



A woman's body was found in the ocean near Porto Marina (north of Sunset) and pulled to the sand. A tent was set up on the beach to protect the privacy of the deceased, while the coroner conducted a preliminary investigation.

Woman's Body Found on Beach

A surfer discovered a woman's body floating in the ocean near Porto Marina and Pacific Coast Highway before 9 a.m. on January 13. The body was about 100 yards out in the water and he pulled it to shore, then called 911.

Palisades Patrol responded, along with Los Angeles police, and the L.A. County Coroner arrived at 1 p.m.

The woman was described as young and possibly Hispanic. There were no visible signs of trauma. She was wearing black Puma sneakers, dark jeans and a gray t-shirt. The deceased carried no identification.

On Nextdoor Palisades, Daniel Pauer had a noon posting: "Just spoke to Officer Miller, who was looking for any information seeing or hearing suspicious happenings between 2 and 8 a.m. in the area. Woman didn't appear to be homeless. Include No. 1282, if you have any information."

The *News* tried to speak to oLAPD detectives, but the coroner, who declined to give her name, shouted that there would be no press on the beach, even though there were onlookers present.

Golden Bull to Remain Neighborhood Eatery

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated," Mark Twain quipped when he learned a major newspaper had printed his obituary.

After a visit to the Golden Bull, whose January 1 closing was widely feared as the death of a popular neighborhood restaurant, the *News* instead describes it in Fats Waller's words: "This joint is jumping, this joint is really jumping."

The Golden Bull closed January 1, with a promise to reopen under new ownership on January 11—and it did.

So the *News* visited the Santa Monica Canyon eatery last week, joining friends and neighbors who were stopping by for drinks in the early evening. The kitchen

crew was serving a limited menu, and three bartenders were on hand to keep patrons happy, especially those who have long savored the Bull's old-fashioned cocktails.

"We've been looking at this spot for years," said Pacific Palisades resident Chase Ahders, one of four men who have taken over the lease on the W. Channel Rd. restaurant.

He explained that Don Cranford, the Golden Bull's owner for more than 40 years, had been approached by several investment groups who wanted to come in, make extensive renovations and change the name.

But Ahders, Palisadians Luke Tabit and Mark Verge, and Santa Monica resident Eddie Silkaitis wanted to keep it basically the same, a neighborhood restaurant.

The ownership group also has Margo's and Art's Table, both on Montana, and Ashland Hill on Main Street in Santa Monica and

manages Cole's French Dip (the landmark saloon known for French-dip sandwiches and classic cocktails in Downtown L.A.). Cole's was Verge's first venture and was focused on preserving the restaurant's vibe, including historic cocktails and the classic sandwich.

"This whole place needed some love," Ahders said about the Golden Bull, which opened in 1949. "We wanted to keep it 'old school' comfortable."

The quick overhaul included scouring the kitchen and installing new equipment. In addition, rotted shelving behind the bar was taken out and the area backlit, providing a more open feel. Same bar, only better.

On this winter night, the beloved fireplace was going, providing an intimate, warm setting.

For the next three to five weeks, only the
(Continued on Page 9)



Bartender Daniel Baker keeps the drinks flowing at the Golden Bull.

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Marguleas Donation Helps Village Green

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

Everyone in Pacific Palisades has met friends at the Village Green, let their children play by the fountain, waited for a Metro or Big Blue bus or just driven by the little triangular park at Sunset, Swarthmore and Antioch.

Many praise the City of L.A. for the wonderful upkeep of the carefully landscaped pocket park.

But those kudos are misdirected, because the private park is maintained and financed by a committee of Pacific Palisades residents. About \$12,000 is needed annually to cover the gardener, the DWP bill, liability insurance, lawn care, tree trimming and maintenance on the benches, fountain and lights.

On January 5, realtor Anthony Marguleas, owner of Amalfi Estates on Monument, gave a check for \$5,000 to help defray costs and support the Village Green Committee.

The park was originally designed by the Olmsted Brothers in 1923, a year after Pacific Palisades was founded.

Beginning in 1857 with the design for Central Park in New York City, Frederick Law Olmsted, his sons and successor created designs for more than 6,000 landscapes across North America, including many of the world's most important parks.

The Olmsted Brothers also co-authored, with Harland Bartholomew, a 1930 report for the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce entitled "Parks, Playgrounds, and Beaches for the Los Angeles Region," which encouraged the preservation of outdoor public space in southern California.

According to historical records, the report was largely ignored by L.A. City officials, but eventually became an important urban planning reference.

The City eventually leased the Village Green property to Standard Oil and the park was converted to a gas station in 1945.

Palisades residents dreamed of having



Members of the Village Green committee (left to right) Arnie Wishnick, Bob Gold, Grace Hiney, Sue Haldeman, Marge Gold and Joan Graves (seated) accept a check from Anthony Marguleas.

Photo: Bart Bartholomew

their park restored in the heart of town and in 1968 contacted the oil company, which had a lease through 1972.

Standard Oil did not renew its lease and the fledgling Pacific Palisades Community Council established a Village Green Committee (Robert McMillin, Margaret Wylie, Wally Miller, Robert Abernethy and Arvin "Pete" Ahrens). A lease was signed giving the Committee an option to buy the land if funds could be raised.

The fundraiser kickoff was October 1, 1972, and in three months \$70,000 was raised, of which \$46,000 was used to purchase the land and remainder was for the architect and design. The Green was formally dedicated on August 17, 1973.

Initially, the Committee planned to give the Green to the City, but eventually it was decided that ownership would be maintained

by the Village Green Committee, which is managed by a volunteer board of directors.

Hence, the importance of charitable donations.

Joan Graves, a longtime committee member, is the Village Green president this year.

"I believe the Village Green is more important now than ever," said Graves, whose late husband was actor Peter Graves. "We represent the link between the old and the new Palisades and are an example of what a community can do when the citizens work together. We would not be able to maintain the Green without financial help and we are so grateful to Anthony for his generosity over the last five years!!"

Volunteers meet once a month to tidy the park. "We had an amazing volunteer, John Steadman, who built a new storage shed, so our supplies are now there," VG Secretary Marge Gold said.

She noted that in addition to Marguleas' donation, grants have been received from the Woman's Club, the Optimist Club and the American Legion. "In the past Rotary has been a donor and also the Masons." Neither PRIDE, nor the Community Council, have donated to the park.

"As always, Anthony's check was extremely welcomed and appreciated," Gold said. "Even though Palisadians have been generous in supporting us, I told him it would be a lot harder to maintain the Green if it weren't for him. And that's the truth."

Marguleas is not comfortable being singled out. "It is not just the act of giving money, but also of good deeds," he said. "Ever since my four kids were younger (they are now 20, 19 and his twins are 16), I remind them 'to make a difference in the world' and to help someone."

A resident since 1992, Marguleas used to give 100 percent of his commission from two home sales to local causes every year. Now he gives 10 percent of his net proceeds from each sale to a charity of his client's choice.

In 2012, Marguleas "saved" the Fourth of July parade committee by donating \$43,000. A year later, he asked former *Palisadian-Post* editor Bill Bruns to recommend another worthy nonprofit organization in the community, but one that could benefit from a smaller donation.

Bruns suggested the Village Green, and when Marguleas made his initial donation, Bruns told the *News*: "Gathering support for our local groups is a huge problem in this town. We have numerous active retirees keeping so many organizations going, but they need financial support from younger professional people. Anthony sets a great example."

To help the committee build a "rainy day" fund, donations can be sent by mail (Palisades Village Green, P.O. Box 14, Pacific Palisades 90272) or by PayPal or credit card by going to palisadesvillagegreen.org and click on Contact Us.



This historic photo shows what the island looked like before the Village Green.



The Village Green today.

Photo: Bart Bartholomew

L.A. Residents Paying Santa Monica Taxes

Retail stores are closing as more and more people order online, and items are shipped to homes. According to the Commerce Department, third-quarter retail e-commerce sales increased four percent to \$107 billion, compared with the same period a year ago.

When an item is shipped to your home or if you buy a car, you pay tax according to where you live, which is determined by your zip code.

Santa Monica Canyon resident George Wolfberg discovered that even though he lives in Los Angeles and should have been paying a 9.5 percent City tax on shipped items, he was actually paying 10.5 percent Santa Monica taxes, thanks to his 90402 zip code.

Wolfberg wrote to Councilman Mike Bonin on December 4 and noted: "Our house is in a canyon of 900 or so houses that are within the City of L.A., but our post office, since the flood in 1938, is in Santa Monica. I, along with my neighbors, am increasingly shopping online.

"I recently noticed that I am being charged the Santa Monica rate instead of the Los Angeles rate. This means two things: 1.) I, and surely my neighbors, are getting screwed by one percent on online purchases and 2.)

Worse yet, the City of Santa Monica is eating L.A.'s sales tax lunch as they obviously get L.A.'s share in this bumbling affair."

On December 5, Councilman Bonin promised he would ask his staff to prepare a motion and determine how widespread the problem was—for example, are there people in Del Rey who might have a Culver City zip code? He also promised to look at ways to fix the situation.

At the Santa Monica Canyon Civic Association meeting on January 9, Wolfberg announced that Bonin was prepared to make a motion to the City Council. However, after the meeting, Wolfberg received an email stating that "the motion is still in draft."

If you have a question about what taxes you should be paying on retail purchases, visit the California State Board of Equalization website and enter your address to find a sales and use tax rate.

The *News* fed in Wolfberg's Los Angeles address and, sure enough, the only address that came up was in Santa Monica.

So, if you're one of 900 people who live in Los Angeles in the 90402 zip code and order online or try to buy a car in the Valley, most likely you will pay the 10.5 percent sales tax—and that tax money will go to Santa Monica.

—SUE PASCOE



Skip-Loader Stolen in Marquez

Steve Hart, who lives in the Marquez area, reported a skip-loader was stolen on his street around 8:30 a.m. on January 4.

"A large heavy-duty GM white pickup and heavy-duty black trailer pulled up to the construction site," Hart said, noting that he actually witnessed the event from his kitchen window. "I thought it nothing out of the ordinary, considering the frequent movement of this equipment."

The owner later told him that the perpetrators had cut the locks and chains on the fence and simply stolen it. Hart said the

owner called the LAPD to file a report, but that the police never came to the site.

"Anyway, I guess we should all just be mindful that this criminal activity is going on in our very own neighborhood and wanted to make you aware," Hart wrote in an email to several people in his neighborhood.

The *News* believes this is an important message for all neighborhoods: be aware and be vigilant.

A 2007 CTL 60 GEHL used skid steer, like the one pictured, was posted for sale on the Internet ranging in price from \$21,000 to \$28,000.

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Severely Mentally Ill Homeless: What to Do?

The Pacific Palisades Task Force on Homelessness will host a community meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, January 29, to discuss the “Severely Mentally Ill Homeless People Who Refuse Help—What to Do?” at the Palisades Library community room, 861 Alma Real Dr.

Civil liberty values and laws narrowly defining “gravely disabled” have restricted the ability of social services and law enforcement to involuntarily commit a homeless person for psychiatric treatment.

There is now a discussion about the need to change ways of approaching this problem in order to address the numbers of mentally ill people living unattended and in failing health on streets.

Brittney Weissman, Executive Director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness L.A. City Council and Dr. Emily DeFraithe of the Veterans Health Administration will discuss their perspectives with “how to balance an individual’s civil liberties with the care they need to achieve a level of health that enables them to live safely with themselves and others.” Visit: pacpalihft@gmail.com

Oops!

In the January 3 story about Revere’s *Town Crier*, Eric Wechsler was identified as an eighth grade teacher. He teaches seventh grade.

Decrease in Transients

At the Santa Monica Canyon Civic Association meeting on January 9, Pacific Palisades Task Force enforcement chair Sharon Kilbride said that when the task force started two years ago, in addition to a large number of homeless who were passing through, there were about 57 service-resistant homeless living here permanently. Now the number of transient “residents,” has been reduced to about six.

One of the women, who has been here for more than a decade, has been sleeping overnight near the library front door. She uses the handwipes by Ralph’s front door to clean her face and hands. When not looking for cans and bottles, she also sometimes is seen resting inside the library when it is open.

A new sign has been posted that prohibits loitering or sleeping outside the library at night.

LAPD Officer John “Rusty” Redican cited the woman, and then a PPTFH social worker and a nurse spoke to her. The plan is to eventually try to convince her to take housing.

Clyde, a service-resistant individual, has been living under Gladstone’s for 12 years. He was being monitored by PPTFH for the past six months and his health was deteriorating. He was placed in the hospital under a medical hold on December 21. The outreach team plans to follow up with him

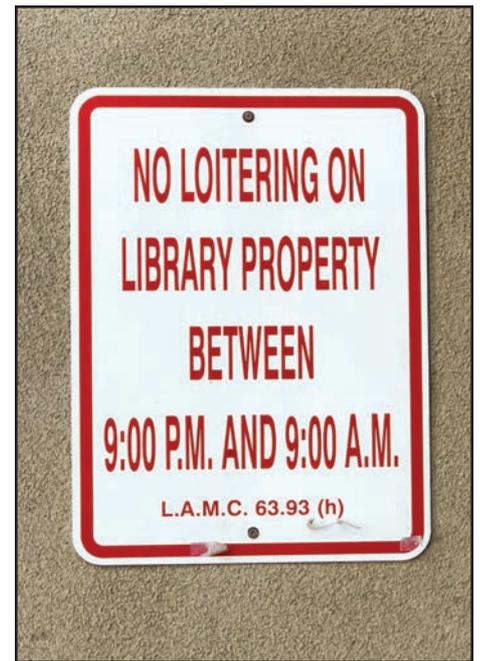
with housing once he is well.

Clyde was initially brought to the attention of the task force because of complaints from Gladstone’s and beach goers.

The number of new transients coming to Pacific Palisades, especially those who stop in the Village or near Vons and Gladstones, has gone down over the past few weeks. Interestingly, this coincides with a change in a bus route.

“The 2-302 Metro Bus that came from Koreatown to Sunset and PCH brought many of our homeless to the area,” Kilbride said, noting that the line now ends at Veteran and LeConte, where bus riders must exit. “Our numbers of homeless folks coming into our city has dropped since this change occurred about three weeks ago.”

