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SPRING GARDENING CLASS

In early April, master gardener Charles Malki continued his series of seasonal gardening classes for neighbors and friends, this time at the home of Rose Marie Smith.

The Spring class covered some unique and specific topics: Sun Block for Trees and Plants; Improving Soil Structure; Tips for Making Yellowing Plants Bright Green and – don't try this without guidance – Gardening with Salt. Charles held his Annual Tomato Give-Away and Board member Bob Knox gifted many takers with an array of fledgling fruit trees.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If your name or address are incorrect on this label, please tell Tree Lockie at (323) 874-5600.

Hollywood Knolls Community Club
3360 Barham Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90068
Representing the communities of Hollywood Knolls,
Hollywood Manor and Lakeridge Estates



Hollywood Knolls Community Club

Representing Hollywood Knolls, Hollywood Manor and Lakeridge Estates

Founded in the 1930s, the Hollywood Knolls Community Club (HKCC) is a not-for-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to addressing issues that affect our community and to protecting the interests of our residents.

Letter from the President:

Dear Neighbors,

It's incredible to think that it's already been six months since many of you joined us for our annual stakeholders meeting and elections. With a seemingly inexhaustible list of matters that need attention and action, time certainly flies, but the good news is that we can now look back at some important accomplishments -- small and simple to big and complicated.

For example, one improvement was the introduction of a left hand turn lane from Barham onto Blair Drive, into the Hollywood Manor. This change, which is part of a package of street traffic improvements worked out with and paid for by NBC Universal, has the dual effect of making life easier for Manor residents while also keeping traffic moving on Barham. Look for the other street improvement to be implemented this summer.

NBC Universal's efforts are tied to traffic mitigations which we helped design, around the opening of the Harry Potter attraction and the unfortunate closing of the Barham off ramp. When the new on-ramp leaving the theme park was finally opened, many of us were surprised and disappointed by the road signage that came with it, including a gigantic new confusing sign on Cahuenga West. As a result of our continued engagement with Universal, they were able to make some major revisions—we hope you've noticed and see the improvement.

And then there's always the threat of new real estate developments encroaching on us. We, in tandem with Councilmember Ryu's office, were recently successful in beating back a plan for a development with 250 apartments and spaces for 600 cars on Cahuenga East, right next to Lakeridge Estates. For now, we can appreciate that our vigilance and activism have paid off. Sure, we all face our share of day-to-day annoyances in our streets including party houses, cars

speeding recklessly on our windy, narrow streets, dogs being allowed to roam off leash, and construction noise, but our recent accomplishments should show us that engaging one another with an open mind and with civil discourse can often produce great results. Looking forward to continuing the conversation at our BBQ Fiesta.

Regards,



Daniel A. Savage
President
Hollywood Knolls Community Club

HKCC ANNUAL BBQ
SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 12-3 PM
3541 North Knoll Drive

The Taco Cart is back with chicken/beef taco lunches plus homemade salads, desserts and drinks.

Catch up with old neighbors, make new friends, Bring-a-Book, Take-a-Book Table.

A Drop-in from our new Councilmember David Ryu. Free for current member households, \$35 at door for new member households.



Activities planned for kids on a spacious new tennis court.

CAHUNEGA DEVELOPMENT STOPPED

By Daniel Savage

HKCC and other community groups notched an important victory last month when the City Council reversed a 2015 decision which had set the wheels in motion for a 250 apartment development at 2864 Cahuenga Blvd East, adjacent to Lakeridge Estates. The parcel is zoned for single family residences on 40,000 square foot lots so in order for the development to proceed, there would need to be changes to the zoning and the general plan amendment.

The developer met with our previous councilmember who thought that this massive project which also called for 600 parking spaces, would be a good idea, so without any notice or opportunity for community input, he got the Council to unanimously support the plan and start the necessary administrative processes.

When we received the first official notice of the project in August, we, of course, immediately swung into action, working with the Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council, the Cahuenga Pass Property Owners Association and the office of our new Councilmember, David Ryu. The consensus was that the potential for increased traffic, strain on infrastructure resources and negative impact on the existing wildlife corridor was enough to make it essential that any work on this project be stopped.

