Former OSH Bought

By Erin Hickey Pinheiro
Ledger Contributing Writer

LOS FELIZ—The Aids Health-care Foundation (AHF) recently purchased a former Orchard Supply Hardware (OSH) store at the corner of Hollywood Boulevard and Edgemont Street for $32.75 million, according to public records.

The hardware store closed less than a year after its March 2018 grand opening when parent company Lowe’s abruptly announced it would shutter all OSH stores.

The 36,000-square-foot building has remained empty since.

Now it will serve as a new headquarters for the foundation and also provide a low- or
see AHF page 14

OBITUARY

Beloved Park Ranger Capt. Albert E. Torres

By Erin Hickey Pinheiro
Ledger Contributing Writer

Memorial services were held October 27th and 28th at Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills for Los Angeles Park Ranger Capt. Albert E. Torres, who died October 12th from a fatal heart attack after patrolling parks impacted by the 8,000-acre Saddleridge fire in the San Fernando Valley.

Torres, who collapsed October 11th at Ranger Headquarters in the Crystal Springs area of Griffith Park and died the next morning at a hospital, was a fixture in the city’s parks, having worked as a park ranger for 40 years.

“Over the course of his career, [Torres] worked in every one of the parks in the City of

HELPING REFUGEES FEEL AT HOME

By Daniel Langhorne, Ledger Contributing Writer

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council (SLNC) recently voted to join a coalition of neighborhood councils pledging to help refugees and asylum seekers resettle locally.

The SLNC is the 14th Los Angeles neighborhood council to join the “Welcome Neighbor” program, coordinated by Miry’s List, which was founded
see MIRY’S page 20

SIT-DOWN CLOSES ABRUPTLY

Latest closure signals more changes to Hollywood Boulevard

By Allison B. Cohen

LOS FELIZ—The Sit-Down restaurant vacated its Hollywood Boulevard location October 22nd, according to owners Ruth and Maurizio Iacono, after receiving a three-day eviction notice from the building’s new owner after a nearly one-and-a-half-year legal battle, filed by the couple, over the terms of their lease.

The LFNC increased funding for homelessness programs from about $700 in 2018 to about $5,700 in 2019. Their programs include outreach events, meal programs, see HOMELESS page 23

SIDESATE: By Carl Robinette, Ledger Contributing Writer

Amid a growing homelessness crisis in Los Angeles, local neighborhood councils say they are doing what they can to ease the problem, as help from the city, they say, has been slow to come.

According to Kim, the LFNC is upping its spending to help keep people from falling into homelessness in the first place.

The LFNC increased funding for homelessness programs from about $700 in 2018 to about $5,700 in 2019. Their programs include outreach events, meal programs, see HOMELESS page 23

EASTSIDE EYE: By Erin Hickey Pinheiro
Ledger Contributing Writer

The Silver Lake’s Arthur Dong is on a mission to reclaim film history, losfelizledger.com

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EDITORIAL: When it comes to dirty diapers, Atwater parents deserve better, page 21

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BOOKS
Josh Kun Kun, a Professor of Communication and Journalism at the USC Annenberg School and the Library Foundation have put together The Autograph Book of L.A. Improvements on the Page of the City. When Charles Lummis became city librarian in 1895, he created an autograph collection by asking notable Americans to sign their name on the library’s embossed stationary. More than a century later, the library recreated the stationary and asked Angelinos, famous and non, to share their own autographs and L.A. stories. Kun will discuss the book and the library’s accompanying exhibit. Free. Skylight Books, Tue. November 12th, 6 p.m. 1822 Sunset Blvd. Information: (323) 429-8200 and theecho.com

The Skatalites Reggae legends The Skatalites were pioneers of Jamaican ska. Originally only together from 1964 to 1965, the band recorded with several legends including Desmond Dekker, the Wailers and Lee Perry. The band eventually decided to reunite for good in 1983. They’re headlining this month’s Dub Club on a bill that also features Dj Tom Chasteen and Boss Harmony. Tickets start at $55. The Scholps, Wed. November 20th, 9 p.m. 1534 Glendale Blvd. Information: (213) 429-8200 and theecho.com

MOVIES
The Wizard of Oz If you’re an American who’s lived within the last 80 years, you’ve probably seen The Wizard of Oz, the Victor Fleming directed fantasy musical about a Kansas farm girl who finds herself in the magical land of Oz. But when was the last time you saw it on the big screen? The colors are more vibrant than you remember and the special effects are just as impressive now as they were 80 years ago. Tickets start at $10. The Vista Theatre, Sun. November 10th, 3 p.m. 3167 Glendale Blvd. Information: facebook.com/secretmovielady

MUSIC
Mike Watt + The Missingmen Mike Watt, the pride of San Pedro and the iconic founder of the punk bands like The Minutemen and RIFHLOSE, takes the stage at the Echo. With a career stretching over 40 years and over a dozen bands, Watt’s influence has stretched far and wide, inspiring everyone from the Red Hot Chili Peppers to Kelly Clarkson. Tickets start at $27. The Echo, Sat. November 2nd, 6 p.m. 1822 Sunset Blvd. Information: (213) 429-8200 and theecho.com

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The Autry Museum of the American West, Sat. November 9th, 1:30 p.m. and Sun. November 10th, 1:30 p.m. and Sun. November 10th, 1:30 p.m. $4.70 Western Heritage Way. Information: theautry.org

THEATER
Neil Simon’s Musical Fools The Open Fist Theatre Company is hosting the world premiere of a new musical adaptation of Neil Simon’s classic comedy Fools. With book and lyrics by Simon and music by Phil Swann and Ben West, Musical Fools is set in 1893 in the tiny Ukranian village of Kulyenchikov. A young tutor arrives in town and quickly discovers that the village is cursed with idiocy—every single resident is every kind of dumb. Will he be able to break the curse or fall victim to it? Tickets start at $55. Atwater Village Theater, through Sun.

Corrections & Amplifications
CORRECTION: The photo caption for “Bridge Changes Face of Atwater” in our October print edition incorrectly described the photo as a rendering of the proposed bridge. In fact, it is a photograph of the bridge in its current state, taken by Carl Robomette. We regret the error.

CORRECTION: The article “Upcoming School Festivals” in the October edition included the wrong dates for Our Mother of Good Counsel’s annual Fall Festival. The festival will be held November 15th – 17th. We regret the error.

Don’t let the story go untold.
Share your loved one’s story. place an obituary in your local newspaper

Los Feliz Ledger
A New Idea on Helping the Homeless?
By Michael Darling, Ledger Contributing Writer

Should homeless individuals be held accountable for certain crimes, hard drug use, for example, and “sentenced” to rehab, a shelter or a mental facility? Former California Assemblymember Mike Gatto is trying to get the issue, called the Compassionate Intervention Act, on the November 2020 ballot. What do you think of this idea?

“Seems positive, like it’ll help people get off the street, but I’ll need to do more research on it first.” - Matt O., outside the Dresden on Vermont

“I think it does seem positive, but it all depends on how well equipped the resources are, like two weeks in a facility might not be enough to help someone.” - Gemma L., outside the Dresden on Vermont

“I’d support it, it makes sense. This would at least give them a chance to rise out of homeless-ness.” - Tom K., outside the Dresden on Vermont

“The problem with this proposal is there aren’t enough shelters for all the homeless people. We need to build more shelters and make them sustainable.” - Haizel H., outside the Dresden on Vermont

“I think that’s great. I’m all for getting people back on their feet and if they can’t do it all on their own, then we should fund facilities that would help them.” - Kevin S., outside the Dresden on Vermont

The Ledger also asked this question on its website as a “Daily Poll,” where respondents indicated: 72% liked this idea and 28% did not.