Kilbride said there had been an increase in those living in their cars and RVs along the beach.



Finally, Timmy was taken by an ambulance to UCLA on January 11. He is currently on medical hold.

Volunteers Needed for Homeless Count

Pacific Palisades Task Force on Homelessness board members Kim Clary and David Morena wrote in a January 2 email to the *News*: “It is that time of year again; time for us to count the homeless in Pacific Palisades. This year the count will take place on Thursday, January 25, at 5 a.m.”

Volunteers will meet in Mercer Hall at Palisades Charter High School to receive their field assignments. Visit: theycountwillyou.org.

Questions? Contact kimjdave@msn.com or call (310) 230-8041 or (310) 699-0282.



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4 BEDS | 3.5 BATH
3,487 SQ. FT. | 4,928 SQ. FT. LOT



3534 SHOREHEIGHTS DRIVE
MALIBU | \$3,595,000
4 BEDS | 4 BATH
2,061 SQ. FT. | 8,898 SQ. FT. LOT



1424 CALLE DEL JONELLA
PACIFIC PALISADES | \$3,159,000
5 BEDS | 6 BATH
5,589 SQ. FT. | 29,146 SQ. FT. LOT

Heard About Town

Second-Hand Smoke

I am in the back of my house at my desk, and I smell pot. I walk to the front of my house, go outside, and sure enough I see kids smoking pot on the bluff. It permeates the entire neighborhood. What can I do? I am breathing in their second-hand smoke! And I'm worried about the fire danger of smoking near the bluffs.

Nix the Coffee Pods?

I read that it takes 500 years for one coffee pod to be broken down. Even though it's trendy to make one little cup at a time, maybe it's better environmentally to use the beans or grounds, rather than those little pods.

Abandoned Police Cars

Abandoned police cars have been placed around town for years; there's now one on Sunset at Temescal Canyon Road. If the LAPD thinks this will help deter crime, the car's grime is a dead giveaway that no one is actually sitting inside. Here's a better idea: more police officers roaming our area.

Hysterically Funny Bonin

In your editorial ("Fix the Streets: Money Is There," January 3) you gave a link for the City Council budget hearing. When I clicked on Street Services, I heard an impassioned plea from Mitch Englander about spending money on L.A. roads. Just I was about to turn it off [Councilman Mike] Bonin came on—he was so funny, it was almost a *Saturday Night Live* parody.

(Editor's Note: The video can be viewed at: lacity.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=18&clip_id=16882, click on Street Services.)

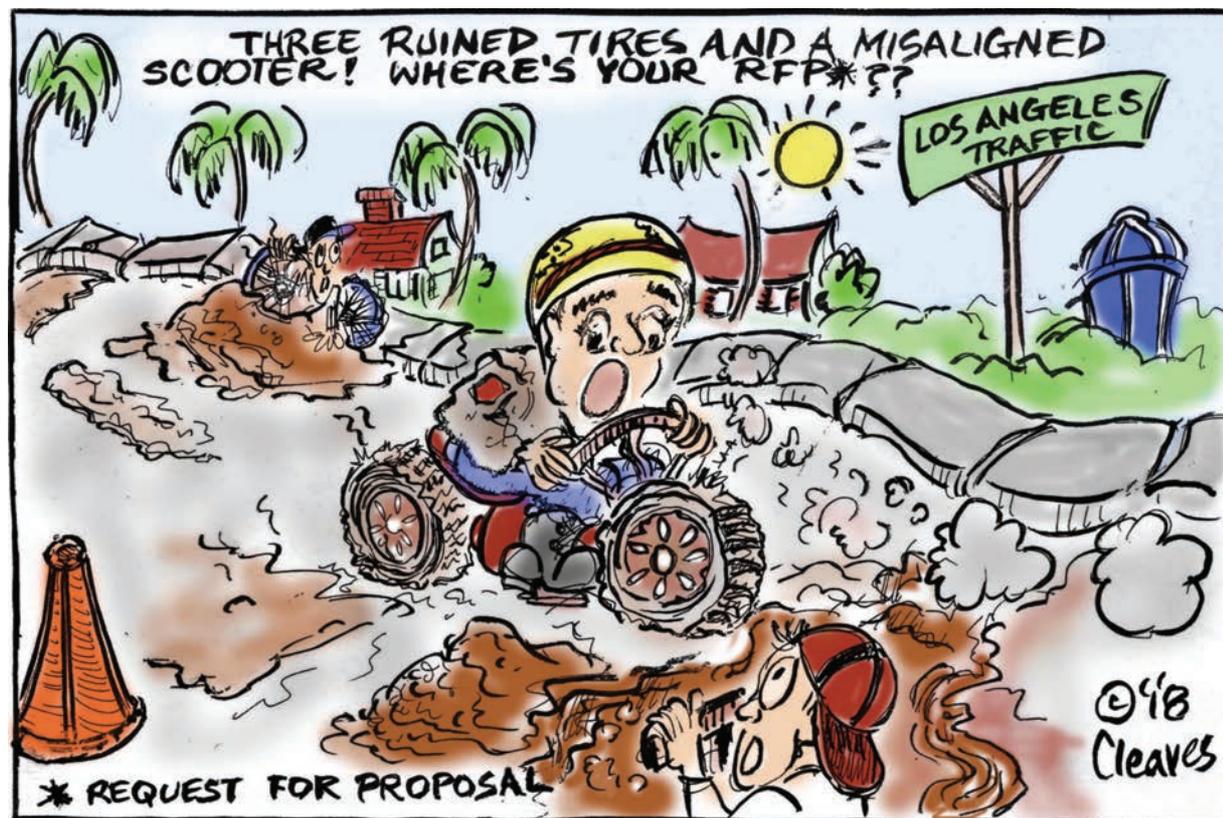
American Legion Largesse

I was told that the American Legion makes almost \$2 million annually off its CVS and post-office leases. It sure would be nice if they gave some of it back to the community, since that's where their money is coming from. But since your paper is associated with the Legion, I bet you won't print this.

(Editor's note: The Palisades News is not associated with American Legion Post 283. When he was Legion Commander, Scott Wagenseller launched Post 283 News as a newspaper-style newsletter. In November 2014, he founded the Palisades News as a separate business venture. The American Legion has been generous over the years, making annual donations to every public school, handing out college scholarships and supporting various local organizations. Last year, the Legion donated \$35,000 to the Fourth of July parade committee.)

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

ANN CLEAVES



VIEWPOINT

Absorbing the Loss of a Son

By BARBARA GOULD
Special to the Palisades News

Welcome to 2018. It is a time to review events of the prior year, and I hope some events can improve in the New Year.

Clearly, one of the biggest problems in 2017 was mass shootings: the carnage in Las Vegas, the church killings in Sutherland Springs, Texas. There were also nine school shootings that left 15 dead and 18 injured. It's impossible to understand the reasoning the shooters had. But why would someone shoot at young children? I don't know how a parent copes with the loss of a child. But I'm about to find out—my 52-year-old son Russell had a massive heart attack and died in early December.

As the rabbi said at Russell's funeral, the family is complicated. That was a nice way of saying what everyone in the chapel knew. My son had been estranged from us for 14 years. The last time I saw my grandsons were when they were one and three. They are now almost 16 and 18, and the older one towers over me at 6' 1".

I don't know why Russell stopped communicating with us. I don't know what I did that made him feel as if he could no longer talk to me. I try to think of what might have caused it, but I have no idea.

I tried to get him to talk about it for several years, but to no avail. To this day I don't know the problem, and now I won't know. I'm sorry that he was out of my life, because I loved him and never stopped loving him.

While trying to figure out how to cope with

my son's death, I decided not to dwell on the hard times of the past 14 years. Instead I am focusing on the good ones.

Growing up, Russell did a number of things to help others. He was a Boy Scout and joined the 5 percent of Scouts who reached the rank of Eagle. He served as such a good example that his two younger brothers had no choice but to follow suit.

He was a member of our temple's teen group. It was not just social, but they would do things such as visiting the senior center and serving meals to the homeless. He also became a Mason and served as Master of the Lodge. His brother-in-law spoke at the funeral and talked about how Russell was such a good family man. Family was very important to him. My husband and I emphasized the importance of family as Russell was growing up, and I'm glad that he made a priority with his family.

There's an old expression that fits what I'm going through. Take a negative and turn it into a positive—when given lemons, make lemonade.

I will now get to have a relationship with my grandsons and their mother, Lois. I asked her how I could keep in touch with Ryan and Bailey. She said "by text" and gave me all their cell numbers.

Texting isn't my forte, but I've already sent each one a message, albeit a short one. Both of the boys have replied, with Ryan asking if we can meet for lunch before he goes back to school in Colorado.

As I mourn my son, I have a chance to embrace my daughter-in-law and my grandsons. I have hope for the future.

Thought to Ponder

"My religion is very simple.
My religion is kindness."

— Dalai Lama

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(310) 401-7690
www.PalisadesNews.com

Owner

Wagenseller Publishing

Publisher

Scott Wagenseller
swag@palisadesnews.com

Editor

Sue Pascoe
spascoe@palisadesnews.com

Graphics Director

Manfred Hofer

Digital Media Editor

Matt Sanderson

Advertising

Luke Fair
lukefair@mac.com
Grace Hiney
gghiney@gmail.com

Advisor

Bill Bruns

Contributing Writers

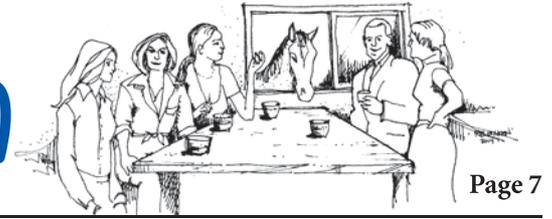
Laura Abruscato, Laurel Busby,
Libby Motika, Laurie Rosenthal,
Sarah Stockman

Contributing Photographers

Wendy Price Anderson, Lesly Hall,
Bart Bartholomew

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EDITORIAL

Marijuana: The Feds and the Research

In November 2016, voters approved Proposition 64, which made California the most populous state in the nation to legalize the recreational use of marijuana.

This initiative allows Californians who are 21 and older to possess, transport and buy up to 28.5 grams of marijuana for recreational purposes. It is illegal to smoke marijuana in public and at locations where tobacco use is prohibited, including theaters and restaurants.

The approval implemented a five-year, \$15-million study by the California Highway Patrol to develop standards and protocols for determining when a marijuana user is too impaired to safely drive a vehicle.

The passage of the law also gave the state until January 1, 2018 to begin issuing sales licenses to retailers.

Four states—Colorado, Washington, Oregon and Alaska—had previously legalized recreational pot.

But Attorney General Jeff Sessions said on January 4 that it was up to Congress to change the classification of marijuana as an illegal drug if it didn't want the Department of Justice to enforce the law against it.

"It's not so much the attorney general's job to decide what laws to enforce," Sessions said. He is now being blasted for not following the Cole memo written by President Obama's Deputy Attorney General James Cole, which allowed states to legalize marijuana without federal intervention.

What does this all mean? Simply, there is a conflict between state and federal law. Federal law trumps state law under the Constitution's Supremacy Clause, except on core state powers. The Supreme Court ruled in *Gonzales v.*

Raich (2005) that the federal government can prosecute marijuana offenses under the Commerce clause.

Since it seems the majority of Americans support legalizing marijuana, the U.S. Congress should lead the charge in decriminalizing pot nationwide. Simple.

The second part of this equation is whether there are or will be increased problems with the legalization of pot and youth. According to a *Wall Street Journal* editorial ("Jeff Sessions' Marijuana Candor," January 6-7), "Colorado has the highest rate of first-time youth marijuana use in the county. Alaska and Oregon ranked third and seventh after they legalized in 2014."

The *Journal* alleged that "A police report in Oregon revealed that 70 percent of marijuana sales in 2016 occurred on the black market, and up to 900 tons more cannabis is produced than consumed in the state. Mexican cartels have moved into Alaska."

According to an October 2016 story in the *Washington Post* ("Here's How Legal Pot Changed Colorado and Washington"), teen marijuana use is unchanged.

The Atlantic's June 2017 story, "The Surprising Effect of Marijuana Legalization on College Students," reported that "A new study in the journal *Addiction* finds that, after legalization, the use of marijuana among students at an Oregon college increased relative to that of students in states where the drug is still illegal. But, in a twist, the rise was mainly seen among those students who had also reported drinking heavily recently."

Yet a May 2017 story in *HealthDay* reported: "The

number of teens diagnosed annually with marijuana intoxication or testing positive for pot during a drug screen at Children's Hospital Colorado rose from 146 in 2005 to 639 in 2014.

"The findings run counter to national surveys that have shown no increase in teenage pot use in states where recreational marijuana is legal," said lead researcher Dr. George Sam Wang. He's an assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

The *News* checked with the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). The report notes that 38 percent of high school students have used pot; that teen brains are still developing and often will not be developed until the mid-20s. There is a worry that use during this period may harm the teen brain. Negative effects include difficulty thinking and problem solving, problems with memory, impaired coordination and difficulty maintaining attention.

There is also a rise in women using pot during pregnancy to help counter nausea. Bad idea, according to the NIDA. "The chemicals in marijuana (tetrahydrocannabinol) may pass through your system to the baby and can negatively affect the baby's development." (And marijuana can be passed to a baby through breast milk.)

Our recommendations: get your U.S. Representatives and Senators to change the law; and keep pot away from kids and pregnant women. Don't smoke it in public places—no one wants second-hand smoke—and don't eat edibles and drive.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Appropriate Use of Social Media

In our society today, there are numerous social or private network platforms: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Nextdoor to name a few.

These tools, called social or private media, are used to disseminate information, encourage people to connect online and share information with others via the Internet.

Despairingly, the private network, Nextdoor Palisades, is often not used as it was intended. According to the content owners of Nextdoor: "It's the easiest way for you and your neighbors to talk online and make all of your lives better in the real world."

While it should be a source for sharing neighborhood news, accidents, police activity or other relevant information, Nextdoor is often the platform for bullying, pontificating or berating an issue or an individual.

Because of this, I read Nextdoor posts sparingly (there is an option to receive all or limited emails under profile settings). Nonetheless, Nextdoor does serve an important purpose: to inform neighbors.

