pacific Palisades, raised money for Cancer Cure by biking through the five boroughs of New York City.

luau, a boating regatta to Catalina Island and a 100-mile bike ride in Napa Valley to celebrate his year.

His brothers agreed. "On a sunny day, it's probably a phenomenal way to see New York," said Ciaran, adding that a week before the ride, the weather forecast had been

70 degrees with clear skies. However, on May 1, "we were all soaked. Our feet and hands were probably the worst. You couldn't feel your feet at some points."

The three brothers, who grew up in Pacific Palisades and attended Corpus Christi School, plus two friends rode through the rain, which fell for 38 of the ride's 40 miles. The last half was particularly onerous with heavy rain and wind. "We saw a lot of people call it quits and understandably so," Ciaran said.

The entire ride took about five hours and did have some fun highlights. The Kellys,



(Left to right) Sean, Niall and Ciaran Kelly challenge each other to celebrate a 50th birthday in unusual ways.

whose parents are Ned and *Palisades News* office manager Rosemary, had spent part of their childhood in New York, where they lived from 1971-77, and so it was fun to revisit places like FDR Drive on the ride, Ciaran said.

About 15 different bands entertained the riders, including a "jamming ska band" around the 26th mile. "They lifted a lot of spirits" during one of the worst periods of rain, Ciaran said. He noted that despite the rain, church groups, cheerleaders and school groups banded together to cheer the riders along the way.

The Kelly group, which raised \$1,550 for Cancer Care through Ciaran's fundraising, all completed the ride. "That felt great—a nice sense of accomplishment," Ciaran said. "We were all very happy and proud to finish it."

Niall said, "It was really great to have my brothers participate in a road cycling event as that was never a sport or hobby they were interested in like I was as a kid growing up."

All three brothers, who graduated from Loyola High School, are married with two children. Sean, who works for a freight forwarder in Seattle, and his wife, Helen, have a son, Liam, 13, and daughter, Caroline, 6. Niall, who sells consumer packaging for the farming industry, and his wife, Jen, have two sons, Declan, 19, and Karl, 17, while Ciaran, a Wells Fargo private mortgage banker, and his wife, Pam, have a daughter, Maddie, 10, and a son, Morgan, 8.

Although the "Year of Niall" is still going strong, Ciaran, 45, is also anticipating the "Year of Ciaran" down the road. He anticipates planning a bike ride from Rosarita to Ensenada, Mexico. He has twice attempted this "brutal ride," but not yet completed it, in large part due to bike problems. In addition, during his 50th year, he wants to travel to England to see the Arsenal soccer team play in person.

"I've got four years to think about it," Ciaran said, also adding that he's glad his brother Sean started this tradition. "It puts a lot of pressure on the rest of us, but yeah, we're enjoying it."

Wilimovsky Qualifies for Olympics

Many Pacific Palisades residents were glued to the Olympic Swim team trials in Omaha on Sunday evening, cheering on a home-town boy who came within seconds of beating the number-one seed.

Palisadian Jordan Wilimovsky, who has already qualified for the Rio Summer Olympics in the men's 10,000-meter freestyle, added a second Olympic event in the 1500-meter freestyle, by placing second with a time of 14:49.19.

Jaeger Conner, 25, whose best time in this event is 14:41.20, finished first (14.47.61).

Going into the race at Omaha, Wilimovsky had the second fastest qualifying time (14.53.12), which he swam at the Arena Pro Swim, an elite meet held in April in Arizona. Wilimovsky not only won that event, but also swam his lifetime best, which was good enough to give him the world's fifth fastest time this year in the 1500.

COLLEGE GRADUATES



Haley Berman

Haley Berman, daughter of Steven and Cynthia, graduated magna cum laude from Cal Poly Pomona with a bachelor's degree in psychology in June. A graduate of Palisades High School, she started the equestrian team at that school and then rode for the Cal Poly Equestrian team. Berman is an English rider and at Cal Poly she competed intermediate over fences and open on the flat in intercollegiate horse shows. Her future plans are to explore new opportunities and continue her passion for riding.

* * *

Tyler Steil graduated from Cal Berkeley in May with a degree in economics. While at school he was a member of various organizations including the Zeta Psi Fraternity, Sports for Kids, and Athletes United for Peace. Steil is moving to New York City in August, and plans to pursue

a career in the sports industry. The son of Rick and Nicole Steil, he is also a graduate of Palisades High School.

* * *

Isabelle "Izzy" Desantis graduated from Southern Methodist University in Dallas in May with a bachelor's degree in communications and fashion media. She is working for YELP in San Francisco. The daughter of Denise and Mike Desantis, she is a graduate of Marymount High School and was active in club and high school soccer.

* * *

Sarah Stockman graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a degree in creative writing. She served as the copy editor of the school newspaper *The News-Letter* and played cello in the chamber orchestra. The daughter of Steve Stockman and Debbie Smith, she is working this summer at the *Palisades News* before going to New Zealand and Australia to work for a year before attending graduate school.