Check our website for new polls daily at losfelizledger.com

WHO’S THE Best of Silver Lake?
YOU VOTED!
HERE’S THE 1ST, 2ND & 3RD PLACE WINNERS!

MUSIC & ART
- Rockaway Records
- Violet Cinema
- Sunset Junction Band

FOOD & DRINK
- Casita Del Campo
- Tomato Pie Pizza Joint
- Barbrix Restaurant & Wine Bar

FINANCIAL & LEGAL
- Yvette Davia, The Counting House
- Water & Power Community Credit Union
- Mark Newman Kuze, Farmers Insurance Agency

HEALTH & BEAUTY
- One Down Dog
- Silver Lake Yoga
- The Hive

HOUSE & HOME
- T-Man Construction
- Barbara Bestor Architecture
- Courtyard + Kurt Real Estate / Compass

FRIENDS & FAMILY
- Camelot Kids and Little Knights Parents + Me Center
- Healthy Spot
- St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School

NEWS & GURUS
- Los Angeles Times
- The Eastsider LA
- Los Feliz Ledger

COMMUNITY & FAITH
- Hollywood Sunset Free Clinic
- Friends of the Silver Lake Library (FOSLL)
- Silver Lake Reservoirs Conservancy

SHOPPING & SIPPING
- Ballard Hardware
- Silver Lake Wine
- Gelson’s

SHIPS & TRIPS
- The UPS Store #4838
- Good packaging & Shipping (formerly Box Brothers)
- Electric Avenue

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November 2019
losfelizledger.com

COMMUNITY NEWS  Page 3

silverlakechamber.com
(323) 250-9902
info@silverlakechamber.com

silverlakechamber.com
As chair of the city’s Homelessness and Poverty Committee, my colleagues and I recently reached a major milestone where we allocated the remainder of our Measure HHH funding.

When my family moved to Los Angeles from South Korea, we didn’t have much. My brother, sister, mom, dad and grandmother squeezed into a 700 square foot apartment just south of Los Feliz, which became my childhood home.

While my parents worked two to three jobs at a time, it was in this apartment and in this neighborhood that I went to school, met my friends, learned how to skateboard and found out that I had been accepted to UCLA.

This apartment was my home, and after moving to L.A. without knowing the language, the culture, or anything about the United States, it provided me the stability to live the Los Angeles dream.

I fear that my childhood is less and less possible today. I worry that the kind of housing that made so many immigrant families possible is falling further out of reach.

It’s a landlord who had suddenly raised the rent or decided to evict my neighbors and me in order to flip our apartment building into a luxury condo, for example—which stop unfair and no-fault evictions.

If we want to save the Los Angeles dream, we must save Los Angeles’ affordable housing. The state legislature must repeal or reform the Ellis Act, a law that is routinely abused and has led to the eviction of 26,000 Angelenos since 2001.

That’s why I introduced a motion to reform how the Ellis Act is enforced in Los Angeles. This motion seeks to increase the affordable housing requirement in new building construction.

When affordable apartments are demolished for new buildings, it would give the former tenants the right of first refusal to move into the new stock and vulnerable tenants in the City of Los Angeles.

Ellis Act Reform
By Los Angeles City Councilmember David Ryu

When my family moved to Los Angeles from South Korea, we didn’t have much. My brother, sister, mom, dad and grandmother squeezed into a 700 square foot apartment just south of Los Feliz, which became my childhood home.

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We must reform the Ellis Act—a state law that allows apartment building owners to evict tenants to turn the building into condos, for example—and stop unfair and no-fault evictions.

The onslaught of luxury housing and avalanche of Ellis evictions aren’t just upending thousands of families in Los Angeles and driving our homelessness crisis—they are an existential threat to the city we hold dear.

If we want a diverse Los Angeles, a vibrant Los Angeles, and a Los Angeles where anyone can have a shot at building a better life, we must make it possible to rent and to raise a family in Los Angeles.

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When you choose Regal and Lakeside Medical Groups, you join a support network that is dedicated to your health and well-being at every stage of life. In addition to our comprehensive network of primary and specialty doctors, hospitals and urgent care centers in your neighborhood, we offer resources that extend beyond the doctor’s office to help you live a well-balanced life. From free fitness and healthy cooking classes, to health education and coordinated support for chronic conditions, we partner with you to deliver personalized, well-rounded care that helps you enjoy life to the fullest.

Dr. Douglas Webber can be part of your healthcare team.

Douglas Webber, M.D. | Internal Medicine
3171 Los Feliz Blvd., Ste. 309, Los Angeles, CA 90039
Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

For more than 25 years, Dr. Webber has been providing quality service to his patients. He focuses on treating hypertension, diabetes, skin health, breathing issues and allergies. He also specializes in disease management and screening, pain management, and heart health.

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Los Angeles:
In Your Eyes

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From routine annual exams and screening for early detection of eye disease and vision loss, Southern California Eye Institute at CHA Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center is dedicated to providing the best solutions to eye care health challenges facing the world today.

Staffed by world-renowned physicians and researchers, Southern California Eye Institute advances innovation in stem cell and regenerative therapies, artificial intelligence and bio-electronic implants to further the prevention, early detection and treatment of eye disease and conditions including:

- Cataract
- Glaucoma
- Vitreo-retinal diseases
- Macular Degeneration
- Diabetic eye diseases
- Oculo-facial plastics
- Dry eye
- LASIK surgery
- Corneal transplant
- Lazy eye
- Neurological eye disease
- Eye tumors

Discover more about Southern California Eye Institute and how it is shaping the future of vision care and research at sceyes.org

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Los Feliz Ledger

[CA STATE ASSEMBLY] Legislative Update
By Assemblymember Laura Friedman

On the evening of October 13th, with the stroke of his pen, Governor Gavin Newsom put the final close on the 2019 Legislative Session by either signing or vetoing the remaining bills that sat on his desk. With the deadline now behind us, I would like to take a moment to fill you in on some of the highlights from this year.

I am happy to report eleven of my bills have become law. This year, I put forward a legislative package aimed at providing solutions towards our state’s greatest crisis: housing affordability and homelessness.

I supported and authored several important housing measures, helped secure increased funding for homelessness across the state, and was the author of three bills which were signed into law: AB 587, AB 670, and AB 671.

These three pieces of legislation will cut red tape and help homeowners and affordable housing organizations utilize accessory dwelling units or “granny flats” as tools for adding more housing. These bills received strong, bipartisan support, and had hardly any opposition in Sacramento—a rarity for sure.

Another affordable housing bill I proposed, AB 1560, was also signed into law. This measure, coauthored by Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel, changes certain legal definitions to encourage the development of affordable housing near Metro’s Orange Line in the San Fernando Valley—one of the heaviest traveled public transit corridors in all of Los Angeles County. While housing was a huge focus for me, this year I also put forward two pieces of legislation to help communities become safer and more resilient in the event of a wildfire. Unfortunately, one of those bills, AB 1516, was vetoed because of cost concerns. However, my AB 1144, see FRIEDMAN page 8

[LOS FELIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL] Fire Evacuation Exercise Set for November 16th
By Sarah Tressler, LFNC

What would you do if a brush fire was rapidly engulfing the hills of Los Feliz? Would you be ready to evacuate at a moment’s notice? What would you need to take with you? What if you couldn’t come home for five days? How about two weeks?