Case in point, during the first storm of 2018 (January 8-9), numerous neighbors used the platform to inform fellow residents that they either lost and/or found trash bins. It seems most bins were recovered.

Fortunately, we did not endure what our neighbors in Montecito are still overcoming and will for months to come.

Nonetheless, let this be a positive message that Nextdoor is a powerful tool that should be used for its true intent.

Christy Dennis

Why No Public Hearing?

The movie theater in the Caruso project just received a liquor license with no public hearing.

The L.A. Planning Department told me: "The Cineopolis is located within the Palisades Commercial Village and Neighborhood Specific Plan. This plan was updated as part of a City Planning Commission case, and incorporated conditions for the regulation of alcohol beginning on page 11.

"Per the Specific Plan, one approval for on-site consumption of alcohol within a theater is permitted. Section 5 states that at the discretion of City Planning, a public hearing can be held if controversy is indicated. However, for this particular establishment no controversy came to our attention, and the Director's Determination letter (for PA 2) was issued on January 9th."

Actually, several letters requesting a public hearing on this specific application were, in fact, submitted to the Planning Department BEFORE the issuance of the Director's Determination letter. This should have been qualified as "controversy."

The letters that were submitted in early January pointed out that the theater is within 20 feet of the condos next door and within 100 feet of single-family homes across the street, which meets the criteria for an appeal with the ABC (state liquor control board).

On March 31, 2016, petitions were submitted to City Planning objecting to a liquor license at the movie theater. Even though the petitions and prior objections are in the file, there was no acknowledgement of the proximity to homes or the objections by the neighbors in the Director's Determination letter.

At this point, the only way the public will be able to voice their opinions is to appeal the Director's Determination letter, which then will be followed by a hearing with the West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission.

I certainly think the Community Council should weigh in on this issue. It may be that the theater should get a liquor license, but our community should be involved in that decision without having to demonstrate an undefined "controversy" where there already clearly is a controversy.

Sandy Eddy

Excited about Caruso's Project

I am so incredible excited for the coming restaurants in the new village. So many of my friends and fellow moms are so looking forward to having a place to walk with our kids, grab a bite to eat, an ice cream, or a cup of coffee and watch our kids enjoy the new park or meander through the new village streets. The village will be what we the community make of it. It is new life!

Jennifer Anderson-Smith

Kelly Comras

Kelly Comras, an award-winning landscape architect and a member of the State Bar of California, has become a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Comras was the first staff landscape architect for the National Park Service in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. While there, she developed an intense interest in park design and public land use that has continued to influence her work. She taught park planning and design at UCLA, receiving multiple awards for her project-based courses, and won a national ASLA award for her landscape design for Franklin Canyon.

Since 1986, Comras's private practice has focused on community-based open space design, whereby she brings together stakeholders to achieve a common goal that relates to the study or use of land.

Her projects have included collaboration on a National Endowment for the Arts grant-funded study of historic gardens for the City of Pasadena; the stairways of Castellammare, a study funded by the J. Paul Getty Trust; and a dune restoration project at Will Rogers State Beach.

Comras also conducts research, publishes



Kelly Comras

and lectures on topics relating to mid-century landscape design. Her latest book, the biography *Ruth Shellhorn*, was published by University of Georgia Press.

In addition to serving on the Palisades Design Review Board, Comras is an alternate Area Representative on the Community Council. She and her husband, Mike Lofchie, a political science professor at UCLA since 1964, have lived in Pacific Palisades for 31 years. Their son, Hudson, 27, a graduate of UC Davis, is Senior Manager, Client Operations, for Tray, located in Santa Monica.

Robert Weber

Robert D. Weber has joined the Century City office of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP as a partner in the firm's Business Trial practice group.

Weber, the 2014 Citizen of the Year in Pacific Palisades, joins from DLA Piper.

He brings a broad securities litigation practice, representing clients in a diverse array of matters including securities class actions, shareholder derivative actions, proceedings initiated by the Securities and Exchange Commission and other regulatory authorities, internal corporate investigations, arbitrations and other complex commercial litigation. He also regularly advises public companies regarding corporate governance and disclosure issues.

Weber's practice includes international work with a significant focus on Chinese and other Asian clients involved in U.S. litigation, internal investigations and SEC enforcement actions. His recent victories in securities matters include wins on motions to dismiss for AudioEye, Inc., MDB Capital Group, New Energy Systems Group and Miller Energy Resources.

After graduating from the University of Illinois in 1989, Weber received a J.D. from



Robert Weber

Chicago-Kent College of Law. He and his wife, Karyn, moved to the Palisades in 2001; they have two children, Tamar and Josh.

Weber, a former drummer with the champion Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps in the Chicago area, joined the Palisades Americanism Parade Association and served three times as parade president.

When the Community Council honored him as Citizen of the Year, it noted his "successful efforts to increase the scope and visibility" of the parade, the Palisades Rocks the Fourth concert and the fireworks show.

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The Palisades Dentists



Dr. Carly LeVine Dr. Cerisa Moncayo

Golden Bull

(Continued from Page 1)

bar area of the Golden Bull will be open, as the dining room is the next area to be “fixed.” The façade, booths and lighting will be refreshed and upgraded, and the idea is to carry the same intimate, cozy feel of the bar into the dining room.

Currently, the booths by the bar are available and there’s a limited menu, including burgers, pasta, steak and salads.

“We have the early-bird special,” Ahders said, explaining that every item on the menu is half-price from 5 to 6:30 p.m. “This gives people who are concerned about prices an option.”

Ahders, who has four children, predicts that a second group of people will come in between 7 and 9 p.m.—those in their 30s and 40s with kids.

He said there will be a kid’s menu, and different foods will be tested to see what stays. “If the kids want pancakes all the time, there will be pancakes on the menu.”

After the families leave, he thinks the Golden Bull will attract a third group of people, the “go by” crowd, meaning that it is place for neighbors to “go by” before heading home.

The owners plan to cater to the neighborhood with the Golden Bull’s menu. “We’ll have specials just to try things out,” Ahders said. “In order to have a neighborhood hangout, we need to know what the neighbors want.”

He explained that the former staff was invited to interview to stay at the Golden Bull. But some had worked there for decades and saw this as way to retire. Others, because there will be no need for dining-room waiters for at least another month, decided they didn’t want to be without work. Ahders noted that kitchen workers had been hired back, including a busboy and a cook.

The plan is that the Golden Bull will remain a neighborhood restaurant where “we know you and you know us,” Ahders said. “It will be fun. This will be the kind of place where we want to hang out.”

The new general manager will be Michael Christopher.

RESTAURANT UPDATES:

Sam’s by the Beach, 108 West Channel Rd., is closed and has been purchased by The h.wood Group. This group manages the adjacent SHOREbar, which is owned by Mark Verge. The h.wood owners, John Terzian and Brian Toll, also have Delilah, The Peppermint Club, Poppy and Bootsy Bellows in West Hollywood.

Kay ‘n’ Dave’s, at Sunset and Antioch, which was closed by a kitchen fire in October 2016, has still not reopened. The eatery has received a full-liquor license and the interior has been repaired, remodeled and painted.

Tivoli Café, 15306 Sunset Blvd., closed on November 26. At the time, owner Sohail Fatoorechi said he planned to be closed into spring as he updates the restaurant in the face of competition posed by Caruso’s Palisades Village later this year.



The sign in the Roast window.

Roast, 548 Palisades Dr., posted a sign in its window that it would be closed in January for vacation, and would reopen with a new menu in February.

BUSINESS UPDATES:

Altour Travel, 15309 Antioch St., moved from the historic Business Block in early November, and the large space remains vacant.

Palisades Hi-Tech, 970 Monument St., closed in January. (The large storefront across from Hi-Tech has been empty for years.)

The storefront at 871 Via de la Paz, occupied by **Beckwith Insurance** for many years, is empty—as is Ted’s bicycle shop, directly behind it.

The former **Denton Jeweler** store, which

is supposed to be replaced by Banc of California, remains empty.

The former **UDO Realty** storefront between Garden Café and Seven Arrows is empty, and the space above **Wells Fargo Bank** is empty.

Juicy Ladies wrote in an April 1, 2016 Facebook post: “Pacific Palisades here we come!!!” Located at Castellammare Drive and Sunset, the space would offer a smoothie and juice bar. Last month, the owners posted that they were looking for juicers, cashiers and cooks for their Woodland Hills and Pacific Palisades locations.

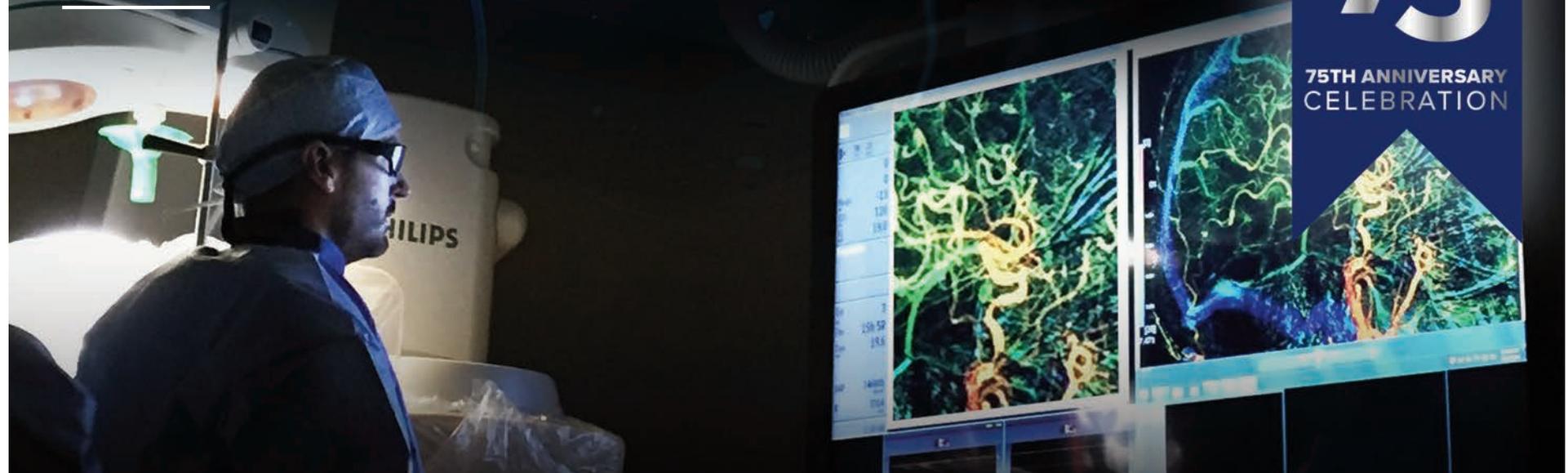
When Keller Williams opened an office at 845 Via de la Paz last June, plans for an adjacent coffee shop/café, **Estate Coffee**, were announced. It has yet to open.

Dog Park Plans Are Underway

The Pacific Palisades Dog Park working group will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 7, in the small gym at the Palisades Recreation Center, 851 Alma Real Dr.

The public is invited to learn more about the proposed dog park sites located on the east side of Temescal Canyon Road, north of PCH. Members of the Dog Park group will present an assessment of sites, share plans, answer questions and address comments.

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Claudia Harrington Kallmeyer, 60; Author, Mom

Claudia Harrington Kallmeyer, a realtor and children's book author, passed away on January 2 at her home in Pacific Palisades. She was 60.

Born October 14, 1957 in Chicago, Claudia grew up in West Simsbury, Connecticut, the daughter of Patricia Phoenix Harrington and William R. Harrington.

She began her writing career in kindergarten with a poem called "Scab On Her Head." She discovered her love for children's books while attending college at Northwestern, when she took an elective course on children's literature.

After graduating in 1979 with a B.A. in communications and a concentration in theater, Claudia moved to Los Angeles in 1981 to pursue acting. "I got a fair amount of work, specializing in nurses and pregnant women, but eventually wanted something else," she said.

In a 1983 production of the comedy *Goodbye My Fancy*, Claudia's fellow actor Ken Kallmeyer took a ski to the face in a slapstick routine that went hilariously wrong. Claudia took pity on him, bringing him an ice pack during intermission. They were married two years later.

Once she had children of her own, Claudia's love of children's books was rekindled. She discovered the Society for Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) and served as a volunteer for more than a decade. She was a Regional Advisor Emeritus for



Claudia Harrington Kallmeyer

the Los Angeles chapter.

Her poem "Coming Unscrewed" was included in Philomel's anthology *I Invited A Dragon To Dinner & Other Poems To Make You Laugh Out Loud* (a Children's Book Council Best Pick).

Claudia's twelve *My Family* picture book titles celebrating family diversity was launched in 2015 by Magic Wagon, a division of Abdo Publishing. The series details different family lifestyles, through Claudia's books *My Mom and Dad*, *My Two Moms*, *My Two Dads*, *My Two Homes*, *My Grandparents* and *My Military Mom*.

Claudia's crack-you-up early reader series, *Hank the Pet Sitter*, debuted at the end of 2016 with four titles, with another

four currently being illustrated and due to publish this year.

About her books, Claudia told the *News*: "While the books aren't based on my childhood, there are certainly bits and pieces that found their way in. For instance, Otis is a lot like my childhood dog, and we had some family friends whose sheep wandered into their house all the time."

When she wasn't writing, Harrington was a realtor with Sotheby's in the Palisades, selling homes with her business partner Annika MacPherson.

She is survived by her husband Ken and three children, Tess, Gretchen and Emmett (who attends Palisades High School). She is also survived by her mother, Patricia.

A memorial service was held January 5 at Corpus Christi Church. Contributions may be made to The John Wayne Cancer Institute's Brain Cancer Research Fund at jwcgiving.org and note: "Gift in honor of Claudia Harrington Kallmeyer for JWCI Brain Cancer Research" or via check mailed to St. John's Health Center Foundation, 2200 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90404. Or a gift may be made to First Book (a literacy charity where every \$3 raised donates a book to a child in need). Online: firstbook.org/donate (and note "In memory of Claudia Harrington Kallmeyer") or by check to First Book, Attn: Gift in memory of Claudia Harrington Kallmeyer, 1319 F. St. NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20004.



