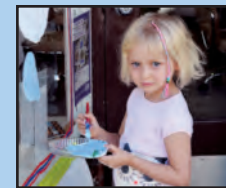


PALISADES NEWS

Vol. 1, No. 1 • November 5, 2014 *Uniting the Community with News, Features and Commentary*

Circulation: 14,000 • \$1.00



**Window
Contest
Winners**
See Page 15

Playground Reopens on Temescal



An accessible playground (exceeds ADA compliance regulations) opened in Temescal Canyon Park in late September. The area has been closed during a Prop O project, which included installing a tank underneath to capture rain run-off. Photo: Shelby Pascoe

Palisades News Debuts Today As a Bi-Monthly

Welcome to the debut issue of *Palisades News*, a full-color newspaper that will be mailed to 13,000 households on the first and third Wednesday of every month. Circulation will include all of zip code 90272, plus Sullivan, Mandeville and Santa Monica Canyons.

Our editorial coverage will focus on Pacific Palisades news, business, sports, education, community history, entertainment and features. Our two (or more) opinion pages will provide a range of views and lively commentary by Palisadians—for Palisadians.

Palisades News is owned by Palisades High alum and local entrepreneur Scott Wagenseller, through his new publishing company, Wagenseller Publishing. *Palisades News* is independent of *Post 283 News*, the monthly newsletter produced by American Legion Post 283 that will now be delivered with the *Palisades News*.

“Our business community has suffered in recent years,” said Wagenseller, “but Rick Caruso’s development should inspire a revival. Combine this with the ongoing activism of our town’s numerous organizations and it’s clear that now is the time to launch a newspaper that provides responsible journalism and offers a community forum that keeps Palisadians engaged and informed.”

Local businesses, realtors and organizations can call account executive Jeff Ridgway at (310) 573-0150 to reserve a spot for their ads in upcoming issues. His e-mail is jeffridgway@palisadesnews.com. Restaurants and religious institutions should contact Grace Hiney at gracehiney@palisadesnews.com or call (310) 401-7694.

To reach Sue Pascoe with a story idea, an obituary, a Letter to the Editor or an opinion piece, please e-mail suepascoe@palisadesnews.com or call (310) 401-7690.

Rec Center Needs New Playground

The children’s playground at the Palisades Recreation Center, in addition to being nearly 20 years old, is not ADA compliant, and needs to be replaced.

The Park Advisory Board and Park Director Erich Haas spoke about plans for a new playground at the board’s quarterly meeting in October.

Brad Thornton, director of development of Shane’s Inspiration, an internationally-recognized company specializing in inclusive playgrounds, said his firm could provide a design, based on community input, and then help raise the necessary funds.

Playgrounds are no longer described in terms of how many swings and the kinds of slides, but also in the differences between ADA compliant (required by law), accessible and inclusive.

ADA compliant, which is what the City of L.A. now builds, allows a child in a wheelchair to get in and around on the playground, but does not necessarily allow

the child to use the equipment.

Accessible playgrounds are built so that a person using a wheelchair may use the equipment. It may have pieces that move or make music, and there may be an accessible swing seat and quiet places for children to calm down.

Inclusive or universally accessible playground goes a step further than accessible by challenging every child at his or her level, and encouraging children of all abilities to play with one another.

When asked, Erich Haas said he was not sure how much money the City would spend to replace the playground with an ADA compliant playground.

Thornton said that a universal playground would cost from \$300,000 to \$700,000, depending on the elements the community wanted to include. Items such as water equipment or music result in a higher price.

“These projects [inclusive playgrounds] are legacy projects,” said Thornton, who estimated an 18-week design period and 30

days for construction—if funding and permits are in place.

Haas was asked if money budgeted for a new ADA compliant playground at the Recreation Center could go towards an inclusive playground, with the community funding the difference.

“I’ll look into it,” he said.

In arguing to approve Shane’s Inspiration as the company to design the new Palisades playground, PAB member Susan McInerney, who organizes the annual Halloween Spooktacular, said: “This is an opportunity to build something exciting. We’re shooting for the stars for the Palisades; we don’t want a typical playground.”

The PAB approved a motion that “Shane’s Inspiration be the vendor to guide us through the process of incorporating a universally accessible playground.”

Visit: shanesinspiration.org. Contact: Erich Haas at erich.haas@lacity.org.

PCH, Incline Construction Update

The Coastal Interceptor Relief Sewer project, located near the Annenberg Beach House, south of Chautauqua on Pacific Coast Highway, is on schedule. All night work is complete, but construction will continue daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The micro-tunneling machine will be installed in one of the pits around Thanksgiving. Tunneling and pipe installation will take about two months and the project should be completed by next April.

Meanwhile, construction bids to replace the California Incline bridge will open in December and a recommendation sent to the Santa Monica City Council in January. Pre-construction activities are slated for March, with construction starting in April. Officials believe there will be a small overlap with the CIRS project.

The Incline work is set for a 12- to 14-month time frame with completion expected in May 2016.

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SPEAKERS CORNER

McCormick Highlights English Gardens

Doug McCormick will speak at the Pacific Palisades Garden Club meeting, 7:30 p.m. on Monday, November 3, at the Woman's Club, 901 Haverford Avenue. The public is invited.

Kenneth Turan to Speak About His New Book

Kenneth Turan, film critic for the *Los Angeles Times* and NPR's Morning Edition, will speak Thursday, November 6, about his latest book, *Not to Be Missed: Fifty-Four Favorites From a Lifetime of Film*.

Hosted by the Pacific Palisades Library Association, Turan will talk at 6:30 p.m. in the library's community room, 861 Alma Real. The public is invited and admission is free.

Turan, a longtime resident of the Palisades, fell in love with cinema as a child watching "Million Dollar Movie" on WOR-TV in Brooklyn. He has been writing about movies since the mid-1970s, when he was a staff writer for the *Washington Post*.

In an essay he wrote about "Fifty-Four Favorites" in May, Turan noted that "... I took it as a good sign that my list ended up striking something of a balance between films like *Casablanca* and *The Godfather* that everyone will have seen and those like *First Contact* and *Leolo* that have a more limited following. I re-saw each one before writing an accompanying essay, and made sure each one fit a specification Roger Ebert once laid down: "Every great film should seem new every time you see it."

Turan, who also serves as director of the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prizes, has written numerous books, including, *Now in Theatres Everywhere: A Celebration of a Certain Kind of Blockbuster*, *Never Coming To A Theater Near You* and *Free For All: Joe Papp, The Public and The Greatest Theater Story Ever Told*.



Kenneth Turan Photo: Patricia Williams

Tyler Gibb Discusses "Advance Directives"

The Palisades WISE Connect and the Palisades Branch Library present Tyler Gibb, a second year fellow at UCLA Health Ethics Center, who will address "Advance Directives" at 2 p.m. on Friday, November 14, in the Palisades Branch Library community room. Audience members will reflect on "Who will make your healthcare decisions when you can't?" The event is free, but please RSVP to (310) 829-5699.

Reverend Bill Craig Enlightens

Palisades Presbyterian Church's new luncheon speaker series, "Food for Thought," continues at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 18, in Janes Hall, corner of El Medio and Sunset, with former Reverend Bill Craig. The public is invited and there's no admission charge, but RSVP to (310) 454-0366 by November 14.

After receiving his bachelor's and master's degree in mechanical engineering, Craig served as an officer in the U.S. Army stationed at White Sands Missile Range. While working at a jet propulsion lab, Craig began his seminary studies at Princeton Theological Seminary. He served as a pastor in Hollywood, where he met his wife Polly. In addition to serving Pacific Palisades, he also worked in Sherman Oaks and Burbank, where he was a member of the city commission on domestic abuse.

Dr. Mary Gordon Speaks on Chumash

Continuing the Chautauqua Series, Dr. Mary Contini Gordon, author of *TIQ SLO'W: The Making of a Modern Day Chief* will talk about the lasting impact of Chumash Chief Charlie Cooke, 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 18 at 15601 Sunset Boulevard at Woodland Hall, Temescal Gateway Park. The story includes the collaborative leadership on behalf of Indian sites and parks. Dennis Garcia, Chumash elder, will start the evening with a blessing and add his perspectives to the story. This free event included free parking. Call (310) 858-7272 ext. 131 or e-mail interpprograms@mrca.ca.gov.

(If your organization is hosting a speaker and the event is open to the public, please e-mail suepascoe@palisadesnews.com, so the speaker and topic can be included in this column.)

Rea Bows Out in By-laws Dispute

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

What started as a routine adherence to Pacific Palisades Community Council bylaws turned into a letter-writing and e-mail campaign challenging Jim Rea, the proposed alternate candidate for Area 3 (Marquez).

At the October 23 PPCC meeting, President Chris Spitz asked for civility. "Jim is a stand-up, honorable guy and I am upset by the personal attacks." She then announced Rea had withdrawn as a candidate.

"It is long past time to stop the attacks on me and on the PPCC," Rea wrote in a letter to the Council. "I request that my name be withdrawn from consideration. And until this recent barrage of attacks on me, it was my pleasure to serve my community. I believe I did so with honesty, integrity and frankly, with an enormous amount of time and effort."

The Community Council held its traditional election for eight area representatives and one at-large representative in September. After the election, in which Rea, an incumbent, lost to Greg Sinaiko (154-42), Rea placed his name in consideration for the alternate position. If the elected representative is absent, the alternate attends the meeting and votes on agenda items.

According to PPCC bylaws, a committee of three past chairs reviews applications and makes recommendations to the PPCC Board. Past presidents Shirley Haggstrom, Richard Cohen and Barbara Cohen chose Rea.

At the October 9 Council meeting, Sinaiko said he didn't want Rea because he wanted a like-minded individual as his alternate.