The Los Angeles Fire Dept. (LAFD) in conjunction with the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council, the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council and the Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council, is helping residents prepare for such an event.

On November 16th, the LAFD will conduct a large-scale emergency evacuation exercise starting at 9 a.m.

LAFD has already identified several hillside blocks where residents will be asked to evacuate; in Los Feliz, the area around Amesbury and Woking Way has been selected.

The exercise will coincide with a Disaster Preparedness Fair being held at First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood (1760 N. Gower), which will feature information booths and resources to help residents create their evacuation plan.

“We just want to make sure our folks are prepared,” said Deputy Fire Chief Armando Hogan. “What does exercise look like in the event of a wildfire. Our classes and memberships are for everyone, whether it’s your first time working with clay, or an experienced ceramicist looking to brush up on your skills.

Our membership entitles you to 24 hour a day, 7 days a week access to the Studio.

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POLITICS Page 7

Los Feliz Ledger

[LOS FELIZ IMPROVEMENT ASSOC.] Getting to Know Your Elected Officials
By Lynne T. Jewell & Debbie Simons

It’s essential for us to know who our elected representatives are at the city, state and federal level. But sometimes it’s not easy to obtain that information without some due diligence.

It can be confusing. Believe it or not, which side of the street you live on can determine who represents you in the political arena.

“Just because your neighbor has an elected official doesn’t necessarily mean that person also represents you,” said Los Feliz Improvement Assoc. president Amy Gustin- ric. “It’s important for people to know who their elected representatives are, from L.A. City Hall to the U.S. Capitol, and it’s important that they hear from you, their constituents, on matters that are important to you.”

So how does one find out who their elected officials are? There are a couple of websites to help.

see LFIA page 16

November 2019 losfelizledger.com

[U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES] California Leads the Way on Protecting Our Environment
By Rep. Adam Schiff

In 1966, California became the first state to regulate vehicle tailpipe emissions as the major contributor to air quality problems that have vexed the country for decades.

In the years since, California’s leadership has driven automakers to invest in research and new technologies to reduce emissions. The result: cleaner air in the thirteen states that have formally adopted California’s higher standards — and in the rest of the country.

However, President Trump has been relentless in his efforts to scrap dozens of critical environmental regulations.

As the current Congress sits out the remainder of its term, on matters that are important to you. It’s important for people to know who their elected representatives are, from L.A. City Hall to the U.S. Capitol, and it’s important that they hear from you, their constituents, on matters that are important to you.”

So how does one find out who their elected officials are? There are a couple of websites to help.
FRIEDMAN from page 7

which will provide funding to incentivize battery storage in communities that are at sig-
nificant risk of wildfire in or-
der to ensure grid resiliency in
times of disaster, became law.

Finally, as you may have heard, my AB 44 was also
signed by the Governor. This bill will end the manufacture
and sale of new fur products
in California starting in 2023.

While I understand not
everyone agrees with this ap-
proach, I think it is impor-
tant to know that this was
yet another bill that had bi-
partisan support.

It received overwhel-
ning support in the legislature,
largely because it is in line
with the values Californians
have expressed repeatedly at
the ballot box on other animal
welfare issues.

With its signing, Cali-
fornia has made history by be-
coming the first state in the
nation to end this cruel and
outdated industry.

As in every year, not ev-
everything I proposed or voted
on was without controversy.
And Sacramento, like Wash-
ington, has some ideological
divides. However, I am im-
pressed with what my office
was able to achieve working
with people from all sides of
issues to find what works best
for all Californians.

We were able to work col-
laboratively, to listen, and
to grow in how we approach the
complex challenges facing
the state. This is a method
and practice I look forward
to continuing when we re-
turn for the 2020 Legislative
Session.

Until then, I want to know
what you think about this
year’s work in Sacramento. Do
you have legislative proposals
and suggestions for the up-
coming session? I always ap-
preciate hearing your thoughts
and our discussions. Please
continue to reach out to my
office with your questions,
proposals, concerns, or regard-
ing anything else.

SCHIFF from page 7

tions. Under Trump, the Envi-
rionmental Protection Agency
has defunded key federal envi-
rionment and health programs
and rolled back critical protec-
tions for wetlands and rivers.

And now, Trump’s ad-
ministration is seeking to re-
voke California’s authority to
set auto emissions standards, a
step they’re taking despite op-
position from many automak-
ers, who have already negoti-
ated separate higher standards
with California.

Clean air is about a lot
more than just blue skies and
beautiful landscapes. Particu-
late pollution, like the pollu-
tion from cars, has long last-
ing and devastating health
impacts, particularly on chil-
dren. There are clear links to
higher asthma rates, lower
educational achievement and
early death.

Clean air is literally life
or death and that’s why Cali-
fornia has prioritized it and
helped lead the way for the
country as a whole.

We’ve worked too long
and too hard to have clean air
to breathe to let this adminis-
tration reverse that progress.
That’s why California, along
with 22 other states, is
suing to prevent the Trump
administration from revoking
our right to protect our citi-
zens, even if the EPA won’t.

Once again, we’re stand-
ing up for science and for
the health and safety of Califor-
nians and all Americans—
who all deserve to breathe
clean air.

RVU from page 4

building at an affordable rate.

It would also increase re-
location assistance and allow
the city to purchase affordable
housing units that are at risk
of demolition.

This motion just passed
the Housing Committee in
late October. It should con-
tinue through the process and
give our city the tools neces-
sary to protect vulnerable ten-
ants, protect affordable hous-
ing, and stop families from
falling into homelessness.

I want to protect the oppor-
tunities that made my life pos-
sible. As a city, we must make
it clear that homes, families and
Angelenos aren’t commodities
that are to be traded—and they
must come first in City Hall.

This starts with Ellis Act
reform. It doesn’t stop until
Ellis Act abuse stops, and un-
til we have a city where it is
possible to rent an apartment,
raise a family, and build a bet-
ter life.

I have, what do I need, and
where might I go?

Think also about how you
will transport your children,
pets and any elderly family
members.

What does that look like,
God forbid, in a situation that
appears to be of dire straits?”
Hogan said.

Hopefully, you’ll know
the answers to all of those
questions by the end of No-
vember 16th. And hopefully,
you won’t have to use them.

Los Feliz Ledger

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Los Feliz Ledger

Note to readers: the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council declined to submit a column this month.
Luxury Apartment Proposal & L.A. River Revitalization Clash
By Carl Robinette, Ledger Contributing Writer

A seven-acre apartment, office and restaurant development proposed as the first major development on the Los Angeles River, is stirring concerns among some who worry the project would undermine a decades-long effort to revitalize and ensure access to Los Angeles's cement waterway.

The project, called Casitas Lofts, has been proposed by New York-based Pan Am Equities and appears to be the company’s first major project outside of the East Coast. It would replace an industrial parcel just east of the 2 Freeway between Atwater Village and Glassell Park.

The development would require a city approved zoning change and would be near the entrance of the relatively new “Bowtie Parcel” state park land, which is expected to be developed as a green space and is a key feature of river revitalization efforts.

That parcel is currently closed but offers events, like art installations through a non-profit.

The Casitas project would have 419 apartments, of which 35 would be set-aside for low-income renters and 22,000 square feet for offices and restaurants.

