



President’s Message

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Special points of interest:

- HHA President’s Update
- Our own dedicated neighborhood patrol?
- Hollywoodland turning 100! Get your own oak tree!

Wondering what we have been up to during the lock down to facilitate safety and preservation of your property? Despite the restrictions, visitors, hikers, loud patrons in the village, neighbors who rezone their properties leaves us with a lot to deal with.

Mulholland Hwy & Canyon Lake fence.

Tara Stephenson-Fong and several Hollywoodlanders attended a meeting with RAP to request the portion of the fencing removed be restored. The removal was initially facilitated by GPAB and did not include many of the adjacent property owners viewpoints. We are thankful to Tracy James and acting GM Stefanie Smith understood our safety concerns and reinstalled the temporary fence and canvas.

Permanent solutions still need to be implemented and we hope they will include guidelines developed through Planning’s wildlife pilot program as well as documented safety criteria.

Deronda Drive’s

‘pedestrian gate’ has been neglected for over a year and a half. A fire caused by a welding incident destroyed a section, inhibiting an ability to

control the hours of ingress and egress. The entire issue is quite detailed and really rests on Public Works 30 plus year old poor, unsafe decision of a revocable fence permit and “driveway”. Since Public Works owns the land bordering this section of Deronda and MT. LEE as well as approximately 60 acres adjacent to the road, they are the responsible city agency. Assuring safety is the primary issue. Currently RAP is dialoguing with the fire department to create a solution. We have saved our many back and forth correspondence with the city over the years. These documents prove our points and our long known concerns regarding Public Works decisions. We hope the safety problems will be corrected with the gate fix.

Hollywoodland Village Green:

The HHA has installed new electric lock boxes in the village because we learned many visitors have been bootlegging our electricity for cell charges etc.

When covid restrictions are lifted June 15th, the temporary outdoor dining will move indoors at the Beachwood Café.

The **Beachwood Market** has resumed its original hours of 8-6 Sunday 8-8 Monday through Saturday.

Further in you can read updates on **legislative issues** that we are monitoring.

Congratulations to proud parents James and Anna and their new baby daughter Kendall Molinari-Mykytenko.

In Memorium: Longtime Woodshire Drive homeowner **Marcus Hood** who in the past also served as an attorney for the HHA. Our sympathy to his wife, Lily.

Special thank you to **Heather Bortfeld** for picking up trash on her daily walks throughout Hollywoodland.

We’d like your suggestions for **Hollywoodland birthday gifts 2023**. Some items to consider: restoration and lighting of the historic entry gates; Putting the LAND back on the sign; Making Hollywoodland residential part of a SEA. Restoring the historic walls. Share your thoughts.

Christine O’Brien
President, HHA



Legislative Update

Proposed changes in Sacramento legislation have unified neighborhood groups through new umbrella organizations United Neighbors and Livable California. United Neighbors was organized by a Sherman Oaks couple Maria and Jeff Kalban (architect).

Maria and Jeff have done an amazing job uniting many groups throughout Los Angeles county to better understand housing legislation so we in turn can act with a united voice to defend our private properties.

Livable California is headed by journalist Jill Stewart and Rick Hall who track state legislation that affects housing, filtering, and explaining all housing issues.

Both groups hold monthly zoom meetings to share their knowledge and updates, amendments on bills that board members try to attend.

Find out more at:
www.unitedneighbors.net
www.livablecalifornia.org

Los Angeles is currently developing in 2021-22 annual budget. Once again, we will be asking

support for Planning's Pilot Wildlife Program. This group has been working with areas such as ours to develop guidelines for areas adjacent to SEA (significant ecological areas). Native plantings, fencing that allows protection for private parcels while also allowing safe traveling for wildlife, and non-invasive outdoor lighting are some areas that are being developed. This group is in full support of our camera trap documentation.

Parking Permit District #320

"This is a consolidation of all of the small, separate parking districts into one large district."

By now affected Hollywoodlanders will have not only noticed the change in our neighborhood parking districts but will also have gotten parking permits for the new parking district #320. This is a consolidation of all the small, separate parking districts in Hollywoodland into one large district that they all now share. All the dates and times of restrictions remain the same.

There are pluses and minuses to this new system. It will bring

added convenience as more residents can park throughout Hollywoodland not only in front of their homes but at other locations during conditioned times. Also, because these are no longer "temporary" permitted districts but one large "permanent" one, it will have greater protections and be harder for the City to remove. On the other hand, this change was made by former Councilman Ryu without any input from or even notice to the HHA or

directly impacted residents. The opportunity for possible changes or fine tuning was, therefore, lost. In addition, some residents live in locations that attract more traffic and parked cars than others. We hope residents will be respectful, and that these areas will not become overburdened with other residents' parked cars. Only time will tell.