Edith Rosenthal

Edith Rosenthal, 92; Teacher, Mom

Edith Paul Rosenthal, 92, died in Pacific Palisades on December 23, after a brief illness compounded by a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease.

One of twelve siblings, whose parents were Russian immigrants, Edith was born on October 2, 1925, and raised in Baltimore. She was number four in the birth
(Continued on Page 11)

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Rosenthal

(Continued from Page 10)

order; as a child, because she was so nurturing, she took on the role of caring for her younger brothers and sisters.

Her childhood is recounted in the book *Looking For Me in this great big family* by her daughter Betsy.

Despite her father's objections and lack of money, Edith went to college, the only girl in her family to do so.

After graduating from Towson State Teacher's College, she became an elementary school teacher in Baltimore. Edith and her husband Leon and their two young children moved to Los Angeles for Leon's job.

There she earned her California teaching credential and worked as a substitute teacher in the Culver City school district. An active volunteer, Edith served as PTA president in her children's elementary school.

After two more cross-country moves, Edith eventually landed in the San Francisco area where she and Leon lived for the next forty years. Kind and considerate, she always welcomed family and friends from across the country to stay in her home and treated all who visited like royalty.

Edith enjoyed telling jokes, playing games, many of which she organized, including mahjong, pan and doubles tennis, and was also known to pull an occasional prank.

A devoted wife of sixty years to Leon, who predeceased her, Edith spent the last four years of her life at Atria Park Pacific Pal-

isades. She is survived by six of her siblings, countless nieces and nephews, her son Michael and his wife Marleen of Marin County, her daughter Betsy and husband David Rosenthal of Pacific Palisades and grandchildren Adam, Sara and Joel.

Edith was laid to rest on December 27, 2017, at Skylawn Cemetery in San Mateo next to her beloved Leon. Donations in her memory can be made to Alzheimer's Greater Los Angeles or Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation, New York, NY.

Andy Rawn To Sing at Theatre Palisades

National tour soloist Andy Rawn will perform "Valentines of Many Lands" at 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 3, at Theatre Palisades, 941 Temescal Canyon Rd. Admission is \$29 and advance reservations are required (310) 459-2326.

Rawn, a basso, will sing classic love songs, including "I Could Have Danced All Night," "Torna a Surriento," "With a Song in My Heart" and "Edelweiss."

Also appearing with the Pacific Palisades resident will be a UCLA student trombonist.

A concert gift drawing of an Apple iPhone X will be held following intermission.

Music Guild to Feature Chatham Baroque

St. Matthew's Music Guild will present Chatham Baroque, one of the country's premier baroque instrumental ensembles, at 8 p.m. on Friday, January 19, at St. Matthew's Church, 1031 Bienvenida Ave.

The *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* called Chatham Baroque "one of Pittsburgh's greatest treasures."

The group will present "Awake Sweet Love: Songs and Suites of Olde England," and features a core instrumental trio plus Pascale Beudin (soprano), Cynthia Black (baroque violin), David Morris (bass viol) and David Walker (theorbo and baroque guitar).

Along with songs and instrumental works by Johnson and Purcell, Chatham Baroque will offer a pair of "Royal Consort Sets" by William Lawes, arias from Purcell's stage works *The Virtuous Wife* and *The Fairy Queen* and traditional "airs" including the beloved "Greensleeves."

The core ensemble of Andrew Fouts (violin), Patricia Halverson (viola da gamba), and Scott Pauley (theorbo) curate the finest of guest artists to perform with them throughout the season, allowing for repertoire ranging from well-known masterpieces to obscure gems.



Chatham Baroque members Scott Pauley, Patricia Halverson and Andrew Fouts.

The ensemble has recorded seven CDs on the Dorian label and three independent CDs on the Chatham Baroque label, the latest of which is *No Holds Barred*.

The concert is underwritten by the Edwin W. Pauley Foundation.

Admission is \$35 and there are season passes. Visit: MusicGuildOnline.org or call (310) 573-7422.



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Drugstore Café Provided a Hangout

By BOB VICKREY
Special to the Palisades News

When I first walked into the Palisades Drugstore Café almost forty years ago, I thought I had stepped into a Norman Rockwell painting.

Jeff Kool, the longtime owner of the Palisades Bookshelf, had told me one of the best lunches in town was right down the street at the local drugstore. As I entered the back door and passed the pharmacy counter, I made my way toward the unmistakable buzz of lively conversation emanating from the busy lunch crowd seated around two adjoining horseshoe-shaped counters.

One of the customers at the counter moved down one seat to accommodate me, and I quickly recognized her as my new next-door neighbor, Phyllis Genovese, who owned the Palisades Letter Shop. She introduced me to bicycle repair-shop owner Ted Mackie and several other friends sitting nearby.

A petite silver-haired waitress was taking an order from several diners who were seated in vintage vinyl booths located along the adjacent wall. In subsequent visits, I finally met the waitress, “Zona,” who initially displayed a rather crusty personality, so I began my quest to soften her up. It worked. Over the next decade, I was successful in making her smile—exactly twice.

During those first weeks living in Pacific Palisades, I met several people at the cafe with whom lasting friendships were eventually formed, including the co-owners of the business, Judy and Jay Steuerwald.

Palisades Drug Company was already a village fixture in the Business Block building that had first opened in 1924, and now reflected a fading symbol of a bygone era. Most drugstore food counters around the country had closed by that time, as large national chain stores gained a strong foothold in the



Patrons at the Drugstore Café in this 1975 photo included Betty Stearns, Bob Huff, Phyllis Genovese (far left), Ross Jordan, Rose Huff, Howard Kerner, Ted Mackie (white shirt), John Rapley, Don Galias and James White, DDS. In the back standing are co-owner/pharmacist Ronald Barnes and Joey Barnes; at right are kitchen staffers Lorenzo Ordaz, Carmen Diaz and Miguel Diaz. Photo courtesy Jay and Judy Steuerwald

market and began to phase out food service.

The Steuerwalds bought the store in 1973, which bordered Sunset, Swarthmore and Antioch Boulevard in the large space now occupied by Starbucks, Subway, and Petit Ami, the children’s clothing store. Ron Barnes would later join the business as partner. Both Jay and Ron were pharmacists who guided the day-to-day operations of the store, which also featured a beauty counter, as well as magazine and candy racks.

Back then, Mort’s Delicatessen was widely acknowledged as the most popular restaurant in town, but the drugstore café was a rather

well-kept secret that had a loyal following among local residents. The food was consistently good and was easy on your pocketbook.

Miguel Diaz, the café’s popular chef, and his wife Carmen, could quickly whip up a tasty Spanish omelet that kept me coming back time after time. And their Mexican dishes were some of the most popular items served during the lunch hour—especially Miguel’s enchiladas. Burgers, fries, and milkshakes were also best-sellers—just like the old Rockwell period paintings had once depicted.

One of my friends liked the “Low-Calorie Plate” that featured a simple ground-beef patty, with cottage cheese and lime Jell-O. He always enjoyed watching the reaction of nearby diners when he also ordered a large chocolate milkshake to accompany his weight-watching meal.

The café was a perfect gathering place that offered a warm, friendly atmosphere where business meetings were often conducted. A local contractor once said he negotiated and signed more contracts at the café than any other place in town. One thing was certain: you were always assured of running into several friends each time you ate there.

When the Business Block building changed ownership in 1983, the store moved across Sunset Boulevard to the building now occupied by Gorus Yoga Studio. The

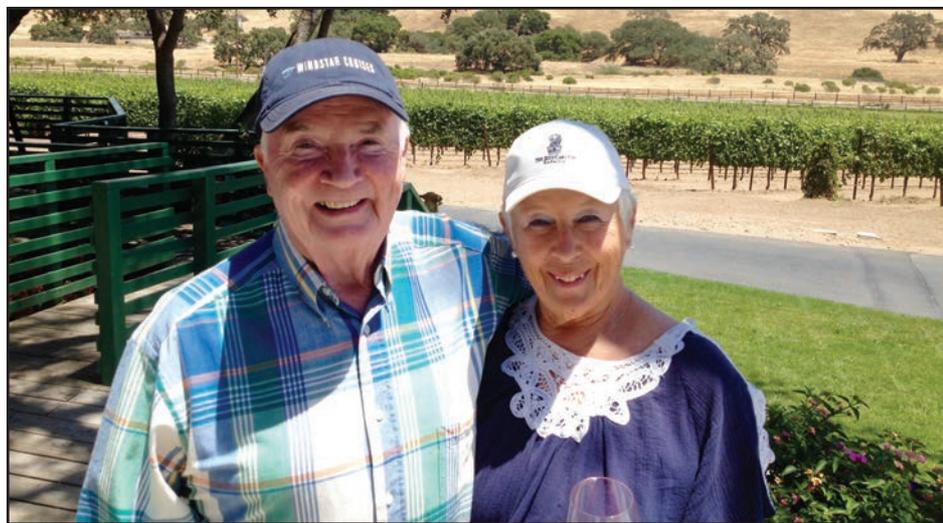
owners did a great job of recreating their oval-shaped café counters and continued to offer the same great atmosphere, but many of us will always vividly remember the original store that had once swept us back to yet another time and place.

When I interviewed the Steuerwalds recently, Jay talked about their difficult decision in 1996, when they decided to close the store. “I can’t begin to tell you about the sadness that set in when we began packing and cleaning out the store after 23 years in business. We realized it was truly the end of an era.”

And if you’re wondering where some of those people are now: Bookseller Jeff Kool and former drugstore business partner Ron Barnes are both now deceased, as is Ted Mackie. But Miguel is now happily retired after working at Gelson’s market in Century City, and his wife Carmen still works at our local Gelson’s deli counter. Phyllis Genovese still lives in town and recently turned 103.

The Steuerwalds are also retired and enjoy a full life of travel and time spent with their grandchildren. They can be spotted nowadays in the mornings sitting with friends at their sidewalk patio table at the Palisades Garden Café.

Bob Vickrey is a longtime Palisadian and regular contributor to the News. He also writes for the Houston Chronicle and the Waco Tribune-Herald.



Jay and Judy Steuerwald



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Palisades BID Details 2018 Budget

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

The Pacific Palisades Business Improvement District (BID) board held its monthly meeting on December 6 at the Methodist Church and focused on fiscal projections for 2018.

The total estimated revenue and expenditures for the coming year will be almost \$180,000. Thanks to a 2 percent assessment hike voted by the board, businesses will supply \$143,381 and there is a \$35,676 surplus carryover from 2017.

The assessments are based on three criteria: frontage of building—34 percent; square footage of building—33 percent; and lot size—33 percent.

In its initial year (2016), the budget was done by the city and was \$142,000. The 2017 budget was \$197,608.

The “Clean and Beautiful” budget is \$108,800 (in 2016 it was \$92,000 and in 2017 \$123,128). The sidewalks in the business district were power-washed twice this past year and trees were trimmed. The 2018 plans include installing lights in trees because according to the BID annual report, “a well-lit and well landscaped district supports an increase in commerce and provides a special benefit to each individually assessed parcel in the district.”

The BID board, which has a zero tolerance for graffiti, pays to remove all graffiti in the business district.

Money also goes to Chrysalis, which sup-



In December, the Palisades BID hosted a luncheon for first responders, Chrysalis and members of the Pacific Palisades Task Force on Homelessness at Piccolo Ritrovo on Sunset.

plies two workers twice a week to clean sidewalks and gutters and empty trash.

The Chamber has been raising about \$30,000 a year in donations (mostly from residents plus a \$7,500 contribution from realtor Michael Edlen) to hire one Chrysalis worker, but would like BID to take over that responsibility. Currently there is not enough in the budget to do that.

“Communication/Marketing” is budgeted at \$16,158 (in 2016 it was \$20,000 and in 2017 it was \$9,895). The money is used for a quarterly newsletter, maintaining the BID website, for social media, local news coverage, hosting community events (such

as the recent holiday luncheon that honored first responders) and BID branding projects.

Under “Management/Slow Pay/City Fees” \$54,100 is budgeted (up from 2016’s \$30,000, but down from 2017’s \$64,585). This includes Director Laurie Sale’s salary, legal costs, accounting costs and city fees.

There have been unsuccessful attempts to collect the full assessment amount from LAUSD. Palisades Elementary occupies a large portion of the BID and in 2017 was assessed at \$13,916, but only paid \$5,516.

The BID boundaries include all the business property along Sunset from Carey to Temescal Canyon, and the business prop-

erties north and south of Sunset, plus the Village Green, the DWP building and Palisades Elementary.

Fifty-five property owners pay assessments, which are different from traditional taxes because the money may only be used for projects that specifically benefit the properties in the BID, and cannot be diverted into the City’s general fund.

Sale spoke at City Hall against street vending, and the BID has asked for an opt-out policy. “There were other people there who also wanted an opt-in, opt-out option,” she said. There was a general feeling that street vending is unfair to those who pay taxes on buildings and their businesses.

At the latest BID meeting, somebody asked, “If there is a vendor in front of your business and then someone slips or falls, who is responsible?” Nobody knew the answer.

Additionally, reflecting a problem across the city, local businesses are having issues with the garbage-hauling monopolies contracted by the City. Sale was asked to send a letter to Councilman Mike Bonin’s office and the City, asking them to request that garbage companies have a cap put on what they can charge, and to guarantee a fair percentage for raises in hauling rates.

New board members are sought. Prospective candidates can e-mail Sale: laurie@palisadesbid.org.

The next meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. on February 7 at the United Methodist Church, 801 Via de la Paz. Visit: palisadesbid.org.

Pre-Listing Home Inspection Can Benefit Seller

By MICHAEL EDLEN
Special to the Palisades News

Many sellers take the position that they are selling their house “as-is,” and do not plan to do any work or repairs, especially because we are still in a “seller’s market.”

Sellers hope that buyers won’t find any surprises during the purchase process, but plan on rejecting any buyer requests for work or credits if problems are found by buyer’s inspections.

There are many potential drawbacks to this approach in the sale of one’s home, and not infrequently the seller regrets what can occur during the escrow period.

Here are some of the benefits of having a pre-listing home inspection.

1. A seller may decide to do some repairs or make various changes suggested by the pre-inspection before their agent puts the listing on the market. Many issues are inexpensive to take care of, and would cost much

less than a buyer might imagine when they discover them during their inspections.