The project, if it moves forward, would potentially set a precedent for similar projects in the future, which makes it “very important,” according to Damon Nagami, a spokesperson for the Natural Resource Defense Council, a national environmental advocacy group.

According to Nagami, if the project is a go, the defense council wants to ensure it is done sustainably with equitable access to the river and without displacing current residents.

“As one of the first developments along the L.A. river, it is important that it is done right,” he said. “We’re not going to sacrifice the health of the river shed and the river so developers can make money on luxury condos. The lack of affordable housing in this proposal just adds insult to injury.”

Others agree.

Michael Atkins, a spokesperson for Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR), which is petitioning for the land to be kept open, called the developer’s proposal “cynical” and a land-grab that will stymie public access to a revitalized river.

“The project will install brand new luxury residences adjacent to a green space that’s been promised to residents who already live in the area,” Atkins said.

The Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan is one of Mayor Eric Garcetti’s key priorities. It is an initiative to see REAL ESTATE page 11

We’re thankful for you, our Neighbors!

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At issue is that the Iaconos’ renegotiated lease on the property, which would have extended it up to 14 years, was done while their landlord, the former owner of the property—4518 Hollywood Boulevard, LLC—was in escrow to sell the property to developer Bridgeview Holdings, LLC.

The Sit-Down’s closure, literally overnight, saddened many locals on social media, who promised to patronize its second location on Melrose Avenue. According to the Iaconos, the couple set up that location at 707 N. Stanley Ave., a few blocks east of Fairfax Avenue, about a year ago in case negotiations with Daneshgar or their lawsuit were unsuccessful.

who intends to redevelop the property as a hotel and nightclub, per court documents.

As part of the sale, according to legal filings by Bridgeview’s attorney, any alterations to existing leases were to first be approved or denied by Bridgeview.

Additionally, according to court documents filed on behalf of Bridgeview, the Iaconos had sought to change their lease directly with the soon-to-be new owners, but were told by Bridgeview’s principle Nathan Daneshgar such could only occur after the purchase of the building was final. But according to Bridgeview, the Iaconos then sought help from former building manager William Leyton to get the new, longer lease.

“The Iaconos . . . conspired with the building manager . . . to obtain a long-term lease extension at below market rental rates” for 14 years, without Bridgeview approving the new longer lease.

But the Iaconos claim the former building manager, Leyton, approached them to make the lease change and they were unaware it needed to be provided to Bridgeview for review, something, they say, Leyton should have done.

“We spent a year fighting,” Ruth said, “and lost $40,000 in attorney fees . . . We got bled out financially.”

Ultimately, the couple dropped the lawsuit and tried to negotiate with Daneshgar, but, they said, he wanted what amounted to only a two-year lease, much shorter terms than they could agree to.

“We had been through this for one and a half years,” Maurizio said. “We just needed closure. Shutting down the place was heartbreaking.”

It’s not clear what will take the place of the restaurant, which opened in Los Feliz in 2016.

Attempts to confirm that wish the shop’s owner were unsuccessful.

The building, constructed in 1917, also has 12 apartments on its second floor.

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According to the Iaconos, the couple set up that location at 707 N. Stanley Ave., a few blocks east of Fairfax Avenue, about a year ago in case negotiations with Daneshgar or their lawsuit were unsuccessful.

Daneshgar did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

Additionally, attempts to reach Leyton, the former building manager, were unsuccessful.

The building is located across the street from the now-under construction City Lights residential and retail development and kitty-corner from where developers have proposed building a hotel next door to the Vista Theater.

The departure of the popular eatery wasn’t the only change in October. On Monday, October 21st, McConnell’s Fine Ice Creams also closed on Hollywood Boulevard.

The two closures are unrelated.

McConnell’s owner Michael Palmer said he was sad about leaving the Hollywood Boulevard location, but did not provide any further comment.

Projects

SALES from page 9

month-over-month, up 30% year-over-year.

Silver Lake/Echo Park (90026): Seven homes sold for an $878,000 median; down 20% month-over-month, down 4% year-over-year. No condos sold.

Beachwood/Hollywood Hills (90068): 22 homes sold for a $1.285 median; down 15% month-over-month, down 3% year-over-year. Five condos sold for a median of $610,000; up 6% month-over-month, up 2% year-over-year.

Source: CoreLogic

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REAL ESTATE from page 9
to restore ecosystems, expand parks and paths and "inject new life" into the neighborhoods and businesses along 32 miles of the river.

While the plan does not prohibit such developments, opponents of the Casitas project say it would not be in keeping with the revitalization plan’s primary goal of increasing public access to the river as a natural amenity.

Los Angeles City Councilmember Gil Cedillo, who represents the area in ques-
tion, has tentatively supported housing development on the site, but said the Casitas Lofts proposal currently does not of-
fer enough affordable housing to gain his full support.

"Only 8% of the units being designated as such "is unacceptable," he said in a press release. "It is not enough, . . . I am strongly advocating for a greater number of af-
fordable units so that we have a greater impact on the city’s housing and homeless crisis."

Additionally, the Atwater Village Neighborhood Coun-
cil (AVNCl) has expressed concern about the possible impact the develop-
ment could have on traffic, air quality and housing afford-
ability in the area, but said they are waiting for the final environmental review from the developer before taking a stand, according to Kar-
en Barnett, the chair of the AVNC’s River Committee.

"There are a lot of con-
cerns about the impact that a project of this size will have on Atwater residents," she said. "Does it cut off [river] access to the public? Will there be a lack of clear [traffic] access to the site? Will it increase tail pipe emissions in the area?"

An environmental im-
pact report is expected in November.

TORRES from page 1
LA’s," the Los Angeles Park Rangers Division wrote in a social media tribute following his death.

He also created a city-
wide unit of rangers focus-
ing on homelessness outreach, cleanup, and according to the Rangers’ statement.

That program helped steer Los Angeles Police Dept. poli-
 cy away from ticketing home-
less people in the park and instead moved people out of parks and into shelters, police officers who worked closely with Torres said in media re-
ports following his death.

Torres "was a dedicated public servant who devoted his life to ensuring our [city’s] parks were protected and safe," said Recreation and Parks General Manager Mike Shull in a statement. "This is a dev-
asting loss for the entire [c] ty family—Albert will always be remembered for his dedication, passion and devotion to all [Angelinos] who visited our parks."

Born December 8, 1951, in Denver, Colorado, Torres joined the Los Angeles Dept. of Recreation and Parks as a trainee in 1974, and was as-
signed grounds maintenance duties at Griffith Park’s Roos-
sevelt Golf Course.

Two years later, he was promoted to Senior Gardener and continued to work at the course until 1984, when he was promoted to a park main-
tenance supervisor position in the Park Ranger division. Tor-
res later became a Senior Park Ranger in 1988.

Torres “was incredibly ded-
icated to our parks and a won-
derful partner to many on our staff,” Los Angeles City Atty. Mike Feuer wrote in an Octo-
ber 13th tweet. “He was always upbeat and always ready to roll up his sleeves and help.”

Friends of Griffith Park Vice President Gerry Hans re-
membered Torres as an early supporter of the nonprofit organization’s mission of pre-
serving the park’s identity as an “urban wilderness.”

“Albert was a naturalist and always had his camera ready for a photo of the park’s wildlife,” Hans said. “He was a big influence and inspira-
tion to several of us who later became founding members of Friends of Griffith Park. And the strong connection has con-
tinued to [the] present time. We’ll miss him greatly.”