Easter at the Village Green

Guess who visited the neighborhood last month? The Easter bunny made a surprise appearance in the Hollywoodland Village Green on Saturday, April 3rd.

Diana Knoll and HHA volunteers decorated the planters and trees, hid Easter eggs, candy and treats and awarded prizes

for the sharpest looking little boy and girl.



Neighborhood Beautification Committee

Spring is underway and with a change in weather and resurgence in HHA committees, it is a pleasure to announce the Neighborhood Beautification Committee is expanding to include neighbors and board members. We have enjoyed neighbor participation in the past to help keep our neighborhood a beautiful place.

This year we plan to continue our work to maintain the Village Green. Expanding on this, we plan to create stewardship projects for cleaning and maintaining access to the Hollywoodland Historic Stairs. There are six staircases in the

neighborhood. Five are currently in use and one is closed for repair due to an uprooted large tree that fell across Beachwood Drive last year. The HHA Board is working with the City to help expedite the repair project. A knowledgeable stone mason was retained to help with the work once City Departments have finalized permits and interdepartmental coordination.

For the open stairs, once a month the Neighborhood Beautification Committee plans to have a stewardship party to gather a small group of people who would like to clean, sweep, and clear

access to one of the six stairs. These events will be closely coordinated with neighbors who are adjacent to the stairs and be respectful of their property and wellbeing. CDC Guidelines will also be upheld for safety.

If you would like to join the Neighborhood Beautification Committee, please contact the HHA Communications Coordinator/Newsletter Editor. We appreciate all the work and time everyone has given over the years and look forward to an enjoyable 2021!

Jannine McDonald
Neighborhood
Beautification Committee
Chairperson

"The HHA Board is working with the City to help expedite repair of the stairs."

*Want to volunteer for this or other committees, email us
hha@hollywoodland.org*

Private Dedicated Security Patrol for Hollywoodland

There is a movement afoot to obtain a dedicated security patrol above the Gates in HOLLYWOODLAND and Lake Hollywood Estates.

A dedicated car is a patrol car that does not leave this small radius with its 700 households: This car would does not leave us and the officers would get to know us, our cars, and what is "normal" around our homes. It will take 90 clients to secure the first 8-hour shift, 180 clients to

secure 2 shifts, and 270 clients for 24/7 dedication. ACS is the company that started this push.

The HHA is not endorsing one private company over the others, but it allowed ACS to set up a table one April Saturday on the HOLLYWOODLAND Village Green. HHA is happy to host competitive companies as well, but ACS is the company that first came to the neighborhood with this

proposal. ACS leafleted the neighborhood and may even have knocked on your door. The Lake Hollywood Estates Board has publicly endorsed this program with ACS. For every one in Hollywoodland who signs up during this campaign, ACS will grant your first month FREE up until June 26th. Call our rep: "Raffi"– Raphael Ronquillo 310-962-9455

Rafael.ronquillo@acssecurity.com

May 23rd, mark your calendars: the **Sunset Concert Series** returns to the Beachwood Market parking lot. That shaman of saxophone, Derrick Dymalski, returns from the Birdhouse with his own band. Jazz and standards, featuring keyboards, drums, bass, vocals, and of course, that magical sax!

Concert starts at 6 pm, over by 7. Bring a blanket, a chair, say hello to your neighbors. This concert is brought to you free of charge by the HHA.

See any sudden construction activity?

Hollywoodland has seen some illicit construction lately to bootleg illegal ADU's and AirBnB's for profit with no regard for the community and the strict regulations.

Some have been stopped; others have claimed "by right."

Easily check to see if a permit has been issued, and the earlier the better, because too late can mean no recourse.

You just need the house number and the street name.

Check Permit Status: <https://www.ladbsservice.s2.lacity.org/OnlineServices/?service=plr>

Hollywoodland turning 100



Oak seedlings are ready for planting. Hollywoodland's 100th anniversary is approaching in a few years; HHA's goal is to have 100 oaks planted by 2023. Do you have a bright area of your garden that could benefit from shade?

Want a simple gesture to contribute back to our environment and history? Want to plant a tree with your children or on behalf of a family member that should be remembered?

Email HHA@hollywoodland.org and use the subject line: **100 trees**

**HOLLYWOODLAND
HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION**

E-Mail:

hha@hollywoodland.org

See us at:

Hollywoodland.org

HHA interviews LAPD Officer Johnson

HHA: Hi Officer Johnson. I'd like to learn about the Volunteer Force for the Hollywood division of LAPD. Captain Lurie indicates that it may be a big part of the future of police work and, ultimately, what we mean by Community Policing.