Cohen defended the committee's choice, saying "Rea has helped with our website, the Citizen dinner, raised money for Community Council and worked on numerous committees, helping wherever he can."

Palisades News has obtained letters from two Area 3 residents who also opposed Rea. Both felt that since he had lost the election, he did not deserve to sit on the board. But, their main contention was that when he served as a DWP Task Force member in 2013, looking at proposed sites in western Pacific Palisades, he didn't immediately reject any.

"It's true, I did explore many options," Rea said in his letter to PPCC, "but that was the job of the task force. But we voted unanimously to place the Marquez School site in the Tier 3 category, which means 'Do Not Build Here.'"

Area 3 alternate candidate Marc Zuss-

man wrote in a four-page letter: "Mr. Rea also stated at the PPCC Candidates Forum before the election, 'I am committed to doing everything I can to prevent the station from being built near any of the many schools in the area.'"

Zussman surmised that since there are schools near four or five of the sites, "it doesn't sound to me like Jim Rea absolutely opposed building the DWP station next to Marquez Elementary School."

Rea responded, "I did oppose placing it on the DWP's property adjacent to the schoolyard."

A second four-page letter to the PPCC from Area 3 resident Danielle Samulon accused Rea of deception regarding the DWP station.

"Mr. Rea claimed in campaign materials that he believes a power distributing station should not be placed near a school. However, this assertion is belied by his own actions while he served on the joint DWP/LAUSD Community Task Force, along with me and 13 others."

She also wrote that the past presidents committee failed to disclose potential conflicts of interest and said that Cohen and Haggstrom are in the Temescal Canyon Association, which is the primary group that opposes placement of the distributing station next to Fire Station 23 in Los Liones Canyon.

Spitz noted that the three-chair committee was chosen before alternates were nominated.

"The most important consideration was whether the candidates were known to have a record of positive contributions to the community and PPCC," Spitz said. "Candidates were not queried regarding a specific issue. It should be noted that Jim Rea has gone on the record publicly as being against the substation at the school."

Steve Boyers, a past Council president and the new Area 7 alternate, pointed out that through the bylaws, Rea rightfully could remain on the board, but that he had resigned in the best interest of the PPCC. "He's to be commended," Boyers said.

Reza Akef (Area 8) said he had read the numerous e-mails that had been sent about the issue. "No one should have a reputation tarnished because of a volunteer position: working for the community on this council; it should not be a financial detriment."

"I am horrified by the way Rea was treated," added Carol Bruch, second alternate in Area 4.

That same committee is now tasked with selecting a new alternate for Area 3, per PPCC bylaws.

Woman's Club Home Tour Set for Sunday, November 16

Members of the Pacific Palisades Woman's Club will host their 29th annual home tour from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, November 16.

This year's tour is presented by Coldwell Banker realtor Michael Edlen, and tickets with a map will be available at the Clubhouse, 901 Haverford. A free shuttle service will operate between the homes.

Proceeds are used to fund grants requested by local nonprofit groups such as Movies in the Park, Girl Scouts and local schools.

Before or after viewing the exquisitely decorated homes located in four Pacific Palisades neighborhoods, residents are urged to shop at the holiday marketplace, inside the clubhouse. In addition to a large selection of vendors, food will be available.

A wine garden, located in the clubhouse courtyard, will debut this year. Donelan Family Wines, a boutique winery in Sonoma County, will supply the wine, which will be available by the glass. Local musicians will provide music throughout the day.

The boutique is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and admission is free.

On Saturday, November 15, local merchants will participate in a "give-back" do-



This is one of four luxurious homes that residents will be able to visit during the Woman's Club 29th Annual Home Tour.

Photo: Joy Daunis

nation day by giving back 20 percent of purchases. These businesses include Boca, Boca Man, Collections, Denton Jewelers, Flash, Gift Garden Antiques, Jamie Geller Jewelers, Shole Eyewear, Special Moments, The Cottage, Toy Zoo and Vivian's Boutique.

Home tour tickets purchased up to November 15 are \$55 (\$65 at the door). Visit online theppwc.org or send a check to PPWC, P.O. Box 282, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272. All sales are final and the tour will proceed rain or shine.

Residents Urged To Honor WWII Vets This Year

First United Methodist minister Catie Coots will recognize all military veterans at the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, November 9, but special recognition will be given to World War II vets. Phone (310) 454-5529 for inclusion in the bulletin. The church is located at 801 Via de la Paz.

"This will be the first of several events the church hopes to sponsor in conjunction with other churches, community organizations and the American Legion, culminating in a special commemorative event on August 9, 2015, celebrating the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II," said Coots, whose father served in the war.

"Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive!" is a nationwide, grassroots, nonprofit initiative to establish an annual day to honor WWII Vets and the memory of the more than 400,000 Americans who never came home.

In 2010, Congress voted unanimously in favor of observing support of a National Spirit of '45 Day on the second Sunday of every August, coinciding with the anniversary of August 11, 1945, the day when President Harry S. Truman announced Japan's surrender.

Visit: spiritof45.org or e-mail catiecoots@me.com.

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Arrests and Citations Fit All

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

After discussions at several community meetings left some confusion about when homeless people can and cannot be arrested for certain actions, *Palisades News* asked L.A. Neighborhood Prosecutor Claudia Martin for clarification.

For example, several residents seemed to think there's a double standard at work, that if they, for example, urinated on a building in the Palisades business district, they would be arrested, but a homeless person would not.

"The code section [laws] applies to everyone," Martin said. "There is not selective enforcement." She then clarified laws relating to public nudity, public sex, indecent exposure and camping in city parks.

1. A homeless couple was recently discovered having sex at the Palisades Recreation Center. According to Martin, they could have been cited if the elements of a crime were present under California Penal Code 647(a), summarized: The person willfully engaged in the touching of his or another person's genitals, buttocks, or female breast, with the intent to sexually arouse or gratify himself/herself or

another person, or offend another person in a public place, or place open to the public view.

Martin pointed out that *Django Unchained* actress Daniele Watts was recently charged for lewd conduct in public view. It is a crime, and those committing it can be cited.

2. "No Camping" signs are posted on L.A. Recreation and Parks property below Via de las Olas. Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 63.44 notes that people are not allowed to camp or engage in camping in a park, except for locations designated for such purposes, or erect, maintain, use or occupy any tent, excluding umbrellas or sun shades. It further defines camp as using a park for living accommodation purposes.

Martin said that homeless people and residents alike need to abide by the law and could be cited. A first violation is punishable by a \$100 fine.

3. Some Palisadians have seen people urinating on the sides of public buildings. Can those people, homeless or not, be arrested? Martin cites (LAMC) 41.47.2, passed in 2003: "No person shall urinate or defecate in or upon any public street, sidewalk, alley, plaza, beach, park, public building or other publicly maintained facility or

place, or in any place open to the public or exposed to public view, except when using a urinal, toilet or commode located in a restroom, or when using a portable or temporary toilet designed for the sanitary disposal of human waste, which is enclosed from public view."

The answer is "Yes," homeless or not, people must find a public bathroom or risk a misdemeanor citing.

4. Finally, there is a homeless man who likes to sleep nude near the Recreation Center. His backside has gone viral on local social media. This public display of nudity has upset parents who do not want their young

children to see adult male buttocks or genitalia out in public.

LAMC Section 63.44 (b) (14) does not allow people to enter, remain, stay or loiter in any park between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 5 a.m. of the next day and section (20) prohibits nudity in parks or on beaches.

But unless the homeless individual or any individual is naked in a park or on a beach, it is not illegal to be nude, as long as there is not an attempt to sexualize it. A Pacific Palisades resident could walk naked down Swarthmore: there is no law against it.

Community Council to Discuss Preparedness

The Pacific Palisades Community Council will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, November 13 in the community room of the Palisades Branch Library. Los Angeles Department of Emergency Preparedness will present "Five Steps to Neighborhood Preparedness." In conjunction with that report, Los Angeles Fire Department staff will address fire preparedness.

Representatives from Il Piccolo Ritrovo, an Italian restaurant located at 15415 Sunset Blvd., will discuss their potential application for a full liquor license. The Council will also hear a proposed condo project at 1525 Palisades Drive from the developer and the president of the Highlands Presidents Council. All interested community members are invited.

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Heard About The Town

No Bench Room

I was in the Village on a Tuesday afternoon and waiting to meet a friend. Unfortunately, every bench around the Business Block building had a homeless person sitting on it. Where are they all coming from?

Electricity Fears

Charging an electric car can take as much power as a small house. Is Pacific Palisades ready with upgraded transformers to provide electricity to the many new cars now plugged into outlets in the Palisades and also to the homes—or will we be experiencing more brown-outs?

Shout Out for PaliHi

So far this school year, the kids at Palisades High have been doing a good job of keeping their trash picked up along Temescal Canyon Road.

Parking at Will Rogers

My wife and I enjoy taking visiting friends and relatives up to Will Rogers Park, but object to paying such a high parking fee (\$12). Fortunately, we have discovered a great deal: you can pay \$50 for a one-year credit card that can be used 365 days a year. Simply show it to the parking-lot ranger or place it on your dashboard. You can purchase the card at the park with a check or cash.

Upset by Road Closure

I support all the hard work people do to organize charity runs along Los Angeles streets, but there was very little warning about road closures for the October 25 run at the high school. I was late to an appointment because I couldn't go down Temescal Canyon Road (shut between 7 and 10 a.m.). I know there's a Thanksgiving Day race coming up: Can the organizers please let everyone know about road closures?

Seeking Fiber Optics

When is Pacific Palisades going to have fiber optics and finally do away with slow-functioning DSL?

No Mail Complaints

Everyone complains when there's a problem with mail delivery, but no one compliments the carriers when it's going smoothly, as it does our street in the Alphabets. Good job everybody.