Torres, 67, is survived by his wife Cheryl, his daughter Elizabeth and his son Brian.
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A Dim View
By Rob Loos, Ledger Columnist

I’ve always liked lights with dimmers—when you want to watch a movie, have a nice dinner party, or even late at night when you want to create a romantic mood, you dim the lights.

But recently my dimmer lights resisted my attempts at mood lighting.

My problem started in our main hallway, which has a gallery of framed photographs of family, friends and famous people hanging on the walls. We have recessed “museum” lighting that spotlights everyone from my Great Uncle Morris in his grandfather’s top hat to my wife and I in high school, looking like dress extras from a Brady Bunch episode.

I enjoyed the feeling of being greeted daily by my “Wall of Ancestors,” until suddenly it looked like a bad night at the Funky Town Disco.

I tried to troubleshoot the problem, but after several failed attempts, I figured my only hope was to replace the dimmer switches.

But before I started taking apart our electrical circuitry, my wife suggested I give my amazing contractor friend Dave a call.

I explained my situation, and Dave asked, “Is any bulb more active than the others?”

Of the three main lights in the hallway the middle one seemed to be sputtering more, and to my surprise, Dave told me to replace it.

“Just replace the bulb?” I asked.

“So I did, and to my great surprise the flashing disco light show stopped and the hallway was back to respectable photo gallery spotlight, which just goes to prove: “If I can’t figure it out—and I know that I can’t—my friend Dave can.”

A Dim View

The conversions have cost the nonprofit between $36,000 and $170,000 per unit and have resulted in nearly 600 newly opened units of affordable housing, according to a February AHF press release.

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This is not intended to solicit property already listed.
2600 ABERDEEN AVE, LOS FELIZ $9,779,000
1922 gated Italianate estate on almost an acre of flat grounds. Konstantine Valissarakos 323.252.9451

315 LUCERNE BLVD, HANCOCK PARK $6,499,000
1922 English Country estate remodeled to its original glory. The Koshrey Collection 323.785.7545

887 FLINTRIDGE AVE, LA CAÑADA $5,995,000
Historic and elegant 1920s estate on a nearly 2 acre lot. Rochelle Maize/Alex Masket 310.492.5665

3259 DERONDA DR, BEACHWOOD CYN $4,537,000
Iconic Spanish Colonial residence ‘Casa Carni,’ circa 1937. Konstantine Valissarakos 323.252.9451

1209 N LAS PALMAS AVE, HOLLYWOOD $1,195,000
Tri-level 3+4 home in gated, small-lot division, Hollywood Colony. Thomas Hilal 310.486.1065

3036 BECKMAN RD, HW HILLS $4,295,000
Gated compound with 2 homes on over 1.6 acres of lush grounds. Michael Nourmand/Adam Sires 310.696.3294

3110 HOLLYRIDGE DR, HW HILLS $2,087,000
Historic Spanish Colonial revival, circa 1926 w/ large flat lot. Konstantine Valissarakos 323.252.9451

3839 LILAC CANYON LN, ALTADENA $1,775,000
5 bed/5 bath home in guard-gated La Vina community. Joani Kiec 323.842.8743

4164 KRAFT AVE, STUDIO CITY $1,599,000
Remodeled 1930s gated Spanish Villa in Colfax Meadows. Howard Stevens 323.376.0005

1829 LUCRETIA AVE, ECHO PARK $1,495,500
Two-story hillside home with large lush lot & open space. Sharon Dwyer 310.702.7478

2751 PARTRIDGE AVE, FROGTOWN $1,400,000
Urban trophy property includes 1 BPR & 3 additional units. Linda Chamberlain/Gina Isaac 323.828.7269

1209 N LAS PALMAS AVE, HOLLYWOOD $1,395,000
Sunset Junction home perched on a hill w/ amazing views. Thomas Hilal 310.486.1065

820 MERWIN ST, SILVER LAKE $1,119,500
Large 3+2+2ita end unit townhome in Ivanhoe School district. Jodi Deranja 310.310.3006

1937 TAFT AVE, LOS FELIZ $1,395,000
Old World Craftsman circa 1913 located in Hollywood Grove. Konstantine Valissarakos 323.252.9451

1156 SANBORN AVE, SILVER LAKE $899,900
Sunset Junction home perched on a hill w/ amazing views. Ben Shapiro 323.842.0169

2980 AVENEL TER, SILVER LAKE $685,000
Large 3+3ita end unit townhome in Ivanhoe School district. Jodi Deranja 310.310.3006
Author Lyra Kilston will talk about her recently published book, “Sun Seekers: The Cure of California,” at the Architecture&Beyond Lecture Series Thursday, Nov. 14th, 6:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. at the Los Feliz Library, 1874 Hillhurst Ave.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Kilston will discuss “helio-architecture” and its Southern California history. A focus will be the nature-oriented Los Feliz landmark, the Lovell Health House.

Built in 1929 by architect Richard Neutra for health guru Dr. Philip Lovell, the sleek modernist house reflects the owner’s belief of a healthy lifestyle of raw foods and sunbathing.

The book also explores moments in Southland history and the many eclectic newcomers who transformed the region into a health haven long before the days of the hippies.

Kilston is a writer and editor specializing in architecture, history, design and urbanism. Her work has appeared in numerous publications. Skylight Books will be on hand for the selling and signing of Kilston’s book.

The free lecture series is supported by Friends of Los Feliz Library.

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

#GetAcquainted with LAURA THOMAS MULLEN
323.240.6600  | Laura.Mullen@SothebysHomes.com | LauraThomasMullen.com

This week we invite you to #GetAcquainted with Laura Thomas-Mullen from our Los Feliz Brokerage. Laura was raised around her father’s construction company where she developed her “get it done” mentality. After graduating with a marketing degree from Robert Morris College she pursued fashion design, entertainment production and opened her own design firm.

Laura’s entrepreneurial spirit inspired her, along with her husband, to buy multiple fixer properties and remodel them from top to bottom. “Years ago we bought our first fixer - saying fixer is being generous, the bathroom was driving me crazy and my husband said wait to remodel. My husband went to work and I proceeded to gut the bathroom in 1 day with my father. Forced to improvise, we finished the bathroom in a week and it ended up being my favorite part of the house.”

With her eye for design, Laura’s transition into the real estate industry was seamless. Her passion for home design and architecture allows her to see the possibilities in each and every property that she views. “In LA you have many choices of who can represent you when buying a home. People are drawn to me because of my problem solving ability, hard-hat mentality (shout out to Pittsburgh) and that has enabled me to help them overcome the various obstacles that Los Angeles real estate market can present.”

