Security Signups Low Despite Crime Uptick
By Erin Hickey Pinheiro
Ledger Contributing Writer

LOS FELIZ—Hillhurst Avenue’s McCall’s exudes small-town charm. A family-owned butcher and patisserie, the shop feels like something out of a Frank Capra film. It has all the earmarks of a classic mom-and-pop with one notable exception: as of mid-January, the shop no longer accepts local seat on the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Board of Education.

According to Karen Yoo, who co-owns McCall’s with her husband Nathan McCall, the change came after a spate of break-ins, the most recent of which occurred on New Year’s Day.

“Watching [the burglars] on security cameras, it’s really obvious that they’re just going in house to house to see,” Yoo said. “I mean, you have to wonder what they’re doing with all this stuff.”

Despite Crime Signups Low
By Erin Hickey Pinheiro
Ledger Contributor

Security


In LAUSD Race Majority of Donations Go to Just Three Candidates
By Sarah Favot, Ledger Contributing Writer

candidates running in the special election for the local seat on the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Board of Education have raised about $675,000 and spent about $450,000, as of January 19th, according to the latest campaign finance filings from the City Ethics Commission.

A March 5th special election was called after Ref Rodriguez resigned from the seat when he was convicted of a felony and other charges related to a money laundering scheme during his 2015 election campaign. The district includes Los Feliz, Silver Lake, Echo Park and cities in the southeast portion of Los Angeles County such as Bell and Huntington Park.

The special election is being closely watched because it is a test case for the Los Angeles County such as Bell and Huntington Park.

Los Feliz Set the Stage for Teachers Strike
By Sarah Favot, Ledger Contributing Writer

After six days of marching—sometimes in pouring rain—Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) teachers returned to class January 23rd with a pay raise, class size reductions and more nurses, counselors and librarians.

For teachers, the strike was about more than just higher pay. Many saw the work stoppage as a fight for public education itself.

“Almost the first time in my career we actually have class size caps that we can work with,” said Finn.

Finn said he was proud that union leaders chose Marshall High School for 25 years, said the new deal is the best contract of his teaching career.

“For almost the first time in my career we actually have class size caps that we can work with,” he said.

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For almost the first time in my career we actually have class size caps that we can work with,” he said.
After many months of consideration, I deleted my personal and Ledger Facebook accounts in December. I'd had enough of the ugly vitriol and comments on the site, but I was mostly moti-
tivated by a passage I read in a recently published book about how I (and that means you as well) am Facebook's product. It knows everything about you, because you tell it. The passage said some-
thing like, "You, remember, everyone, if it's free, you are the product that's being sold." While I already knew this, there was something about reading this passage in the book that really bothered me. In short, I’d rather pay for Face-
book, honestly, than be a com-
modity for Zuckerberg to sell. I do miss seeing what friends from college and high school are up to. And I certainly miss a high school friend’s daily updates (called Danen’s Cancer Adventure) about his struggles with the disease. Additionally, a very small percentage of the Ledger’s website traffic actually came from Facebook and many, we feel, were only quickly reading our post’s headlines and snip-
pets of copy—and making comments—without clicking through to our website to get a fuller story.

So, goodbye Facebook. But you can always find us on twitter @losfelizledger

Valentine’s Day Calendar
FOR THE LOVE SICK
Before Sunrise and Before Sunset
Before Sunrise and Before Sunset Stay up all night with Celine and Jesse at a midnight double feature of the first two films from Richard Linklater’s Before trilogy. In the original 1995 film, two single travelers, a Frenchwoman named Celine (Julie Delpy) and an American man named Jesse (Ethan Hawke), start a conversation on a train and then spend the evening wandering around Vienna. Nine years later, the two are unexpectedly reunited in Before Sunset when Celine attests Jesse's book signing in Paris. Both films are beautiful low-key romances anchored by leads’ magnetic chemistry. The third entry in the series, 2013’s Before Midnight will screen on February 16th. Tickets for the double feature start at 51.73. Vieira Theatre, Sat. Feb. 16th, 11:45 a.m. - 3:15 Sunset Dr. Information: facebook.com/secret moviefestivalbyjim

Grand Park Lovers Rock
There's no better way to spend Valentine’s Day than with a picnic in the park. Bring your own picnic basket, or grab dinner from a food truck, and enjoy Valentine’s Day under the moonlight. Then take a stroll around the park or dance to classic lovers rock reggae spun by DJs Free. Grand Park, Thurs. February 14th, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. 200 N. Grand Ave. Information: grandpark.org

St. Valentine’s Day Speakeasy Party and Pie Fight
The Roaring Twenties Street jam presents a vintage Valentine’s Day party with a twist. Sip Prohibition inspired cocktails and dance to live jazz under a vaulted wood ceiling. Then take in a 90th anniversary re-enactment of the 1929 St. Valentine’s Day Massacre. The evening ends with a bang, an over the top claspstuck style pie fight. Slickers will be provided to cover up your formalwear and “dry zones” will be designated so you can watch the madmess from a safe distance. Tickets start at $59. Location: TBA, Sat. February 16th, 9 p.m. Information: roaringtwentiesstreetjam.com

FOR THOSE SICK OF LOVE
Mortified Doomed Valentine Show
Mortified is a live storytelling show where brave people revisit their most embarrassing childhood memories via artifacts like journals and home movies. At this special edition of Mortified, the cringe will be cranked to 11 as it’s all about young love. Be prepared to wanderlust and highly dramatic diary entries. Tickets start at $17.50. Birdshollywood.com, Thurs. February 14th, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 5364 Franklin Ave. Information: birdshollywood.com

The Moth: Love Hurts
The famous storytelling show returns to Los Angeles for Valentine’s Day and it’s going to hurt. Prepare a five-minute true story about love’s labors lost or unrequited love and then share it with the crowd. It’s like group therapy, but with a bar. Tickets start at $55. Busby’s East, Wed. February 13th, doors open at 6:30 p.m., stories begin at 7:30 p.m. 5364 Wilshire Blvd. Information: themoth.com

Birds’ Anti-Valentine’s Party
What becomes of the broken-hearted on Valentine’s Day? They go to Birds and take part in the restaurant’s 29-year old tradition of celebrating Anti-Valentine’s Day. Pay “tribute” to whoever broke your heart by bashing male and female phalas, take part in the “worst dumping” story competition and add your ex’s name to the communal voodoo doll. Free. Birds, Thurs. February 14th, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 5343 Franklin Ave. Information: birdshollywood.com

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The Village Bakery and Cafe
3533 Los Feliz Blvd.