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



VIEWPOINT

The Longest I've Lived In One Place

By JUDY SILK
Palisades News Columnist

I was clearing some clutter out of my house the other day, attempting Feng Shui upgrades, when I came across photos I'd taken of the house before my move in. The year was 1996, eighteen years ago. I suddenly realized: this is the longest I've lived in the same house. I had outpaced even my long-time childhood home, where my mother still lives.

I found this house on Hartzell on a hot September day. I remember that I had a hard time really getting a look at the whole place because my three-year-old daughter was simply mesmerized by the under-the-sea mural in the front bedroom and would not be moved. In the end, I think I bought it for the mural. That and its proximity to town.

The first year we lived here, I loved that when Alice and I were sitting out on the front lawn, or rolling down the slope of the grass, we could hear the Pali Elementary School kids on their playground. It gave me the feeling of closeness, knowing that soon we'd be walking to that very same school. I loved that we could walk into town to have dinner at Terri's (now Mayberry). It was as if "Mom" made dinner. My second daughter was born in this house. (Well, not exactly in it; I'm not that much of an earth mother.) It's the only house she's ever lived in. She and her sister both sold snow cones on the nearby corner.

We were the very picture of lyrics in a Crosby Stills and Nash song: "Our house, was a very, very, very fine house, with two cats in the yard . . ." In fact, oddly enough, our cats seemed to attract the attention of the neighborhood dogs, and I met many a life-long friend that way. Porch steps will yield to socializing, and I loved it. Still do. I've always kept a chair, a hammock or a swing on the front lawn so that I can be well ensconced in the habit of smiling at people as they walk by.

One of my chicks left my Palisades nest a few years ago. She went up to college in the Pacific Northwest and returns for holidays and summer vacations, and the next one is getting up on the starting blocks, ready to dive into her own college exploration pool. When that happens, I'll be out on the front lawn, sitting on my swing, *Pali News* in one hand, a glass of pinot grigio in the other, watching the neighbors go by, listening to the familiar sound of kids shouting and laughing on the playground until the bell rings and they shuffle back to class.

For another eighteen years, I hope.

(Judy Silk, a freelance writer, has had 18 essays published by The Huffington Post.)

Thought to Ponder

"An arrogant person considers himself perfect. This is the chief harm of arrogance. It interferes with a person's main task in life—becoming a better person."

—Leo Tolstoy, Russian novelist,
Sept. 9, 1828-Nov. 20, 1910

PALISADES NEWS

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PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

Time for Change: The Palisades News

By SCOTT WAGENSELLER
Owner and Publisher

The time has come to begin anew in Pacific Palisades. We stand on the threshold of significant changes in our town and we need a professional and trustworthy news source to keep us informed about important events and community developments. So with a fresh breeze of entrepreneurial spirit, the *Palisades News* will hit your mailbox twice-monthly.

The motivation for starting this newspaper comes from the community and my family. For the last nine months Sue Pascoe, Manfred Hofer, Bill Bruns and I worked on producing *Post 283 News* for the American Legion, and our efforts paid off with state and national awards. We were able to shine a light on a venerable institution that is a quiet cornerstone of the Palisades. It has been rewarding to bring attention to this vital organization that has stayed true to its pillars and its support of the community.

In fact, the community response and feedback has been overwhelming. Reaching every home in the Palisades, we have heard from Veterans and folks on the streets and in town. Our monthly newsletter is a familiar

and reassuring reminder that we still have our historic identity built around the Palisades community we all know and love.

From my family, I could tell you that Ashley, my wife, is supportive, but there's also the knowledge of my great-grandfather Hudson Wagenseller and his father, John, that inspires me. You see, they ran a publishing business just over 100 years ago in Philadelphia. In fact, their building was located at 31 S. Sixth St., on land now home to the Liberty Bell and the National Independence Historical Park. Additionally, a close cousin at the same time, George Wagenseller, was a publisher and owner of two community newspapers in neighboring Middleburgh, Pennsylvania. So I figure this endeavor is in my blood. How could I turn my back on my destiny?

Carrying on this family legacy, I am thankful to be able to call upon contemporary editors and writers with proven track records. Sue Pascoe will serve as Editor, supported by a strong team of writers, including Laurel Busby, Judy Silk, Brook Dougherty, Lynn Borland, Roger McGrath and others, to bring you news, features and editorial commentary that will provide ongoing insights into what makes the Palisades such a special place to live and work. Grace Hiney, the dean of Los Angeles

restaurant critics, will keep you updated with local reviews; Jack Ross will score points with sports features, and our contributing photographers will include former *New York Times* ace Bart Bartholomew, community icon Rich Wilken and Shelby Pascoe. Jeff Ridgway and Grace Hiney are working with local businesses to provide advertising opportunities, while a team of folks will be posting a robust social media presence. And guiding us all with his knowledge of the town and journalistic experience will be advisor Bill Bruns.

Wagenseller Publishing is proud to produce and deliver a newspaper that offers in-depth community reporting. Our publication will strive to be ethical, balanced and thought-provoking. We promise not to shy away from controversial subjects, but will present them evenly and fairly. We welcome your letters and comments (suepascoe@palisadesnews.com) as we move forward with this exciting venture.

(Scott Wagenseller is a USC alum and '88 graduate of Palisades High. He is founder and owner of Palisades Patrol/Gates Security, and currently serves as commander of American Legion Post 283. He grew up in Sullivan Canyon and now lives in Thousand Oaks with his wife, Ashley, and four children.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

October Transient Editorial Described the Situation

Thank you for the "no-nonsense" editorial in the October issue of the *Post 283 News* about the homeless problem in the Palisades ("The Homeless Problem Can Be Helped"). It was blunt and to the point and yet offered concrete steps each one of us can take.

I am saddened and mostly angered over this homeless problem in our Village.

Scott Dahlberg,
U.S. Marine Corps: 1965-69

Homeless Editorial Lacked Compassion and Insight

As a psychiatrist who has worked with the homeless and with veterans, this (October editorial in *Post 283 News*) is damaging to those already suffering from mental illness, substance abuse, a shortage of affordable housing, limited access to health care, a lack of family support, and much more. The editorial at best displays frustration about and ignorance of the plight of the homeless; at worst shows a damning lack of compassion, understanding gratitude, and more. Personally, I find it frightening that the editorial would suggest that we forget the platitude of "There but for the grace of God, go I."

Stephen Scappa

(Editor's note: Experts at the October 9 homeless forum held by the Pacific Palisades Community Council agreed, as the editorial expressed, that giving money to the homeless was not the correct way to solve the problem. Additional public frustration at that meeting revolved around homeless

campfires in dry hills, nakedness and urination in public and LAPD's inability to arrest or cite because of a lawsuit brought by the ACLU. To read interviews with those living on the streets near Gladstone's, see Page 1 of Post 283 News, delivered with this edition of Palisades News.)

Football Hero John Huarte Is a Neighborhood Hero

When I arrived at the Palisades Recreation Center at dawn Saturday (October 25) to get soccer equipment for the Saturday AYSO games, it was a really depressing sight. Overnight someone had rolled over eight to 10 large, heavy trash barrels. They were on their sides and trash was strewn everywhere—in parking lots and on the grass. I suppose the vandals could have been dogs or coyotes, but those are awfully heavy trash barrels, so I doubt it. It's sad to think that someone would do that in the middle of the night, at a park so many of our kids love. It almost makes you wonder what kind of community we have.

I sent Erich Haas [the park director] a text to let him know he would need a special clean-up effort before the Saturday afternoon Halloween event in the park. Then, as I was loading soccer goals into my SUV, I noticed an elderly gentleman, wearing work gloves, picking up trash. It was a messy job and he wasn't shying away from it.

I couldn't imagine Erich's crew was on the job that quickly, so I introduced myself to the man and asked if he worked for the city. "Oh no," he said, "I just had some work gloves in my car and wanted to help clean up this mess."

I asked his name, so I could pass it on to Erich for thanks, and he said, "John. John Huarte."

You could have knocked me over with a feather! I knew

the former Notre Dame football star and Heisman Trophy winner lived in the Palisades . . . but I didn't know he was the kind of person who would clean up the community kids' park before the sun came up, when half the Palisades was still asleep. Wow. Thanks, John—not just for being a neighborhood hero, but for reminding me that it's our community and our responsibility to take care of it.

Peter Viles

We Must Recognize Our Super Volunteers

(The following letter was sent to Region 69 AYSO Commissioner Janet Anderson in response to Viles' circulated letter.)

I believe it is fantastic and wonderful to recognize the efforts of a great neighbor. I am also continually blown away by the team of literally hundreds of volunteers who help make each and every weekend of AYSO soccer happen. Many are up before dawn every weekend of the season to set goals, check for safety, prepare match strategy, get players to their assigned fields . . .

. . . And many of these folks no longer have children in the program (or never did). I think it would be proper to include a sentence that shared this tidbit of info in order to help spread the magic of AYSO to a larger audience.

Mark Sleeper

U10G Referee Captain, Region 69

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Ruby's Nails Has Opened on Sunset

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

Over the last decade in Pacific Palisades, through good times and bad, one niche business enterprise has thrived: nail salons.

Ruby Nails & Spa, which opened August 2, is the latest entrant, and its owner reflects the entrepreneurial spirit displayed by many immigrants.

In June, when a "For Lease" sign went up at Bellagio Nails (15228 Sunset), Ruby Hong decided she had to be bold, after working 10 years at the salon. "It would be an opportunity to have a business and run it: do it myself," she told *Palisades News*, and she signed a lease with landlord Elliot Zorensky.

Little did Hong know she would get caught in the middle of a series of legal maneuvers that had nothing to do with her. The lease was hers, but before she could reopen the shop, she had to replace plumbing

pipes that had destroyed and a damaged meter. Walls needed to be repaired and repainted and the floor replaced.