* * *

Andrew Hacker graduated from Colgate University in May with a bachelor's degree in environment studies and economics. The son of Teri and Tom Hacker, he was on the college swim team for four years. Hacker is the school record holder in the 200 freestyle (1:39.82), as a member of the 800-freestyle relay (6:44.97) and the 400-medley relay (3:05.64).



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Palisadian Author Mancuso Writes *Hudson in Provence*

By LAUREL BUSBY
Staff Writer

Dogs and Paris inspired Palisadian Jackie Clark Mancuso to create two picture books that celebrate both.

The idea for her first book came to life during a three-month stay in Paris seven years ago. In France, "everywhere you look there are people and their dogs," said Mancuso, an artist who both wrote and illustrated the books. "Everywhere I went, I would draw and paint dogs. My husband suggested, 'Why not write a story as well?'"

Mancuso took up the suggestion and *Paris-Chien*, a pun on the English word Parisian, was born. Her newest work, *Hudson in Provence*, followed. Both books, which feature colorful and lively gouache paintings, follow the adventures of a plucky expat Norwich terrier as he navigates French language and culture.

Eager to make friends with local dogs, Hudson is at first stymied by the fact that they speak only French, which actually mirrors Mancuso's own journey during her trip, when she got reacquainted with the French language after many years of non-use.

"I was afraid to make mistakes," said Mancuso, who had taken French as a schoolgirl in the late-'60s plus as an adult in language schools and at UC Berkeley, where she graduated with a degree in art and sociology in 1976.

Mancuso also took inspiration from an L.A. friend's dog, whose name, look and endearing personality she used in the book. Mancuso dog-sits the real Hudson, and "when I walk him, everyone stops us ... and says, 'That's the cutest dog I've ever seen,'" she said. "He's always happy, always friendly, and just adorable. He looks like a little teddy bear—his enthusiasm and eagerness and friendliness" infuse her books.

Mancuso, who moved to Pacific Palisades in 2010, acted as her own publisher for her first book, which was a role she knew well, since most of her previous career was in the publishing world in both San Francisco and New York, for various companies, including both Sunset Books and Time Inc., where she worked for *Martha Stewart Living* and



Jackie Clark Mancuso

Parenting magazines.

As an art director, she created the look of numerous books, and she did the same for her books, which have sold well. *Paris-Chien* is now in its third printing, and both books have been picked up by a distributor.

They are widely available, including at Diesel Books in the Brentwood Mart, for check-out at the Palisades and Santa Monica libraries and even for sale at a few Paris stores.

The second book, *Hudson in Provence*, follows the dog's efforts to become a working dog during a trip to Provence in southern France, and he ends up becoming an artist painting France and dogs, just like Mancuso.

Like Hudson, Mancuso's own artistic endeavors were mainly explored in her free time. They eventually took flight when she moved back to the L.A. area in 2010. Her husband, Stephen Ujlaki, had just been hired as the dean of film and television at Loyola Marymount University, and he convinced her that moving to L.A. would be a good thing.

"I didn't really want to come back," she said. But "one of the enticements to get me to move to L.A. was he said, 'Then you don't have to work for someone else. You can finish your book.'"

L.A. turned out to be a blessing. She finished her book and fell in love with the city. "Living in Castellammare with a view of the ocean is like paradise," Mancuso said. Also, "there's so much going on in L.A.'s art scene. You can do something every night. It's so much more urban than I remembered."



Photo by Bart Bartholomew

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PASSINGS

Lorraine Oshins, 92; Teacher, Historical Society Honoree

Elsie Lorraine Pritchard was born October 4, 1923, in Atlanta, Georgia. The oldest of four children, she passed away on June 13, three days before she was to be honored by the Pacific Palisade Historical Society.

Lorraine attended Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Alabama where she earned a bachelor's degree in French. After graduating from Huntingdon she joined the WAVES and was sent to Washington, D.C. to translate intercepted enemy messages that were decoded at the Naval Intelligence Facility.

After the war, she took a train across the country and with the support of the GI Bill earned her master's degree in French at UCLA. While at school, she met and married Aris Anagnos, and in 1955 they purchased their home on Trino Way in Pacific Palisades above the Bel Air Bay Club. They had two children, Thalia and Demos.

In 1966, Lorraine married Ned Oshins and they lived together in the Palisades until he died in 2015. Lorraine taught French, Spanish, Latin and English at Palms Junior High and Hamilton High



Lorraine Oshins

School from 1948 to 1993, then volunteered as a tutor at Palisades High for several years after she retired.

In addition to teaching, which she truly loved, she devoted her life to causes of social justice, educational excellence, environmental conservation and historical preservation.

Along with her fellow Palisadians for Peace she staffed the peace table at the Sunday farmers' market on Swarthmore and

visited various L.A. high schools to inform students about military enlistment and provide them with informational pamphlets and "opt-out" forms.