3259 Deronda Drive
OFFERED AT $4,337,000
Rick Yohon 323.270.1725  | co-listed

2228 Catalina Street
SOLD AT $3,525,000
C. 1958 Spanish Style with 3bd/3ba plus 1 bed/1 bath and garage. Jeffrey Young 213.819.9630

3272 Lowry Road
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C. 1960’s Expanded Colonial with 3bd/3ba. Pool, spa. Rick Yohon 323.270.1725  | co-listed

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C. 1953 Craftsman cottage on huge lot. 1/2AC, 3bd, 2ba. Rick Yohon 323.270.1725  | co-listed

3923 Fernwood Avenue
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2 modern rebuilt homes on one lot. 2bd/2ba + 1ba/ba. Rick Yohon 323.270.1725  | co-listed

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Two Craftsman bungalows c. 1924 on one lot. Pool. Jeffrey Young 213.819.9630

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3617 Effie Street
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Modern, 2bd/1ba c. 1940. Views with city lights. Jeffrey Young 213.819.9630  | rep buyer

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Top front apartment, 1bd/1ba with views. Judy Dionzon 323.270.1725

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High School Sports Roundup
By Mike Guardabascio, Ledger Columnist

The fall sports season is going strong with winter sports like basketball and soccer set to start in mid-November. Here’s what our local teams have been up to since the school year’s start:

JOHN MARSHALL

The Marshall football team is sitting at 2-5 with just a few weeks left in the regular season, but the Barristers are still chasing a playoff spot under first-year coach Manuel Gomez. The team needs to close the season with three wins to get there, including a home game against Wilson November 1st to close the regular season. Marshall is No. 10 in the LA City Section Division II rankings and could win some games if the Barristers can get into the playoffs.

The Marshall girls’ volleyball team’s record is 19-15 and they’re only one game out of first place in the Northern League.

IMMACULATE HEART

Shannon Helm’s girls’ volleyball team is 5-13 overall and just 1-6 in league this year, but the school’s cross country team continues to impress.

After a fourth-place finish in the Ojai Invitational, the Pandas have won both SunShine League meets to start the season, with Daisy Salinas winning the first and finishing second in the second league contest. The Pandas are the favorite to win this year’s league championship and could make noise in the LA City Section championship race as well.

The team finished ninth in the Small Schools Division at the prestigious Asics/Clovis Invitational near Fresno two weekends ago, with Violet Marko and Salinas finishing 12th and 13th overall.

LOYOLA

LOYOLA Loyola football continues to show major improvement from last year’s disastrous 1-9 campaign, sitting at 3-3 under first-year coach Drew Casani, and 1-0 in the Mission League. Loyola’s 24-7 win over Serra showed how far the Cubs have come, as they shut down a Top 20 team in the state with ease. The Cubs travel to Bishop Amat on November 1st to close out the regular season, as they chase a playoff spot.

Cindy Cassutt’s water polo team is 7-1 and undefeated in the Mission League as they begin to push towards the playoffs. The Cubs are ranked No. 3 in Division 1 behind Harvard-Westlake and Newport Harbor.

The Loyola cross country team already has a few race titles under their belt with Anthony Stone finishing up top for the Cubs, who are up a spot to No. 7 in Division 2 in the CIF-SS rankings.

HELEN BERNSTEIN

The Bernstein football team is 3-4 under coach Daniel Lombardi, already having beaten last year’s win total, and are 1-1 in the Central League. The Dragons are one of the favorites in the LA City Section Division III race, where they’re ranked No. 5 midway through the season. Bernstein hosts Belmont in the regular season finale on November 1st.

The power at the school in the fall is Chad Finch’s girls’ volleyball team, which has won eight straight matches to improve to 14-4, and 9-1 in the Central League. The Dragons are ranked No. 8 in the LA City Section Division III rankings, and are primed for a deep playoff run.

BELMONT

The Belmont football team is 1-3 and 0-2 in the Central League under head coach Scott McLane. The Sentinels will close the season on the road against Bernstein on November 1st.

The Belmont girls’ volleyball team is 7-11 overall and 5-6 in the Central League, but still have a shot at the playoffs. They’re ranked No. 10 in the LA City Section Division IV poll.

FLINTRIDGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Opportunities for academic and extracurricular presentations available for all ages:

[OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL] Talent Show and Festival
By: Olivia Lehman, 6th grade

Our Mother of Good Counsel School, at 6622 Ambrose Avenue, will be having its annual Fall Festival November 15th-17th.

During the Fall Festival, you will find a Talent Show with some of the students from Our Mother of Good Counsel showing off their amazing talents.

From playing “God Bless America” on the violin to singing “We Will Rock You,” the students will knock your socks off!

Before and after the Talent show you can watch other performers singing songs, dancing or playing their latest hits.

The fun does not end with musical entertainment. We have a new ride company this year with bigger and better rides, like a Ferris wheel, a roller coaster and a carousel. There will be rides for kids, families, and teenagers.

There will also be some classic games of chance. My favorite game at the festival is where you pick a piece of paper with numbers on it, for example, 349, and then whatever prize has that number on it is yours.

See OMGC page 19

Los Feliz Ledger
[HOLLYWOOD SCHOOLHOUSE]

A Busy Fall
By Nikhil George, 6th grade

Recently for history, Hollywood Schoolhouse 5th and 6th graders visited Knott’s Berry Farm to tour the Independence Hall replica to extend on their learning about the late 1700’s.

In math class, we are working on ratios and how to use them. In real life, a ratio is a comparison. It is important that we know this so that we use quantities properly and understand things like pricing at a store or measurements.

Other events that occurred recently on campus were our annual Harvest Festival and multiple secondary school visits.

The Harvest Festival is a school event filled with a variety of activities to participate in, like an animal petting zoo, pie eating contests, raffles, and Bingo.

The Scholastic Peace Day Challenge was a challenge that encouraged our community to help others around them, and also to learn about someone who made peace within their community. For example, Martin Luther King, Jr. was someone that we talked about in class.

Secondary school visits are a time set up for our sixth graders during our lunch. Representatives from other schools come in and tell us more about their academic programming, campus activities, and their mission. I find this to be helpful because I get to learn about each school individually.

To conclude, we have been incredibly busy on campus. I look forward to completing the admissions process to secondary school and continuing my 6th-grade year.

[IMMACULATE HEART]

Walking with Heart
By Stella Lissak ’22

Come Friday, November 8th, do not be surprised to see a parade of gray t-shirts marching through your Los Feliz neighborhood! That date is the official WALK Day for Immaculate Heart High School & Middle School students.

The entire school community turns out for this annual event, which culminates in the Scholastic Peace Day Challenge and multiple secondary school visits.

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OMGC from page 18

OMGC from page 18, you win! Many people have won TVs, garden gnomes and more during this game.

The food at the Festival varies from Belgian waffles to tacos, pizza and Filipino food. I would suggest the Belgian waffles; they are warm and are topped with delicious powdered sugar and fruit, which really tie the flavors together.

If you need something cool or sweet you can get snow cones and cotton candy. For the grownups, you can go to the beer garden and watch some sports on the TV.

Since this year’s festival is going to be different from the previous years, we don’t know what to expect. But I think you will have a lot of fun and excitement. So I hope to see you there having fun at my amazing school!
Whitehall said during the really is once families arrive, “and break it down into what it is a huge global issue and a crisis is to take something that’s a wish list on its website.

Anyone can then click through to Amazon to buy the items, which are sent directly to the family, like a wedding registry. The organization also holds town halls on refugee resettlement and coordinates dinners to introduce locals to the food and culture of their new neighbors.

It’s not clear how the SLNC will be involved with the organization.

Since its founding, Miry’s List has more than 1,400 individuals resettling in 13 U.S. states from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Yemen and Kurdistan, according to its website.

“The goal of this program is to take something that’s a huge global issue and a crisis and break it down into what it really is once families arrive,” Whitehall said during the SLNC’s October governing board meeting.

The Los Feliz and East Hollywood neighborhood councils were among the first to support Miry’s List and assigned board liaisons to help coordinate volunteers and gently used donations for resettled families.