Towards this end, Councilmember Ryu introduced a motion in a May 13 City Council meeting to rescind the 2015 decision. After a brief discussion period, including remarks by HKCC President Daniel Savage, the Council voted 11-0 to support Ryu's motion. Nevertheless, the developer is still determined to build on that property, but now has to start the process over from the beginning with plenty of opportunity for community input.



Thanks to our diplomatic but consistent complaints, the earlier sign at the intersection of Cahuenga Blvd West with the Universal Bridge has been replaced. Instead of a huge confusing sign that directed all traffic in both directions, we now have a simple sign that directs traffic towards the Regal Place southbound entrance to the 101 Freeway -- away from the Barham southbound onramp.

4-CORNERS PROJECT CLEAN UP

10 years of growth since HKCC beautified this corner.

During the winter, Beautification Co-Chairs Eileen Peterson and Charles Malki organized and led a team of resident volunteers to clean up the Beautification Project at the corner of Barham Blvd and Lake Hollywood Drive. They had assistance from the Conservation Corps who helped with trimming the mature Queen palms, clearing the dead underbrush, picking up trash, as well as hauling and disposing of all the green refuse.

The local team volunteers also invested a couple hours removing debris and installing drought tolerant plants on lower Wonder View Drive. Thanks to Sheila Irani who arranged for the additional workers and the refuse pickup truck with Councilmember Ryu's office.



CONNECT WITH THE EMAIL TREE

The email tree makes such a difference in our lives by reporting lost and found pets, home burglaries, car break-ins, traffic tie-ups, red flag days, emergency info - all the news you need to know.

Email us at hollywoodknolls@yahoo.com to join over 500 of your neighbors who receive regular emails from HKCC.

DWP LAYS DOWN IN HKCC BACK YARD

We have all seen the damage and the waste of a precious resource that occurs when aging water pipes burst. Emergency repairs are challenging and expensive, so preventive maintenance is essential.

DWP has such a master plan in place and, as part of it, announced at the HKCC Annual Meeting last November that it would be utilizing its property along lower Wonder View Drive as a temporary "Laydown Yard" for that work. (A laydown yard is a "reporting location and materials staging area.") They explained that utilizing this location would reduce their crew's travel time to and from their existing facilities, allowing them to complete the repairs, starting in early 2016, in two years.

DWP purchased the property in 1996 for the purpose of facilitating such work and has been used as a temporary yard as needed, most notably in 1996-2002 for the Toyon Underground Tanks and in 2010-13 for the Slope Stabilization project. DWP's ownership also negated the once-eminant takeover of the hillsides for residential development instead of open space. At the meeting, several residents expressed concern about the project and asked for details and DWP answered that 10-15 trucks would utilize the site and the hours of operation would be 7 am- 5 pm Monday-Friday.

When DWP began grading the site in early 2016, and a number of community members reacted with concern at the scale of the project, The DWP project managers were asked to attend the March board meeting at which time they stated the project was now estimated to last until the end of 2020. They were also challenged by the Board which had discovered that work on the project had been started without the proper official paperwork being filed, an NOE, a Notice of Exemption from CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act guidelines.)

DWP returned to the April meeting of the HKCC board with specific mitigations and the promise of a revised NOE. Councilmember Ryu's Chief of Staff, Sarah Dessault, who also attended, made recommendations during the meeting to help mediate the conversation. DWP agreed to prepare a new NOE for review by HKCC which asked that even more detail be added. At press time we are waiting to see the latest version but among the plan's specifics are:

- At our request, the yard will operate from 6am to 4pm, to minimize rush hour traffic impact. When trucks leave and return they will follow a circular pathway that never requires backing up, i.e. no "backup beeping" noise.
- Three trailers will house supervisory staff. The perimeter of the

yard will be covered with privacy screens that resemble hedging as well as noise dampening panels. They will add security cameras and motion detector lighting.

- At completion, mandated by the new NOE to be 12/31/2020, DWP will restore the site to its original slope and vegetation, while a new fire hydrant would remain.
- Additional details that HKCC has asked be included: no work on Saturday, detail on what materials would be stored at the yard and that they be placed "downslope" so as to be out of line of sight, a firm limit on the number of trucks accessing the site and detail on their routes into and out of the neighborhood, and detail on the # of crews, and people in each crew.
- We've also asked for a public meeting so that the entire community could get more information and have their concerns heard and addressed. DWP's PR department is in the process of setting that meeting up.