2. Buyers may exaggerate things they do not understand, and over-react by either cancelling the escrow or by asking an unreasonably large credit from the seller. If the seller finds that some of the issues discovered through his pre-inspection are more complicated or costly to fix than they would prefer to do, the seller may obtain cost estimates from contractors or repair people and pass those along to any would-be buyer in advance, thus proactively de-escalating potential problems.

3. Of course, most buyers will have their own professional inspection done, whether a seller has already had one or not. However, if the seller provides prospective buyers a copy of a pre-inspection report, including notations of any recommended work that they had already performed, and possibly cost estimates for other items, it can accomplish a few benefits.

For instance, the buyer will not be able

in good faith to come back to the seller with a list of requested repairs or to ask for a credit to take care of things that they had already known about before writing their offer. It also conveys a sense of transparency and integrity at the beginning, which in turn can help build trust and ensure a smoother transaction.

Flaws and defects that are not made apparent to buyers before they have inspections done are seen as far more significant than those disclosed beforehand, even if the seller makes it known that he won’t fix them.

In selling more than 1,300 homes in a wide range of prices and condition, it has been my experience that sellers almost always come out ahead by having had pre-inspections done.

The cost for a basic general inspection today may be \$750-\$1,200—depending on the size of the home, whether it includes pool equipment and how detailed the inspector and his report may be.

Some people go so far as to have supplemental inspections done, much as many buyers would do. These could include a ter-

mite inspection, scoping of the sewer line (and clearing it out if necessary), a chimney inspection and possibly a visit by drainage and roofing experts.

If signs of possible mold are noted, most buyers would also have an environmental inspection done. Such added inspections will commonly be done by buyers during escrow, and sellers may end up receiving requests based on the findings and reports.

The combined inspection costs of perhaps \$1,000 to \$1,500 may well be a worthwhile investment in many cases because the pre-inspection can help sell a home sooner and at a price closer to the listed price. At the least, the seller is better informed, has control over issues that are found, and sets a tone that most buyers appreciate from the outset.

Michael Edlen has achieved one of the highest sale-to-list-price ratios and lowest escrow fallout rates for more than 20 years, based largely on a system of careful pre-marketing preparations and inspections. Call: (310) 230-7373 or Michael@MichaelEdlen.com.

Bill Branch, 93; Community Stalwart

Bill Branch was born on September 24, 1924, in LaGrange, Kentucky, to Hurley "HB" Branch and Ruth Jewell. He died on December 31, just shy of welcoming 2018, but holding on to celebrate his 58th wedding anniversary with wife Nancy.

Bill joined the Navy in 1943. After two years in ordnance school, he worked as an aviation ordnance man on Guam, Saipan and Tinian, the home field of *Enola Gay*, the plane that carried the atomic bomb to Japan.

When the war ended, Bill married a childhood sweetheart and used the GI Bill to earn a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Louisville. (The couple had three children, Lynn, Lise and Bill.)

Later, he earned a master's degree from New Mexico State, while working at the White Sands Proving Grounds. When his first marriage ended in 1951, Bill began working for Douglas Aircraft in Santa Monica, where he met his wife Nancy.

The couple married on New Year's Eve in 1959. In an earlier interview, Bill quipped "My wife claimed it was for tax purposes, I claim it was for sheer love."

While at Douglas, Branch helped combat the Soviet Union's ballistic-missile threat by working on the development of the Nike series of anti-aircraft and anti-missile missiles. He eventually became field station manager in New Mexico, overseeing more than 300



Bill Branch

Douglas employees.

Bill and Nancy moved to Pacific Palisades in 1964 and had two daughters, Amy and AnneMarie, who graduated from Palisades High School.

Branch retired from Douglas in 1990, and served as treasurer and concessions manager of the Will Rogers State Park Cooperative Association and mediator for the Los Angeles City Attorney.

He also became an active member of American Legion Post 283, where he was

Post 283 Commander (2004-05), District 24 Commander (2007-08) and commander of the L.A. County Council (Districts 17, 18, 19, 20, 23 and 24) in 2009.

In 2015, Branch was named Area 6 Vice Commander, which oversaw 63 Posts. He also installed an emergency ham radio station in the Legion 283 building for times of crisis.

In addition, Bill was an active member of the Riviera Masonic Lodge, and shepherded the Palisades Library's cornerstone ceremony. He also oversaw a cornerstone event for the renovated barn at Will Rogers State Historic Park. He was master of the local lodge in 1997-98, and was lodge secretary from 1999 until his passing.

A member of the Community United Methodist Church of Pacific Palisades, Bill had been financial secretary since 2008, and was a member of the church's board of trustees.

He told the *News* in an interview that the best thing about retirement was spending time with his 10 grandchildren. He and Nancy took them on trips that included England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

"As an old granddad, you'd like to do something with the grandkids that they remember you by," he said.

Bill also felt that retirement was a give-back period, not only to family, but also the

community. "I think a person should think about that."

In addition to Nancy, his survivors include children Amy (husband Max Ellzey), AnneMarie (husband Brian Winic), Lynn, Lise and Bill (wife Lisa); and grandchildren Catherine, Charlton, William, Bradford, Joy, Faith, Grace, Breanne, Bailey and Benjamin.

A funeral service was held at on January 12 at the Methodist Church on Via de la Paz. A reception followed at the church. Interment took place at a family grave site in Westlake Village.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the American Legion, the Community United Methodist Church or Friends of *Palisades News*.

NOTICE TO READERS

The *Palisades News* welcomes submissions of obituary notices for Palisadians, past and present. Notices must be 400 words or less. A photo may be sent for possible inclusion. There is no charge for the notice, nor the photo. For questions, or to submit, please e-mail editor@palisades-news.com. The desired deadline for submissions is Thursday before the intended publication date (the first and third Wednesday of the month).

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Elaine Martini, 91; Involved Parent, Citizen

Ruth Elaine Martini (née Krueger) was born August 1, 1926, in Keokuk, Iowa, and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, by her parents Ruth and Dr. Waldemar Krueger. The 63-year Palisadian passed away on January 5 at St. John's Health Center in Santa Monica.

Elaine attended Little Flower Grammar School, and earned scholarships to Ursuline Academy and Webster College. She graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in mathematics.

Elaine's brother, Richard, invited Dr. Michael Martini, who was a young medical student, for a home-cooked meal in St. Louis. Even though Elaine had a date that evening with another gentleman, she must have noticed Michael and shortly afterwards invited him to a party. An enduring romance ensued.

After graduation, Elaine worked at the phone company for a year before marrying Dr. Martini on June 11, 1949. The couple moved to Los Angeles and had two daughters, Kathleen and Barbara.

When Mike was called to active duty during the Korean War, Elaine lived with her parents in St. Louis. After he returned,



Elaine Martini

a third daughter, Eileen was born, and in 1954, the family moved to Pacific Palisades, where Mike began his pediatric practice. Thereafter, the family grew to include three sons, Richard, James and Joseph.

Elaine was an active member of the Corpus Christi Catholic parish. She helped es-

tablish the Corpus Christi School library and volunteered in numerous capacities, including being a Eucharistic minister.

She was a very supportive and loving mother, throwing creative birthday parties, attending recitals and spending hours at ballfields and Scout meetings.

Elaine made lifelong friends through her love of bowling, tennis and bridge, and was active in the Palisades Woman's Club. She enjoyed playing board games with her family and was incredibly skilled and lucky at Yahtzee.

She participated in a weekly writers group, crafting an insightful and humorous memoir for her family to enjoy.

When her children were older, Elaine worked for the Los Angeles County Medical Association, as a referral coordinator. Later, she volunteered at the J. Paul Getty Villa in Pacific Palisades. She was an 18-year member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

After Mike retired from his pediatric practice in 1995, she and he enjoyed playing tennis and bridge, visiting with friends and family, and traveling.

Two special trips were a pilgrimage to Rome, Egypt and Israel led by their son,

Msgr. Richard Martini, and a 50th wedding anniversary trip to Mount Rushmore and Yellowstone.

Elaine is survived by her loving husband of 68 years, Dr. Michael Martini, and children: Barbara Martini Laubacher (husband Tom) of Oxnard; Eileen Martini McCranie of Newbury Park; Msgr. Richard Martini of Carpinteria; James Martini (Michele) of Reseda; Joseph Martini (Jennie) of Mill Valley; 15 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and her brother, Richard Krueger of Houston.

She preceded in death by her daughter Kathleen, granddaughter Jennifer Shawn Merlo, and son-in-law Timothy McCranie.

A rosary was recited on January 12 at Corpus Christi Church. The funeral Mass was held Saturday, January 13 at Corpus Christi, followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. Graveside services were held at Holy Cross Cemetery in Culver City.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Martini Family and Friends Fund at St. John's Seminary, 5012 Seminary Road, Camarillo, CA 93012 or Stjohnsem.edu/ways-to-give/ or to a charitable cause of one's choice.

Saliann Kelly Siwulec, 61; Art Educator

Saliann (Sal) Kelly Siwulec lived a beautiful, loving and creative life. She was born in Norfolk, Virginia, on May 6, 1956, where her dad was stationed in the Navy. She passed away on Thursday, December 14, 2017, in Morristown, New Jersey, from complications related to a long battle with sinus cancer.

Sal's brilliant smile was contagious. She was an amazing person whose kindness, optimism and humor touched everyone she met.

Sal, who had resided for more than 17 years in Pacific Palisades with her husband and daughter, chose to live each day to the fullest and faced her illness with extraordinary strength and courage.

In November, she was on the East Coast to see her daughter Claire's dance performance at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and to celebrate Thanks-

giving with Claire, her parents, siblings, nieces and nephews in Morristown.

After growing up in Michigan, Sal graduated from the University of Arizona with a bachelor's degree in fine arts. She then moved to California where she met and married her beloved husband, Dan. They were blessed with one daughter, Claire, who was the light of Sal's life.

Sal, Dan and Claire lived in Pacific Palisades during the school year and in Good Hart, Michigan, during the summer months.

Sal was a gifted arts educator and for more than a decade every student who attended Palisades Charter Elementary School experienced art residencies with Sal, who taught Art Cadre.

Sal also worked for the nonprofit, Art Trek, which brings art education to underserved classrooms. Sal's creativity extended

into everything she did—building sets for Claire's dance studio, teaching art "classes" and art parties to neighbors and to her many nieces and nephews, and teaching workshops at Three Pines Studio in Cross Village, Michigan. Her entire garage is overflowing with her many art projects and supplies.

Sal was a loving mother, spouse, daughter, sister and friend. She is survived by Dan, Claire and her parents, Ann Kelly of Birmingham, Michigan, and Tom Kelly of Atlanta, Georgia. She is also survived by her siblings and their spouses, Clay and Elaine Kelly of Birmingham; Beth and Ralph Richardson of Mission Hills, Kansas; Gordon and Karen Kelly of Fort Worth, Texas; and Molly and Mike Servais of Morristown; her adored nieces and nephews, Kelly, Katy, Connor, Eliza, Elliot, Anna, Sam, Ryan and Maggie; and many friends.

A service celebrating Sal's life was held at the Community United Methodist Church of Pacific Palisades on Saturday, January 13, with a reception immediately following. Attendees were asked to not wear black to



Saliann Kelly Siwulec

the service; the family wished to celebrate Sal's life with vibrant colors that she loved.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Art Trek, visit: arttrek.org/sals-memorial-fund.

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Middle School Essay Contest

For the first time in the club's history, the Pacific Palisades Optimist Club is announcing a middle school essay contest in conjunction with its high school essay contest. Sixth through eighth grade students from Corpus Christi, Calvary Christian, Paul Revere, Village School, Seven Arrows and St. Matthew's are invited to write a 700-800-word essay on the topic "Can Society Function without Respect?"

There will be one first place award of \$100. Essays are due on January 31. Contact Dan Ackerman at farsearch@msn.com for specific rules or visit: optimist.org/member/scholarships3.cfm.

PaliHi's Wrestling Reputation Grows

Photos by BART BARTHOLOMEW

Although Palisades High School started its wrestling program in 2011—without mats and no practice space—in December, five Dolphin wrestlers were invited to the Doc Buchanan Invitational held at Clovis High near Fresno on January 5 and 6.

This might be one of the toughest invitational tournaments in the nation. The opening brackets have 64 wrestlers at each weight class, and all have to earn the right to be at this tournament.

The Doc B tournament had 21 teams from out of state, including those from New Jersey, Utah, Nevada, Illinois, Missouri, Colorado, Oregon and Washington.

Additionally, 26 California schools that are ranked in the top 50 in the state, including the top five Buchanan, Gilroy, Selma, Oakdale and St. John Bosco, competed.

Bergen won (253.5), Buchanan was second (199.5), Selma third (148), Gilroy fourth (132.5) and Clovis fifth (113). Seven of the 14 weight-class winners were from out of state.

PaliHi Coach Aldo Juliano said they received an invitation from the Clovis coach after the good showing the team had at the 36th Annual Newbury Park Invitational, which featured 252 wrestlers from California and Nevada.

Palisades High School's Hamzah Al-Saudi (220 pounds) and Jake Carpenter (152 pounds) took first in their weight classes and Al-Saudi received an MVP award. Aaron Galef finished third; Chance Chapman, Joseph Velado and Immanuel Newell (Maho) placed fifth in their respective weight classes.

At Doc B, Galef a junior, wrestled at the 138-weight class. His first opponent was Son-

ny Santiago (St. John Bosco). Galef lost 5-3, but Santiago went onto the championship match where he took second. "I knew it was going to be a tough tournament, and I'd have to wrestle someone like him," Galef said.

Jake Carpenter lost 6-2 to Peter Enos from Francis Howell, Missouri, who took fourth overall. Chapman, at 160 pounds, lost 2-0 to Gustavo Mello of Calvary Chapel (Santa Ana). Velado lost to the third-seeded Connor Bourne from Faith Lutheran, Nevada. Bourne went on to sixth place in the tournament.

Al-Saudi, at 195, made it to the quarter-finals, before losing to the second seeded Antonio Andre of Gilroy.