Whitehall said she anticipates all participating neighborhood councils will be asked to help fulfill wish lists around the holidays. SLNC members Maebe A. Girl and Tina Lin volunteered to be Miry’s List liaisons for their council.

“It just continues to show, not just to me, but also the people who receive services from Miry’s List and our employees, donors, and volunteers that our diverse city of immigrants welcomes our resettling neighbors,” Whitehill said.

SLNC member Sarah Ullman said “I think that [the program is a really great example of the tone that we’re trying to set as a board and the values we see in Silver Lake everyday,” Ullman said.

Whitehill has additionally offered to partner with the SLNC to host a future event in Silver Lake to support families’ resettlement in the area.

For more information, visit mirylist.org.

Miry’s List

**Restaurant Review**

Diners Are Tickled Pink at Spoon and Pork

By Pat Saperstein, Ledger Restaurant Critic

Born from a popular food truck serving Filipino food, Spoon and Pork is a welcome addition to Sunset Boulevard in Silver Lake, where all too often dinner for two means a hundred-dollar-plus evening.

Spoon and Pork is a staple at Smorgasburg, the massive food fair that pops up downtown most Sundays, giving Angelinos the chance to sample up-and-coming street food purveyors as they gain enough following to open brick-and-mortar restaurants.

While L.A. has long had the biggest Filipino community outside the Philippines, it’s only in the past couple of years that a wider variety of Filipino restaurants have started to open around town.

Diners could even do a themed food crawl along Sunset set, starting with cocktails at Ma’am Sir, dinner at Spoon and Pork and then heading across the street for vibrant purple ube-flavored desserts at Frankie Lucy bakeshop.

Spoon and Pork is a staple in the wedges-shaped building that also houses Diablo Tacos, which split into two spaces when longtime Mexican restaurant La Parrilla closed about eight years ago. Earlier this year, the building got a festive coat of piggy-pink paint, and Ray Yaptinchay and Jay Tugas opened their very porky casual restaurant.

Bright patterned leafy wallpaper and rattan chairs give the space a modern tropical feel, while a patio sits alongside, slightly removed from the fray of Sunset Boulevard. Diners order at the counter and take a number and food is brought out to the table.

As one might suspect from the name, pork in several forms dominates the menu: pork belly as an appetizer, deep fried in lechon, and in a burger with chorizo. The signature dish, patita, is enough for two or three—a pork shank is slow-cooked, then deep-fried and deliciously doused in garlicy chili vinegar sauce.

Sides include mushrooms doused in a salty soy marinade, Brussels sprouts and a lighter smoked eggplant. Calamari bravas (beef short ribs) are pure comfort, served with potatoes that have an addictive crunch.

Chicken adobo is one of the most familiar Filipino dishes, and here the garlicky marinated bird is served in fried chicken form—or choose grilled chicken thighs if ordering other fried selections.

On the slightly lighter side is a brunchy rice porridge with a fried egg and Mary’s chicken breast, topped with crispy chicken skin. Non-meat eaters can choose from a jackfruit bowl with black beans or a tofu version of the popular pork belly bahn mi.

Most dishes are around $12 - $16, and there’s no beer or wine as of yet, so even a hearty meal for two shouldn’t run more than $50 or $60. It might even be a little too heavy—this is a stick-to-your-ribs, modern fusion version of traditional Filipino fare.

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Atwater Village and its surrounding neighborhoods are replete with family-friendly restaurants. Unfortunately, family-friendly often doesn’t extend to a baby with a dirty diaper.

Several local businesses offering kids’ menus and other child-oriented amenities have no diaper-changing tables in their restrooms at all, and when they do, they are all too commonly only available in the women’s room.

The status quo—that it’s the woman’s job to take care of children—is so ingrained, many people can’t see it, much less question it, much less demand change. We are used to changing diapers on our knees, on dirty floors, where there is urine, and fecal matter, and vomit, and whatever else the bottoms of hundreds of shoes have brought in.

I spoke to parents who said they’ve had to change diapers on the floor next to dirty mops at Skylight Books, on the floor at all of our neighborhood public libraries, at Starbucks, and of course while out to eat at countless restaurants.

Viet Noodle on Glendale Boulevard has high chairs and children’s books, but no changing tables. When I asked manager Frak M. why, he said, “I don’t know. No one has ever asked.”

If someone did ask, he said, they would try to accommodate them.

“We could set up a table in the bathroom for them,” he said.

A few other restaurants—such as El Buen Gusto, down the street—said the same.

But it seems as if, most of the time, parents do not ask to be accommodated, and do not speak up, most likely because there is a very dirty emergency on their hands.

One Atwater mom, Fallon Ballard said she had to change her baby’s diaper in the car on a recent trip to Link N Hops, also on Glendale Boulevard.

“They parking spaces are right to begin with so changing my kid in the backseat was challenging to say the least,” Ballard said.

Another local mom, Debbi Barry Malnberg, said she and her husband once sat on the floor to change their baby’s diaper across both of their laps in the bathroom at Modern Eats in Silverlake.

“Thankfully our friends tended to our older son,” she said. “I will never ever, ever forget the pain of that brunch.”

Atwater restaurants Bon Vivant and Sizler have changing tables only in the women’s room, an oversight Bon Vi-vant’s manager chalked up to the small size of the men’s room.

Sizler Manager Kirk Tae-sunmoon, meanwhile, said he didn’t know why there were no changing tables in the men’s room, but suggested it could be because, “Mostly ladies take care of babies.”

Either way, the implication is the same.

When there isn’t a changing table in the men’s room, here’s what it says to me: You aren’t allowed to sit here and eat your dinner. You have to change that diaper because only moms change diapers.

Men can just sit there and eat. That’s the unspoken message that the husband and kids bear too.

And if there isn’t a changing table at all, but there are high chairs and a kids menu, the message is—we want the money you spend when your family eats here, but we don’t care about you.

Fortunately, there’s an easy fix—install changing tables in both bathrooms.

A wall-mounted diaper-changing table costs under $250 and is a simple installation.

Some managers, thankfully, feel if you are going to call yourself a family-friendly restaurant, that means a changing table in both the men’s, women’s or a gender-neutral bathroom.

John Lindquist at Los Feliz Boulevard’s Tam O’Shanter said he thinks it’s unfair to enjoy her sobch! Dad can change the diaper,” he said. “Or a gay couple, or a single Dad! We are a family restaurant and it just makes sense to have a changing table available to everyone.”

Mark Kreiner, across the street at the Morrison, agrees.

“If you are going to have a changing table in both restrooms,” he said. “Also, it’s the law.”

Kreiner was referring to California law AB 1127, which requires diaper-changing tables be accessible to both men and women in establishments open to the public, such as restaurants.

Unfortunately, the bill only applies to new construction or renovations over $10,000.

On the same strip of Los Feliz Boulevard is Mimi’s Café and Soupplantation, both of which have men’s and women’s changing tables, and the very family-friendly Village Bakery, with a gender-neutral bathroom that has had a changing table since the bakery opened a decade ago.

Of the restaurants on the strip of Glendale Boulevard in Atwater Village, only All’Acqua has a changing table accessible to everyone.

Local mom Marina Cor-ral Spence recalled changing her daughter’s diaper on a bus bench in front of All’Acqua at an Easter brunch when the restaurant first opened in 2014.

She said the management approached her, offered their wine storage room for chang-ing and promised to install a changing table in the restroom—a promise they kept.