She loved hiking, and as a member of the Temescal Canyon Association worked to preserve the environs of the Santa Monica Mountains. She was an active member of the Palisades Historical Society, serving as its president from 2001 to 2003.

In a tribute to her, Historical Society member Shirley Hagstrom had trouble keeping her tears from flowing as she described Lorraine. "She was no shrinking violet. She volunteered in different organizations in Pacific Palisades and she inspired others to do the same."

Many remember seeing Lorraine and her many friends at Gelson's each morning sharing a cup of coffee and a bakery treat. She is survived by a brother and a sister, her two children and their spouses, and four grandchildren. A memorial service will be held in September in Pacific Palisades. In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made in her name to the Palisades Historical Society.

Photography Camp For Teens, Adults

This summer Rick Steil will host a week-long photography camp, starting July 11, with morning or afternoon sessions on the Palisades High School campus. Enrollment will be limited to 10 in each session, and a student must be in seventh grade or older (adults are welcome) to enroll.

Steil will teach digital photography basics, including composition, shutter speed/aperture/ISO, Photoshop and inkjet printing. Call: (310) 428-1160 or rsteil@palihigh.org.

Yogurt Shoppe Happy Hour Aids Parade

The Yogurt Shoppe is supporting PAPA (Palisades Americanism Parade Association) by hosting a full month of fundraising with its frozen yogurt Happy Hour. Through July 23, a percentage of all sales between the "happy hours" of 5 to 7 p.m. will go directly to the parade association.

Owner Kevin Sabin has also hosted the Kids on Bikes brigade for the past five years. "We are huge advocates for community support and outreach programs," he said.

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PASSINGS

John Warren; Noted Tax Attorney, Outdoorsman

John Sheldon Warren, 94, passed away at his home in Pacific Palisades on June 2 with his family by his side.

He was born April 29, 1922, in Minneapolis to Victor L. Warren and Sytske Korthof Warren.

He attended the University of Minnesota and then joined the Navy during World War II, where he served as captain of a ship in the Pacific.

After the war, John earned his law degree from the University of California Hastings College of Law in San Francisco. He started his career as tax counsel to the California Franchise Tax Board in Sacramento.

In 1957, John moved to Los Angeles to start a long and distinguished career with Loeb & Loeb. He had an extensive practice in state and local taxation, lectured and wrote articles on tax matters and was an adjunct professor at Loyola Law School. He served as a trustee of the Fred H. Bixby Foundation and was a director of The Arboretum at Flagstaff.

John married the love of his life, Katrin "Kata" Einarsdottir, in 1962. They were married for 33 years until her passing in 1995.

In 1968, they moved from the Hollywood Hills to Pacific Palisades with their two young children.

The couple enjoyed traveling across the U.S. and to Africa, China and Europe. They especially enjoyed visiting Kata's native Iceland. They were both involved at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, where John sang in the choir for 30 years and helped establish the St. Matthew's Music Guild.

John was an avid outdoorsman, climbing Mt. Whitney as a young man, taking his family on many camping trips, and enjoying annual birthday hikes in local mountains with his children until the age of 88. He had a lifelong love for gardening and was a loyal fan of the Dodgers, Lakers and Rams.

He is survived by his daughter Vicki of Pacific Palisades, his son Erik (Kari Ann) of Thousand Oaks, a grandson and two step-grandsons. He also leaves his niece Diane and nephew Dave in Minnesota and a large family in Iceland.

John brought love and joy to his family, and was always a true gentleman. He will be greatly missed, but his spirit will always be with us.



John Warren

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 10, at St. Matthew's, 1031 Bienveneda Ave. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the St. Matthew's Music Guild (musicguildonline.org) or to The Arboretum at Flagstaff (thearb.org).

Free Programs for Seniors in July

The Palisades Alliance for Seniors, in conjunction with the Palisades Branch Library, is offering free programs to seniors on the second and fourth Monday of every month, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The programs feature a speaker or a facilitated discussion and are held in the community room.

On July 11, Blaine McFadden, the Director of Care Management at WISE & Healthy Aging in Santa Monica, will speak on "Finding a Good Caregiver." McFadden, a licensed clinical social worker and a certified case manager, will discuss how to assess the needs of the client and what to consider as far as nuances of training, family dynamics and personality "fit."

Palisades Alliance for Seniors is an inter-generational group helping seniors in Pacific Palisades stay in their own homes and stay connected with their community. Visit: palisadesalliance.org.

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You have watched the *Dancing With the Stars* professionals teach people how to dance. Now Pacific Palisades residents can learn the basic dance moves at a Dance Fitness Class for Adults from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Mondays from July 11 through August 29 at the Pacific Palisades Woman's Club.

Everyone is welcome (\$15 per class for

non PPWC members).

This class takes you through various styles such as ballroom, rumba, salsa and bachata. It's for all fitness levels and there is no experience needed. The class is hosted by the Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles. RSVP to Roberta at (310) 454-9012.