We want to hear from you about the future of the L.A. Zoo!

Public Scoping Meetings for the Los Angeles Zoo Vision Plan Environmental Impact Report

Please join the City of Los Angeles at upcoming Scoping Meetings to provide comment on the scope of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR will analyze environmental impacts of the proposed L.A. Zoo Vision Plan, including construction and operation of upgrades to zoo facilities and infrastructure at the L.A. Zoo over the next 20 years.

Thursday, February 7, 2019
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Saturday, February 9, 2019*
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Los Angeles Zoo, Witherboe Auditorium
5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027
Meeting content will be identical, so feel free to attend the meeting that best suits your schedule.

Free parking is available on-site.

*Those who sign in are invited to enjoy the Zoo free of charge after Saturday’s meeting.

For more stories and updates:
LosFelizledger.com

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Crime Blotter

There were 347 crimes reported in our coverage area between December 25th and January 15th, according to LAPD data, including one homicide and one rape.

The homicide occurred December 25th at 2:49 a.m. in the 200 block of Bonnie Brae Street in Echo Park, and the rape took place January 3rd at 12 a.m. in the 1000 block of Vermont Avenue in Los Feliz.

There were 39 reported cases of assault, with a deadly weapon locally, five reported cases of assault, four reported cases of spousal abuse, one carjacking with a weapon and one case of arson.

Additionally, there were 212 reported thefts or burglaries from a vehicle and four attempted burglaries from a vehicle, six cases of theft; 48 vehicles reported stolen; 45 burglaries and two attempted burglaries; 15 misdemeanor drug cases; 11 robberies and three attempted robberies; nine stolen bicycles; eight cases of brandishing a weapon; seven cases of vandalism; five cases of fraud; four reports of disturbing the peace; four drunk in public reports; one case of identity theft; and one weapons laws violation.

For a full list of crimes reported in our coverage area by neighborhood, visit losfelizledger.com.

Los Feliz Library

“Art Deco City” Photographer to Speak at Los Feliz Library

Arnold Schwartzman, author and photographer of “Art Deco City: The World’s Most Beautiful Buildings,” will be the featured speaker at the Architecture & Beyond Lecture Series Thursday, February 28, from 6:45-7:45 p.m. at the Los Feliz Library, 1874 Hillhurst Ave.

Schwartzman, an Acade my Award-winning documentarian and graphic designer, served as the Director of Design for the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

He has authored numerous design-related books, including Art Deco architecture in London and Los Angeles. His most recent book features Art Deco buildings from around the world—from the U.S. to New Zealand.

Skylight Bookstore staff will be on hand for the selling and signing of Schwartzman’s books on Art Deco-styled architecture.

The free lecture series, now in its 15th year, is supported by Friends of Los Feliz Library and merchants of the Los Feliz BID.

For more information, call the Los Feliz Branch Library at (323) 913-4710.

LAUSD Board Candidates to Face Off at LFIA Forum

The Los Feliz Improvement Assc. (LFIA) will host a candidate forum February 18th for the upcoming Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) school board special election.

The board’s District 5 seat has remained vacant since July, when then boardmember Ref Rodriguez resigned after pleading guilty to felony charges related to a money-laundering scheme during the 2015 school board election.

Rodriguez was the fourth member of a pro-charter school majority on the board, and the election to replace him could determine the ideologi cal slant of the board.

Ten candidates are running for the seat in District 5, which includes Los Feliz, Atwater Village, Silver Lake, Echo Park and surrounding areas, as well as some southeastern areas of Los Angeles County.

Of those, four are local: Los Feliz residents Heather Repentigny and Allison Green wood Bajracharya; Echo Park resident and former school board president Jackie Goldberg; and Silver Lake resident David Valdez.

The other six candidates are Ana Cubas, Cynthia Gonzalez, Graciela Ortiz, Rocío Rivas, Salvador “Chamba” Sanchez and Nestor Enriquez.

“Whether you have school-aged children or not, the school board election will affect you,” said Marta Alcumbrar, chair of the LFIA’s Schools and Library Committee.

“Whether you have school-aged children or not, the school board election will affect you,” said Marta Alcumbrar, chair of the LFIA’s Schools and Library Committee.

“In addition to influencing the education that our future generations receive, the quality of public education in our district directly affects our community.”

The special election will take place March 9th, and if no candidate receives more than 50% of the votes, a run-off between the top two vote-getters will be held May 14th.

Monday, February 18th: 6 p.m.; Autry Museum of the American West, 4700 Western Heritage Way. For more information, visit lfia.org or call (323) 600-1914.

Los Feliz Ledger

February 2019

losfelizledger.com
"community interest stakeholder" definition to attempt coups of neighborhood coun-
cils—over the years in Silver Lake, Eagle Rock and West-
chester/Playa and most recent-
ly, some say, last May in Los Feliz by the pro-development
group Abundant Housing L.A. (AHLA)—by bringing in
people who do not live in the
neighborhood to vote their
way in local elections.

Others, meanwhile, say
such concerns are overblown
and maintain that the commu-
nity interest stakeholder defi-
nition is important to ensure
people who may not live in a
neighborhood, but still hold
a strong stake in the commu-
nity—such as Koreans who live
and work elsewhere, but spend
a majority of their free time in
Koreatown—still have a voice.

While chairs of the Los
Feliz election say any possible
influence by AHLA is a "con-
spiracy" fueled by the local
news media and that its May
2018 election was iron tight,
others disagree, pointing to
both AHLA and another
group, who publicly say their
goal this year is to get more
representation on neighbor-
hood councils to replace the
"older," "white," "homeown-
ers" who make up much of the
current board demographics.