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**DIARIES page 22**

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SLNC Grapples With Trickle of Resignations
By Daniel Langhorne, Ledger Contributing Writer

Five boardmembers of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council (SLNC) have resigned in as many months, with some claiming a new board majority—elected last spring—are largely focused on future public access to the Silver Lake Reservoir Complex and larger issues, such as climate change and immigration.

Those who have resigned are Doug Loewy, Jennifer Dibs, Janis Purins, Taryn Poole and Doug Reed.

The five were members of the Silver Lake Together candidate slate, which was largely defeated by rival slate Silver Lake Progressive in last April’s election.

Dibs, Loewy and Purins said under the new council, leadership has grown increasingly focused on the Reservoir Complex Master Plan to the detriment of finding solutions for other issues facing Silver Lake residents.

“It quickly became evident that the things that were getting done were about opening up the reservoir,” said Dibs, a 24-year Silver Lake resident. “Once they finish that, they’ll lose interest in serving.”

At times, Dibs said, she was stifled in-depth debate led to an atmosphere that Dibs, a 24-year Silver Lake resident.

“My position was that if we are looking at the Reservoir Complex and larger issues, such as climate change and immigration, which are largely within the purview of Congress and state legislatures,” Purins said. “It kind of lost its local and community focus,” Purins said.

But longtime SLNC boardmember Samantha Danner, who also ran on the Silver Lake Together slate, said she has not seen any animosity toward the new boards.

“The rush to end meetings combined with long agendas led to an atmosphere that Dibs said stifled in-depth debate among councilmembers.”

“Felt a little bit bullied in the meetings,” she said. “I didn’t feel comfortable and a lot of [the discussion was] not about the neighborhood.”

Goudsmit did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

During his three years on the council, Loewy said he didn’t always agree with fellow members, but they agreed to listen to the public and make decisions based on feedback.

But that changed in May, he said, when the new majority board pushed, and won, to change its bylaws to elect freshmen members as co-chairs. Previously, members had to serve for at least a year for such a designation.

“I felt minds had already been made up on this issue and it was going to be very difficult to convince [them] otherwise,” Loewy said.

That issue is also what Purins said led him to resign.

“What pushed me over the edge was the new group clearly colluded in a gotcha scheme,” he said. “There were at least two incumbent board members who were able and willing to serve as co-chairs. I was just so disgusted by that.”

Consequently, the council has been without co-chairs for six months while it has worked to adopt the new bylaws and implement recommended tweaks from the city.

Loewy and Purins also agreed that SLNC spent too much time discussing national issues, such as climate change and immigration, which are largely within the purview of Congres and state legislatures.

“It’s kind of lost its local and community focus,” Purins said.

But longtime SLNC boardmember Samantha Danner, who also ran on the Silver Lake Together slate, said she has not seen any animosity among board members since the new board was seated.

“Regarding the relations of board members on the SLNC, elected in April, I believe that the current board of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council is one of the most functional, efficient and effective [neighborhood council] boards I have seen,” Danner said. “Though there was healthy competition and debate between the slates during the 2019 election, the board that was seated has since worked together admirably.”

At the August council meeting, Poole said she decided to resign because her company planned to open a new office in Downtown Los Angeles and because of her desire to spend more time with her family. She and Reed declined to comment for this story.

When a neighborhood councilmember resigns, members of the community apply to be appointed to the vacant seat by a council vote.

The new boardmembers replacing three of the resignees are: Tina Lin, Joanna Pawlowska, and Scott Gamzon. Two seats remain vacant.
Los Feliz Ledger

“Bridge Home” project on
eness in Silver Lake, Echo Park, nonprofit organizations like initiatives, they’ve focused services. where homeless people can advocating for a local center the SLNC has recently started solutions and we need them ate, mid-term and long-term committee. “We need imme - diately, according to last January’s crease to 1,187 homeless residents in 2018 to 2019 with a 53% in - creased to 3,000 peo - ple, according to last January’s point-in-time count. Atraw Village faces the unique challenge of bringing services to the homeless who live along the Los Angeles River. When it rains, islands be - come submerged where there are homeless encampments in the middle of Atraw’s stretch of the river, creating an emer - gency situation, according to a representative with the Atraw Village Neighborhood Council (AVNC) Homeless - ness Committee.

Atraw also faces a short - age of housing and services in their area, according to Mike Batistick, an Atraw Village homelessness activist and Chair of the AVNC Homeless- ness Engagement Committee.

“We don’t need to be de - veloping housing unless it’s affordable housing,” said Bati - stick, “It’s a moral obligation,” but more than that, he said, it’s a practical solution to the problem. The AVNC recently ap - proved a $5,000 grant for SE - LAH’s outreach program and a $2,000 grant to help fund the city’s homeless authority’s “End to End Homeless - ness,” an outreach event held in early October. According to Mo Na - jad, chair of the Echo Park Neighborhood Coun - cil (EPNC) homelessness and housing committee, the EPNC contributed more than $10,000 in the last fis- cal year for homelessness ini - tiatives, including providing mobile showers twice a week at the Echo Park United Methodist Church as well as providing food and clothing at the church.

Los Angeles City Council District 4—which includes Los Feliz, Silver Lake, Hol - lywood Hills and more—saw the city’s largest population in its homeless population from 2018 to 2019 with a 53% in - crease, according to a January count by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA).

The city as a whole saw a 16% population increase.

“We all want the same thing which is having more housing and having fewer people on the street,” said Nithya Raman who is a member of SELAH and co-chairs the SLNC’s Homelessness Com - mittee with Derakshan. She said such will require changes at the city and state level to address income in - equality and provide eviction protections and holistic sup - portive services.

Los Angeles’s nearly 100 neighborhood councils each receive $42,000 a year for spending in their communi - ties. Of the $42,000, the city contributed $39,000 from the city’s homeless authority’s 2018-19 budget and $3,000 from the city’s general fund.

Derakshan, co-chair of the 
Silver Lake Neighborhood Commit - tee, suggested two portable structures in Griffith Park, formerly occupied by the staff of the Observatory dur - ing their remodeling, could be used as a senior center. In collaboration with the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, the portable structures were set up in the back of the park for the Silver Lake Neighborhood Center. The center, at its new location, opened in January 2018.

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- Thanksgiving Day Program: “Learn about the 2020 Census,” a presentation by Maricris
- Program: “Tribute: A Loving Memory of Lia Lomerdico,” a presentation by Lindsay Vendig, founder of GPACC

GPACC Club Holiday Boutique, Saturday, November 2nd,

- Program: “Learn about the 2020 Census,” a presentation by Maricris
- Program: “Tribute: A Loving Memory of Lia Lomerdico,” a presentation by Lindsay Vendig, founder of GPACC

Wednesday, November 20, 2019: Lunch, General Meeting and Program, 12 noon –2:30 pm

Lia Lomerdico, founder of GPACC who recently passed away, will be honored. In addition, voting for GPACC Club officers will take place. Sign up for lunch at Friendship Auditorium between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 a.m. Lunch is served from 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Program: “Learn about the 2020 Census,” a presentation by Maricris

The Lunch Program: Lunch is served 3 days a week at the Center: $2 is the donation for those over 60 years and $6 for those younger.

For more information on the Silver Lake Senior Center and to receive a newsletter, call GPACC at (323) 660-5579. You can also go to our website: site.gpacclub.com

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