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Art Cadre Builds A Dr. Seuss Hat

By LAURA ABRUSCATO
Contributing Writer

At the May 26 Open House on the Palisades Elementary campus stood an 8-ft. red and white hat decorated with children's drawings of colorful mushrooms, fish wearing glasses and blue-and-white striped Truffalo Trees with multicolor tops.

The towering hat was covered by sayings, such as "If you never did you should. These things are fun and fun is good."

Inspired by Dr. Seuss, the hat was constructed out of 13 boxes and was this year's Art Cadre project at Pali Elementary. The program, for first, second and third graders, is led by educators Sal Kelly Siwulec and Debra Demontreux, who devise original ideas for the annual collaborative project.

"We expose the kids to different artists, sculptors and writers for inspiration," says Demontreux. "We come up with a unique idea, we guide students through a drawing lesson, and the collaboration puts it all together."

For the project, each of the 12 first-, second- and third-grade classes received a

box, and painted it either white or red.

"We talked about Dr. Seuss, how he loved children, how he was nonsensical and fanciful," says Siwulec. Each child wrote a word that was later joined with other words to form some of Dr. Seuss' sayings.

In their next session, the students glued the words on and had a drawing lesson, where they each drew their own Dr. Seuss-inspired artwork, and glued those onto the box as well.

"As artists, a lot of art comes from your own creativity, but artists also learn how to draw by copying other work, with step-by-step lessons," says Siwulec.

Since a 13th box was needed to form the hat, the grade 1-3 teachers created a box as well. "It was nice to see the teachers do it too," says Demontreux.

Siwulec and Demontreux met with the classes two times in the Lori Petrick Garden to help the children create the individual parts of the project with the assistance of parent volunteers. Both educators also work for Art Trek, a nonprofit that brings art teachers into inner-city schools.

"For kids it's so important that they get art and they love it. They're so free and



Second grader Sage Denham participated in the Art Cadre project—a giant "Cat in the Hat" consisting of the children's drawings, based on the art of Dr. Seuss and Dr. Seuss' sayings.

Photo: Lesly Hall

they have a good time," says Siwulec. "We try to have the kids do as much as they possibly can."

Siwulec started the Art Cadre program with Nancy Fracchiolla, now the drama teacher at Palisades High, when their children were young. Siwulec's daughter Claire, now a Pali senior, was in kindergarten at the time.

After Fracchiolla's and Siwulec's children graduated, other parents tried to keep the program going, but the school eventually contacted Siwulec to see if she would take a paying position.

The program is funded by PEP, the parent booster club. Even though her daughter no longer attends the school, Siwulec loves doing each project. "It was Nancy's and my concept—we created this program and I felt, let's keep it going if we can."

JUMBLE SOLUTION

Answer: He wanted his glasses to be unlike anyone else's, so he had a pair — "CUSTOM-EYES-ED"

Jumbles: CHEWY MINUS EXCESS RODENT

Demontreux, a former high school art teacher, and Siwulec's friend since seventh grade in Michigan, had been volunteering and eventually came on board as a co-teacher.

"The final reveal was so fun," says Demontreux, describing the moment when the students finally saw the hat put together. "The kids surrounded it, [saying] there's my picture, where's your picture? It was a fun, lively conversation."

Demontreux lives in Topanga with husband Ernie and daughter Maya, a seventh grader at Paul Revere Middle School. Siwulec, husband Dan and daughter Claire have lived in the Palisades for 17 years.

"Art is about the process of being involved in your senses," says Pali Elementary principal Joan Ingle, who appreciates the enthusiastic leaders and parent volunteers. "We have a wonderful Dr. Seuss project, but the process is what Art Cadre is about. The program is also about the bigger picture: how important arts are in a well-balanced curriculum."



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Famous Photos of the American West

By DANIELLE GILLESPIE
Palisades News Contributor

Two generations of California-based photographers, including the legendary Ansel Adams, currently have their masterworks on display at the Autry Museum of the American West.

Approximately 90 photographs from the Bank of America collection are being featured in an exhibit entitled "Revolutionary Vision: Group f/64 and Richard Misrach" until January 2017.

"In this exhibit, you really have the arc of 20th-century photography as a medium," said Amy Scott, the Autry's chief curator.

The first section of the gallery is dedicated to the work of Group f/64, which formed in 1932 to take a stand against pictorialism, a popular movement based on the idea that a photograph should resemble an impressionist painting. This style favored soft-focus images and hand-manipulated prints.

On the contrary, Group f/64 wanted to highlight the camera's unique ability to produce sharp contrasts and crisp graphics. For this reason, the group is named after the large-format camera aperture, which captures the maximum depth of field. The members, seven men and four women, also thought that producing unaltered images should be the new direction of photography.

Adams (1902-84) was among this group of Bay Area photographers, and his images appear alongside the work of fellow members Imogen Cunningham, Willard Van Dyke, Brett Weston and Edward Weston.