"The Los Feliz Neigh-
borhood Council was a trial
run for what they are plan-
ing to do in [the upcoming]
elections," said Brad Kane of
the P.I.C.O. Neighborhood
Council.

Some involved with
neighborhood councils say
city officials don't want tighter
rules on who can vote—in an
election where over a thou-
sand neighborhood council
seats are up for grabs across
the city between March and
June—and that not changing
the rules in time for this year
was orchestrated.

"The confusion regarding
the community interest stake-
holder status was intentionally
created by [the Dept. of Neigh-
borhood Empowerment] and
maybe even the mayor's of-
cice," said Silver Lake Neigh-
borhood Council boardmem-
er Anne Marie Johnson, who
said she was speaking on her
own behalf and not as the
council's co-chair.

The Dept. of Neighbor-
hood Empowerment, known
as DONE, manages the city's
99 neighborhood councils.

"[DONE]'s goal is to
phase out older neighbor-
hood council members and
bring in those who maybe are
more sympathetic to the den-
sity goals of Mayor Garcetti,"
Johnson said.

P.I.C.O.'s Kane echoed
Johnson's concern.

"This is all about build,
baby, build," he said, adding
that DONE's General Man-
ager, Grayce Liu is a mayor ap-
pointee.

A request for comment
from Garcetti and multiple
requests of Liu were not re-
turned.

With what many say is
concern over the integrity of
the neighborhood council sys-
tem at stake, the issue of shor-
ting up who can vote in such
councils has been a key reform
many say they were waiting
and depending on from Ryu.

Ryu says his intent was for
such reforms to be in place for
2019.

But Ryu was apparently
called in last December,
when he learned—dur-
ing a city committee hear-
ing on the issue—that his
reforms would have to come
until 2021 because they were
not approved within a week of
the city's 2019 neighborhood
council election cycle start-
ing.

The city's Health, Edu-
cation and Neighborhood
Council committee, which
Ryu chairs, approved tighten-
ning voter eligibility December
11th, but the city's neighbor-
hood council election cycle,
started five days later.

Ryu staffers say he was
not aware of the timing issue,
although public records show
he voted in 2017 to approve
such a timeline regarding rule
changes for neighborhood
council elections.

Further, Ryu's reforms,
including voter eligibility,
required approval from the
Los Angeles City Council,
which went on recess until mid-January shortly after the
December committee meet-
ning's approval.

According to Estevan
Montemayor, Ryu's spokes-
person, the councilmember want-
ed to start the ball rolling on
the issue last October, but held
off at the request of "a number
of neighborhood councils,"
until after the annual meeting
of the Congress of Neighbor-
hood Councils was held.

But, that meeting was
held September 22, 2018,
which would have satisfied
those requests and given the
reforms ample time to be fully
approved well in advance of
the start of election cycle.

Montemayor later said, via
e-mail, that Ryu had also held
off while awaiting a report on
the issue by what's known as the
Board of Neighborhood Com-
missioners, another layer in the
system that has "oversight" of
the neighborhood councils and
DONE, which he said was re-
ceived December 4th.

But many say the ball was
dropped in a city-trifecta be-
tween DONE, the Los Ange-
les City Clerk, who is manag-
ing the elections; and Ryu and
his staff.

The issue has some saying
it could hurt Ryu's chances for
re-election in 2021.

Jim O'Sullivan, a long
time member of the neighbor-
hood council system who is
no longer on a council but remains
involved with city and neigh-
borhood issues with the Mira-
cle Mile Residential Assoc.
and an organization called Fix the
City, said last December, if the
neighborhood council stake-
holder status reforms weren't
in place for 2019, a "[expletive]
storm will hit [Ryu]."

Those upset are addition-
ally crying foul over a DONE
cosponsored meeting—also
last December—with an orga-
nization called Global Shapers,
whose local Los Angeles chap-
ter, composed entirely of mil-
lenials, is working currently
see REFORMS page 11
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COMMUNITY NEWS

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Finding Comfort in Chaos with Nina Rota

By Julia Ingalls, Ledger Columnist

On a recent evening in Atrwater Village, Nina Rota calmly welcomed guests for a reading at the Women's Center for Creative Work (WCCW) she had helped put together.

“The businesses were very happy with it, but it didn’t work because there was no outreach,” he said. “With ACS, they’ve been sending out a team, they’re reaching out, they’re going back, they’re calling. … I’m hoping that this time it works.”

So far, fewer than 15 businesses have signed up for the service, according to Ghazarian, who said he is hoping to get a minimum of 125 businesses—a number that would guarantee regular patrols—so to commit by the end of February.

Currently, the security company is conducting “randomized patrols” in the area, though there is no consistent schedule, according to ACS’s Nick Faltzerano. In the meantime, he said, the handful of businesses that have signed up should call the company directly if trouble arises.

According to the BID’s Ghazarian, those businesses will continue to receive security service at the discounted rate for the duration of their year-long contracts, though their monthly bill will spike when those contracts expire unless more businesses sign up.

But asking local businesses, the majority of them small and operating on razor slim margins, to take on yet another monthly bill may be a tall order.

“I already pay for my own security,” said Arline Uribe, who owns Hillhurst Avenue crystal shop Sacred Light, and has an ADT alarm system installed in her store. Uribe said she couldn’t justify paying two monthly security bills, but said she thought the program was a good idea for businesses that don’t have security systems installed.

Michael Roiff, who owns Tuesday’s Sweet Shoppe, next door to Sacred Light, was lukewarm on the prospect of signing up.

“I guess I would sign up if everyone else did,” said Roiff, though he said he considers the service low-priority.

As for McCall’s, they, too, remain on the fence. After the break-ins, “we’re heavily weighing it,” said Nathan McCall, but he and his wife are still undecided on whether they’ll sign up.
The Los Angeles Dept. of Recreation and Parks is looking at its 29 senior citizen facilities for ways of increasing participation and activities. One idea is to change the name of the facilities to adult centers. In other words, advertise them more broadly.