Hong took the challenge optimistically: she saw it as a way to make the salon her own. The floor was replaced with ceramic tile, the clamshell-shaped ceiling was repainted and new lighting gave the room a sunny feel. The chairs, which Hong special ordered, are a simple shape, in turquoise and white.

"Palisades is close to the ocean," Hong noted. "I wanted to give the spa the same feel. I want this to be a place that is calming and relaxing."

One way to achieve this is her insistence that her employees don't chat among themselves while working with clients, which maintains a peaceful, quiet and soothing atmosphere.

Hong is also adamant that customers receive immediate attention. "The women in the Palisades are busy," she said. "They have jobs, they have to pick up their kids from school. We make sure they don't have to wait and we try to make them happy with our service."

A native of Saigon, Hong graduated from the University of Vietnam with a degree in business administration. Her husband, Eric Hoai, was her schoolmate and best friend. He moved to the United States in 1995 to attend Pomona College and eventually earned a master's degree in computer science.

The couple were married in a big ceremony in Vietnam in 2004, and Hong came to the United States with Hoai. Her par-



Ruby Hong, who graduated from the University of Vietnam with a degree in business administration, opened her shop on Sunset Boulevard in August. Photo: Shelby Pascoe

ents, four sisters and a brother still live in Vietnam, and she has only seen them two or three times in the past 10 years. "I'm so

lucky with the Internet," she said. "I can speak with my family three times a week or more."

Knolls Pharmacy Offers Glucose Monitoring Nov. 10

A nurse will be available at Knolls Pharmacy to perform free blood glucose monitoring and blood pressure testing from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, November 10.

Knolls is located at 16630 Marquez Ave. Call (310) 454-6000.

Palisades Housing Market Recovery

Contributed by Michael Edlen, Coldwell Banker

There have been some dramatic price increases in many Palisades neighborhoods since the 2008-2011 market correction, especially in the lower price ranges in each area.

AREA	2014* HIGHEST PRICE	2011 HIGHEST PRICE	2014* LOWEST PRICE	2011 LOWEST PRICE
Lower Marquez	\$3,400,000	\$9,000,000	\$825,000	\$575,000
Sunset Mesa & Pacific View Estates	\$3,800,000	\$2,383,000	\$1,610,000	\$1,180,000
Highlands	\$4,725,000	\$3,700,000	\$1,225,000	\$975,000
South of Village	\$4,975,000	\$3,999,000	\$1,350,000	\$700,000
Alphabets & above	\$5,119,000	\$6,000,000	\$1,350,000	\$680,000
El Medio Bluffs	\$6,100,000	\$2,623,000	\$1,042,000	\$715,000
El Medio to Upper Marquez	\$8,726,000	\$4,100,000	\$1,250,000	\$895,000
Santa Monica Cyn	\$9,000,000	\$8,900,000	\$1,390,000	\$868,000
Castellammare	\$9,250,000	\$3,900,000	\$1,105,000	\$650,000
Rustic Cyn/Will Rogers	\$13,275,000	\$9,500,000	\$2,900,000	\$1,695,000
Huntington	\$15,730,000	\$10,500,000	\$2,410,000	\$1,750,000
Riviera	\$20,484,000	\$19,475,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,609,000

*2014 Sales record includes homes sold from 1/1/14 - 10/29/14

Michael Edlen is ranked #52 of all agents in the country with over \$1.5 billion in sales and more than 1,100 transactions. He has tracked Pacific Palisades sales since 1987. If you would like to know what your home may be worth today, Michael can be reached at 310.230.7373 or michael@michaeledlen.com.

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Rotary's Texas Hold'em Benefits Kids

Kids were the big winner in the inaugural Texas Hold'em tournament, held by the Pacific Palisades Rotary Club on September 20.

More than \$8,000 was raised to support youth programs through the Rotary Club Foundation and the Palisades-Malibu YMCA. From novice players to "Palisades Fats" tournament chairman Peter Crosby, 54 entrants did their best to win the pot in "The All in for the Kids" event at the American Legion Hall.

The \$200 entry fee included food, beverages and a lesson on how to play Texas Hold'em.

The winning player, "Palisades Fats" himself, received \$3,000, and to show there were absolutely no "under the table" shenanigans, Crosby immediately donated his winnings to the YMCA and Rotary Club.

Other players in the money were Curt Sobel, Mike Crosby and Stephen Hale.

Said co-organizer Layth Carlson, chair of the YMCA Board of Managers: "This event brought in funds that are urgently needed by the Y to provide financial assistance to local families in need. Y's programs provide healthy fun for everyone, and donations to the Y are tax deductible."

Peter Crosby, a member of the Y and Rotary boards, hopes to expand the Texas Hold'em event next year.

"Everyone participating in the tourna-



Residents played in the Rotary's Texas Hold'em Tournament.

ment got the opportunity to learn a little bit more about playing, a great dinner from Vittorio's, and had a fun evening here in our great town," Crosby said. "We hope everyone will plan to play again next year and, in the meantime, we invite them to visit the Rotary Club to see all the great service work that is made possible by their donations to this event."

Sponsorships included donations from the Coldwell Banker Palisades office, Mario Smolinisky and Cindy and Bill Simon. Several local Coldwell Banker agents, including branch manager Anne Russell, Holly Davis,

Inne Chung, Lauren Polan, Jon Cates and Robbie Howard, also anted up. Other donors included Fran Flanigan, Sharon Rubel, Linda Easton and Lisa Morrin.

Special thanks were given to Legion Post 283 and Rotary Club Foundation Chairman Kevin Niles.

The Rotary Club Foundation donates funds to local causes, including Boy Scouts and Access Books. The Rotary motto, "Service Above Self," guides the club's weekly meetings, held Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. at Aldersgate Retreat Center on Haverford. Visitors are welcome.

Four-Mile Hike In Puerco Canyon

Trailmeister Ron Webster will lead a 4-mile Temescal Canyon Association hike to explore Puerco Canyon on Sunday, November 16 at 9 a.m. Puerco Canyon is newly acquired by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. The public is invited. Meet for carpooling at 9 a.m. in the Temescal Gateway parking lot. Bring lunch and water, but no dogs. Children with adults are welcome. Expect to be back at Temescal early- to mid-afternoon.

Visit: temcanyon.org.

Expanded Library Hours

Head librarian Mary Hopf said that thanks to a recent ballot measure, the library will now have expanded hours. Tuesday and Thursday, the library opens at noon at closes at 8 p.m. Wednesday remains the same 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, it opens at 9:30 a.m. and closes at 5:30 p.m.

The Palisades Branch Library is located at 861 Alma Real Dr. Call: (310) 459-2754.

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LaBrot Installed as Optimist President

Dr. George LaBrot was installed as the new Pacific Palisades Club Optimist Club president at a dinner at the Proud Bird restaurant in early October.

"As a service club, we are dedicated to bring out the best in kids in our community," LaBrot said in his installation remarks.

"We each give time and talents in the spirit of service, and through that we come to appreciate each other and ourselves in a special way. When we are dedicated to service, we become more alive, more self-confident and more lighthearted."

LaBrot, who spent the first 10 years of his life on a dairy farm in Wisconsin before moving to Illinois, attended Loyola of Chicago as an undergraduate. He then graduated from medical school at the University of Illinois, with the intent of becoming a small-town general practitioner.

In 1972, while interning in Oakland, LaBrot met his future wife, Paula, through mutual friends. They married the following year and moved in June to Valdez, Alaska, where he worked.

Although Valdez is a vital oil-exporting port in Alaska, the population is under 4,000, there's an average of almost 300 inches of snow per year.

"We made it until March, but for a variety of reasons, Valdez was not for us, so we came to Los Angeles," LaBrot explained.

"Paula was a film editor and could work here."

The couple lived in Santa Monica until LaBrot finished his internal medicine residency, and pulmonary and critical care fellowships.

They had two children, Ben (born in 1976) and Sky (1981), and moved to Pacific Palisades in 1978.

"Paula started Theatre Palisades Kids in 1982 and ran it for 14 years," LaBrot said. "She is such a good builder that the program is still on-going."

Paula received a Community Council Golden Sparkplug Award for her work in 1990.

Meanwhile, LaBrot said, "I wanted a more formal organization through which I could contribute to the community. I joined the Optimist Club for that reason in about 1984."

LaBrot, the medical director of Sleep at American Wellness and Imaging for the UCLA Medical Group in Santa Monica, is board certified in pulmonary and sleep medicine and critical care.

"Due to the worsening obesity epidemic in America, obstructive sleep apnea was becoming more of a problem for my patients," LaBrot said, "so in 2007, I added sleep medicine to my other certifications."

In 1991, LaBrot traveled to India for the



Dr. George LaBrot with daughter Sky at the Optimist Installation Dinner.

first time. "Some friends of ours had previously worked with Mother Teresa in Calcutta, so I had an introduction and some supplies for her orphanages," LaBrot said. He worked at the Home for the Dying for a few weeks and several days at an orphanage for brain-damaged children.

"Mother Teresa was hilarious," LaBrot said. "She had a tremendous sense of hu-

mor. I've observed, since then, that the more spiritually advanced people become, the funnier they become. I presume that is because they become more light-hearted."

He remembers Mother Teresa saying "Never fall into the conceit that you are responsible for taking care of your patients, your family or yourself, because you are not. That is God's job. In Calcutta, I have the Mother House, the Home for the Dying, the leprosarium, and two orphanages. Do you think that I can take care of all that? Of course I cannot! That is God's job. So never fall into the conceit of thinking that it is your job to take care of your patients, your family, or yourself, because it is not."

LaBrot remembers her taking a short comedic pause, and adding "It is only your job to ACT like you are taking care of them."

After that trip, LaBrot and Paula spent vacations in far-flung locations—Sierra Leone, Madagascar, India, Nepal and the jungles of Cambodia—until his two children founded Floating Doctors in 2009.