Some of Adams' work displayed in the show include a grand landscape of snow blowing off Half Dome in Yosemite National Park and an intimate close-up of grass in the rain at Glacier Bay National Monument.



Half Dome, Blowing Snow, Yosemite National Park, California, circa 1955. Photograph by Ansel Adams. ©2016 The Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust

"What I like about the Adams selection is that it runs the gamut of his work from this really romantic, sort of beautiful, take on Yosemite to his more modernist side as seen in the Glacier Bay photo," Scott said. "Adams could walk on either side... he was

a really versatile artist in that sense."

However, Edward Weston (1886-1958) could be considered the flagship artist for the group because his photographs contain such stark tonalities, which he couldn't have accomplished without using the f/64

aperture, Scott said.

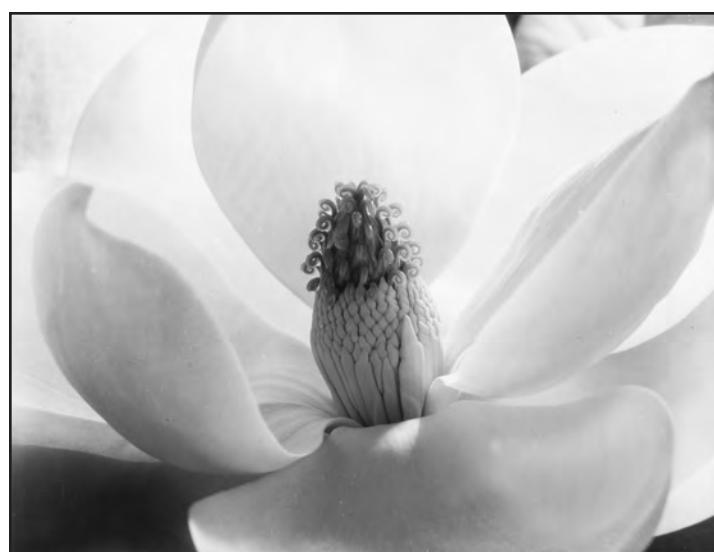
"The brilliance of Weston's work is really his ability to elevate the everyday into the extraordinary," Scott said.

In his compositions, Weston makes common objects look incredibly beautiful and often sensual. For example, his abstract close-up of a bell pepper (featured in the show) has the sensual curves of the human body.

During his career, Weston focused on natural forms, nudes and landscapes. He was the first photographer to receive a Guggenheim fellowship, which he used to travel the West and create his best work.

His son, Brett Weston, was also an accomplished photographer, and his work is included in the show. Weston (1911-93) preferred to take close-up shots of his subjects and make them unrecognizable, so his photos possess an abstract quality.

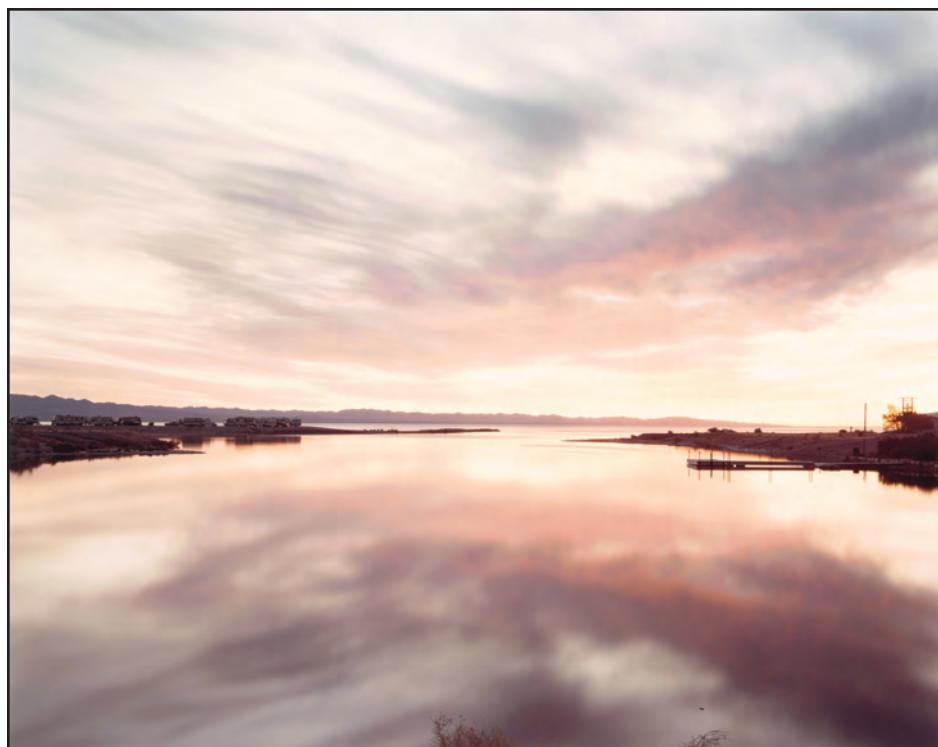
Cunningham (1883-1976) is known for her floral abstractions and portraits. She studied the chemistry behind photography at the University of Washington. After college, she received a grant to continue her



Magnolia Blossom, 1925. Photograph by Imogen Cunningham. ©1925, 2016, Imogen Cunningham Trust, imogencunningham.com



Submerged Lamppost, Salton Sea, 1985. Photograph by Richard Misrach. ©Richard Misrach, courtesy Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco



Salton Sea (With Campers), 1984.