There is no age requirement to participate, although the programming is focused on the over 50 population. Activities are planned for a diversity of interests related to age and ability.

For example, yoga can be offered as regular, gentle or even chair yoga. Physical exercise can range from Zumba to stretching from a chair.

In general, recreational activities are considered pleasurable and optional, and done during leisure time. Recreation for the older adult must also focus on socialization. There are other words that we can attach to the Adult Center that suggest what the purpose but can just spend time in a library reading or in comfy chairs chatting with others.

And yet another interesting term is “third place,” identified by sociologist Ray Oldenburg, connoting a public place where you informally and frequently join and engage with others.

Like your home is your “first place” and work (for a time) is your “second place,” a “third place” can also become a regular part of your life. As an older adult, “third place” hangouts like adult community centers can play an enjoyable and important role in preventing isolation and promoting well aging.

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Los Feliz and Hollywood Hills Remain Popular Locally, 90039 Sees Big Jump in Median Sale Price

There were 75 single-family homes sold in our coverage area in December 2018—three fewer than in November—and seven condos sold in the area, nine fewer than the previous month.

Comparatively, 3,657 homes sold in all of Los Angeles County this December, 173 fewer than in the previous month, and 3,318 condos sold countywide in December, three more than sold in November.

Los Feliz had 22 homes sold in December in its 90027 ZIP code, 10 more than in November. The median price for those homes was $1,65 million, about 6% higher than in November and about 15% above the previous December's median. Two condos sold in the same area—two fewer than in the previous month—for a median price of $558,000, about 30% lower than November's median, but almost 40% higher than last year at the same time.

In the Hollywood Hills' 90068 ZIP code, 20 single-family homes sold, seven fewer than in November. The median price for the area was up about 24% month-over-month from this November and up about 3% year-over-year from December 2017 to $1,528 million. Accurate condo sales data for the area were not available at press time.

A total of 18 homes sold in Silver Lake/Echo Park's 90026 ZIP in December, compared with 16 the previous month. The median price for the area was down about 4% from November, and 11% from the previous year to $970,000. Two condos sold in the area—the same number as in November—for $558,000, about a percent lower than November, and about 2% lower than last December.

Meanwhile, 15 single-family homes sold in the 90039 ZIP code, which includes parts of Silver Lake, Los Feliz and Atwater Village—two fewer than sold in November—for a median price of $1,313 million, about 35% higher than November 2018 and 37% higher than last December. One condo sold in the area during December for a median price of $980,000, a nearly 40% price increase from the previous month and a 35% increase from the previous December.

Countywide, the median price for a single-family home sold this December was $600,000, about 4% lower than November, and about a percent above last year's median. The median price for a condo in Los Angeles County was $510,000, about 2% lower than November 2018 and 3% higher than December 2017.

3622 Revere Ave., a 1,360 square-foot, two-bedroom, two-bath Spanish style home in Atwater Village's 90039 ZIP code sold for $1,25 million in January.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9050 ST IVES DR, SUNSET STRIP</td>
<td>$12,995,000</td>
<td>On over an acre in lower Doheny exception to purchase 2 add'l lots.</td>
<td>Michael Nourmand &amp; Adam Sires</td>
<td>310.666.3204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2600 ABERDEEN AVE, LOS FELIZ</td>
<td>$11,970,000</td>
<td>1920 gated Talavera estate on almost an acre of flat grounds.</td>
<td>Konstantine Valissarakos</td>
<td>323.252.9451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1166 DOHENY DR, SUNSET STRIP</td>
<td>$3,850,000</td>
<td>Gated Spanish offering privacy, character details, and pool.</td>
<td>Adam Sires &amp; Michael Nourmand</td>
<td>310.498.1024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4790 BONVUE AVE, LOS FELIZ</td>
<td>$3,487,000</td>
<td>Superbly updated Spanish Colonial w/dazzling 180º views.</td>
<td>Konstantine Valissarakos</td>
<td>323.252.9451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1829 N KENMORE AVE, LOS FELIZ</td>
<td>$1,895,000</td>
<td>Architectural stunner with no common walls on 3 levels.</td>
<td>Nicole Contreras</td>
<td>310.614.4962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4061 FARMOUTH DR, LOS FELIZ</td>
<td>$1,849,000</td>
<td>Situated at the top of Los Feliz w/views &amp; multi-level decks.</td>
<td>Howard Lorey/Mona Ghossein</td>
<td>323.251.4553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5233 STRATFORD RD, HIGHLAND PARK</td>
<td>$1,745,000</td>
<td>Incredible 4-unit property in the heart of red-hot Highland Park.</td>
<td>Chris Furstenberg</td>
<td>323.422.2244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4559 BRUNSWICK AVE, ATWATER VLG</td>
<td>$1,395,000</td>
<td>Spectacular architectural new construction w/ 4 bed &amp; 3.5 baths.</td>
<td>Shannon &amp; Joey Fenton</td>
<td>310.365.6118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2150 RIDGEMONT DR, HW HILLS</td>
<td>$1,299,000</td>
<td>Mid-century modern w/2 bed &amp; 2 bath w/exceptional views.</td>
<td>Jennifer Eckert</td>
<td>323.543.3667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3423 FERNCROFT RD, ATWATER VLG</td>
<td>$949,000</td>
<td>Two character homes on a large lot in Atwater Village.</td>
<td>Shannon &amp; Joey Fenton</td>
<td>310.365.6118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941 PRESTON AVE, ECHO PARK</td>
<td>$849,000</td>
<td>Updated bungalow nestled in the hills of Echo Park.</td>
<td>Ben Shapiro</td>
<td>323.842.0169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4130 VERDUGO VIEW DR, GLASSEL PK</td>
<td>$825,000</td>
<td>Charming cottage w/lovely backyard, perfect for entertaining.</td>
<td>Mona Ghossein</td>
<td>323.243.0550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2224 1/2 STRATA LN, EAGLE ROCK</td>
<td>$799,000</td>
<td>Small lot tri-level home w/3 bd/3.5 ba &amp; no shared walls.</td>
<td>Chris Furstenberg</td>
<td>323.422.2244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6228 BERTHA ST, HIGHLAND PARK</td>
<td>$599,000</td>
<td>Lovely home nestled on the hillside w/scenic mountain views.</td>
<td>Gina Isaac</td>
<td>323.829.8009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5819 CAZAUX DR, LOS FELIZ</td>
<td>$535,000</td>
<td>Lot located in Los Feliz Oaks w/approved plans &amp; permits.</td>
<td>Daniel Carson</td>
<td>213.507.3030</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REFORMS from page 5
to disrupt the system.