"My vacation time has been spent with them in Panama and Haiti," LaBrot said.

Dr. Ben LaBrot brings free acute and preventative health care services to isolated areas, through a traveling medical boat. Sky directs the missions that enable her brother and a staff of volunteers to treat patients. (Visit: floatingdoctors.com).

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Donations Sought for Medical Team

Palisadian Navid Brian Noori is seeking donations for an upcoming medical mission to orphanages and monastic primary schools in Myanmar through SAVE (Student Action Volunteer Effort).

“We would like small toys, soccer jerseys for kids (AYSO), reading/sunglasses for adults, travel/hotel-sized shampoo or soap and toothbrushes/toothpaste,” said Noori, who is also seeking small earrings. “Many girls have their ears pierced at a young age,

but do not have real earrings to put in place, so they use a piece of wood to keep the piercing open.”

Collection boxes are located at the Chamber of Commerce office, 15330 Antioch.

SAVE was created in 2006 by Palisadian Dr. Marna Geisler, who has a pediatrics office in Santa Monica. The goal was to provide free health care for people in Myanmar’s under-served areas through annual medical missions and collaborations with Myanmar Compassion Project, based in that country.

Geisler organized a team of medical professionals, high school students and other volunteers, who made the first trip to Myanmar.

Three years later, the team was accompanied by a plastic surgeon, who performed numerous small procedures, including cleft-lip repairs. That same year, volunteer Nancy Mansfield became involved, and has since become a team leader, managing the charity as well as forming a 501(c)(3), which means donations are tax deductible.

Noori, who attended Windward School and then Occidental, became involved with SAVE after graduating from college.



Americans on a recent SAVE trip to Myanmar included (left to right, back row starting with second person) Eleanor Tam, Reilly Geisler, Nancy Mansfield, Mina Marciano, Dr. Marna Geisler, Olivia Casey, Navid Noori, Katherine Pierce. (Second row, far right) Garret Geisler, next to him Nicole Lata.

“I was an assistant language teacher in Japan, but after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami in 2011, I returned home,” Noori said. He spent a month on a Navajo reservation shadowing physicians, and then went on his first mission with SAVE. “That’s when I decided to pursue medicine.”

In 2012-2013, he took the prerequisites for medical school and that fall enrolled in a master’s degree program at Georgetown

University, studying bio-hazardous threat agents and emerging infectious diseases. Noori is applying to medical school, but plans to join the SAVE team when it leaves for Myanmar on December 25, returning January 5.

Last year, SAVE provided care to 868 people, ranging in age from infants to 60 years. To volunteer, visit: studentaction-volunteereffort.org.

Yuhioh! Trading Cards

A bi-weekly Yuhioh! Trading Card game is held from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m., the first and third Wednesday of the month (November 5 and 19) in the Library Community Room. The game improves skills in math, reading, strategy and statistical analysis. All levels are welcome.
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Donohue Is Asset to Woman's Club

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

Early one recent morning at the Woman's Club, the organization's new administrator, Roberta Donohue, was cheerily conversing with several members. One woman wanted to make a donation to the building fund, and Mary Dean, who teaches a free tai chi class, stopped to say "Hi." Vera Norris, whose husband was the son of the original owner of Norris Hardware, was chatting with a friend.

"The best part of my job is I'm back in the Palisades, seeing my 'peeps' [people]" said Donohue, who grew up in Pacific Palisades, and whose father Rocco owned the Mobil gas station at Swarthmore and Sunset. "I like it here, it feels good."

Donohue was the publisher of the *Palisadian-Post* for almost 30 years, before being fired by the paper's new owner in early 2013, and was a leading member of the Chamber of Commerce. She continues to serve on the Chamber's board of directors and, before taking the Woman's Club job, had been working part-time for the Pacific Palisades Historical Society, helping to catalog the Betty Lou Young collection, which was donated to the Huntington Museum by Young's son, Randy.

After all these active decades in the com-



Roberta Donohue is the Woman's Club new administrator.

Photo: Ed Lowe

munity, it seems that Donohue (who lives in Malibu with her husband, Rich) knows practically everyone in town through one connection or another.

For example, as a young woman, she taught piano to Vera Norris' daughter, Melissa.

"I had taken lessons all my life," Donohue said. "There was a music store [where Café Vida is located today] and after graduating from Palisades High with the 1970 winter class and then business college, I

taught there for a brief time."

One of the former owners of the *Palisadian-Post*, Charlie Brown, was best friends with Donohue's father. "He wanted to know if I could type," she said, noting that she could do 150 words per minute. "I was hired in 1972 to work on cold type, which was a Compugraphic computer that printed out a tape. No computer screen back in those days. That tape was then put into a uni-setter that we would set up with a film strip and each film strip was a different font style."

After six months in the back shop, Donohue was offered the receptionist job, which meant she handled subscription circulation and hand-stenciling addresses on the newspapers. While in the front office she learned how to paste up classified and real estate ads from Marie Brown.

In 1981, the paper was sold to the Small Newspaper Group of Illinois, but Paul Brown (Charlie and Marie's son) stayed on as publisher. Three years later, he left and after interviewing several candidates, Tom Small asked Donohue, "Why don't you apply? You know this business like the back of your hand."

Over the next three decades, Donohue directed the newspaper's business opera-

tions and commercial printing.

"The late '80s and early '90s were good years for commercial printing," she said. But once computers and the internet became part of every household, the competition undermined printing shops everywhere.

"Our two businesses [printing and the newspaper] went hand-in-hand, helping each other," Donohue said. "We made a profit every year, and were still making one when the business was sold in December 2012. I don't believe people will ever want to stop reading a good old-fashioned newspaper."

Asked how she felt about the sale of the Mobil station to developer Rick Caruso, she said: "I believe in progress, and I think that is what Caruso will do with the real estate [he is purchasing on Swarthmore and Sunset]," she said. "It will probably no longer be a Mobil station. That was my dad's life, but I took it harder when the *Post* was sold."

"Although Rodeo Realty has made the building [on Via de la Paz] look nice, it was really hard seeing the backshop area and the printing press torn down. When you take a major piece of history and shut it down, you've destroyed an era," Donohue said. "We bonded with the community. I'll always remember the kids who came through on tour and watched the paper come off the press."

Donohue has been hired by the Woman's Club to oversee the day-to-day administrative tasks and work with business leaders and the community at large. One of the more challenging projects will be to help the club raise \$150,000 to restore the clubhouse and preserve it as a vital meeting space in the community. "She's an old lady that needs a little updating," Donohue said, smiling. Then it was back to her phone and her computer as she worked to promote the 29th annual Home Tour on November 16.

The Donohues' daughter, Jenny, attended local schools, graduating from Palisades High in 2008, and Loyola Marymount University in 2012. She is now a lead designer at Chromatik, a Santa Monica-based company.

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Five-year-old Willa Prawler was one of many youth who entered the annual Woman's Club Halloween Window Painting contest. Their colorful art was found on many shop windows around the village. Photo: Shelby Pascoe

Halloween Window Contest

The winners of the 2014 Pacific Palisades Woman's Club Annual Halloween Window Painting Contest were announced on October 31.

In the under five-year-old age group Maddie Mozenter, who painted the Jaimie Geller Jewelry window, took first. Second graders from Calvary Christian School took first in the under eight-year-old category. Grace Garacochea, Sienna Ferraro, Elyse

Ennis, Sofia Cianciolo and Anna Duboc-Higdon painted the window by Starbucks.

In the under 11-year-old group, which had the most entries, Corpus Christi Troop 12865 took first. Artists included Lulu Prestine, Maria Quigley, Emily Suby, Gigi Miller, Jacqui Diaz, Sofia Davies and Fae Den Dikken. Capturing the under 13-year-old category was Savannah Scott, who painted the Gift Garden Antiques window.

Near-Tragedy on PCH

Three homeless men were involved in an altercation on Pacific Coast Highway at Sunset Boulevard, in the lot north of Gladstone's restaurant, around 8 p.m. on October 19.

An eyewitness reported one man on the ground screaming while the other two beat him. The eyewitness tried to call 911, but the operator didn't respond. The caller watched as the victim tried to escape by running into the southbound lanes of PCH. Traffic slowed in an effort to avoid the men.

Weary of waiting for an operator, the eyewitness hung up and called Palisades Patrol, whose dispatcher quickly called the police. The fight moved to the center-diver of PCH when Palisades Patrol and firefighters from Station 23 arrived, fol-

lowed shortly by LAPD.

"I really thought they were going to kill the man," the eyewitness said.

Station 23 transported the victim to the hospital, and another man was initially placed under arrest by LAPD, who said all involved were transients living in the area.

LAPD's October 28 crime report had no record of the incident. Senior Lead Officer Michael Moore speculated there was no report because the victim either did not file a report or that the person taken into custody was arrested on warrants, which does not require a police report.

The eyewitness stated that "without their [Palisades Patrol] help in summoning the police and fire department, that homeless battery victim might be dead."

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Palisadian NFL Player Roundup

By JACK ROSS
Staff Writer

The NFL may not have a team in Los Angeles, but Pacific Palisades could field the beginnings of one, with four homegrown athletes playing at the pro level this season.

For starters, Washington kicker **Kai Forbath** has been impressive. On October 19, he made a field goal in every quarter, including a 22-yarder as time expired, giving the Redskins a 19-17 home win over Tennessee and ending his team's four-game losing streak. This was the Sherman Oaks Notre Dame product's first game-winning field goal with his team behind since his days at UCLA, where he played

from 2006-10.

In the preseason, Forbath fought for his job against rookie Zach Hocker, a seventh-round draft pick chosen to compete against him and won. Following his 40-yard field goal in overtime that enabled Washington to upset Dallas, 20-17, on October 27, he is 13 of 14 on the season and 18 of 19 in extra points.