Photograph by Richard Misrach.

©Richard Misrach, courtesy Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco

studies in Dresden, Germany. She eventually moved to the Bay Area, where she joined Group f/64.

Van Dyke (1906-86) is one of the lesser-known members of f/64 because he abandoned photography and moved into film-making in the late 1930s. He later became the first director of the film department at the Museum of Modern Art.

"He focused on architectural subjects,

but he also photographed humans, which is indicative of his interest in documentary film," Scott said.

For instance, his interest in social issues can be seen in his image of migrant workers during the Great Depression, which is in the exhibit.

The second half of the gallery features the work of Misrach, a Bay Area photographer who was born in 1949 and began his



Untitled (Dunes, White Sands, New Mexico), 1946.

Photograph by Brett Weston

©The Brett Weston Archive, brettwestonarchive.com

career in the 1970s.

"Misrach was influenced by f/64 and was moved by their way to see natural beauty in the world, even the mundane or banal aspects of the natural world," Scott explained.

However, Misrach's work focuses more on the damage humans have caused to the environment. He has dedicated his life to photographing the desert in a series he calls Desert Cantos. In that work, Misrach comments on the effects of environmental overuse, including tourism, industry and even war, but he does so in a way that captures the aesthetic beauty in those damaged environments, Scott said.

To help museumgoers visualize how f/64 informed Misrach's work, Scott selected some of his images and set them directly alongside f/64 photographs in the center of the gallery. She shows, for example, how Misrach uses the same asymmetry and compositional arcs in his image of the Salton Sea as Brett Weston does for his photograph of San Francisco Bay.

"While Misrach draws upon the formal and stylistic language of f/64, he also shakes

it up a bit," Scott said. "This is not a pristine image of a beautiful bay at dawn, but of old campers and a flooded sea."

The curator also placed some of Misrach's early work next to Cunningham's on the same wall because of their similarities.

"He adopts some of her stylistic approaches such as isolating a plant, and photographing it head on so that it calls attention to its detail," said Scott, who noted that the show is a unique opportunity to see f/64's and Misrach's work side by side.

"It is really a naturalistic fit. To my awareness, they have not been put together like this before."

To view these masterworks, visit the museum, located at 4700 Western Heritage Way, between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. It costs \$10 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors over 60, and \$4 for children ages 3-12. Free for Autry members and children under two. Admission is also free on the second Tuesday of every month. Information: theautry.org.

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Allied Artists Host Plein-Air Paint-Out

A plein-air paint-out will be held from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, July 9 at Palisades Park, 201 Ocean Avenue in Santa Monica. A painting demonstration will be held at 9 a.m. and a potluck at noon. Artists will meet at the north end of the park (intersection of San Vicente and Ocean Avenue across the street from 201 Ocean Towers). There are facilities and metered parking. All are welcome.

The Allied Artists of the Santa Monica Mountains and Seashore (AASMS) is an association of volunteer artists dedicated to preserving the beauty of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and Beaches through art. The group holds monthly paint-outs, painting demonstrations and art shows. A portion of all sales are donated to local conservation and environmental organizations.

Visit: allied-artists.com



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Holly Davis Leads the Rotarians

By LAUREL BUSBY
Staff Writer

Incoming Rotary Club President Holly Davis will head a group that is dedicated to service and loves to have fun.

Instead of an installation party for their new president, the Rotary Club of Pacific Palisades held a Demotion Party on June 25 to roast the outgoing presidents.

"Our Rotary Club is an irreverent and self-deprecating group," Davis said. "The party always includes a comedy skit poking fun at the outgoing president," and in this case four of the group's past presidents—Dick Meyer, Kevin Niles, Tom Welch and David Card—shared the president's duties.

The club's new president is a busy Coldwell Banker realtor and longtime Palisadian, who for several years has enjoyed the club's dedication to the local community.

At the weekly 7:15 a.m. breakfast meeting at Aldersgate Lodge, Davis said the 24 members conduct business, such as organizing their recent Texas Hold'em tournament, which earned about \$14,000 this year.

The group also orchestrated donations to the Palisades-Malibu YMCA, Boy Scouts, Access Books (a group that provides libraries for schools), the Village Green and the first talent show at Marquez Elementary. The club also supports the Interact Club, a Rotary Club at Palisades High, and this year provided \$6,000 in scholarships to nine Paul Revere and PaliHi students.