Dolphins Win League Match

The Dolphins held their first league match on January 10 at home against West Adams, Fremont, Brightstar and Dorsey. They won 84 to 24. Coach Juliano said "We're heads and tails above the rest of the league, I kind of expected this result."

He took some of his top wrestlers to the Battle for the Belt in Temecula this last weekend, but only Al-Saudi placed. He took fourth after losing to Nick Villarreal from Gilroy in a 7-5 decision.

Juliano said that they will be tested in regionals on February 10, when they go up against Valley powerhouses Birmingham and San Fernando.

City Championships will be held February 16-17 at the Roybal Learning Center. Girls CIF Championships will be held in Visalia February 23-24 and the Boys CIF Championships will be held in Bakersfield March 2-3.

Girls' Results:

130 pounds Lilly Topputo won by a pin.
150 pounds Ashley Osorio was pinned.



Hamza Al-Saudi dominates his opponent.



Lilly Topputo looks for ways to pin her opponent.

170 pounds Savannah Newell pinned her opponent.

PaliHi Boys' Results:

106 pounds Max Much won by forfeit.
120 pounds Pars Pourmoula 9-3 loss.
126 pounds Kyle Santelices pinned his opponent.
132 pounds Jonathon Querro won by a pin.
138 pounds Aaron Galef pinned his opponent.
145 pounds Eric Guerro won by a pin.

152 pounds Jake Carpenter pinned his opponent.

160 pounds Chance Chapman won by a pin.
170 pounds Luke Hansen won by a pin.

182 pounds Joseph Velado pinned his opponent.

195 pounds Emilio Alvir won by a pin.
220 pounds Hamzah Al-Saudi pinned his opponent.

285 pounds Immanuel Newell won by a pin.

In an **160-pound** exhibition match, Edwin Duarte pinned his opponent.



Jake Carpenter got his opponent in a "spadle" move, resulting in a pin.



Chance Chapman works for a pin.

PaliHi Soccer Girls Play Tough

By scheduling challenging non-league games, PaliHi girls soccer coach Christian Chambers hopes to have his team prepared for the City Section playoffs in February.

The Dolphins, who are virtually unbeaten in Western League action year after year, roared past Westchester, 3-0, and LACES, 7-0, as league play got underway last week.

Fortunately, Palisades was able to play Culver City in late November, winning 3-0, before tying Santa Monica, 0-0, two days later.

The Dolphins didn't face another opponent until the first week of January, when they lost to Valencia 2-1 and Harvard-Westlake, 5-0.

"These games were our first since November 30," Chambers told the *News* after the H-W loss. "Between the fires, finals week and the winter break, we haven't been able to prepare for this week's games."

The speed of play in the Harvard-Westlake match was fast and intense. "I thought we had some good spells in the game, but they are a very good side with five or six individuals that are way better than anything we've come across in the past few years," Chambers said.

"The main aim for me was to get minutes for as many players as possible and expose them to the highest level of high school soc-



PaliHi prepares to defend against an El Camino corner kick.

Photo: Kim Holland

cer. I believe that playing against teams like HW is a fantastic learning experience for the girls. The speed of play and athleticism of HW was way above what we're used to but hopefully the girls will take something positive away from the game."

On January 6, Pali played El Camino Real to a 0-0 tie, which was significant. When the Dolphins enter the City playoffs, they gen-

erally must face Valley teams like El Camino or Granada Hills in the final round or two. (Last year they lost in the semi-finals to Granada Hills in triple overtime. Granada went on to win the championship, defeat-

ing El Camino 2-1.)

"Ava [Kerkorian, a sophomore mid-fielder] was good and Jordan [Darrow, a junior forward] worked hard," Chambers said. "Frankie [Van Norden, a junior defender] went up and down the sidelines."

One of Pali's top strikers from last year, Daniela Flores, is playing Academy, which means she's not allowed to play high school. "I think all the 'stronger' teams have lost players this year because of the Academy issue," Chambers said, "which means it closes the gap between the top teams and the next level of teams." (U.S. Soccer has a Girls Development Academy for top players and bans them from playing high school ball.)

The Dolphins had two top-notch goalies last year, Katie Wilkes and Kat Nuckols, who are both playing for their college teams, UC San Diego and Bates, respectively. Their successor is senior Rachel Phillips, who played on the girls varsity basketball team last year, instead of the soccer team.

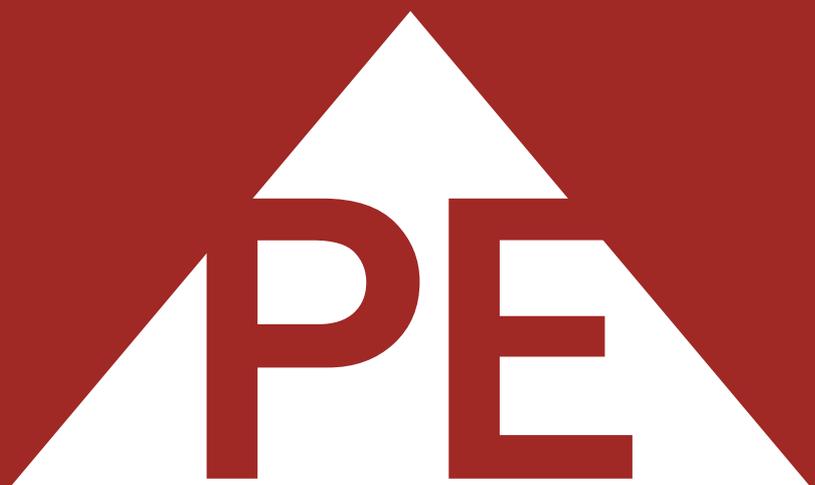
Nine of the 21 players on the roster are seniors.

Pali plays at home today (January 17) against league-rival Venice, and travels to Fairfax on Friday.



Senior defender India Holland jumps to head a ball against Westchester. Photo: Kim Holland

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Galef Takes Them Down

As a young boy, Aaron Galef played baseball, basketball and football at the Palisades Recreation Center. But then in middle school at Paul Revere, he started wrestling under coach Adam Hunter.

Why wrestling? "I was 4'10" and weighed 80 pounds; I knew I wasn't going to be a starter in the NBA with my size," said Galef, now a PaliHi junior. "My parents supported my decision because they knew if I put in the hard work, I'd do good."

And he did. He won the 85-pound weight class championship in the middle-school league finals against Chaminade, Harvard-Westlake and Buckley.

Galef says wrestling has advantages because it's a strictly one-on-one combat, and the win or the loss rests solely with the individual. "It's not about losing because one person on a team didn't pull through."

Still relatively small (5'5" and close to 140 pounds), Galef usually has two workouts a day. One is on the mat practicing different holds and releases, the second is usually an aerobic or lifting workout. The night before he spoke to the News he had run two miles in 15 minutes. "Rain or shine I get a good run," he said.

With the sport of wrestling, it's about the balance of finding the maximum weight for the maximum strength. "I eat healthy," Galef



Aaron Galef

said. "In the evening I look in the mirror and ask myself 'Did I work as hard as I could?'"

At the Doc B tournament in January, he wrestled at 138 pounds and one of his first opponents was a ranked athlete (64 athletes are in each weight class). The match was tight, and Galef lost 5-3, but his opponent went on to wrestle in the championships.

While dedicated to wrestling, Galef is also focused on academics. "I have all As and Bs," he said. "The smarter I get in school, the smarter I get in wrestling."

The son of Palisadians Marni and Michael Galef, Aaron has a fraternal twin, Jordan (6-ft. tall, 170 pounds), who plays water polo and baseball at Pali. His older brother Gabriel, who is at Chapman University, played quarterback for the Dolphins and also starred in school musicals

PPBA Tryouts This Weekend

The Pacific Palisades Baseball Association spring baseball season for boys and girls, ages 7 to 14, is fast approaching. Registration needs to be completed online. For those who are registering after the December 31 deadline, a \$25 non-refundable late fee will be assessed to the basic \$400 registration fee (there is a discount for siblings). Any player registering after January 30 will be put on a wait list.

The basic fee covers a uniform, a photo package, trophy, insurance, field maintenance, umpire costs and team equipment.

Evaluations are Saturday, January 20, for 7- and 8-year-old players (8 a.m. to noon), 9-year-old players (12:30 to 2:30 p.m.) and 13- and 14-year-old players (8:30 to 10:30 a.m.). On Sunday, January 21, evaluations will be held for 10-year-old players (8 to 11 a.m.), 11-year-old players (11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.), 12-year-old players (2 to 4 p.m.) and makeups for 7-, 8-, 9-, 13- and 14-year-old players (3 p.m.).

The PPBA Board tries to place all children on a team, but "due to safety considerations and limitations on the number of players able to be placed on each team, a

small number of players may not be placed." If a child is not placed on a team, registration will be refunded.

First practices will be held starting on Saturday, February 10. The traditional pancake breakfast will be March 10 to coincide with opening day. Playoffs start on May 12. Closing ceremonies and All-Star games are June 2.

Visit: pppba.net or email ppba@earthlink.net.

Park Board To Meet January 17

The Park Advisory Board will hold its quarterly meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17, in the small gym at the Palisades Recreation Center, 851 Alma Real Dr. The public is invited.

Topics on the agenda include: 1.) fundraising report; 2.) dog park update; 3.) Veterans Garden/bocce court update; 4.) field maintenance work; and 5.) overall general park comments.

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Achen Named City Athletic Director of the Year

PaliHi's John Achen has been named 2017-18 Athletic Director of the Year by the CIF L.A. City Section. He will be honored at the annual California State Athletic Directors Association's conference in Burlingame in April.

"John has done a tremendous job as athletic director at Palisades Charter High School. His passion and devotion to his alma mater reflects positively in the character of the student-athletes and coaches at Pali," said Dick Dornan, the City Section sports information director. "He truly deserves this award and his peers recognized him through his hard work and dedication."

Dornan noted that there are 10 CIF sections in California and each section recognizes an Athletic Director of the Year.

"All I do is paperwork," said Achen, who oversees one of the most successful athletic programs in all of Los Angeles. "The emphasis shouldn't be on me, it should go to the coaches and the kids for all of their hard work. They should have the recognition."

This school year, PaliHi teams have already won City championships in girls tennis and boys water polo, and were runners-up in girls volleyball and boys and girls cross country.

Achen is a truly nice guy, so it's easy to see why this is his third award. In 2014, he received the Norman MacKenzie Award, given to an athletic director "rookie" who has been



John Achen is Palisades High School's Athletic Director.

in the AD position less than five years. A year later he received the California Coaches Association SoCal Honoree award.

Achen, who is adamant that all the focus should be on the athletes rather than him, is an unsung hero at the school.

Even though he downplays his position, he is key to keeping the program running smoothly. During the school year, he schedules 51 teams (varsity/junior varsity) and manages the welfare of 811 athletes.

With only two gyms available, he somehow schedules games and practices for girls

and boys varsity/JV basketball and wrestling. Come spring at the stadium field, he must see that games/meets and practices are possible for track, girls softball, and boys and girls lacrosse.

Achen also makes sure there are officials at every home athletic event, and post-game buses for the traveling athletes.

Plus, he is in charge of looking at all the eligibility and athletic clearances, either through transfers or grades.

Achen, a third-generation Palisadian, played football when he attended PaliHi.

After graduating in 1999, he studied at Santa Monica College and then completed his degree in criminal justice at Cal Lutheran. He worked for a local production company for a short time, but in 2009, he was pulled in as assistant AD at PaliHi. He also served as a PaliHi football coach from 2010 to 2012.

School officials soon realized that Achen would be more valuable in the AD position, and in March 2011 he was promoted. The leadership job had been changing on a routine basis, but Achen has brought stability.

In addition to fulfilling his regular duties, Achen is also a person that coaches, parents and athletes seek out. He is easy to talk to and always seems to have time to chat with everyone.

"I just try to find solutions," he said. "I'm mellow, just a dude from the Palisades."

Achen is clear about his mission at Pali. "We're focused on running an entire athletic program," he said. "This school is not just about one or two sports."

His parents, John and Michelle, live in the community. His mom, who graduated from PaliHi in 1970, works at Palisades Elementary in resources and his sister Amanda (now married to Joe Ford) also works there.

Achen is married to Irina, a senior technical project manager for a medical company, and they have a daughter, Sofia. The family resides in Pacific Palisades.

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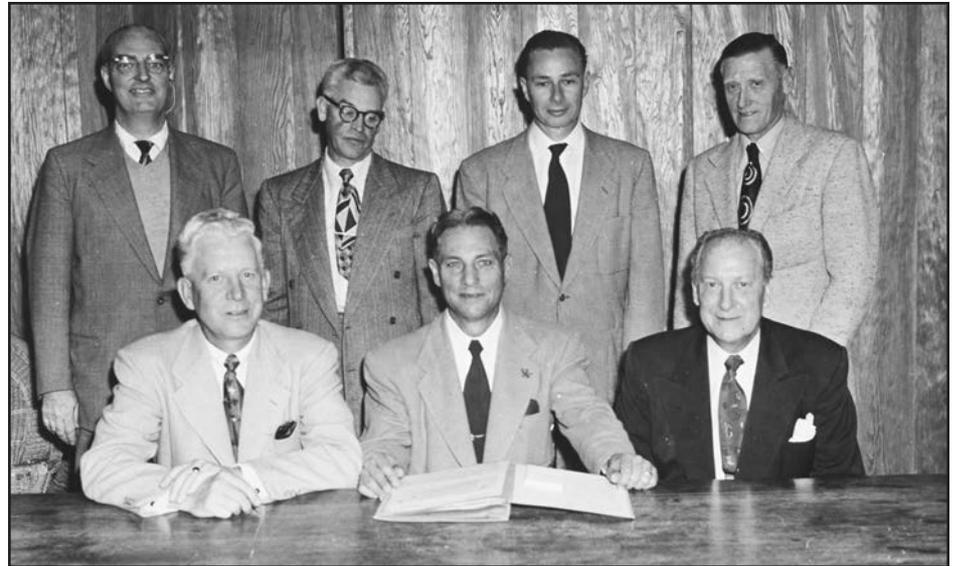
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Rotarians beautified and maintained the pump station at the base of Temescal Canyon Road and Pacific Coast Highway.