Meanwhile, Palisades High's **Schwartz brothers**—who happen to be the first Jewish brothers in the NFL since 1923—are still Sunday football mainstays, though they've experienced very different seasons thus far.

Mitchell has anchored Cleveland's offensive line since being drafted in the second round in 2012. This year, as of October 26, the 317-pound tackle had played all 468 of his team's offensive snaps, one of four Browns on the offensive line to do so. The team's durability upfront has played a major role in Cleveland's early success (despite losing Pro Bowl center Alex Mack, who also played with Mitchell at Cal, for the season due to a broken leg), and the Browns were in the hunt for the AFC North title at 4-3.

Meanwhile, older brother **Geoff** unfortunately has not yet seen the field for his New York Giants. The offensive guard signed a four-year, \$16.8 million deal this

March, only to dislocate his right big toe in a preseason game against the Jets. However, reports noted that he was back practicing ahead of the team's Monday night home game against Indianapolis on November 3.

Former Loyola star **Chris Conte** has also endured his fair share of health challenges this season. In April, Chicago's fourth-year safety—who played in 45 of 48

games to open his career—underwent right shoulder surgery. He recovered in time to start Chicago's first six games, only to sprain his shoulder and suffer his second concussion of the year at Atlanta in Week 6. After missing one game, he returned for the Bears' 53-21 defeat at New England, recording a season-high eight tackles and bringing his season total to 27 with two interceptions.

Bocce May Come to the Park

At the Palisades Park Advisory Board meeting in October, members voted to spend \$2,500 to fund a survey for a proposed Bocce Center at the Recreation Center.

The courts would be located in the area adjacent to the maintenance yard, now occupied by the concrete slab and picnic tables in the upper picnic area, nearest the tennis courts.

The current picnic tables would be removed, but the City has offered to provide new tables in clusters around the bocce courts. The sport involves two players—or two teams of two, three or four, and can be traced back to the Roman Empire. The sport is played with one small ball

(Pallino) and eight larger balls—four for each team. The Pallino is thrown first and becomes the target. Then each ball is thrown with the goal of placing it as close to the Pallino as possible.

The money for the survey will come from the Toppel Matching Grant fund, established in 2012 in honor of Kurt Toppel's 80th birthday. Money donated to this fund will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Toppels up to \$20,000. To date, \$1,900 has been donated. These funds will be used for worthy projects at the park.

To make a donation, contact PAB Board Chair Mike Skinner at mkskinner@mgs Skinner.com or park director Erich Haas at erich.haas@lacity.org.

Fields Will Be Closed

The Field of Dreams at the Palisades Recreation Center will close for extensive field maintenance starting Thanksgiving Day, November 27, and will remain closed that weekend. The fields will reopen Monday, December 1.

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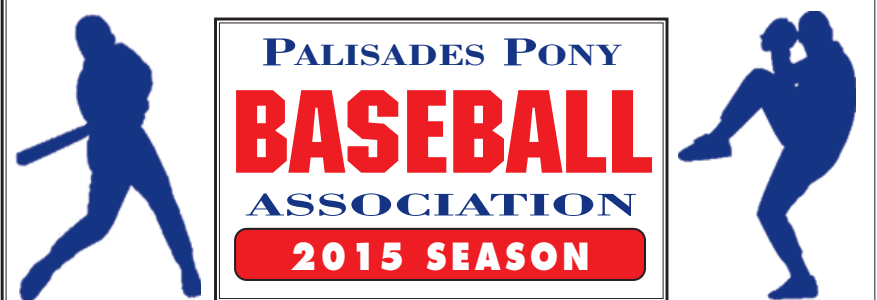


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Saxon Followed a Dream

By JACK ROSS
Staff Writer

When Lisa Nehus (now Saxon) became one of the first female reporters to cover major league sports in the 1980s, sexual harassment and gender discrimination were not yet a part of the American vernacular.

“The road I traveled was not easy,” says Saxon, who covered baseball, football (including the Super Bowl) and UCLA basketball during her 22-year newspaper career. “We had to fight just to get locker-room access. And once we had access, it was open season.”

Early in Saxon’s career, in locker rooms everywhere, players yelled, spit and threw jock-straps at her, exposing themselves, and even masturbated in front of her.

Saxon responded by quickly developing a thick skin. And sharp wit.

Players would open their towels and loudly declare, “Have you ever seen anything like this before?” Saxon’s reply: “Yeah, it looks like a penis, only smaller than what I’ve seen before. Put it away.”

Another favorite: a guard would stop her at the door, and state, ‘No Women Allowed’ despite Saxon’s clearly visible media credential. Her rebuttal: “The press pass says, ‘Admit Bearer,’ not ‘Admit Bearer with Penis.’”

In her first days on the Angels beat (in 1982, as the back-up writer for the *L.A. Daily News*), manager Gene Mauch made his unhappiness about Saxon clearly known: “I can’t keep you out of my clubhouse, but if you come into my office, I’m not talking.” I put my hand out, and he turned on his heels and ran into center field. I just smiled and said, ‘Nice to meet you, too, Gene.’”

“Most of the reporters told me not to go in his office,” Saxon says. “They felt it would compromise their ability to do their jobs. And for a while—I was only 22 years old—I did what they wanted.” But she knew it wasn’t right—she was missing out on valuable post-game quotes—and the next season, after Mauch was replaced by John McNamara, she went into the manager’s office.

McNamara was “like an uncle,” Saxon says, a constant source of strength, teaching and kindness and made sure she was treated fairly.

Saxon was one of just three women covering the majors full-time in 1983, and when she grappled with quitting amidst deep frustrations and the day-to-day disrespect on the road, McNamara offered words of encouragement: “If you’re tired of it, that’s one thing. But you cannot let someone else decide what you’re going to do with your life.”

His message kept Saxon focused on her



Lisa Saxon, seen here at the University of Washington’s Husky Stadium press box in 1995, covered hundreds of Pac 10 games for the Riverside Press-Enterprise. Photo: Scott Howard-Cooper

love of baseball, reporting and writing. But in 1984, when she began covering the Dodgers, a new challenge emerged. The American League allowed women in team clubhouses, but National League teams decided on a team-by-team basis, meaning Saxon never knew if she would be allowed in on any given night.

During the World Series in Cincinnati, Saxon recalls: “I got into the clubhouse by blowing by the guard who tried to stop me, even though I had a credential. I was talking to a player when someone put their hands on me and forced me out. At one point, both of my feet were off the ground.”

“Once I got upstairs to the press box, the Reds’ PR director, Jim Ferguson, started screaming at me that I could not go into the clubhouse. While Ferguson was yelling, a dog was running around the field. I looked at the message board, where there was a statement about dogs joining the Cincinnati police force the same year women were admitted. I pointed to the board and told Ferguson, ‘I get it. In Cincinnati, women are treated like dogs.’ Ferguson was not amused. He ordered an intern to follow me around Riverfront Stadium for the rest of the Series.”

“I was the only woman in the press box who wasn’t served food. I asked my own newspaper to help me, but I was told that I was a ‘big girl’ and could handle it. I wasn’t angry; I was frustrated. I was 24 years old and fighting Major League Baseball on my own—and also dealing with some passive-aggressive copy editors at the *Daily News*, who repeatedly pointed out that they didn’t think I was doing a good job. In 1984, I worked 98 consecutive days, got one day off, and worked 76 more consecutive days.”

baseball, not play it (though she did own two gloves, paid for with Blue Chip stamps).

At Cal State Northridge, Saxon secured a scorekeeping job on Bob Hiebert’s baseball team, and volunteered on the sports desk at the *Daily News*. After two years—with only two journalism classes under her belt—she was hired full-time, which meant working at night and taking classes by day until she graduated.

Soon she was on the Angels beat. “People tell me I was a pioneer,” Saxon says. “Really, I was just a naive, enthusiastic young woman, doing what I loved. I never understood the pioneer part. It really wasn’t until I left journalism that I had a clearer view of what I accomplished.”

Recently, Saxon was nominated for a lifetime achievement award from the National Association of Women in Sports Media. And during a visit to the Anaheim press box this season, she met a female reporter from Palm Springs who told her, “You’re sitting here and I’m standing on your shoulders.”

Saxon has found a second satisfying career as a teacher, having joined the faculty at Palisades High in 2006. She taught English until three years ago, when she took over the journalism department. The student newspaper, *The Tideline*, is now published as a color magazine, and this year the staff received a first-place ranking in the annual newspaper evaluation sponsored by Quill & Scroll, the journalism honor society.

Saxon and her husband Reed, a Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer for the Associated Press, live only a few blocks west of PaliHi with their three cats, Perry, Sammy and Milo. They met in 1983 in the press box (naturally!) at an Angels-Rangers game, married in 1986 and moved to the Palisades a year later.



Lisa Saxon and the press corps covering the (then) California Angels suit up in 1983 for an exhibition game vs. the Happy Days cast. Lisa hit a single off The Fonz. Photo: V.J. Lovero

Yarn Bombing Comes to Pacific Palisades

By LAUREL BUSBY
Staff Writer

The Palisades has been bombed—yarn bombed. Eight women from Dollies Making a Difference, an organization that creates “dollies” and teddy bears for children in need, took leftover knitted toy blankets and decorated five eucalyptus trees in Simon Meadow at the YMCA Pumpkin Patch.

“We yarn-bombed trees to draw attention and bring additional beauty to the meadow for the YMCA pumpkin patch,” said Cindy Simon, a 24-year Palisadian and co-founder of Dollies Making a Difference. “We wanted to make the Patch even more festive.”

The blankets were stitched together in a patchwork fashion to create a temporary art exhibit among the pumpkins. Yarn-and-stick spider webs were sprinkled throughout to add a bit of Halloween flavor. After the holiday, blankets were taken down, washed and re-purposed for other projects.