Free Movie Will Screen at Library

The Palisades Branch Library's monthly movie series will feature a movie with Tina Fey at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 14 in the community room, 861 Alma Real. The 2016 American biographical war comedy-drama film is based on the memoir *The Taliban Shuffle: Strange Days in Afghanistan and Pakistan* by Kim Barker. The movie, free to residents, is rated R and has a running time of 111 minutes.



Realtor Holly Davis will be the new Rotary Club president.

Photo: Lesly Hall

Every meeting features an "extremely interesting" guest speaker, such as a Miss California contestant who spoke recently about overcoming challenges and building strengths, Davis said. The breakfasts close with the Four-Way Test, a guide to considering one's actions before taking them. The test includes four questions: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

"The Four-Way Test is what we as Rotarians strive for in our lives and share in our community," Davis said.

To ready herself for her new position, Davis attended a three-day training session with other incoming presidents and learned more about the organization, which has 1.2 million members in 33,000 clubs across 200 countries. Rotary clubs "provide humanitarian service and help build goodwill and peace," Davis said.

Until the training, "I myself didn't realize how much we do—no one ever hears about it," Davis said. "My focus this year is to get more members, build the club and have the community be aware that we exist and what we do. I don't think the community realizes how much we do for the community, the kids and the schools."

Davis also gives her time to the Palisades Chamber of Commerce and enjoys working on various functions, such as last year's Foodie Fest and the Auto Expo. "Whatever they need, I'm always there," she said.

Chamber Executive Director Arnie Wishnick agreed, "We like Holly. She's a worker bee."

For more than 30 years, Davis has also worked for Coldwell Banker (and its predecessors Jon Douglas and Prudential Jon

Douglas), where she has been honored as one of the company's top 100 California realtors and part of its International President's Elite, which recognizes the top 4 percent of its agents worldwide.

Her path to becoming a realtor began in her birthplace, Mexico. As a child, she moved to Monterey Park, where her 94-year-old mother still lives and where Davis grew up in a Catholic family—the second of 10 children. In her 20s, after earning a degree in gerontology from Cal State L.A., she started to earn a master's degree, but then changed direction to work first at a small law firm before a relative trained her in real estate.

He taught her that "you do sales, leases, high-end, low-end, whatever," Davis said, and she still follows that advice in her residential property work. "Whatever people want me to do, I do," noted Davis, who with her late husband, Mike, had one son, Phillip, and now has two grandchildren, Drew and Sarah.

As a young woman, Davis moved to the Palisades, and she has treasured her career as a local realtor.

"I love the interaction with people and the excitement I see when they find the right house or when I get the right price for their house," Davis said. "I love seeing their joy."

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Chris Spitz Chairs Her Final Council Meeting

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

With hugs from Councilman Mike Bonin's Senior Field Deputy Sharon Shapiro and District Director Debbie Dyner Harris, Chris Spitz served her final meeting as president of the Pacific Palisades Community Council on June 23.

"Chris is lovely to work with," Harris told PPCC members, and Shapiro said to Spitz, "We'd like to give you this certificate on behalf of your invaluable contributions."

Janet Turner, on behalf of Congressman Ted Lieu, also recognized Chris and then thanked Jennifer Malaret, who is retiring after serving as secretary for three PPCC presidents (herself, Barbara Kohn and Spitz).

At the beginning of the meeting, Turner warned that some residents had received telephone calls from people purporting to be from the IRS. The resident is told that the IRS is going to sue and the person is told to call a number to get the case number.

Another resident said that he called the number back and the person who answered said he was going to be arrested unless he sent money.

"This is a scam," Turner said. "The IRS

never contacts people through telephone calls." She said if a resident gets a call, and can see the call-back number on his/her phone, he or she should go to TIGTA.gov and click on the right column (IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting).

There was an update on aircraft noise by Santa Monica Canyon resident Debbie Warfel, who said residents and Bonin had sent letters complaining about the increased noise to Representative Lieu and Senators Diane Feinstein and Barbara Boxer.

The FAA has denied that anything had changed. The LAX (Los Angeles World Airport) hired a consultant to do an independent study. It was released on June 8 and the report said nothing had changed.

Warfel said the Santa Monica Canyon Civic Association had hired an aviation lawyer and "we're waiting for a response." She also noted concerns about possible noise when the NextGen project goes into effect. NextGen will replace radar-based flight monitoring with global positioning satellites.

Dyner Harris said proposals for restrictions on short-term rentals came before the City Planning Commission on June 23. The recommendations will now go to the City Council's PLUM committee. The proposed rules would allow residents to rent out their



Community Council board members at the June 23 meeting included (left to right) Reza Akof (Area 8—Riviera), Peter Culhane (Area 2—Highlands), Richard Cohen (treasurer), Jennifer Malaret (secretary), Chris Spitz (outgoing president) and Maryam Zar (incoming president).

primary residence for up to 180 days annually. (PPCC had sent a motion urging a cap of 30 days.)