Officer Johnson: Sure, I'd be happy to paint a picture. I have been in charge of Volunteers since 2019, and at that time we had 5 volunteers. Now we have 57. They come in all ages, genders, interests and capacities, and we are happy for

each and every one of them.

HHA: How do they help? Just with small stuff like traffic?

Officer Johnson: Volunteers do help with traffic. We have a specific patrol that focuses on speeders along the big corridors in Hollywood Division. During these patrols, I am in my police uniform, as is a motor Officer, and my volunteers are in their uniforms. We look for serious speeders.

One of us operates the radar/laser device, another uses binoculars or a camera to record the license plate of a speeding vehicle, and the third one is the scribe, writing down the plate number, speed, and time of the violation. At the end of the shift....

Read the full interview at Hollywoodland.org/johnson

About Our Organization...

The Hollywoodland Homeowner's Association's (HHA) first incarnation was in the 1940s, the same decade that the tract gifted the City of Los Angeles 444 acres to form the westerly portion of Griffith Park.

The most important mission of the HHA is the safety of its residents, their homes and the unique environment in which we reside. Preserving and protecting the neighborhood's unique character,

architecture, property values and quality of life is a critical component of its duty to residents. Also of significant concern is the protection of the Hollywoodland Gifted Park land and its native flora and fauna.

Not a member of Hollywoodland Homeowners Association, join at hollywoodland.org/membership



HHA interview with Officer Johnny Johnson, May 2021

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[CONTINUE HERE] we have a list of violators. They will receive a warning citation in the mail.

HHA: *Oh, so watch out, huh?*

Officer Johnson: Well, yes. Don't speed. We are looking for serious violators that can do harm. We patrol at strategic times: the peak speeding hours. The vast majority of you drivers see us a mile away and you slow down. For that 10% who aren't paying attention or were going too fast to slow down, they get the warning citation. This makes the streets safer for everyone.

HHA: *Good. I'm the type who might get ticketed for driving too slow, so it's fine with me. OK. I hear that the Volunteers also help with "party houses". Can you say more about that? We have a few "party houses" in HOLLYWOODLAND and they sure can be annoying when you're trying to sleep.*

Officer Johnson: Volunteers regularly work "The Party Car". We have a list of about 60 addresses identified as habitual party locations via Airbnb and similar short term rental businesses. We used to have just one black and white party car that with two uniform officers. They would try to check on each address each weekend night—but we were never able to accomplish it all because they would get a dozen party calls or flag downs. So, I came up with a new way to do it: Volunteers! They are in plainclothes in an unmarked car. They drive the Hollywood Hills, working their way down the list. When they locate an active party or what appears to be the preparations for a party (unloading DJ equipment, valet booths setting up) they dispatch the black and white party car directly to it to cite them if they can and shut them down. Because the volunteers are undercover, they aren't noticed and they are not tied up on radio calls. This has dramatically decreased our response time to parties and it allows us to shut many of them down before they get way out of hand.

HHA: *That's good, but some of our residents still feel plagued by loud parties in the wee hours.*

Officer Johnson: Sometimes if it is a recurring thing, a citizen feels there is no point in calling, but call. There was one said to have taken place in your neighborhood not too long ago but we had no record or a call. But if you do call and we do not respond at all, contact me or call 1-877 ask LAPD (1-877-275-5273). These calls could help us get an additional Party Car. And volunteer. We don't have a volunteer car out there every single weekend night.

HHA: *I heard that some volunteers work Hollywood Boulevard with walkie talkies getting back to the regular force if they see something suspicious.*

Officer Johnson: We do other work along the Boulevard too. I will say that Hollywood detectives regularly dispatch my volunteers to go out and recover video evidence from businesses or citizens who have security cameras that recorded a crime or portions of a crime. Let's say

there was a vehicle break in over the weekend in a parking lot. If a neighboring business has video that potentially recorded the suspects, the volunteers can go recover that video and even review it to determine if it was useful or not. That is so helpful to our detectives from a time management perspective.

HHA: *What about desk work? Can volunteers help with desk work to relieve officers to go bak to the beat?*

Officer Johnson: My goal is to expand the volunteer unit to incorporate regular desk work assignments. Legally, civilians cannot write crime reports but I have found work that they can do, yes.

HHA: *Can they do some of the computer work remotely, from home?*

Officer Johnson: Not really. In most professions that can be done but all the programs we use on our computers (pulling rap sheets and processing reports) can only be accessed in a city building in our secure networks. It's a security issue. So you're there—watching from the inside. Ever see that series "Bosch?"