“Neighborhood Councils are in for a shake-up,” of their “majority white,” “retired, home-owner dominant” board, Chelsea Buyers, who spoke at the meeting and is also a director with AHLA, posted on Instagram last December.

Some are saying this, including another published interview last spring on a think tank’s website where DONE’s Liu indicates 75% of neighborhood councils are composed of people over the age of 40, is aging and discriminatory.

But others, including an AHLA spokesperson, say it is simply an effort to restore “balance” to neighborhood councils that disproportionately represent the interests of homeowners over those of renters.

In reaction to the timing snafu, Ryu successfully got the city clerk in February to tighten up the rules for councilors that require documents to show proof to vote for 2019, but this won’t help the majority of the councils, 55%, that are so-called “self-affirming,” wherein they rely only a voter’s word to show they have a stake in the community.

Not only was Ryu apparently caught unaware, so too were many neighborhood council members, who say they now intend to petition the city on the issue related to their upcoming elections.

“There was no reason to believe these [reforms] would not be implemented” in time for 2019 elections, said Los Feliz Neighborhood Council former president and now board-member Linda Demmers.

City officials, for their part, say they provided information on the 2019 election at a series of workshops held around the city in February and March of 2018, and relied on each council’s bylaws to determine what criteria they wanted for 2019 instead of asking the councils via a form, which has been customary for years.

But some say any communication on the issue alerting councilors on the issue was buried in so many emails or not highlighted as urgent.

Some say this is because DONE simply prefers the looser voter eligibility guideline as it increases voter turn-out statistics, thereby justifying their jobs.

But there are those who say they are not worried.

“Do I think a tsunami is going to happen,” because of this for 2019, said George Skarpelos, President of the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council. “No.”

Others agree and say they feel more people should be able to vote in neighborhood council elections than fewer.

Koreatown is an example of a neighborhood where Koreans eat, shop and conduct business even if they don’t live there, and as such, some 1,300 signed a petition last December asking Ryu not to change the stakeholder status definition at all.

A similar cultural attainment exists in the North Westwood Neighborhood Council, a new body born out of a breaking off of the Westwood Neighborhood Council last May in an election.

According to its president Michael Skiles, there is a large concentration of Persians who live outside the neighborhood, but routinely visit to eat, shop and conduct business.

“They have a stake in the area,” he said.

Skiles said he wished Ryu’s reforms could have been in effect for 2019, but said he thinks now the city and neighborhood councils have more time to figure out a solution for what he calls a “complicated” problem.

The president of the Echo Park Neighborhood Council, Ted Yenawine, said his council has come up with a solution that splits the baby down the middle, requiring documentation for 12 district seats each election and allowing word-of-mouth verification for nine at-large seats, ensuring a majority of the council is “always iron-clad.”

But there does appear to be some consternation in Los Feliz.

The council’s Demmers, who was recently appointed to the LFNC board to fill a vacancy after serving as its president from 2012 to 2016 said she may urge the council to petition the city to allow the council to request documents proving an interest in the neighborhood.

She said she spent the last two years of her presidency fine-tuning the council’s bylaws, which now afford the LFNC board the option to vote each election cycle on how to verify voters in elections either with documentation or not.

“That should not be discarded as just another sentence,” she said.

But the LFNC’s current president, Jon Deutsch, said he is not all that concerned about 2019 and any hint that anything went wrong in the council’s 2018 elections, for which he served as an election co-chair, are unfounded.

The notion the council was targeted last May for a takeover, Deutsch said, is unfounded and instead the product of “conspiracy stories” fueled by the local news media.

The only reason some neighborhood councils are concerned about this issue, he said, “is because of your reporting,” he said, referring to the Ledger, and he reiterated an audit of the elections proved that no funny business took place.

While some say they may now petition the city regarding 2019 elections, according to Christopher Garcia with the Los Angeles City Clerk’s office, such efforts are not likely to be successful.

“We don’t like to make rule changes in the middle of an election cycle,” Garcia said, but he added the City Clerk would take into consideration what the petitioning council’s bylaws say.

Meanwhile, at least one member of the P.I.C.O. Neighborhood Council, is seething.

“I have not seen anyone take action to fix this massive screw up,” Kane said.

A longer version of this story can be read at losfelizledger.com

Your Neighbors and Local Real Estate Agents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shannon Fenton</th>
<th>Joey Fenton</th>
<th>Nourmand &amp; Associates</th>
<th>Atwater Village Office</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:shannon@fentonla.com">shannon@fentonla.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:joey@fentonla.com">joey@fentonla.com</a></td>
<td>6525 Sunset Blvd. Ste G2</td>
<td>3371 Glendale Blvd. #118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>310.365.6118</td>
<td>323.605.2780</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA 90028</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA 90039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dreq: #01906521</td>
<td>dreq: #01929905</td>
<td>323.462.6262</td>
<td><a href="http://www.FentonLA.com">www.FentonLA.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

February 2019 losfelizledger.com
A Legacy, 275 Years in the Making.