Those who rent out their homes would have to register with the city and collect the same kind of lodging taxes as hotels. Renting out a house or room for more days than the city allows could mean a fine of at least \$2,000 a day.

The PPCC also learned that Bonin is supporting its motion regarding opposition to the proposed zoning Code Amendment to modify single-family zone regulation. The Council's motion asked that Pacific Palisades not be included in the new code changes and that the Planning Department revise the BMO/BHO Code Amendment to carve out a special plan for the Palisades "in order to accommodate our community's particular needs and concerns."

Cheryl Zomber, representing Marquez Knolls Property Owners Association, questioned Shapiro and Dyner Harris about the status of a letter that Bonin said he would publish clarifying that not all Palisadians

were opposed to the amendments to the BHO.

Bonin's representatives said Tricia Keane was handling it, and Zomber should speak to her. Zomber said Keane had promised to send out a letter a week ago, but had not. She had tried repeatedly to reach Keane, but there had been no response.

Zomber told the Council that Marquez Knolls was not represented when a vote was taken by PPCC to oppose the Mansionization Ordinances and that the Community Council did not address MKPOA's concerns (see pages 6 and 8). No one from Area 3 was present when the motion was made by Reza Akof and passed by PPCC. An audience member questioned whether Akof, a developer and Area 8 Representative, had a conflict of interest in making the motion to allow larger homes.

Spitz said, "I don't need this controversy at this point. I just want to get through this meeting." She suggested that Zomber address the issue with the new president, Maryam Zar.

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If you haven't heard of Local Kitchen & Wine Bar you soon will, as this is a genuine find opened a few months ago by Maire Byrne, proprietor of Thyme Café and Market just down the street. The wine-beer-cocktail menu alone will entice you before you even look at the food menu with its listing of engaging dishes each beautifully flavored.

Local is the key word here. Wines are from California: the coastal region, to the Napa Valley, to "high valley" Lake Country, and more. The half dozen beers, too, are from various brewing companies. And the "craft" cocktails sound amazing, each with a different accent.

The setting is outdoor patio with wooden beams, a pleasing open feeling with heaters above for chilly weather, banquette seating and simple tables with a brown-paper table mat. Indoor seating has the same feel along with a bar.

And, happily, neighbors have discovered this Local Kitchen & Wine Bar, so that the restaurant is filled with happy diners of every age, from the young on a date to grandparents and groups from an office. My friend and I were surrounded by all three types!

First we were treated to tasty warm olive-oil bread with herbs and a delicious parmesan spuma (a light cream flavored with parmesan), quite perfect for dipping. Next were Monterey calamari with succulent capers, a preserved lemon, radish and chili bread crumb. These were both



from the "Share" menu, which also features a few salads such as baby tuscan kale with bagna cauda, olive-oil croutons, pear and fresh goat cheese. These shared offerings are priced from \$11 to \$15.

From the quintet of pastas (priced from \$15 to \$20) we tried the Pecorino malfatti with black truffle, black pepper, brown butter and sage. The pungent flavor of the Pecorino cheese and the black truffle gave this pasta great taste. Other pastas include an orecchiette (tiny disk-shaped pastas) with a tomato-fennel broth, prawns, bay scallops, calamari and herbs, as well as a risotto, and a pappardelle with prosciutto, veal Bolognese and parmesan.

The pizzas listed include one of my favorites, the simple Margherita flavored with mozzarella, tomato and basil. However, the idea of a pizza with clams sounded most fascinating, and it was. Small, tender littleneck clams flavored with garlic, tomato, bottarga and fresh little dandelion greens was delicious but far too much food for the moment. The pizzas are all in the \$14 to \$18 price range.

Main dishes included a grilled branzino (\$22), chicken under a brick (\$24), smoked duroc bone-in pork chop (\$26) and a prime braised short rib (\$30). The chicken under a brick was delicious. Barbecued with a balsamic-chile glaze with charred onions, chile and jus, this was outstanding (and once again too much so my friend enjoyed the rest for dinner the next day).

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles,
one letter to each square,
to form four ordinary words.

WEHYC

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HE WANTED HIS GLASSES TO BE UNLIKE ANYONE ELSE'S, SO HE HAD A PAIR -----

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.
"OOOOOO - OOOOO - OO" (Answers on Page 21)

Desserts consist of a variety of gelato, sorbetti and a smoked Meyer lemon granita, to a banana budino, chocolate hazelnut doughnuts, and our choice, chocolate crespelle with brooks cherries and aromatic tarragon. With the thin little crepes, chocolate and the cherries this made a delicious finish to our dinner.

A decaf French press coffee was perfect for me. As a note, you do not see French press coffee any more! Tea lovers will find eight to select from—and after-dinner drink lovers will find ports, scotch, whiskey and tequila.

Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and on Friday and Saturday until 10 p.m. On Sunday the restaurant is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

— GRACE HINEY

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