HHA: *Oh, I loved "Bosch." It's so fun to see Wilcox.*

Officer Johnson: It was fun for us, too.

HHA: *OK so that desk work has to be done at the desk. I was wondering if strategic scouring of social media could be done by a volunteer from hom... maybe scouring for crowd sourced events like "drifting", i.e., street takeovers.*

Officer Johnson: That's a great idea. A tech savvy volunteer could be a very useful resource. Let's look into that.

HHA: *I bet the volunteers need training. Can you talk about the training they get—and their security clearances?*

Officer Johnson: We have a volunteer academy that provides formal training to new volunteers. It meets one night a week for about 7 weeks if I remember correctly. We had a class in session last year when the pandemic hit, and we had to cut it short. Just last week we resumed that class via Zoom, and we might continue to do some Zoom in the future to make it easier for everyone. The academy is an important step to becoming an effective volunteer. There are guest speakers every week. By the time the class is over, each volunteer has a deep understanding of the way our department functions and how to work safely alongside us. The next class will be scheduled soon.

HHA: *And the security clearance?*

Officer Johnson: You're a good citizen, you'll pass. But for sure we do that and do it thoroughly.

HHA: *Do you have to be willing to work a standard set of hours and so forth?*

Officer Johnson: There are no minimum hours of service required. I'm happy to get as much help as the volunteers are willing to spend. I try to keep our patrols well rounded and interesting. Anyone (who can pass the background check) is welcome to join us and see firsthand how the department really works. I've had more than a few volunteers start with us who honestly were pretty openly skeptical of the job the department was doing. They had seen all the negative headlines and hype but thankfully they also had open minds and wanted to see it for themselves. Volunteering with the police allowed them a chance to see behind the curtain and see for themselves what LAPD is really like. They got to know me and other officers on a personal level. We were no longer just faceless uniforms with shiny badges. In each case, these citizens who started out as skeptics, quickly became some of our most staunch supporters. That is such an invaluable force multiplier for good, and it is desperately needed today. If only every citizen would sign up to volunteer, they could see for themselves what the police are really about, and we would not have the kinds of problems we've seen lately.

HHA: *Yeah, how are you enduring what's going on?*

Officer Johnson: Volunteering is more important now than ever because of the staffing crisis we are experiencing today. Everyone's seen in the news the financial crisis caused by the pandemic, last summer's riots, and the defunding of the LAPD. The Hollywood department is dramatically decreasing in size. The volunteer unit is the only part of the department that is growing. Our volunteer efforts take some of the burden off of our patrol Officers. Prior to becoming the volunteer coordinator.

HHA: *Were you a patrol cop – on the beat?*

Officer Johnson: I had been a patrol cop for 14 years. I understand patrol and what the actual street cops need and how volunteers can be most useful to that common goal.

HH: *I can see how Captain Lurie is proud of you and sees the Volunteers as a truly significant step towards the future of policing. I want to thank you for your time.*

Officer Johnson: One last thing. Here's a picture of me with a few of our volunteers so you can see what their uniform looks like.

HHA: *Great! I hope that some people from HOLLYWOODLAND step up and volunteer. And it's Hollywood, let's remember. What a fertile step for a budding screenwriter—or a budding politician. I'll bet the stories resound.*

Officer Johnson: Oh they resound all right. They hear the stories in the training—and then they start hearing them from one another. And what's equally significant and good for those screenwriters and future politicians you mention is the change in heart that happens to a volunteer. It's a tiny bit like being in the army and the amazing bonds that develop among the troops. But you get to go home at night.

HHA: *How do we sign up?*

Officer Johnson: just email me: 37836@lapd.online I am Police Officer III, Jonathan Johnson #37836, Reserve & Volunteer Coordinator, Hollywood Division, 1358 N. Wilcox, LA 90028 (323)871-4109

HHA: *I knew a woman who was in some sort of training back in the 90s and she took me into the station one day and she seemed really comfortable there. She was permitted to take a Black and White out and we drove the few blocks to where you were setting up a Community Police office on Hollywood Boulevard. I got to ride in the Black and White – and it really "does something" to you.*

Officer Johnson: Yep. It's a great step in communication. A citizen can do a ride-along pretty much at any time. Your friend must have been a Reserve Officer, though, not just a citizen volunteer. We do hope some of our volunteers will become Reserve Officers and, next, officers. Challenging though it is, it is a great career. I hope some of your recent college grads up in HOLLYWOODLAND as well as some of your grandparents join us. Plus you can become a Cadet in high school. We just released the hold on the upper age limit. Now there is no limit as long as you get clearance and can pass the training.