1961 DE MILLE DRIVE
LOS FELIZ | New Listing
6bd/3ba Luxurious Home
Architect/designer Omar Nassy
Offered at $5,278,000
Patricia Ruben 323.333.3801

6029 ELESNOR AVENUE
HOLLYWOOD | New Listing
Land and Redevelopment
Offered at $1,393,000
Jeffrey Young 213.419.9670

4039 CROMWELL AVENUE
LOS FELIZ | New Listing
6bd/5ba Harry H. Whittey, Architect
Offered at $4,946,000
Jacqueline Tager 323.697.3040

2930 MARSH STREET
APARTMENT | Sold
2 units on a lot
Offered at $845,900
Manvel Tabakian 323.378.2222

5690 HILL OAK DRIVE
HOLLYWOOD HILLS | New Listing
2bd/1ba 1942 Traditional
Offered at $649,000
Laura Thomas Mullen 323.240.6600

CONGRATULATIONS
Marc Giroux, SVP and Brokerage Manager, is very pleased to recognize and congratulate these agents for their outstanding performance in 2018. Their success was phenomenal and we couldn’t be prouder.

They say you are known by the company you keep. Some of the world’s most successful luxury real estate agents keep company with us.
Your Best Real Estate Decision

4426 Cromwell Avenue

$3,100,000
4 Bed | 5 Bath
Classic Spanish North of the Boulevard with Pool
4426Cromwell.com

1945 North Berendo Street

$2,100,000
4 Bed | 4.5 Bath
Newly renovated Spanish in Franklin Square with Pool
1945Berendo.com

Boni Bryant & Joe Reichling
323.854.1780
bryantreichling.com
@bryantreichling
DRE 01427385
The ideals of American democracy are under attack through a combination of dark money, gerrymandered districts and voter suppression. With the new Democratic Majority, we are taking immediate action to reform and fix our broken political system, from voting rights to campaign finance transparency to requiring disclosure of political online advertising.

If we’re actually going to solve the problems facing our nation, like affordable health care or climate change or creating good paying jobs, we need to make sure our political system works for all Americans, not just the wealthy and powerful.

Upon our return to Congress this January, our first order of business was introducing legislation to combat big money in politics, strengthen our ethics laws and protect the right of all American citizens to vote.

On January 3rd, my Democratic colleagues and I introduced “H.R. 1,” the “For the People Act” sweeping anti-corruption and democracy reform package that will help ensure the government is working for ordinary Americans, not special interests.

This legislation will empower voters and strengthen our democracy by:

- Ending partisan gerrymandering by requiring states to establish independent commissions when redrawing congressional districts, like we have in California, so that voters choose their elected officials and not the other way around.
- Upgrading online political ad transparency and requiring all organizations involved in political activity to disclose large donors and funding sources, while also tightening requirements around lobbyists for foreign interests.
- Creating a 21st century campaign finance system that will amplify small donors with public matching funds and allow candidates to run competitive races without relying on big money.
- Simplifying voter participation by encouraging automatic voter registration, expanding absentee and early voting and making Election Day a national holiday.

Our bill will restore electoral responsibility across all three branches of our government and also lay the groundwork to restore the integrity of the Voting Rights Act by protecting every citizen’s right to vote.

We should be doing everything we can to make it easier, not harder, to vote in our state and national elections. If one person is discouraged or denied access to the ballot box, it goes to the very heart of the integrity of our entire election system.

We promised to clean up the culture of corruption in Washington and these are the critical systemic reforms that will revive our democracy and ensure it’s working for our citizens.

There’s a reason we’re prioritizing substantive reforms to strengthen our democracy. Everything else we want to do for the American people—reducing health costs and prescription drug prices, creating better-paying jobs, preventing gun violence and combating climate change—all follow from a democracy that puts people first.

As we begin our work in the new legislative session, House Democrats will work to restore trust and transparency in our government and give back to the American people their voice and their power.
It’s not every day communities get a presidential visit, and Los Feliz has had its share of stopovers by former, current and future presidents and first ladies. The most recent was June 14, 2010 when Michele Obama visited Griffith Observatory during its 75th anniversary year. She was with her two daughters, Malia and Sasha; the daughters’ godmother, Eleanor Kaye Wilson and Michele’s mother, Marian Robinson. “They all signed our guest book, which goes back to 1935!” said the Observatory’s Mark Pine.

On November 22, 1988 when The Autry Museum of the American West opened in Griffith Park, former President Gerald and First Lady Betty Ford were among the noted dignitaries at the western-style gala. In 1960, the third of four presidential debates was held at Los Feliz’ Prospect Studios. Or you might say, half of the debate was. Republican candidate Richard M. Nixon debated for the televised debate from our neighborhood, while Democrat candidate John F. Kennedy broadcast from New York. Meghan Lee-Parker, an archivist at the Nixon Library, said she isn’t exactly sure why the two candidates were in separate locations.

“We guess it was campaign scheduling,” she said.

There are rumors Nixon returned to Los Feliz in the’70s to visit a sick uncle, landing his helicopter on the John Marshall High School baseball field. But we’ve not been able to confirm that report.

The first recorded local visit by a commander in chief was in 1935 when President Franklin D. Roosevelt, accompanied by First Lady Eleanor, marveled to Griffith Park while in the Southland. Roosevelt, as one may recall, was responsible for much of the park’s infrastructure, constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps. According to Griffith Park historian Mike Eberts, some 10,000 people lined the park’s roads and 5,000 more assembled at Camp Griffith Park—where the CCC workers lived—awaiting the Roosevelt’s arrival in a limo provided by producer Cecil B. DeMille. The general said he was there to unveil a statue saluting “The Spirit of the CCC.”

The Roosevelt Golf Course in Griffith Park gets its name from “32.”

Hello disruption

Our local real estate landscape witnessed great change in 2018. A legacy brokerage shuttered its Hillhurst office, and a startup with nearly a billion dollars in Saudi and Qatari backing set its eyes on gaining 20% of our local real estate market by 2020—in part, by luring competitor top agents and teams with substantial signing bonuses. What’s going on?

Sixty-nine percent of all recent buyers and sellers say the main reason they choose a real estate agent is a referral from a trusted source. Do the disruptors believe that Big Data and tech will supersede personal recommendations? Will real estate disrupters make your real estate experience more worthwhile? Disrupters want to shorten escrow periods, but how much due diligence will you forego for the sake of speedy efficiency? Less investigation means more risk to you. The loan process might be sped up too, but will you accept loan-shark interest rates for quickie “hard money” loans?