In 1952, the initial members of the new Pacific Palisades Rotary Club, organized under the sponsorship of the West Los Angeles Rotary Club, were (seated left to right) Elmer Meyer, secretary-treasurer; Walter C. Haas, president and Dr. N.K. Forster, vice president, and standing (left to right) are Ralph O. Drummond, Hollis W. Colwell, John Bohannon and Robert L. Wilson, directors.
Photo courtesy Palisades Rotary

Palisades Rotary Celebrates 65th

By LAUREL BUSBY
Staff Writer

For 65 years, the Rotary Club of Pacific Palisades has been working to improve the local community and the world.

From efforts to plant trees in Los Leones and Temescal canyons to the worldwide endeavor to eradicate polio, the club's men and women have taken on diverse service projects that not only helped others, but brought them closer together.

"Everything that I give I get back tenfold," said John Wilson, whose late father, Bob, was a founding member of the club. "It is one of those types of clubs that you are constantly

feeling a good feeling of accomplishment and like you're contributing to the community."

Perry Akins, a Rotarian for about 37 years, added, "Some of the members have become my best friends. Rotary attracts interesting people, good people, people who want to give back. For me it's been very satisfying to meet such wonderful people in the Palisades."

The local club, which is one of over 33,000 in more than 200 countries worldwide, started its service mission in February 1952 with 22 members. At the time, only men could join, although wives could contribute as affiliated Rotary Anns. Each member had to be invited by a current member and job diversity was prized, so no two mem-

bers could have the same work specialty.

"The idea is to sit around the table with people who are not in your profession," said Akins, who noted that now two people in one job specialty are allowed. "It makes it more interesting than sitting around with people who do the same thing as you do every day."

Traditionally, members were also required to attend every weekly meeting, and if they missed three successive meetings, they were dropped from the club, although the rules are no longer so stringent. For Wilson's father, who maintained perfect attendance for about 40 years, this meant that he would visit Rotary clubs in other countries when on vacation with his family. Akins

also has visited clubs while traveling in locales such as Bahrain, Shanghai and Cairo.

"Rotary is always fun from that standpoint," Akins said. "If you're traveling the world and want to go someplace where you feel at home, go to a Rotary meeting."

The Palisades club's meetings follow a specific pattern, with time for club business, a 30-minute speaker on an intriguing topic, and time to socialize and eat. Typically, the club has three one-hour breakfast meetings on Thursdays and one dinner meeting each month. Women, who the U.S. Supreme Court ruled were allowed to join the clubs in 1987, are now vibrant members, includ-

(Continued on Page 21)



Nineteen of the 22 local men to make up the Pacific Palisades Rotary Club were present at the first regular luncheon meeting held Tuesday, February 26, 1952, at the Riviera Country Club. They are (left to right, seated) Robert L. Wilson, Ralph O. Crummond, Dr. N.K. Forster, Walter C. Haas, Elmer Meyer, Hollis W. Colwell and John Bohannon; (standing, left to right) Dr. Leslie Spicer, Barney B. Bailey, Nelson Ross, Reverend B.F. Janes, Barney Cohen, Dr. Roy McComber, Raymond LePere, Carl Sheppard, Hossein Farny, Joe Cleary, Hal Schreiner and C.D. Clearwater.
Photo courtesy Palisades Rotary



A recent project is raising money to build a school library for inner-city youth. Rotarians also ensured that each child received a book.

Rotary

(Continued from Page 20)

ing current president Pamela Kratochvil, a lifelong Palisadian introduced to the club by past president Holly Davis.

Kratochvil, who operates L.A. Golf Academy, joined because “I thought it was a great opportunity to meld our business outreach to the community with philanthropy. I wanted to give back to my hometown and not only does it help my hometown, but it outreaches to the international community as well. It’s a wide spectrum that is important to me.”

For its work around the globe, Rotary has six areas of focus: promoting peace, fighting disease, saving mothers and children, supporting education, growing local economies, and providing clean water, sanitation and hygiene. Each year, Palisades Rotarians contribute by sending a member to participate in an endeavor, such as last year’s clean-water initiative in Merida in Yucatán, Mexico.

Worldwide, the Rotary Club has also been an essential part of the campaign to eradicate polio. The effort began in 1988 in partnership with UNICEF and the World Health Organization. The project has been widely successful, reducing cases from about 350,000 cases annually to 37 confirmed cases last year. Currently Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan are the last three countries where polio is en-

dem, as opposed to 125 countries in 1988.

To accomplish Rotary’s goal, each local club was assigned a portion of the fundraising required to tackle the disease, which led to the creation of the Art Affair fundraiser, which took place for 14 years along Temescal Canyon Road. Additionally, local Rotarian Ian Grant went to Ghana in 2000 to help administer the polio vaccine to children under six.

“We gave roughly a million polio vaccinations,” Grant said in a video the club made commemorating its 50th anniversary. “It was just a great project and very exciting.”

Locally, the club’s efforts have also helped children. Early projects included the founding of Marquez Elementary and Paul Revere Junior High School.

Palisades Rotarians were active in upgrading the playground at the Palisades Recreation Center and currently support children’s literacy by acquiring books for L.A. inner-city schoolchildren. In addition, the club regularly contributes to the Palisades-Malibu YMCA and the Boy Scouts, while also providing scholarships and awards to both PaliHi and Paul Revere students.

The club also supports the Fourth of July Parade each year and has taken responsibility for clearing and maintaining the pump-station grounds at Temescal and Sunset. For fundraising, the local Rotarians now hold Texas Hold’em poker tournaments, but while some endeavors depend mostly



The Inaugural Pali Tri, a mini-triathlon that the Rotary Club hosted for two years, started and ended at Palisades High on a Sunday morning, October 23, 2011.

Photo courtesy Palisades Rotary

on fundraising, others require further commitments ranging from landscaping to political challenges.

For example, upgrading the park’s playground, Wilson said, “started with the actual concept and taking that concept to the City Council, showing up at the various hearings, and helping the city financially along with a lot of other organizations like the American Legion and Optimist Club. We went from the genesis of the idea to helping focus people’s wishes and desires on achieving that particular event.”

In addition, the club has fun internal

events, including an annual demotion party, when the past president steps down and a new one takes over. One club member also is chosen annually as the Bob Wilson Rotarian of the Year, and \$500 is donated to a charity of in that member’s name. (The club also honors a Palisades Business Person of the Year.)

“The motto for Rotary is ‘Service Above Self,’ and that’s what we like to do,” Kratochvil said. “We also have a yearly motto. ‘Rotary Making a Difference’ is this year’s. We like to make a difference locally as well as internationally.”



Led by Rotarians, Palisadians crowded a Board of Education meeting to plea the founding of Marquez Elementary and Paul Revere Junior High School. Photo courtesy Palisades Rotary



The Rotary has held a Texas Hold’Em to raise funds for projects. Photo: Lesly Hall Photography

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PaliHi's Alaman Recognized Nationally

By LILA SEIDMAN
Staff Writer

When Palisades Charter High School senior Roberta Alaman entered a national arts competition in one of the most competitive categories—pop singing—she wrote it off as a long shot. Then she got an email.

"It's just this overwhelming sense of happiness," Alaman said of finding out she was named a 2018 YoungArts merit winner, making her one of over 750 teenage artists from across the country to be recognized.

Alaman will receive a cash award of up to \$10,000, and have opportunities to participate in YoungArts' national performance programs, as well as have access to its network of mentors.

The aspiring musical theater performer said she's most excited about the credibility the title will afford her.

"I think it's going to open a door that I didn't even know was possible before . . . because I haven't really had that many chances to perform in venues that weren't my school," Alaman explained. "It's going to make me be taken seriously as an artist, and that's the most important thing to me."

To enter the competition, Alaman had to submit videos of herself singing four songs: a ballad, an up-tempo number, and songs from before and after the '90s. She said that because it was an entirely electronic process, without any interaction with the judges, it was particularly nerve-wracking.

While she's classified as a first soprano because of her range, Alaman said she's more of "a belter, in terms of what I like to sing." She enjoys loud, power ballads and eschews demure characters. The number "Defying Gravity" from the hit musical *Wicked* is her "go-to," she said.

As a regular PaliHi theater performer since her freshman year, Alaman has had the opportunity to play some of the out-sized roles she covets. Her favorite so far was co-starring as the titular character in the musical, *Evita*, which centers on the life of one-time Argentine political leader Eva Perón.

According to Alaman, the Andrew Lloyd



Roberta Alaman starred in PaliHi's production of *Evita*.

Weber-scored musical was also the most challenging role she's taken on, describing it as both physically and emotionally taxing. It also deepened her respect for the craft.

"[*Evita*] gave me a really good sense of what musical theater is all about: hard work and emotional connection and human nature," Alaman said. "It led me to think that musical theater isn't just frilly and glitzy, and without substance, like most people think. It's much more important than that."

Alaman said she's always sought attention. As a young girl, she'd dress up and sing pop songs for her grandmother and her friends. But it wasn't until she was around nine that she really fell in love with singing.

She said the awakening was first stirred by a teacher named Ms. Katy, who taught music at Kenter Canyon Elementary School, where Alaman attended. Katy taught the class "Sweet Dreams" by the Eurythmics and "Rockin' Robin" by The Jackson 5—"Pop songs, cool songs like that, songs that you wouldn't think for us to sing," Alaman said.

Armed with a newfound love of music, Alaman joined the choir program at Paul Revere Middle School. Her mother, Ana Aldrete, witnessing her daughter's passion grow, enrolled Alaman in her first singing lessons shortly thereafter to hone her skills.

Alaman said both her parents and her

stepparents have been supportive of her decision to pursue a career in the arts. Aldrete used to work in TV. Alaman's father, Federico Alaman, is the general manager for Fox's Mexican channels.

Several years after discovering her love of singing, Alaman has submitted college applications exclusively to colleges offering a BFA in musical theater, primarily located on the East Coast.

"Performing is everything," Alaman said. "Anything in the entertainment in-



Roberta Alaman

dusty, I just want to be in it."

While Alaman plans to focus first on getting involved with professional musical-theater productions, she is also interested in directing, writing, casting and getting involved in film and TV.

"Any aspect of creating something is really important to me," she said, "and I want to be taken seriously right off the bat."

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Seniors and Safe Driving Meeting

The Palisades Alliance for Seniors will meet at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, January 22, at the Palisades Library community room, 861 Alma Real.

Tressa Thompson, Senior Driver Ombudsman at the California Department of Motor Vehicles, will speak on "Seniors and Safe Driving."

The DMV's Senior Driver Ombudsman Program was established to help all drivers maintain their driving independence for as long as they can do so safely. The program strives to address specific concerns of senior drivers, including education and training, and to assist as a liaison to ensure that senior drivers are treated fairly and consistently when faced with changes in physical, visual and/or mental abilities.

Attendees are invited to stay afterward and socialize.

Palisades Alliance, in conjunction with the Palisades Branch of the Los Angeles Public Library, offers programs of particular interest to seniors, usually on the second and fourth Monday morning of every month. The programs are open to all, and free of charge.

Four Politicians to Speak at Democratic Club Gathering

Four elected officials will speak at the Pacific Palisades Democratic Club's annual meeting on Sunday, January 28, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Woman's Club, 901 Haverford. The public is invited.

Speakers will include State Senator Ben Allen, Assemblyman Richard Bloom, L.A. City Councilman Mike Bonin, and L.A. County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl. Other politicians may also attend depending on prior commitments.

Adam Wolman, the club's vice president of communications, notes that this meeting will be the perfect opportunity to meet and greet politicians who represent us at the city, county and state level.

Melissa Grant, after serving as club president the past six years, will now pass the torch to Erika Feresten.

Admission is free, with donations requested to help defray costs (\$10 suggested). Parking is available in the lot and on the street. Light refreshments will be served.



State Senator Ben Allen

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Chamber Music Palisades Concert Is January 23

Chamber Music Palisades will hold its second program of the season at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, in the sanctuary at St. Matthew's, 1031 Bienvenida Ave.

The concert for guitar, tenor, flute and piano will feature tenor Jon Lee Keenan, guitarist Kenton Youngstrom and CMP co-founders pianist Delores Stevens and flutist Susan Greenberg.

Music will include Piazzolla's "Histoire du Tango" for flute and guitar; Tarrega's "Capriche Arabe" for solo guitar; Bellini's "Torna, vezzosa Fillide" for tenor, flute and guitar; Copland's "I Bought Me a Cat" for tenor, flute and guitar; Ahlert/Young's "I'm Gonna Sit Right Down" for tenor, piccolo and guitar; Gershwin's preludes for piano; and Mower's "Sonata Latino" for flute and piano.

Keenan is a featured soloist with the Los Angeles Master Chorale and Youngstrom



Susan Greenberg and Delores Stevens

is a founding member (1979) of the Falla Guitar Trio and a guitar instructor at Pepperdine University, Redlands University and the Colburn School.

Tickets (\$30) are available at the door (cash or check). Admission for students with current ID is free. Visit: cmpalisades.org.

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Miller's *The Price* Opens

By LAUREL BUSBY
Staff Writer

The sale of a family's long unused belongings provides an unexpected chance for two bitterly divided brothers to air their differences in *The Price* by Arthur Miller.

The family drama, which opened at Theatre Palisades on January 12, focuses on the paths that the two brothers have taken. Walter (Phil Bartolf) has let nothing get in the way of material success, continuing his education even after his family seemed to lose everything in the Great Depression, while Victor (Matthew Rhodes) dropped out of school to care for their father and still refuses to step out of his rut even though their father is long dead.

These choices have hurt both brothers in different ways. One has felt ashamed and guilty, while the other feels mistreated and resentful. Both have festered in silence, because until this day in 1968, the two brothers hadn't spoken in years.

But the sale's negotiation brings out long-buried feelings and provides an opportunity for change. However, Victor, a 28-year police force veteran, would have to accept his brother's overtures, and he is reluctant to recast his brother as a friend rather than a villain. As his wife, Esther (Terri Parks), tells him, "You can't bear the thought that he's decent."

Approaching 50 years old, Victor says he's too old to consider school or a new career, which Esther keeps urging him to do. She notes, "You're free, and you can't make a move."

Sitting in the middle of the brother's quarrel is not only Esther, but Gregory Solomon (Jack Winnick), a crafty and humorous octogenarian with his own painful past who wants Victor to accept a lowball price for the furnishings and other belongings.