“All the visitors who came to the pumpkin patch just loved it,” said YMCA executive director Carol Pfannkuche. “People who saw it from the street, stopped to see what it was.”

This is the first known yarn bombing in Pacific Palisades, but it is part of a larger movement. In Los Angeles, the Craft and Folk Art Museum had its façade covered in crocheted granny squares, and a group called Yarn Bombing Los Angeles has a calendar of public yarn bombings. Ojai also has had the patchwork designs and has its own active group of yarn bombers. The first yarn bombing started in 2005 in Texas, and

has since spread to varied locales throughout the world. Yarn bombings are sometimes considered to be graffiti or vandalism, but non-damaging. However, like the one at the YMCA Pumpkin Patch, the activity simply adds beauty to a space.

Simon and her group approached Pfannkuche about adding the knitted creations to the Patch, and the idea was eagerly accepted.

“The YMCA is thrilled to have Cindy creative project,” Pfannkuche said. “We are the lucky recipient of the colorful display.”

Simon and seven other members of Dollies Making a Difference—co-founder and retired Canyon Elementary teacher Dorothy Miyake, Rita Cohen, Pat Bauer, Carrie Scott, Jojo Fleiss, Lindsay Simon and Denise Melas—came together for the effort. The women, who have distributed more than 6,200 stuffed toys since starting the endeavor in 2010, measured the circumferences of the trees, chose the height for the yarn coverings (based on the height of the YMCA ladder) and spent several days stitching them together.

Together with Pfannkuche, who climbed the ladder and secured the top with zip-ties, the women spent two hot October afternoons installing the “bombs,” which are mostly connected with crochet ties. The installation process attracted its own fans.

“People asked, ‘What are you doing? What is this? Is the tree is getting a sweater?’” Simon said. “My favorite comment was ‘I don’t know what this is, but I like it!’”

And the group may not be finished. Look for future yarn bombings in Pacific Palisades.

Visit: dolliesmakingadifference.org.18



An example of “yarn bombing” on display at the YMCA Pumpkin Patch.
Photo: Carol Pfannkuche

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Youth Participate in Government

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

The YMCA Youth and Government program operates under the slogan "Democracy Must Be Learned By Every Generation."

Faced by this challenge, the Palisades-Malibu YMCA is doing its part. Two years ago there were 11 girls in the inaugural high school program, led by Ashley Russell. Last year 30 boys and girls participated, and this fall there are 70 students in Youth and Government.

One of the original 11 participants, Palisades High senior Elsa Nethercot, who is applying early action to UC Berkeley, is this year's president.

"I wanted to take AP government because of this program," Nethercot said. "It has improved my public speaking, and I've met amazing people who are supportive of me."

The program was founded in the mid-1930s by Clement "Pete" Duran, an Albany, New York YMCA Director, who wanted to find a way for youth to become active participants in government. He developed a hands-on, learning-by-participation model to help youth learn how community problems are solved through the democratic process.

The six-month program was initiated in 1948 in California with support from Governor Earl Warren, and has been supported by each successive governor.



Members of the YMCA Youth and Government program learn about democracy with a hands-on learning model. Photo: Bart Bartholomew

The program is open to all high school students, private and public. Until recently this local group met weekly at the YMCA on Via de la Paz, but with its growth and the need for a larger space, it now meets at PaliHi.

At a recent meeting, officers Erika Siao (VP), Riley Newkirk (Chaplin), Cleo Hoff-

man (treasurer), Makayla Micheini (parliamentarian) and Gretel Payne (historian) joined Nethercot in introducing themselves.

The members of the group were reminded at the beginning of the meeting, "It is better to speak with a shaky voice, than not to speak at all."

Breaking the ice, one student said, "I am not having a good day. My test didn't go well and my coach is being mean." Another offered, "I got my license today," and somebody else said, "I got an A on my chemistry test."

Russell, the group advisor, explained that after the opener, groups usually debate several current events. That day's discussion included crew neck vs. hooded sweatshirts; plastic bags; Ebola and college rape.

In addition to weekly meetings, the group travels to two training conferences held at

Camp Roberts near San Luis Obispo: one over Veterans Day and the second over the Martin Luther King holiday.

In February, Youth and Government students travel to Sacramento. "We take over the capital and courthouse," Nethercot said. "There are 3,000 of us and we are on the assembly floor debating, and giving speeches."

Some students participate in additional program areas including broadcast and print media, lobbying, the Board of Education, political parties and debating national issues.

Russell, who has worked with the YMCA for 10 years and has also served as an advisor for after-school camps and Guides and Princesses, is currently working on her early-childhood degree at Cal State Northridge. Although she was contacted about an interview, Russell let the students speak to the writer. It was obvious there was mutual respect.

"She sacrifices a lot to be with us," Nethercot said.

Russell explained: "They keep me on my toes; they challenge me." Although the cost of the program is \$1,650 and includes travel, housing and meals, Russell said the group does fundraisers and that some financial assistance is available.

Visit: calymca.org or call Palisades-Malibu YMCA, (310) 454-5591.

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Community Yoga At Woman's Club

Certified yoga instructor Alison Burmeister, co-owner of The Yogurt Shoppe, teaches community yoga classes (all levels) Mondays at 9:45-11 a.m. at the Woman's Club, 901 Haverford. Beginners are welcome. Donation based (\$15 suggested). Participants should bring a mat, water, towel and a smile.

Visit: alisonburmeister.com.

Using Medicinal CA Native Plants

Nicholas Hummingbird Hernandez will discuss edible and medicinal uses of several California native plants from 10-11:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 8 at the Grow Native Nursery at the West L.A. V.A. Many of the plants will be available for purchase after the workshop. The event is free. RSVP to rssabg.org or call (424) 234-0481.

PALISADES NEWS

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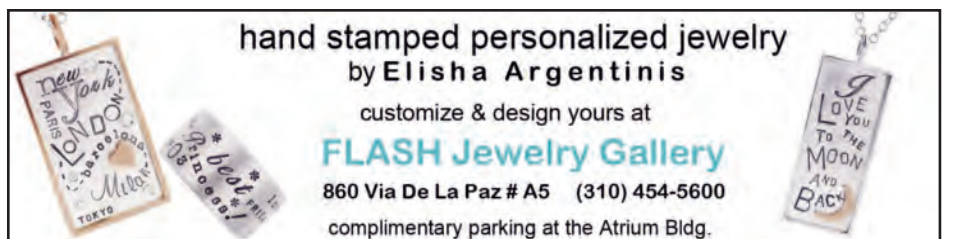
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Guttenberg/Wishnick Team Up As Musical Theater Producers

When Hollywood star Steve Guttenberg served as honorary mayor of Pacific Palisades from 2002 to 2006, he formed a close friendship with Arnie Wishnick, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, whose job includes finding a “mayor” every two years.

Guttenberg and Wishnick have again teamed up, this time as executive producers of *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, a musical comedy opening November 7 and running through December 14 at Pierson Playhouse on Temescal Canyon Road.

This production, focused on four high school seniors preparing for their prom, initially premiered on off-Broadway at the West Side Theatre in September 2008. The New York Times praised the show, calling it “One irresistible musical! An utter charm bomb!”

Guttenberg and Wishnick were asked about their qualifications to steer a musical that stars four adorable, talented young women.

Although neither man has ever been an executive producer for a stage production, Wishnick was quick to point out he co-produced *Damn Yankees* at Theatre Palisades

in 1999 and *The Pajama Game* in 2002.

“I was associated with two hit musicals, but then it was time to take a rest,” Wishnick said. He might still be resting, but locals were beginning to wonder what happened to show-business Arnie, who used to write movie reviews for the *Palisadian-Post*—was he dead or alive?

“I knew I had to find a show in a hurry, and lay rumor to rest,” Wishnick said. “I had seen this show several times. The music is terrific, and once Guttenberg was on board, I knew I was back in show business.”

In his producing debut, Guttenberg is equally confident. “Arnie is my leader. I do what he wants. Plus the food is good.”

One of the most important duties of a Theatre Palisades producer is to make sure the cast is well-fed.

Guttenberg, who is bicoastal—including a home in the Highlands—is currently filming *Lavalantula* at locations in Arizona, Los Angeles and New York.

“I play Colton West, a washed-up action star who saves Los Angeles from giant lava-spewing spiders,” he said. The co-star of *Police Academy*, *Three Men and a Baby*, *Diner* and *Cocoon* recently finished an ac-

claimed run on Broadway in Woody Allen’s play, *Honeymoon Hotel*.

Guttenberg has also written a middle-school book, *Kids from D.I.S.C.O.*, which is available online and in bookstores.

In describing the difference between acting on stage and film, Guttenberg said: “Stage is a blast when you are sailing along. When it’s stuck [not working], it’s not so fulfilling.”

By contrast, “With film you only have to hit a home run once every set up.”

Wishnick and Guttenberg have attended several *Wonderettes* rehearsals, but wonder if producing is all it’s cracked up to be, as far as perks.

The actor, for example, is anxious about the opening night performance. “I’m waiting for my invitation,” he said last week. “I heard it was sold out, and as of today, I’m number eight on the waiting list.”

He was asked if his partner could help him out, but he said that Wishnick was number seven.

This high-power executive team may hear ‘50s and ‘60s songs featured in the musical, such as “Lollipop,” “Dream Lover,” “Lipstick on Your Collar” and “It’s My



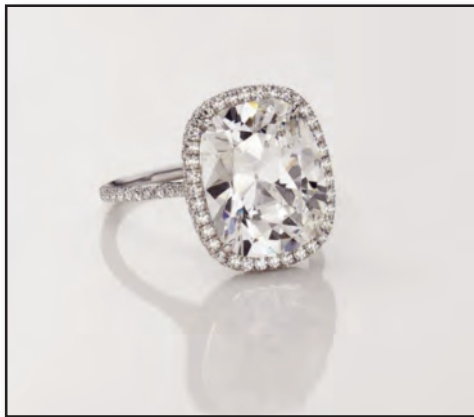
Steve Guttenberg

Party,” from the lobby.