Will the divided-attention “team approach” with its high-volume, assembly line “efficiency” deliver a satisfying experience that meets your needs and expectations? Will algorithms guide you when there’s a crack in the foundation, termites in the attic or the other side wants to cancel your deal and you don’t? Will disruptive innovation replace one-to-one attention from an experienced, successful personal advisor? Does “proptech” innovative data mining for more and better sales leads benefit you—or is this peek into your privacy just self-serving agents and their teams?

Clearly, as we contend with an undoubtedly more challenging market, the style of service you choose—traditional personal advisor or innovative disrupter—will determine how worthwhile your real estate experience will be. It’s your investment and your call.
The 2019 Tenants-in-Common (TIC) market quickly swung into action this past month. Within the first week of January we closed our first TIC transaction of the year, we got 4 TIC listings under contract, and we went live on 2 new TIC communities: 1222-1224 N. Hoover and 1017-1019 N. Bonnie Brae. This last week we listed our newest TIC community in Echo Park: 1412-1414 Sutherland. Almost immediately after going live, we had offers on all units. We are starting to preview our upcoming TIC units in Silver Lake, 3905-3911 Melrose, which will be hitting the market in a few weeks. Don’t miss out! If you’re curious to view any of our upcoming TIC, condo or single-family home listings, please let us know.
2019 HOMELESS COUNT NUMBERS EXPECTED IN MAY

The three-day 2019 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count began January 22nd, rallying thousands of volunteers throughout the county in an attempt to quantify homelessness.

Last year’s count found that the number of homeless individuals in the county fell for the first time in four years to 53,195, a 4% decline. Results from this year’s count will be released in May.

HIGH WIND TOPPLES TREE ONTO ROOF OF LOS FELIZ HOME

A tree was toppled by heavy winds January 17th and landed on the roof of a Tal- madge Street home located in the 1600 block, but there were no reports of injuries.

The felled tree was one of several that came down dur- ing the high winds. Trees were also reported downed in Ingle- wood and La Mirada, but no injuries were reported.

THOMAS STARR KING JANITOR ARRESTED IN HIT-AND-RUN DEATH

A school janitor at Thom- as Starr King Middle School was arrested January 17th in connection with the fatal hit- and-run of Cristina Garcia, 57, in the 1800 block of Hyperion Avenue, according to the Los Angeles Coroner’s office and the Los Angeles Police Dept.

Freddy Prieto, 47, was re- leased after being held on a $100,000 bail.

Garcia was known to col- lect recyclables in the area to help pay her daughter’s way at Los Angeles City College, ac- cording to a Go Fund Me page set up to assist her family. She may have been ramming through trash bins when she was fatally injured.

The Los Feliz Neighbor- hood Council (LFNC) re- quested safety improvements in 2017 of the city at the in- tersection, which is adjacent to Thomas Starr King Middle School.

According to LFNC Vice President Dan McNamara, to his knowledge, the council never received a formal re- sponse from the city and no action was taken to improve safety at the intersection.

BODY IDENTIFIED FROM L.A. RIVER

Firefighters in Atwa- ter Village recovered a body found in the Los Angeles Riv- er on January 5th, identified as 55-year-old Roylyn Reshaye Starks, according to Los Ange- les County Coroner Lt. Nani Cholakian.

Starks’ body was found in the Los Angeles Fire Dept., where he was released the next day on $100,000 bail, according to L.A. County jail records.

In case you missed it

Stories posted only online that you may have missed. Make sure to check losfelizledger.com for stories in between delivery of our monthly print editions.

LAUSD from page 1

could determine the board’s ideological balance.

Rodriguez was part of the majority bloc of school board- members who have been financially backed by charter school supporters. Since he departed, the 1 to 0 board has been split on some issues.

So far, according to cam- paign filing reports, outside committees have spent up to $380,000 on the race.

Former Vice President of the Board of Public Works, Heather Repenning led her campaign to date.

and has spent $62,165. Or -

$114,315 for her campaign

Los Feliz, is a former adminis-

tering. She has received $151,372 in campaign donations and

in Los Angeles county union has established an inde-

pendent expenditure commit -

tion until a 2020 election.

The California Charter Schools Assn. (CCSA), another major player during school board elections and often pitted against the union, announced it would not endorse leading up to the March election.

If no candidate receives more than 50% of the votes, a runoff between the top two vote-getters will take place on May 18th.

Some CCSA employees and its now CEO Myrna Cas- trejon donated to Bajracharya’s campaign. Educators from other local charter school net- works have also given Bajracharya campaign donations.

Castejon has also donat- ed to Ana Cubas, a professor at East Los Angeles College. Cubas has raised just shy of $50,000 thus far and spent $32,284.

Cynthia Gonzalez, a dis- trict principal at Communica- tions and Technology School, at the Diego Rivera Learning Complex in South Los Ange- les has raised about $26,000 and spent $27,000. Silver Lake resident Da- vid Valdez, a member of the Silverlake Neighborhood Council and the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, has raised about $22,000 and spent $20,000.

Bel City Councilmem- ber Nestor Enrique Valencia raised about $15,000 and has spent $5,000 thus far.

Salvador “Chamba” Sanchez, who has taught at various community colleges, has raised $7,000 and spent $6,000.

The last school board race for three seats in 2017 was the most expensive in U.S. his- tory, with $14.5 million raised by outside groups supporting either teachers unions or char- ters to influence the election.

Los Feliz Ledger
Annual Tradition Rings in February
By Chechi Amah ’21

I H H S
produced the month of February with one of its cherished traditions, the Junior Class Ring Ceremony.

During the formal event, members of the Class of 2020 received their class rings before families, faculty and senior students. A special liturgy marked the occasion, but it was the ring presentation that was most anticipated.

Immaculate Heart’s ring is a symbol of the school: a heart pierced by a sword and surrounded by roses. At the end of the annual ceremony, members of the Class of 2020 were instructed to turn their rings around on their fingers to signify that they are taking their hearts out to the world.