The sale price is Victor's choice as both Esther and Walter make clear, but they both urge Victor not to devalue the goods or himself. He doesn't have to accept the low bid. He could get other appraisals or even multiply his proceeds by ten times by accepting a suggestion from his brother.

However, doing so would mean letting go of the stories he has told himself all these years that are revealed as the broth-



Matthew Rhodes, Jack Winnick, Philip Bartolf and Terri Parks in a scene from the Theatre Palisades production of Arthur Miller's *The Price*.

Photo: Joy Daunis

ers argue. As Victor tells Walter, "You can't just walk in here with a splash and wash away 28 years."

The drama, directed by Tony Torrisi, exposes the anguish of the family slowly, with Victor, beaten down by both life and his own choices, taking the center stage. The story of staying locked in a path of lost dreams has some autobiographical roots for Miller, who, like Walter, went to college where he thrived while his older brother left college in his sophomore year to help their father's ailing business. A brilliant childhood friend also joined the police force after his father was ruined in the Depression and was

an inspiration for the character of Victor.

In the TP production, the story proceeds in real time as the family's messy life is paralleled by the packed attic (designed by Sherman Wayne), which like their lives needs to be cleaned out. The brothers' painful struggle is clearly painted by Rhodes and Bartolf, while Park's Esther is caught in the middle. Winnick's lively portrayal spices things up with not only humor but occasionally pathos.

Produced by Martha Hunter and Wayne, *The Price* plays through Feb. 18. Tickets: \$20. Call (310) 454-1970 for more information or to reserve tickets.

Amy-Jill Levine To Speak Here

The Stern Lecture series at St. Matthew's will feature Dr. Amy-Jill Levine on February 2, 3 and 4. The series was established in 1986 by Dr. W. Eugene Stern in memory of his wife, Libby Naffziger Stern, and is dedicated to bringing international scholars to the parish.

Levine, a New Testament expert and a self-described Yankee Jewish feminist, will hold three lectures and then serve as a guest preacher at St. Matthew's on February 4.

On Friday, February 2, she will speak from 7 to 9 p.m. at Kehillat Israel on the topic "Of Pearls and Prodigals: Jesus the Jewish Storyteller."

On Saturday, Levine will lecture from 9 to 10:15 a.m. at St. Matthew's on "The 'Laborers in the Vineyard,' The 'Mustard Seed,' and The 'Leaven': Uncovering our Potential." After a break, Levine will resume at 10:45 with a second topic: "The 'Widow and the Judge' and the 'Dishonest Steward': Parables that Cause Us to Question."

A Mary Jane Werthan Professor of Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School and an affiliated professor at the Centre for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations, Cambridge UK, Levine is known for her insights regarding the common roots of Christianity and Judaism.

She has numerous publications on Christian origins, Jewish/Christian relations, and biblical views of gender and sexuality.

The talks are free, but reservations should be made via sternlecture@stmatthews.com or by phone at (310) 454-1358 x128 for this limited-capacity event. Visit: stmatthews.com.

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Reveling in the Night Life at Dan Tana's

By BOB VICKREY
Special to the Palisades News

Singer Ray Price once sang “The night life ain’t no good life, but it’s my life,” and it certainly appears that in recent months our monthly lunch club has adopted his famous motto.

After visiting The Galley in Santa Monica in November, we thought we should continue to visit famous L.A. restaurants that only open for business after dark. One spot that has been on our list is Dan Tana’s, the venerable West Hollywood Italian cucina and watering hole.

We forged into the cold, windy December night despite weather forecasts that had called for Southern California temperatures to plunge below the 70-degree mark. That kind of perseverance and dedication to our mission has become this group’s trademark.

The 54-year-old restaurant is well-known for offering good food and a friendly atmosphere, and has always been known as an unpretentious celebrity hangout. Decades ago, Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor made this their secret hideaway, and it didn’t take long for word to spread. Suddenly, you needed a reservation to get a table.

And all these years later, Dan Tana’s still features its red-and-white-checked tablecloths and hanging bottles of Chianti, just like it was in that earlier era.

When Dan Tana opened his restaurant in 1964, he closed each night at 11 p.m., and was often home in bed by midnight. But all that changed in the 1970s, when the nearby Troubadour Club began booking big stars like Elton John and Van Morrison. The concert-goers were looking for a late-night dining spot after the show ended, and Tana obliged them by keeping his doors open to accommodate the wayward party-ers.



Neil Sedaka stopped by the Palisadians’ table and visited with Laurie Sale. Photo: Barry Stein

Last month’s trip to Dan Tana’s included our special guest Laurie Sale, a longtime Palisadian and native Angeleno, who once owned the nationally renowned Children’s Book and Music Center in Santa Monica.

Laurie’s early-childhood teaching background offered her the experience and opportunity to open one of the first (and largest) independent children’s bookstores in Southern California. She was widely respected in the business, and publishers often called upon her for book blurbs and endorsements. She was regularly quoted in *Publishers Weekly* about book sales and trends.

The store hosted many of the most famous children’s authors of the time, including Judy Blume, Maurice Sendak, Chris Van Allsburg, David Macaulay, James Marshall, Tommy de Paola, Mr. Rogers, Pete Seeger, and many more.

Her Palisades home has been the site of

many publishing parties where authors, publishers’ representatives, bookstore owners, and friends would meet in the summer for a day of music, merriment, and camaraderie. Media reports of higher-than-usual instances of absences from the workplace on Mondays following one of Laurie’s parties were thought to be purely coincidental.

After her store closed in 1991, Laurie held various jobs in the education field, then later worked alongside the late City Councilman Bill Rosendahl. That experience helped lead her into creating a Business Improvement District (BID) in the Palisades. A BID is a nonprofit organization made up of commercial property owners, and it is designed to create maintenance programs, marketing, and other services not provided by the city.

Upon our arrival at Dan Tana’s, we encountered a mob scene at the front doorway and wondered if our 6:30 reservation would be honored. However, Arnie greeted the maitre d’, who immediately pushed past the crowded entryway and led us to our booth. The seasoned host must have undoubtedly read the press releases for Arnie’s “Night of Comedy” appearance with Billy Crystal and Kevin Nealon on January 20, which likely explained our preferential treatment.

Laurie’s presence immediately elevated our group’s sometimes less-than-scintillating dinner conversations. When you understand that many of our exchanges have begun with lines slightly beneath Algonquin Round Table standards such as “How about them Dodgers?,” you’ll appreciate why we strive to bring in interesting guests who can help raise the level of dialogue.

Some of the waiters in the room appeared to have worked there long enough to have served Dick and Liz their vodka martinis back in the day. As we were handed our menus, Arnie quietly pointed out the gentleman sitting in the adjacent booth who looked very much like singer Neil Sedaka, then confirmed his sighting with our waiter. Later that evening, Arnie, who is an otherwise rational man, veritably tackled Sedaka on his way to the men’s room, but the extremely gracious and charming singer appeared undaunted by such typical interruptions to his evenings.

We munched on fried calamari as we studied our menus. Laurie chose the Caesar salad, while Arnie ordered the “Chicken parmigiana a la Nikola.” Barry ordered a made-to-order dish of linguine al dente, aglio e olio (garlic and oil) with anchovies and broccoli. Mine was a bit simpler—”Scallops, sauté.” We topped it off with cappuccinos, tasty flan, and a large wedge of tiramisu (accent on u).

As we made our exit, Arnie spotted former Palisades Honorary Mayor Bob Saget at a nearby table and soon was engaged in conversation with him and members of his party. We later speculated that during the evening, Arnie had met almost every diner in the place, but we took note that he may have missed table #12 in the very back of the room.

That night, our group sadly discovered that the “night life” may no longer be “our life,” since we were all back home safe and sound by 10 o’clock. But I had also witnessed Neil Sedaka stifle a yawn earlier in the evening, and I’m betting that he fully understands our senior dilemma.

Bob Vickrey is a longtime Palisadian and regular contributor to the News. He also writes for the Houston Chronicle and the Waco Tribune-Herald.

PACIFIC PALISADES ★ DEMOCRATIC CLUB
2018 Annual Meeting (open to all!) • Sun., Jan. 28 • 2 - 4 PM
 Pacific Palisades Woman’s Club - 901 Haverford Ave.
 Light Refreshments - Easy Parking (on street & in lot)
 Confirmed so far (in alphabetical order):
State Senator Ben Allen **State Assemblymember Richard Bloom** **City Councilmember Mike Bonin** **County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl**
 Admission FREE (suggested donation \$10 to defray costs)
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DINING WITH GRACE

MOKU • Japanese-Thai Cuisine
524 Palisades Dr., Pacific Palisades • (310) 230-3000

Moku, just off Sunset in the Highlands, was recommended to me. So when a friend called and wanted to tell me about her recent adventures in Spain, I asked her to join me for Monday dinner at Moku, where I had not dined before. What a treat it turned out to be!

First of all, it turned out that on Mondays from 4 to 9 p.m. there is a Happy Hour with specials (plus wines and beers) being half off. That same Happy Hour feature is also offered Tuesday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

But it was the delicious food that made our dinner such a treat.

The crispy Brussels sprouts with almonds (\$9) made an outstanding beginning. This array of seasoned leaves of sprouts were delicious and tasty to the last bite.

Next was the Drunken Udon (\$13), which are fried Japanese noodles fragrant with garlic, chili, bell pepper and Thai basil leaf.

Another delicious Thai dish was the Garlic and Pepper Sauce (\$13) made with stir-fried garlic, ground pepper and oyster sauce and served with shrimp (although diners may have the protein of their choice).

Each of these singularly excellent dishes were filled with flavor.

A quintet of five skewers of Chicken Satay (\$12) not only looked compelling on the colorful menu but proved



to be as yummy as they looked, especially when dipped in the spicy peanut sauce.

Small sample cups of the Tom Kha Soup (\$8) were another winner. One of the most intriguing flavors of this fascinating soup is the galangal root called Laos, or Thai ginger. Also flavored with key lime and lemongrass, this creamy white-fleshed soup with its coconut base was delicious to the last spoonful.

Two small special house rolls composed of crispy tuna and avocado on top of deep-fried sushi rice, and served with a spicy eel sauce, was our last treat before dessert.

Our finishing delight was a dish composed of a vanilla ice cream ball along with a ball of green tea ice cream served with a crispy fried banana. Delish!

The restaurant offers sushi and sashimi rolls along with appetizers, salads and soups, entrees and bento boxes as well as a variety of Thai food. There is a large array of special house rolls and even lunch specials, as well as a kids' menu for age 12 and under.

Moku is open noon to 3 p.m. for lunch Tuesday through Sunday. Dinner hours are 4 to 9 p.m. on Monday, but the rest of the week they open for dinner at 3 p.m.

The restaurant is most attractive with seating in several areas (there is even an outside patio for sunny weather) along with a long bar area perfect for single diners.

Moku is a "find."

— GRACE HINEY

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

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

NORGP
□ □ □ □ □

LIHEW
□ □ □ □ □

PPUTEP
□ □ □ □ □

DISARH
□ □ □ □ □

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Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

What is it like exploring the deep seas?
The sea, once it casts its spell, holds one in its net of wonder forever.
Wow!

THE INTERVIEW WITH UNDERSEA-EXPLORER JACQUES COUSTEAU WAS

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: □ □ - □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

(Answers on Page 18)

Pacific Palisades Rain Report

The first measurable rainstorm since last February brought 2.10 inches of rain to Pacific Palisades on January 8-9, according to Carol Leacock, who has the official L.A. County rain gauge at her home on Bienvenida Avenue. The rainfall season is measured from July to July in Pacific Palisades. Last year's total was 22.93 inches, and the normal is 14.25 inches.

The most rain recorded here since 1942, when Zola and Cliff Clearwater began keeping the records, was 42.60 inches in 1997-98. The least amount recorded was 4.11 inches in 2006-07.

The Golden Bull
at the Beach

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The Spittfire Grill Photo: Joy O'Leary

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Play On! By Rick Abbott
Write Me a Murder By Frederick Knott
Bark! A Musical By David Troy Francis, Gavin Geoffrey Dillard, Robert Schrock and Mark Winkler
Parfumerie Adapted by E.P. Dowdall
From the Hungarian play *Illatszertar* by Miklos Laszlo
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2017 SALES

A REPUTATION FOR RESULTS: When someone does something over and over, they become pretty good at it! The Edlen Team has represented nearly 1,350 clients and \$1.5 billion in home sales since 1986. We thank each and every client that we have been fortunate enough to work with over the past year. We look forward to the opportunity to help more families buy and/or sell in 2018!

 13600 Bayliss \$6,650,000	 333 Mt Holyoke \$4,800,000	 685 Amalfi \$ 3,995,000	 1045 El Medio \$3,695,000	 1332 El Hito \$3,555,555	 1422 Monte Grande \$3,295,000	 16584 Via Floresta \$2,875,000
 1319 Marinette \$2,395,000 * *	 18277 Wakecrest \$2,325,000	 2336 Banyan \$2,225,000 * *	 16794 Calle Arbolada \$2,195,000	 826 Jacon Way \$2,179,000	 19452 Cuesta Cala \$2,100,000	 614 San Lorenzo \$1,995,000 * *
 710 Bay St \$1,849,000	 848 Bienvenida \$1,795,000	 1618 Michael Lane \$1,277,000	 17264 Palisades Circle \$1,215,000	 16123 W Sunset #102 \$1,075,000	 17222 Palisades Circle \$925,000	 2480 Centinela #201 \$717,000
 1355 Sierra Bonita #210 \$489,000 * *	 12724 Caswell #3 \$425,000	 17609 Camino De Yatasto \$15,000/month	 16630 Cumbre Verde \$13,500/month	 1130 Embury \$12,500/month	 16808 Calle De Sarah \$11,500/month	 321 Alta \$9,000/month
 333 Mt Holyoke \$8,750/month	 16640 Merrivale \$8,200/month	 16712 Calle Arbolada \$8,000/month	 3729 Castlerock \$7,950/month	 823 Enchanted Way \$7,500/month * *	 1774 Michael Lane \$7,250/month	 14738 W Sunset \$5,800/month

* = Multiple Offers * = Sold Over Asking Price



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