Avoid their fate by booking your tickets early for *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, directed by Lewis Hauser and starring Lauren Gaw (Suzy), Kara Koinuma (B.J.), Michelle Zelina (Cindy Lou) and Amanda Leigh Kraft (Missy).

The show, written by Roger Bean, with musical arrangements by Brian William Baker, will play Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 and Sunday at 2 p.m. Adults are \$25 and seniors/students are \$20. Call (310) 454-1970 or visit theatrepalisades.com.

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Renowned Chef Silvana Vivoli Stops by Divino

A longtime friend of Goran, Tuscan Chef Silvana Vivoli, will be back in town! While in Los Angeles for a special event, Chef Silvana is kind enough to make time to visit Divino.

After meeting on a trip to Florence over two decades ago, Goran and Silvana have developed a lasting friendship. Throughout the years, Goran has found great inspiration in Silvana’s talent and delicious creations. Selflessly, Silvana has dished out some of her secrets that are still being used at Divino to this day.



We are excited to welcome Silvana as she will once again be bestowing her vast knowledge upon the Divino staff through her teachings.

We could not be happier to have Chef Silvana Vivoli back at Divino, and look forward to announcing new specialty dishes soon!

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'Don't Mall the Palisades'

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

The pinkish Business Block building, located between Sunset, Swarthmore and Antioch, celebrates its 90th birthday this month.

If Joan Graves, wife of legendary Hollywood star Peter Graves, had not led the fight against its intended destruction, most likely there would now be a mall at that site.

Leading a protest was the furthest thought in Graves' mind when she went to the pharmacy situated at the current location of Starbucks in 1981.

"I saw a petition on the counter that the building was going to be sold and the developer had plans for a mall," Graves recalled in a recent interview.

The Business Block building was the center of the fledgling town of Pacific Palisades when it was dedicated on November 15, 1924. The community's newsletter described it as "185 feet on Beverly Boulevard (now Sunset), 150 feet on Hillcrest, and 158 feet on Park Place, set back from the street with wide walks and parking on each front.

"It is designed with brick and plaster, with ornamental stone. All store fronts are plate glass and there are red tile roofs, 14 store rooms and a market on the first floor and 15 offices on the second floor."

The building's owner, the Methodist-sponsored Pacific Palisades Association, ran into financial problems, and in 1926 the building was purchased by one of its tenants, Santa Monica Land and Water Company.

Jump ahead to 1981. "The L.A. City Council had passed a law that all buildings had to be brought up to seismic codes," Graves said. That prompted the building's owner, Arthur Loomis, to sell it to developer Rohit Joshi for \$4.5 million.



The Business Block building, a City of Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument, celebrates its 90th birthday November 15. Photo: Shelby Pascoe

"Joshi said he was going to demolish it and put in a mall. I knew we could not let that happen to the Land and Water Building. It was the most important historical building in the Palisades."

Graves, who had lived in seven different neighborhoods in the Palisades since moving here with husband Peter in 1951, went to Bobbie Farberow, who was Chamber of Commerce president at the time and asked for advice. Farberow (co-owner of Mort's Deli) advised her to reach out to local groups.

"I started a new petition and organized a town meeting to see if I could get anyone to help us fight this battle," said Graves, who had been a stay-at-home mom with her three daughters. "We placed a banner over Sunset, and at the meeting 150 people



Joan Graves organized the 1982 "Don't Mall the Palisades" campaign to keep the Business Block building from being torn down and replaced by a mall.

showed up. We formed committees and started a campaign to write letters and to get all of the local organizations to back our efforts."

Her next step was to organize a town rally. "I called every celebrity that Peter knew, and they all said they'd come," Graves said. "This got the attention of the *Hollywood Reporter* and the *L.A. Times*."

At the same time Graves was organizing the rally, another committee was contacting Los Angeles department stores, such as Bullocks and Robinsons, explaining why this would be a bad location for a large chain department store, citing the town's isolation and its lack of out-of-town shoppers.

Celebrities attending the rally on October 2, 1982, in addition to Peter Graves, included Ted Knight, Jim Arness, Jack Barry, Mel Blanc, Bert Convy, Billy Crystal, Dom DeLuise, Tony Dow, Paul Michael Glasor, Nanette Fabray, Walter Matthau, Randy Newman, Louis Nye, Jerry Parris, Tom Poston, John Raitt, William Schallert, Charles Seivert, Bo Swenson, Adam West and Debbie Winters.

After the rally, "Joshi pulled out, and the escrow fell through," Graves said. By that time, City Councilman Marvin Braude and his aide Cindy Miscikowski had also joined the campaign to save the building. "Braude told me, 'I'll find an owner,'" Graves recalled.

TOPA Management Company, a Malibu-based developer, brought the property in 1983.

"TOPA called me in their offices and said, 'Now, Mrs. Graves, the building has to be built up to earthquake standards and if it can't be, how about these plans for a mall?'"

Graves looked at them and remembers saying, "Absolutely not. We do not want a mall here. It's the Palisades."

Eventually, she said, TOPA paid for the

upgrades "and became our heroes." (The building is still owned and managed by TOPA.)

In 1984, the building was declared a City of Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument and rededicated.

Entertainment included the OomPaPa Band and Jack Russell's Band, the Palisades High School Madrigal Singers, Methodist Church Children's Choir, Theatre Palisades Players, the Jazz Duo (Marilyn Pierose and Larry Ackard) with Ebsen Studio Charleston Dancers, and a roving Barbershop quartet.

"Today I don't think we could have saved the building," Graves said. "The feeling, the attitude now is so different. It was such an innocent time then. You said 'hello' to people even if you didn't know them. It was a wonderful time to bring up kids."

Ironically, she credited Hollywood stars with making a key difference in the 'Mall' campaign. "Peter backed me all the way," Graves said. "I asked him and Ted (Knight) if they would stand on Sunset and get signatures on the petition. The two stood there all day.

"It was a whole different feeling then that doesn't exist anymore."



T-shirts were printed and worn by people protesting a developer's intention to tear down the town's most historic building.

Violinist Hye-Jin Kim to Perform Nov. 14

The classical music series at St. Matthew's will open its 30th season of concerts at 8 p.m. on Friday, November 14, with featured violinist Hye-Jin Kim.

Under the direction of conductor Thomas Neenan, Kim and the Chamber Orchestra will perform Beethoven's Violin Concerto in D major, and the orchestra will play Stravinsky's "Dances Concertantes."

Kim was the winner of the 2009 Concert Artists Guild International Competition and her playing as been described as "...

heart-stopping, unrivaled beauty of tone... supremely musical playing [that is always well-thought out, yet of the moment.]"

Kim has performed as soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the New Jersey Symphony, the BBC Concert Orchestra, Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, Pan Asia Symphony (Hong Kong) and the Hannover Chamber Orchestra, where she played Mozart's A Major Concerto at age 12.

She has appeared in major venues including Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center Terrace Theater, Kimmel Center Verizon Hall, Salzburg's Mirabel Schloss and St. John's, Smith Square, London.

Born in Seoul, Korea in 1985, Hye-Jin Kim began her violin studies with Dong-Hyun Kim at the age of 8. When she was 14, Ms. Kim entered The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, studying with Jaime Laredo and Ida Kavafian. She earned her master's degree at Boston's New England Conservatory. She is assistant professor of violin at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC, and serves on faculty at Bard College Conservatory. She plays a Giofredo Cappa violin, crafted in Saluzzo, Italy in 1687.

The Chamber Orchestra at St. Matthew's is known for its stylish performances of

music from the 18th through 20th centuries. In residence here since 1984, the orchestra has performed more than 30 premieres of works commissioned by St. Matthew's Music Guild.

In 2013, the orchestra released a CD, *Music from the Left Coast*, featuring premiere performances of four commissioned works by Christopher Tin, Ross Wright, Ola Gjeilo and Dwayne S. Milburn.

Visit: MusicGuildOnline.org or call (310) 573-7422. Admission at the door: \$35 (students \$10 with I.D.) Children under 16 are free. St. Matthew's is located at 1031 Bienvenida.



Hye-Jin Kim

PaliHi Holiday Boutique Offers Vendors, Raffles

Palisades High School's third annual Holiday Boutique by the Sea will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, November 22, at Mercer Hall on campus.

This major fundraiser supports PaliHi's Educational Foundation, which was established in 2012 to help offset the decline in state education funding that was only partially restored last year by Proposition 30.

More than 40 vendors will display custom jewelry, unique clothing and accessories, bath and body scents, hostess gifts and home décor. Local businesses, such as

Lavender Blue, will offer French linens and there will be handiwork from talented members of the school faculty. The PaliHi Booster Club will sell Dolphin wear.

"It's a great showcase for Palisades handcrafters," said Palisadian Debbie Lawrence, owner of Floradora, who makes hand-decorated hats and accessories.

Visit the PaliHi Dance Team and girls' volleyball team tables and buy baked goods and coffee.

There will be raffles every hour, with prizes donated by Boutique vendors, and

gourmet food trucks will be on site.

"Proceeds to the Ed Fund support long-term strategic projects that will positively impact students' education," said Principal Dr. Pamela Magee, noting that one of the first goals is to reduce class size. Other goals include new and upgraded technology, science lab renovations, textbooks and other instructional materials.

Visit: palihigh.org, or contact co-chair Diane Hurst hurstfamily1@verizon.net.

If you would like to be a vendor, contact Kathleen Hillseth at khillseth@verizon.net.

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