Upon graduation, students will then be directed to turn their rings around on their fingers to signify that they are taking their hearts out to the world.

January saw the end of the school’s first semester with the Cumulative Assessment Period (CAP). Students were immersed in traditional tests, projects and portfolios as ways to show what they have learned.

Along with observing Catholic Schools Week in January, IHS students also honored Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in a special way this year, with its Black Student Association (BSA) marching for the first time in the 2019 Kingdom Parade in Los Angeles.

BSA members were honored to be part of the parade and also to be recognized for their community service efforts, especially their promotion of breast cancer awareness and their fundraising in support of women cancer patients at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Meanwhile, as February continues, Immaculate Heart welcomes prospective high school students to their formal admission interviews. We are looking forward to meeting our newest Pandas soon!

High School Sports Roundup

The Winter sports season is in full swing with several teams looking like CIF championship contenders. After the teachers strike shut public schools down for six days in mid-January, the winter sports season is set to resume January 31st for schools in the LA City Section, the organizing body run out of the Los Angeles Unified School District’s office.

All CIF Southern Section schools are seeing their Winter schedules carry on during the strike, creating a strange situation where many teams around Southern California were on hiatus, while others were having a perfectly normal season.

There are two City Section schools in the local area. The Marshall High girls’ basketball team was off to a 13-7 start before the strike began, led by senior Jade Jones’ 9.2 points per game. The Vikings boys’ basketball team started 12-6 and will contend for a Gold League spot in Maxpreps’ national rankings.

The Rebels girls’ basketball team looks like a CIF championship contender in Division 2A, at 17-2 with a perfect 8-0 record in Prep League play. They’re ranked No. 6 in Division 2A.

Belmont High’s girls’ soccer team was a bright spot at the school with an 11-6-2 record, ranked No. 7 in the City Section Division 2 poll. The Sentinels were led by captain Sergio Jiminez.

LOYOLA

The Rebels boys’ soccer team is off to an 18-1-2 start to the season and continues to look like not just one of the strongest teams in California, but in the nation. Head coach Chris Walter’s squad is the top-ranked in the state and is No. 10 in Maxpreps’ national rankings, led by senior striker Nicolas Manelli and a host of other talented players.

The Loyola boys’ basketball team is 18-5 under coach Jamal Adams, led by James Keefe’s 35 points per game and Neil Owens’ 10.6 points per game.

FLINTRIDGE PREP (LA CANADÁ)

The Rebels girls’ basketball team is 18-5 under coach Jamal Adams, led by James Keefe’s 35 points per game and Neil Owens’ 10.6 points per game.

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FLINTRIDGE PREP (LA CANADÁ)

The Rebels boys’ basketball team looks like a CIF championship contender in Division 2A, at 17-2 with a perfect 8-0 record in Prep League play. They’re ranked No. 6 in Division 2A. The school’s girls’ soccer team is putting the small school on the map in a big way, with an 18-0-1 record and the No. 30 spot in Maxpreps’ national rankings.

The Rebels are the No. 14 team in California and the unanimous top-ranked team in Division 2, making them runaway CIF championship favorites. They’re led by 41 goals from senior Helen Schaefer, a UC Irvine commit who scored seven goals in one game this year.

MARLBOROUGH

The Mustangs’ girls’ basketball team has started 16-3 and is No. 5 in Division 2A, an impressive feat for a varsity team with almost no seniors, and five freshmen. The school’s girls’ soccer team is 8-4.

CAMPBELL HALL

The Vikings boys’ basketball team started 12-6 and will contend for a Gold League championship this year under coach Steven Tolbert. The boys’ soccer team is 9-1-6, led by nine goals from senior Jake Cedergren.

At Pilgrim School, our only goal is that our children
to sort of branding the strike, labeling what it is and why we were doing it," he added.

Finn said the big payoff was a show of support from the community for teachers on the picket lines that came from parents and students who marched beside them and brought coffee and donuts.

"The support that we received from parents and community members and students has been extraordinary," he said.

Initially backing the district's position, Pedro Noguera, an education professor at UCLA, said his opinion changed as the strike unfolded.

"Looking at it from the outside, it seems like the teachers were right to push and they were right. There was more money in the system and outside of the system to address the needs," said Noguera.

Teachers approved the proposal by a wide margin. Many like Valerie Peralta at Franklin Avenue Elementary said they were upbeat.

"We're going to keep on fighting from here, but it's an excellent start," she said in a televised interview.

LAUSD Supt. Austin Beutner said he hoped the spirit that emerged following negotiations would continue.

"The importance of this moment in public education is now the topic in every household in our community. Let's capitalize on this," he said. "Let's fix it.

The New Year is a time when people make resolutions. It's a tradition all over the world. The students at Larchmont do the same thing.

I talked to a few students from Larchmont to see what their resolutions are.

The first person I talked to was Dagmar Baker. Dagmar is an 8th grader at Larchmont. She said, "My New Year's resolution is to get more sleep. I have been going to bed really late, and I want to change that. I think getting more sleep will help me do better in school." I think that is a good New Year's resolution.

The next person I interviewed was Aidan Walsh. He is also an 8th grader at Larchmont. He stated, "I want to drink more water. I feel like I've been getting really dehydrated lately and it's just because I don't drink water. I also want to not be on my phone so much. Sometimes I miss out on cool experiences because I'm always on my phone."

I hope you enjoyed hearing the New Year's resolutions of Larchmont students. I also hope you all have a great New Year!

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Los Feliz Ledger

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Students Resolve to Have More Sleep, More Water and Less Phone Use

By Mia Reid, 8th grade

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Soon, our History teacher is taking us to a Buddhist temple and the class will have to answer a questionnaire based on what we see there.

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By Nirel Davies, 6th grade

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Incredible Griffith Park, Observatory and west facing views from the huge entertaining deck off the living room of this Mid-Century inspired 4+4.5 home situated in the hills on a lovely cul-de-sac. 3543 sqft. Gourmet kitchen with professional grade appl. Master leads to work out room, hot tub and sauna. Home office space.